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# 10 Reporting results

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*Reporting the results, methodology and assumptions used is important to ensure that the impact assessment is transparent, and gives decision makers and stakeholders the information they need to properly interpret the results. This chapter presents a list of information that is recommended to be reported, based on the steps in previous chapters.*

## Checklist of key recommendations

- Report information about the assessment process and the estimated non-state and subnational impacts (including the information listed in [Section 10.1](#))

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## 10.1 Recommended information to report

It is important that users carefully document and report the relevant data, analysis methods, assumptions and results.

It is a *key recommendation* to report information about the assessment process and the estimated non-state and subnational impacts (including the information listed below<sup>64</sup>). The detail and breadth of reporting depend on the objectives and resources available to users carrying out the assessment. More complex and comprehensive assessments will require more reporting. Throughout the chapters, this guide has explained which information users should be collecting. The recommended information to report is listed below.

### General information

- The person(s) or organization(s) that did the assessment
- The date of the assessment

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<sup>64</sup> The list does not cover all chapters in this document because some chapters provide information or guidance that is not relevant to reporting.

- Whether the assessment is an update of a previous assessment, and, if so, links to any previous assessments

### Chapter 2: Objectives

- The objective(s) and intended audience(s) of the assessment

### Chapter 4: Defining the assessment boundary

- Sector(s) and subsector(s) included in the assessment
- Actor groups included in the assessment
- Action types included in the assessment
- GHGs included in the assessment
- Types of indirect GHG emissions included in the assessment
- Assessment period

### Chapter 5: Creating a list of all relevant non-state and subnational actions

- List of relevant non-state and subnational actions occurring within the assessment boundary
- Data needed for further analysis (dependent on assessment objectives)
- Documentation of all methods used for data collection and assumptions, with underlying rationale, to fill data gaps

### Chapter 6: Selecting non-state and subnational actions for inclusion in the assessment

- Shortlisted non-state and subnational actions (from the list in [Chapter 5](#)) that are considered for further analysis
- Criteria for suitability and assumptions, with underlying rationale, to determine which actions should be included in further analysis
- If applicable, findings from the landscape analysis of non-state and subnational actions

### Chapter 7: Listing relevant national climate mitigation policies and actions

- List of relevant national climate mitigation policies and actions that relate to the objectives of the assessment
- All data sources used to compile the list and related information
- The current policies scenario or model that will be used for the objectives that require integration into national policies, and which actions and sectors are included in it

### Chapter 8: Harmonizing non-state and subnational actions and national policies for comparison

- Non-state and subnational actions, and national policies expressed in comparable metrics
- Depending on objectives, whether potential emissions reductions are calculated (as opposed to assessing impact in other sector-appropriate metrics) and the approach used for calculating potential emissions reductions of actions (if applicable)<sup>65</sup>

### Chapter 9: Assessing overlaps and estimating potential impacts

- Approach used to determine overlaps between various non-state and subnational actions in the same sector, across sectors, and between non-state/subnational actions and national policies, to avoid double counting
- All methods used and assumptions made to determine overlaps, with underlying rationale, and data with sources
- If applicable, statement of how the impacts of international cooperative initiatives and actions of multinational companies are distributed to the country
- Results from the overlap analysis in terms of including or excluding specific actions in the assessment

- Assessment results, depending on objectives, which may include one or more of the following:
  - » potential impact of non-state and subnational actions, expressed in terms of emissions reductions or sector-appropriate metrics (accounting for overlapping and reinforcing interactions)
  - » national (sectoral) emissions projections, incorporating the impact of existing national policies, and non-state and subnational actions (accounting for overlapping and reinforcing interactions, and incorporating the influence of socioeconomic factors)
  - » potential additional impact of non-state and subnational actions, expressed in terms of emissions reductions or sector-appropriate metrics (accounting for overlapping and reinforcing interactions, and incorporating the influence of socioeconomic factors)
  - » potential additional impact of non-state and subnational actions, expressed in terms of emissions reductions or sector-appropriate metrics (accounting for overlapping and reinforcing interactions)
  - » emissions gap to achieve the NDC target (difference between the emissions projection incorporating the impact of existing national policies and subnational and non-state actions, and the NDC emissions pathway)

## 10.2 Additional information to report, if relevant

- Any limitations of the assessment
- Any challenges faced during the assessment
- Potential for increased or decreased ambition
- Any other relevant information

<sup>65</sup> As noted in [Chapter 8](#), users may want to estimate potential impact (in emissions reductions or other sector-appropriate metrics) in [Chapter 9](#) instead so that they are doing this exercise only for those actions that are eventually included in the analysis, once overlapping and reinforcing interactions have been identified.

