

Enhancing mitigation ambition

Building capacity to support analyses that show multiple benefits of climate change mitigation

In advance of COP26, SEI supported 17 countries to increase their climate change mitigation ambition by supporting national institutions to undertake greenhouse gas mitigation **assessments that evaluate the multiple benefits of climate policies**. Multiple countries increased their climate change targets based on a recognition that these targets could also achieve national development priorities.

For example, **Zimbabwe's** enhanced climate change plan committed to reduce their GHG emissions by 40%. This will be achieved by implementing actions included in their National Development Strategy, including **large-scale reforestation** and **reduced land degradation**. **Colombia's** updated climate commitment included a specific target to **reduce black carbon**, a toxic pollutant that also contributes to climate change, ensuring that Colombian citizens benefit from their climate plan. Finally, **Nigeria** became the first country to state the **public health benefits** of its climate targets. Over 30,000 premature deaths every year were estimated to be avoided from the improved air quality achieved alongside GHG emission reductions.

SEI's work on **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) enhancements** emphasises that countries can increase their climate change mitigation targets when it is clear that local development benefits will be achieved from this action, and that enhancing capacity to understand these multiple benefits is essential for effective long-term climate planning.

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