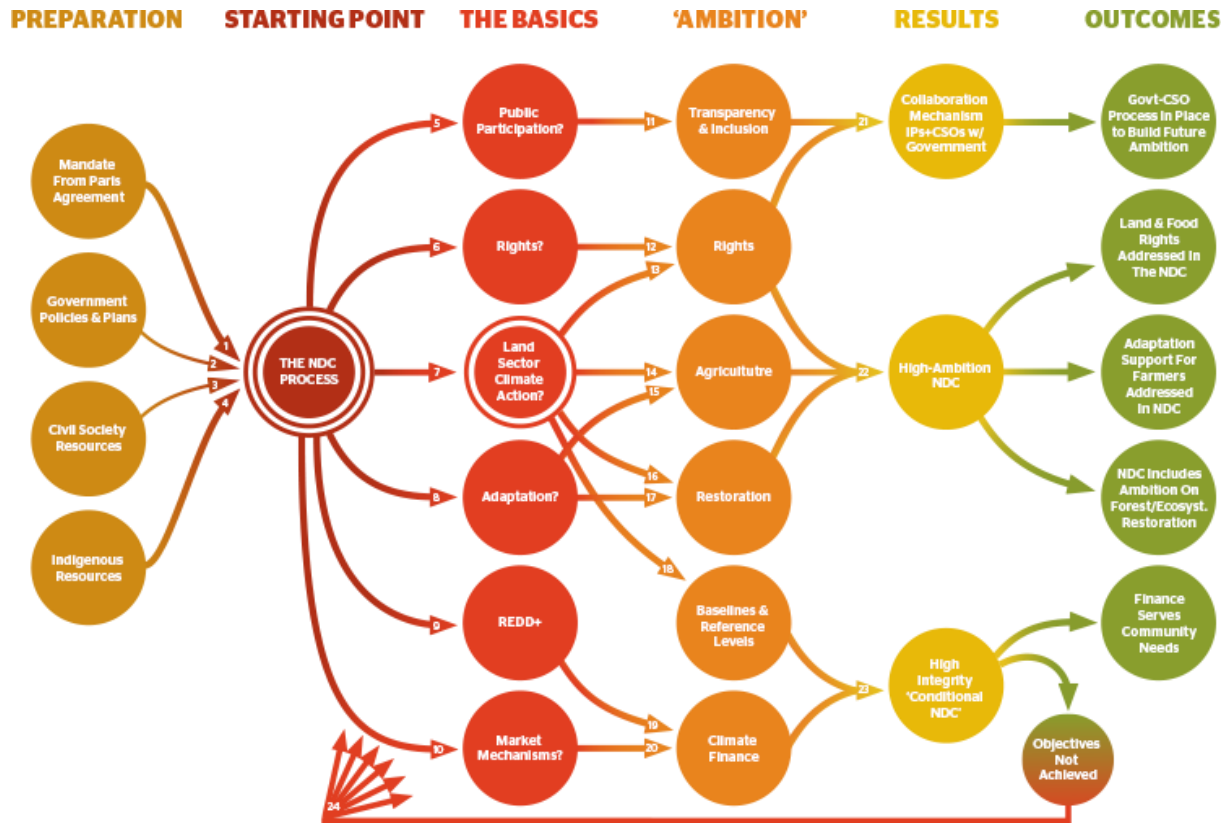


FACILITATOR NOTES – [www.peoplesNDC.org](http://www.peoplesNDC.org)

The *peoplesNDC* website helps individuals or teams navigate climate issues related to land. We've identified twenty-four distinct pathways for engagement that correspond to the 24 arrows on this map:



These facilitator notes describe approaches related to each.

1-4 The **'Preparation'** phase: understanding the NDC process and preparing for engagement with government and consultants.

5-10 The **'Basics' (What's In)** phase: an overview of the key public-participation, rights, and land-use issues related to climate action.

11-20 The **'Ambition'** phase – you and your team propose strong climate action and engage your government to make ambitious commitments.

21-23 The **'Results'** phase – your opportunity to assess what has been included in your country's NDC and the continued opportunities for civil society engagement.

24 This last pathway is for teams to discuss whether your objectives were achieved, how the NDC might be strengthened, and what else you'd like to see included. Develop ideas for monitoring how climate actions are being implemented.

Facilitators can use these prompts to frame the debate and open the discussion. Each is in the form of an 'action' statement.