# 11 Using results for decision-making and planning

*This chapter discusses how to interpret assessment results and facilitate decisions that fulfil assessment objectives.*

Users should consider both the objectives and the assessment results to inform decision-making. For example, if non-state and subnational mitigation actions are found to be less ambitious than existing national climate mitigation targets, and the objective was to understand the potential impact of non-state and subnational mitigation actions nationally,

users could determine the gap in ambition level, revise national targets and policies, and/or engage with relevant non-state and subnational actors. In contrast, if non-state and subnational action targets are found to be more ambitious, the assessment could support an upward revision in national mitigation targets. [Table 11.1](#) illustrates how results could be used for various objectives identified in [Chapter 2](#). [Box 11.1](#) illustrates how assessments can inform decision-making using two examples.

**TABLE 11.1**

## Using assessment results for decision-making and fulfilling assessment objectives

Assessment objective	Ways for assessment results to inform decision-making
Understand the landscape of non-state and subnational effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather insights into the types of actions being undertaken and the type of actors that are involved</li> <li>• Determine opportunities for engagement with non-state and/or subnational actors (e.g. engage with actors in sectors where there is comparatively low impact from their actions or in sectors that are key for NDC implementation)</li> <li>• Promote new action by these actors</li> </ul>
Determine the combined expected impact of all non-state and subnational actions in a country or sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage or strengthen such actions</li> <li>• Better understand collective impact of specific types of actions or actors</li> </ul>
Determine the contribution of non-state and subnational actions towards achieving national or sectoral climate change targets or NDC targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better understand how non-state and subnational actions are supporting national or sectoral climate change plans or the NDC</li> <li>• Use to inform future policy design</li> <li>• Inform revisions of national or sectoral climate policy targets</li> <li>• Consider inclusion in future NDC cycle</li> <li>• Enhance the credibility of national climate mitigation targets</li> </ul>
Determine the contribution of national or sectoral actions towards achieving national or sectoral climate change targets (e.g. the NDC target)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the gap between the impact of non-state and subnational actions and the national or sectoral targets</li> <li>• Inform strategies and initiatives to bridge the gap – for example, where regulation and/or incentive-setting could yield best results based on an analysis of leading versus lagging sectors (and non-state actors/subnational actors)</li> <li>• Incorporate non-state and subnational actions into national GHG inventories to ensure that impacts are measured and recognized at the national level</li> </ul>

TABLE 11.1, continued

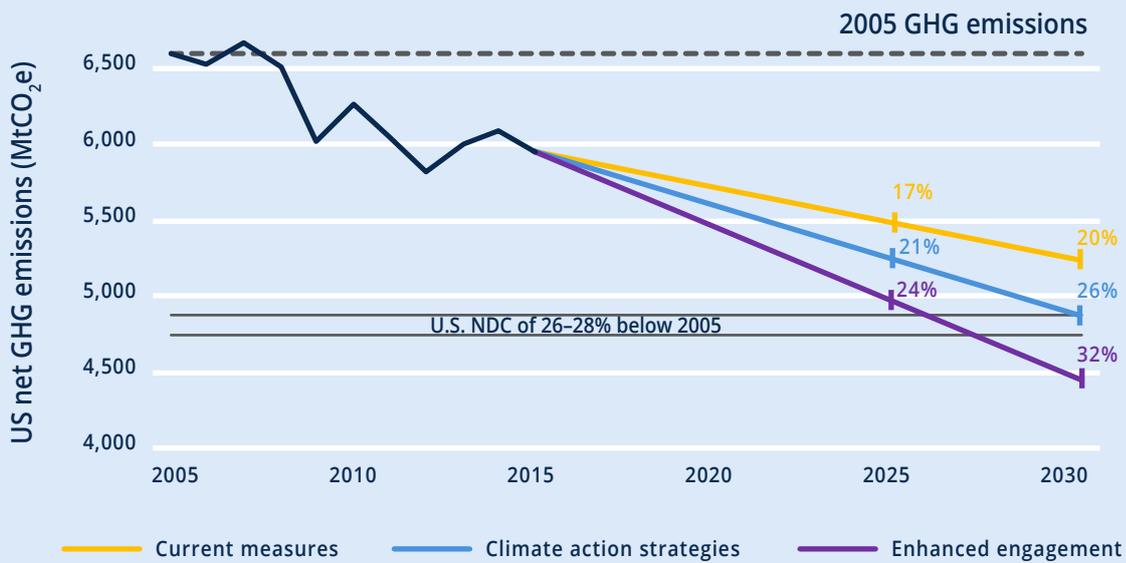
**Using assessment results for decision-making and fulfilling assessment objectives**

