
Abbreviations and acronyms

AFOLU	agriculture, forestry and other land use	Mt	megatonne
BAU	business as usual	MW	megawatt
CO₂	carbon dioxide	MWh	megawatt-hour
CO₂e	carbon dioxide equivalent	NAMA	nationally appropriate mitigation action
DTU	Technical University of Denmark	NDC	nationally determined contribution
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations	NGO	non-governmental organization
GDP	gross domestic product	t	tonne
GHG	greenhouse gas	TWG	Technical Working Group
Gt	gigatonne	TWh	terawatt-hour
GW	gigawatt	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
ha	hectare	UNEP FI	United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
HFC	hydrofluorocarbon	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
ICAT	Initiative for Climate Action Transparency	WRI	World Resources Institute
IEA	International Energy Agency		
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change		
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency		
J	joule		
kj	kilojoule		
kt	kilotonne		
kWh	kilowatt-hour		
L	litre		
Mha	mega hectare		

Glossary

Absolute value	The non-negative value of a number without regard to its sign. For example, the absolute value of 5 is 5, and the absolute value of -5 is also 5.
Assessment boundary	The scope of the assessment in terms of the (sub)sectors and GHG emissions included in the assessment
Assessment period	The time period over which GHG impacts resulting from a policy are assessed
Assessment report	A report, completed by the user, that documents the assessment process, methods and results relating to the impact of non-state and subnational action
Current policy scenario	A scenario that represents the events or conditions most likely to occur in the presence of the current mix of policies and actions
Ex-ante assessment	The process of assessing expected future impacts of non-state and subnational actions, or national policies and actions (i.e. a forward-looking assessment)
Ex-post assessment	The process of assessing historical impacts of non-state and subnational actions, or national policies and actions (i.e. a backward-looking assessment)
Expert judgment	A carefully considered, well-documented qualitative or quantitative judgment made in the absence of unequivocal observational evidence by a person or persons who have a demonstrable expertise in the given field. ⁷⁵ Users can apply their own expert judgment or consult experts. Expert judgment can be strengthened through expert elicitation methods to avoid bias.
Impact assessment	The qualitative or quantitative assessment of impacts resulting from non-state and subnational actions, or from national policies and actions. This can be conducted either ex-ante or ex-post.
Independent non-state and subnational actions	Non-state and subnational actions that do not interact with each other or with national policies, such that the combined effect of implementing them together is equal to the sum of the individual effects of implementing them separately
Indicator	A metric that can be estimated and monitored over time to understand the impact of non-state and subnational actions, and track changes towards targeted outcomes
Intended impacts	Impacts that are intentional based on the original objectives of the policy or action. In some contexts, these are referred to as primary impacts.
Jurisdiction	The geographic area within which an entity's (such as a government's) authority is exercised

⁷⁵ IPCC (2006).

National policy or action	An intervention taken or mandated by a national government, which may include laws, regulations and standards; taxes, charges, subsidies and incentives; information instruments; voluntary agreements; implementation of new technologies, processes or practices; and public or private sector financing and investment
Negative impacts	Impacts that are perceived as unfavourable from the perspectives of decision makers and stakeholders
Non-state actor	Any actor other than a national or subnational government
Non-state commitments	Planned non-state action that has been publicly announced but, unlike non-state mitigation action, has not yet been implemented
Non-state mitigation action	Any kind of activity that is directly or indirectly aimed at reducing GHG emissions and that is led by non-state actor(s)
Overlapping non-state and subnational actions	Non-state and subnational actions that interact with each other or with national policies and that, when implemented together, have a combined effect less than the sum of their individual effects when implemented separately. This includes both actions that have the same or complementary goals (such as national and subnational energy efficiency standards for appliances), and counteracting or countervailing actions that have different or opposing goals (such as a national fuel tax and a subnational fuel subsidy).
Positive impacts	Impacts that are perceived as favourable from the perspectives of decision makers and stakeholders
Qualitative assessment	An approach to impact assessment that involves describing the impacts of a policy or action on selected impact categories in numerical terms
Quantitative assessment	An approach to impact assessment that involves estimating the impacts of a policy or action on selected impact categories in quantitative terms
Reinforcing non-state and subnational actions	Non-state and subnational actions that interact with each other or with national policies and that, when implemented together, have a combined effect greater than the sum of their individual effects when implemented separately
Specific impact	A specific change that results from a policy or action
Stakeholders	People, organizations, communities or individuals who are affected by, and/or who have influence or power over, a policy
Subnational actor	Any form of government that is not a national government
Subnational commitments	Planned subnational action that has been publicly announced but, unlike subnational mitigation action, has not yet been implemented
Subnational mitigation action	Any kind of activity that is directly or indirectly aimed at reducing GHG emissions and that is led by subnational actor(s)
Sustainable development impacts	Changes in environmental, social or economic conditions that result from a policy or action, such as changes in economic activity, employment, public health, air quality and energy security

Uncertainty

(1) Quantitative definition: Measurement that characterizes the dispersion of values that could reasonably be attributed to a parameter. (2) Qualitative definition: A general term that refers to the lack of certainty in data and methodological choices, such as the application of non-representative factors or methods, incomplete data or lack of transparency.

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