## We are....

1. Understanding the MANDATE FROM THE PARIS AGREEMENT to 'Parties' (countries) to create a 'Nationally Determined Contribution' to combating climate change. A 'rulebook' containing some guidance for countries designing their NDCs was agreed last year.
2. Compiling information about GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE -- including adaptation, finance, and mitigation. If the country has prepared a National Adaptation Plan, that's very important. Information related to domestic legislative goals/policies on climate change; forest cover; and smallholder agriculture are all relevant. Also relevant are international commitments made under the Convention on Biological Diversity; the 'New York Declaration on Forests'; or commitments to restoration under the 'Bonn Challenge', in addition to climate-change commitments (Paris Agreement).
3. Taking stock of the resources that we as a broad, inclusive, national CIVIL SOCIETY movement can bring to the table, in working with and making recommendations to government. A broad thematic approach would include groups working on land rights; on food rights; on smallholder agriculture, agroforestry, and agroecology; and groups working on forest conservation and restoration. An inclusive civil society approach would include indigenous peoples; scientists from universities and national research institutions; as well as representatives from cooperatives and SMEs. Resources might be in the form of peer-reviewed publications, reports, biophysical or socioeconomic databases, broadly shared advocacy demands, as well as contacts with key policymakers.
4. Taking stock of the resources and knowledge that INDIGENOUS PEOPLES can bring to the table in discussions of the NDC.
5. Ensuring PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – by civil society, indigenous peoples, and local communities – in the NDC process. We are reviewing what is 'on offer' from the government to civil society in terms of engagement. The NDC process may be held by one ministry; or, that the process has been contracted out to consultants. We have a strategy for responding, and for ensuring that good public consultation processes are used.
6. Determining whether human RIGHTS and in particular the RIGHTS of indigenous peoples and local communities are included in the government's NDC plans. (If not yet, then we are developing an advocacy plan which includes specific requests for including rights in the NDC.)

7. Determining whether the government plans include any LAND SECTOR CLIMATE ACTIONS – any programs or ‘ambition’ related to forests and agriculture or coastal ecosystems -- as part of the NDC. If not yet, then we are developing an advocacy plan which includes specific requests for including land sector climate actions in the NDC.
8. Determining whether measures to help ADAPT to climate change are included in the NDC.
9. Determining whether REDD+ will be included in the NDC and laying out our hopes and expectations (if any) from REDD+ as part of our NDC.
10. Determining whether the government is planning to use MARKET MECHANISMS to reach greater ambition in the NDC. Governments can develop an NDC based solely on its ‘own effort’ from national financial resources; and also a ‘conditional NDC’ based on the greater ambition that would result from external funding. External funding could be ‘government-to-government’, or it could come from the private sector. We are educating ourselves about what this means for: a) the ambition that the government is willing to undertake regardless of external resources – related to both mitigation and adaptation; b) the position taken by the government regarding external support, whether through bilateral (donor) channels, or through multilateral channels, the most important of which is the Green Climate Fund; and c) the kinds of private-sector projects that the government might be pursuing as ‘climate finance’. **For ‘developed’ countries:** we are analyzing whether the government has included financial support to developing countries as part of its NDC.
11. Insisting on the right of participation, and/or the right of ‘Free Prior and Informed Consent’ (FPIC), as part of the NDC development process. Ensuring that the government has made arrangements for outreach to vulnerable groups.
12. Advocating for the use of a ‘rights-based approach’ as part of the NDC, as is suggested by the Preamble to the Paris Agreement.
13. Outlining the kinds of mitigation and adaptation ambition that would result from improved land rights for indigenous peoples and local communities (‘land rights’). In other words, communicating how indigenous peoples and local communities are critical front-line actors in responding to the climate crisis.
14. Reviewing agriculture-sector ‘ambition’ proposed in the NDC. What kinds of projects and approaches are proposed? Do proposed projects promote national food security and farmer livelihoods? Do any of the proposed projects call for major land-use changes in the form of tree plantations or energy crops?
15. Reviewing the agriculture-sector ‘ambition’ proposed in the NDC: is adaptation and support for small farmers included?
16. Reviewing any forest-sector mitigation efforts proposed in the NDC. Are there ambitious plans to protect and restore forests?

17. Reviewing any forest-sector adaptation efforts proposed in the NDC. Is there a plan to restore forests/watersheds, and support livelihoods of forest-dwellers?
18. Reviewing the government's proposed 'Forest Reference Level' and other baselines, including use of "business as usual" (BAU) scenarios.
19. Reviewing whether the government is seeking external funding ('climate finance') for the REDD+ work.
20. Reviewing whether/what part of the government's mitigation 'ambition' comes from the use of offsets or other uses of carbon markets.
21. Participating fully in a robust consultation process involving government and civil society while ensuring that 'rights-based approaches' are included as part of an NDC, including gender equality.
22. Advocating for (and monitoring implementation of) an ambitious NDC with respect to agriculture and forestry, with actions taken on the basis of rights, support for adaptation, food security, ecosystem integrity, and protection of livelihoods.
23. Reviewing the use of 'baselines' and forest reference levels used by the government to determine 'ambition' and 'fair effort'. Reviewing the 'conditional' components of the proposed NDC, to understand what kinds of financial support, and for what purposes, has gone into the 'conditional NDC'. This could include direct government-to-government aid; low-interest loans; market-rate loans; offsets/carbon markets; and private sector projects.
24. Reviewing whether the outcome of this NDC engagement is satisfactory, from civil society's perspective. Have negotiations been carried out openly, and in good faith? Have our 'non-negotiable' bottom line demands been observed/included? If not, we have a plan for a) asking for reconsideration of key features and/or b) protesting elements of the NDC, whether 'core' or 'conditional'. We are also developing ideas for monitoring, continued research, and dialogue.