The first Thematic Call builds on the Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) to support developing member countries in two key, interconnected fronts: preparing, updating and refining Long-term Low Emissions Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) and enhancing the quality and increasing the ambition of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The aim is to advance LT-LEDS and NDCs, while fostering alignment between the two instruments and developing capacities for their sustained implementation.

Raising global climate ambition requires aligning LT-LEDS with NDCs. To avoid a high-climate-risk future with catastrophic consequences, we need to make immediate, transformational shifts in policy and investment. The Glasgow Climate Pact agreed on at COP26 presents an opportunity for countries to identify and prioritize systemic changes through robust LT-LEDS that connect to NDC processes and, more broadly, that guide national development toward long-term resilience and just transitions to net-zero emissions by or around mid-century. Launching these transitions requires countries to understand and weigh policy implications and related reforms, identify finance needs, and develop enabling frameworks to mobilize investment.

The main goal of the Thematic Call is to facilitate, leverage, and coordinate support for the transition towards climate-compatible development. Efforts will focus on developing and refining LT-LEDS, and on aligning short- and medium-term planning with their proposed development pathways to unlock NDC ambition.

With its two tracks, the Thematic Call will assist countries in:

1. Developing and updating LT-LEDS: Crafting the vision and strategies for long-term low emission and climate resilient development, understanding its benefits, challenges and trade-offs; and putting in place actionable policies and plans to kick-start this development transition in a fair and sustainable manner.
2. Enhancing and raising the ambition of updates to NDCs, fostering alignment with LT-LEDS and with the Paris Agreement temperature target and allowing for timely submission of the NDCs due 2025 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Under both tracks, Partnership members’ expertise and resources will be leveraged for countries to draw out linkages between NDCs and LT-LEDS.
To mobilize support in response to requests from countries, the Thematic Call will primarily draw on members’ resources and strengths, establishing coordination arrangements with initiatives, such as the 2050 Pathways Platform, United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) Climate Promise 2, NDC and LTS support by the World Bank, Agence Française de Développement’s (AFD) 2050 Facility, the IKI Consortium on LT-LEDs, the Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project (DDPP) and many other programs. The Partnership Action Fund (PAF) will function as a complementary, last resort mechanism to strengthen members’ responses when needed and to fill gaps where they exist.

THE NDC PARTNERSHIP IS COUNTRY DRIVEN AND MEMBER LED

The NDC Partnership brings together more than 200 members, including more than 120 countries, developed and developing, and more than 80 institutions to create and deliver on ambitious climate action that helps achieve the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Governments identify their NDC implementation priorities and the type of support that is needed to translate them into actionable policies and programs. Based on these requests, the membership offers a tailored package of expertise, technical assistance, and funding. This collaborative response provides developing countries with efficient access to a wide range of resources to adapt to and mitigate climate change and foster more equitable and sustainable development.

The NDC Partnership is built on the premise of collective action: by acting together, we achieve more.

SCOPE: WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN BE SUPPORTED, AND WHEN?

The Thematic Call is structured in three thematic streams that are common to the LT-LEDs and NDC tracks. Countries may access support simultaneously under more than one stream, or place subsequent requests on a rolling basis, as they progress from one stage of LT-LEDs and NDC development to the other throughout the duration of the Thematic Call (Q4 2022 – Q3 2025).

Stream 1 - Preparatory Support:
Enables countries to strategically plan their LT-LEDs development in alignment with their NDC update and enhancement processes.

- Development of a long-term, low emission vision.
- Roadmap and methodology for the development and/or enhancement of the LT-LEDs and NDC.
- Assessment of the socio-economic impacts of LT-LEDs.
- Organizational support to convene stakeholder consultations.

Illustrative outputs* that countries could develop under each stream
**Stream 2 - Development, Update, and Ambition Enhancement Support:** Addresses priority information and methodological gaps for robust NDC and LT-LEDS design and considers these aspects and needs holistically (e.g., understanding the linkages and differences between the two processes).

- New or enhanced LT-LEDS
- New or enhanced NDC
- Updated Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions inventories in critical sectors
- 5-year milestones until 2050 to inform NDC updates
- Recommendations for transformational shifts in critical sectors
- Scenarios that align with net-zero emissions by or around mid-century targets drawing linkages between LT-LEDS and NDC revision processes, where possible
- Assessment of long-term climate risks, impacts, and resilience objectives
- Consultation and engagement approaches and dissemination products to build ownership and achieve or strengthening high-level political engagement
- Solutions to mainstream gender in NDC and LT-LEDS planning and implementation

**Stream 3 - Promoting Long-Term Transformation and Action:** Focuses on kick-starting the implementation of LT-LEDS by developing and/or implementing those catalyst and paradigm-changing policies that enable a country’s resilient, just transition to net-zero emissions by or around mid-century. This stream is targeted for countries with an LT-LEDS.

- Legislation, regulatory instruments, and sectoral policy reform based on an existing LT-LEDS and beyond current NDC ambition
- Governance mechanisms that promote accountability, transparency, and responsiveness
- Paradigm-shifting awareness-raising campaigns, education and capacity building that facilitate economic and social transition
- Analysis and development of labor market scenarios and social policy packages for a just transition

* Non-exhaustive list.

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**Learn more at** [https://ndcpartnership.org/Lt-leds-and-ndc-alignment-update-and-enhancement](https://ndcpartnership.org/Lt-leds-and-ndc-alignment-update-and-enhancement) **or get in touch via** ThematicCall@ndcpartnership.org.

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**HOW TO REQUEST SUPPORT THROUGH THE THEMATIC CALL**

Countries are invited to complete an online Pre-Screening Form (one form per country, even if there are multiple engaged institutions). The Support Unit may reach back to the primary contact registered in the form for clarification purposes shortly after submission.
Upon submission of a pre-screening form, countries are invited to move to full request for support development. Request for Support Forms will be accepted on a rolling basis, compiled, and shared periodically with NDC Partnership development and implementing partners as a package.

Partners are invited to indicate their interest in supporting countries through the Thematic Call with their own resources or via complementary funding from the Partnership Action Fund (PAF). Partners indicating interest in accessing PAF funds will be invited to prepare proposals for unsupported requests only. Proposals will be selected based on an objective evaluation process.

Regardless of the funding source, support will be coordinated and delivered through a Joint Workplan, a dynamic document that will detail how support maps to country requests, support providers, expected deliverables, timelines, and budgets.

**TIMELINE FOR THE FIRST THEMATIC CALL CYCLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COP 27: Rollout of the Thematic Call</td>
<td>8 Nov 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>First cycle of information sessions for countries and partners (virtual)</td>
<td>From 21 Nov through mid-Dec 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circulation* of Requests for Support to Partners</td>
<td>Mid-Dec 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner responses submitted and consolidated</td>
<td>end-Jan 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responses with own resources are communicated to countries and coordination to develop Joint Workplan begins</td>
<td>Jan-Feb 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call for partners to prepare proposals for unsupported activities with PAF funding issued</td>
<td>Feb 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award decisions and grant preparation</td>
<td>Apr – May 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award decisions and grant preparation</td>
<td>Apr – May 2023</td>
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</table>

* Depending on requests received

Similar cycles will follow every 12 to 16 weeks. Requests for Support surfaced through the Thematic Call will be received on a rolling basis and shared for partners response every six weeks approximately.
More information about the Thematic Call can be found online at https://ndcpartnership.org/lt-leds-and-ndc-alignment-update-and-enhancement. Join information sessions or send additional inquiries to ThematicCall@ndcpartnership.org.