

Project: Implications of the decrease of RES-E cost projections for the revision of the NDCs of selected countries

Key mitigation technologies, i.e. renewable power generation technologies, are substantially cheaper now than projected in 2015. Solar PV and onshore wind technologies are also expected to have faster cost reductions up to 2030 than assumed in the preparation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). If the investments planned for the NDCs in 2015 were maintained and savings to be reinvested in the same technologies, this cost reduction could lead to a higher uptake of renewables and allow for more ambitious renewable targets. This could support Parties to the Paris Agreement to strengthen their future NDC submissions.

Research Project (June 2019 – June 2020)

We assess the implications of these technology cost reductions for three countries: Argentina, Indonesia and Mexico. We first determine the potential additional uptake of renewable energy technologies due to lower investment costs and then evaluate how this translates into emission reductions and calculate the potential impact on the level of ambition in the NDC.

Argentina

For Argentina, we take the planned uptake of renewable energy technologies (solar PV and onshore wind) as outlined in the *National Action Plan for Energy and Climate Change* as a starting point for the analysis. We apply country specific investment cost curves to evaluate the potential for an additional uptake. Our preliminary results show that the **absolute emissions level of the conditional NDC target could be reduced from 369 MtCO_{2e} to 351-356 MtCO_{2e} in 2030**, only considering technology cost progressions.

We aim to work closely with country stakeholders throughout the project to verify the data, strengthen our results and inform discussions around the NDC revision process. Due to COVID-19, we are not able to host an in-country workshop as planned. However, we will carry out **virtual bilateral meetings** and a **joint webinar in the second quarter of 2020** to discuss our findings and their implications in more detail.

Take Part!

We would like to invite interested people from the three target countries and beyond to **provide valuable expertise and feedback** on our research activity by sharing their comments on the draft analysis for Argentina via email or by participating in the bilateral meetings and/ or webinar. The following questions are of particular interest for us:

- *Are there gaps in the data underlying our analysis? How realistic are the assumptions?*
- *Are energy sector planners aware of cost progressions and are these being considered in energy sector planning and RE target setting?*
- *Is your country planning to increase RE targets? If not, what are the main barriers?*
- *At which stage is your country in the NDC revision process? Are cost progressions considered in the NDC revision process?*

To get involved, please do not hesitate to contact us!

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Get in touch!

If this research activity is of interest to you, please get in touch! We would be happy to hear your views and ideas.