Assessment objective	Ways for assessment results to inform decision-making
Understand the potential of non-state and subnational actions to enable the country or sector to achieve a more ambitious target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjust and revise national or sectoral climate change targets upwards</li> <li>• Identify leading sectors (and non-state and subnational actors)</li> <li>• Identify lagging sectors (and non-state and subnational actors)</li> <li>• Engage with non-state and subnational actors (e.g. to design targeted policy interventions)</li> <li>• Recommend revising sectoral climate change targets</li> </ul>
Improve emissions projections or inform realistic economy/sector-wide emissions reduction target(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform climate change target based on enhanced projections</li> <li>• Include in future NDC cycle</li> <li>• Enhance credibility of targets</li> </ul>
Determine how non-state and subnational actions affect the ambition set out in specific policies	<p>If non-state and subnational actions are found to be more ambitious, users could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine when non-state and subnational action is expected to go beyond the ambition set out in a policy instrument</li> <li>• determine which sectors contribute most to the rise in ambition</li> <li>• revise sectoral climate change targets.</li> </ul> <p>If non-state and subnational actions are found to be less ambitious, users could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine the gap in ambition level</li> <li>• suggest revising policy design</li> <li>• engage with relevant non-state and subnational actors.</li> </ul>

**BOX 11.1**

**Using results from two examples to illustrate decision-making**

**Fulfilling America's Pledge report.** The assessment demonstrates the extent of non-state and subnational actions in the United States, and their potential impact in key sectors. It also shows the potential impact if non-federal actors further step up their actions.



Source: America's Pledge (2018b).

The assessment shows that non-federal actors can have a substantial impact in reducing national emissions, and illustrates how existing and pledged non-federal actions can deliver in specific sectors – for example, by increasing the amount of renewable electricity generated or the number of electric vehicles on the road. It also identified actions taken by a small number of actors that are having a big impact (e.g. HFCs) and actions that are not leading to a big impact. The latter highlights where there is potential for non-federal actors to deliver enhanced ambition.

The assessment may be repeated in the future as new actions are adopted, or to incorporate targeted, region-specific analysis that can better serve local stakeholders.

**Mexico subnational actions assessment.** The assessment results were shared with multiple actors involved in the NAMA, including the climate change office of the Ministry of Environment, the National Forestry Commission, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and participating states, to better understand the aggregate GHG impacts of the subnational actions, strengthen regenerative actions, inform future design of the actions, and support potential revision or enhancement of sector goals.

It is important that users share their assessment results with relevant stakeholders to ensure that the results can be integrated into decision-making. Stakeholders may include subnational policymakers, companies, other non-state actors, and decision makers at the national level. Discussion of results with stakeholders does not have to include the release of disaggregated data that could be linked to individual actors; instead, it could be organized by sectors or regions, for instance. Involving the targeted audience from the very beginning of the assessment also increases the likelihood that the results will reach the right people, instil confidence in the results and inform decision-making. For example, the Fulfilling America's Pledge assessment was an inclusive analytical effort with involvement from a broad set of stakeholders right from the start.

Further, decision makers will have greater confidence in the results when "suitable" actions – those with adequate data available to make realistic estimates and a stronger likelihood of achieving impacts – are included in the assessment, and any assumptions (with their underlying rationale) are transparently recorded. This will increase the possibility of results being used in decision-making.

Users should also bear in mind that policymakers may be hesitant to revise mitigation targets because often they can only partly control non-state and subnational actions. However, through incentive settings and other regulatory means, national policymakers may have significant influence on non-state and subnational actors, or the other way around, which provides an opportunity to align and reinforce actions at different levels. Learning from the data gaps encountered in the assessment, national policymakers can also help streamline the information available for non-state and subnational actions by recommending the type of quantitative information that individual actions should provide to enable realistic estimation of their potential impacts. Developing national databases of non-state and subnational actions will go a long way towards ensuring that accurate and reliable data relating to these actions become available over time.

At the same time, it is important to underline that the integration of non-state and subnational actions should not be used by policymakers to scale back federal action. Rather, the positive reinforcing relationship between non-state/subnational and national actions should be emphasized. Users should ensure that policies developed at the national level incentivize, and are complementary to, non-state and subnational policies, rather than making them moot. The opportunities linked to tapping into

these potentials (e.g. more competitive economies, signalling transformation and giving positive inputs on the international stage) should be taken into account when considering how to use the results of the assessment.