

## Deep Decarbonization Pathways

# DDP Insights

## Global Stocktake to National Action



June Climate Meetings/ Photo: UN Climate Change

### Lessons from the latest NDCs and national climate action

The first Global Stocktake (GST1), concluded at COP28, was designed to do more than assess progress under the Paris Agreement.

Its purpose was also to inform the next generation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), strengthen international cooperation, and help countries translate global climate goals into national action.

But once the latest NDC cycle concluded, an important question emerged: how did countries actually interpret GST1 — and what shaped whether those global signals translated into national policy?

### Explore the full analysis

This edition of *DDP Insights* draws on: *Lessons from GST1 and latest NDCs: strengthening the link between the Global Stocktake and national climate action* (IDDRI, DDP, Wuppertal Institute, June 2026). This new report by IDDRI, the DDP Initiative, and the Wuppertal Institute examines how countries are translating the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake (GST1) into their latest Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

This allows exploring how global climate signals are interpreted within national contexts, complementing the country-driven findings of the [DDP 2024](#) and [DDP 2025 report](#).

[👉 Read the full report](#)



### The latest NDCs reflect GST themes, but rarely explicitly

The report reviewed recent NDC submissions from the JustPath project countries: Argentina, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, the United States of America, and South Africa.

One clear conclusion emerges: countries are incorporating many of the themes of GST1, but usually without directly referencing the Stocktake itself.

Most analyzed NDCs include measures linked to:

- renewable energy and energy efficiency
- transport transitions
- methane and non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- ecosystem protection and land use

But explicit references to individual GST mitigation paragraphs remain limited.

### The language of the Global Stocktake matters

A central finding of the report is that the way GST1 is written influences how countries interpret its outcomes. Not all signals carry the same political weight.

The analysis shows that the political language used in GST1 matters. Provisions framed through stronger operative language — such as “calls on”, “requests”, and “should” — carry greater political weight and are more likely to influence national discussions than softer formulations such as “encourages” or “notes.”

This stronger language appears most clearly in the GST1 “energy package”: renewable energy, energy efficiency, transition away from fossil fuels, methane reductions, transport, and fossil fuel subsidies. This may show readiness to advance on those goals, compared to those with weaker mandates, as parties tend to use a softer language where they want flexibility to implement a decision.

### National realities shape how global signals are interpreted

While the Global Stocktake provides common international signals, countries continue to interpret its outcomes through their own political, economic, and development priorities.

The report finds that climate action is rarely framed as a response to global mandates alone. Instead, countries adapt GST1 outcomes to fit national circumstances and long-term transition strategies. This reinforces a central finding of the [DDP 2024](#) and [2025](#) reports: successful transitions depend on country-specific pathways that align climate ambition with development priorities, sectoral realities, and national circumstances.

Across the countries analyzed, several factors consistently shaped how GST1 was reflected in national climate discussions:

- energy security and sovereignty
- industrial development and economic competitiveness
- affordability and fiscal constraints
- equity and just transition considerations
- broader national development priorities.

The report also shows that countries are responding to GST1 in different ways. In some cases, it has helped build political momentum around issues such as renewable energy or just transition. In others, recent policy developments have been driven primarily by domestic priorities, with GST1 playing a more limited role.

### Beyond “GST to NDCs”: toward implementation

Perhaps the report’s most important conclusion is that the impact of GST1 extends beyond the content of NDC documents.

The findings suggest that GST uptake has greater potential when viewed as a tool for informing both ambition and implementation.

The report therefore argues for moving beyond a narrow “GST → NDC” logic and strengthening a broader “GST → implementation” approach — connecting stocktake outcomes to planning systems, investment decisions, implementation tools, and national policy processes.

This echoes one of the key messages of the [DDP 2025 report](#): assessing progress is only the first step. Delivering deep decarbonization depends on how climate goals are translated into coordinated action across sectors and embedded within long-term national development strategies.

#### Looking ahead to GST2, the report highlights several lessons:

- combining top-down global signals with bottom-up country evidence
- strengthening participation and inclusiveness in the Technical Dialogue improving the transition from technical findings to political outcomes
- embedding climate action within development priorities
- strengthening implementation tracking and transparency mechanisms

Taken together, these findings suggest that stronger national ownership can improve the relevance and implementation potential of climate commitments. At the same time, they reinforce one of the report’s central conclusions: global climate processes are most effective when they provide a framework that countries can adapt to their own development pathways, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

This is precisely the role of country-driven analysis. The [DDP 2024](#) report identified the transformations needed to achieve carbon neutrality, while the [DDP 2025 report](#) examined the progress countries have made since the Paris Agreement. Building on this foundation, the latest analysis shows how GST1 can help connect global goals with nationally led implementation.

### What this tells us

One year after GST1, the question is no longer only whether countries reflected global outcomes in their NDCs. The more important question may be whether those outcomes are helping countries organize transitions in practice.

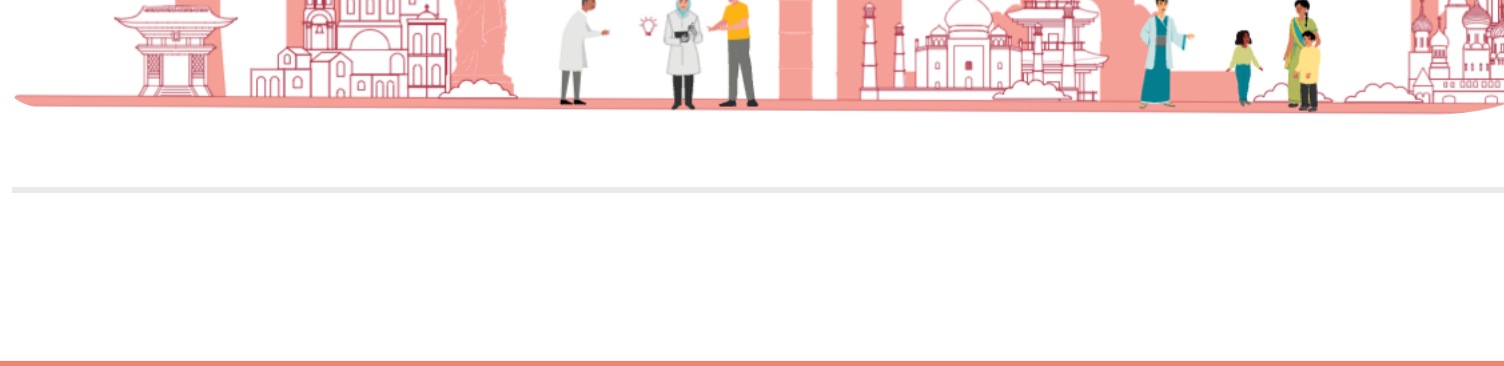
The latest analysis suggests that the Global Stocktake is most valuable when its outcomes are used not as prescriptive global mandates, but as common benchmarks against which countries can assess their own progress and identify priorities for action.

This is where country-driven analysis becomes essential. By combining global signals with national expertise, long-term pathways, and country-specific development priorities, governments can translate the outcomes of the Global Stocktake into strategies that are both ambitious and implementable.

This country-led approach lies at the heart of the Deep Decarbonization Pathways (DDP) Initiative. Through nationally grounded analysis, DDP helps countries use global climate goals as a framework for shaping transition pathways that reflect their own economic, social, and development contexts.

### About DDP Insights

*DDP Insights* builds on the work of the Deep Decarbonization Pathways (DDP) Initiative, drawing on country-driven analysis to explore how national climate goals translate into real-world transformation.



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