

HEALTHY NDC

Scorecard 2026

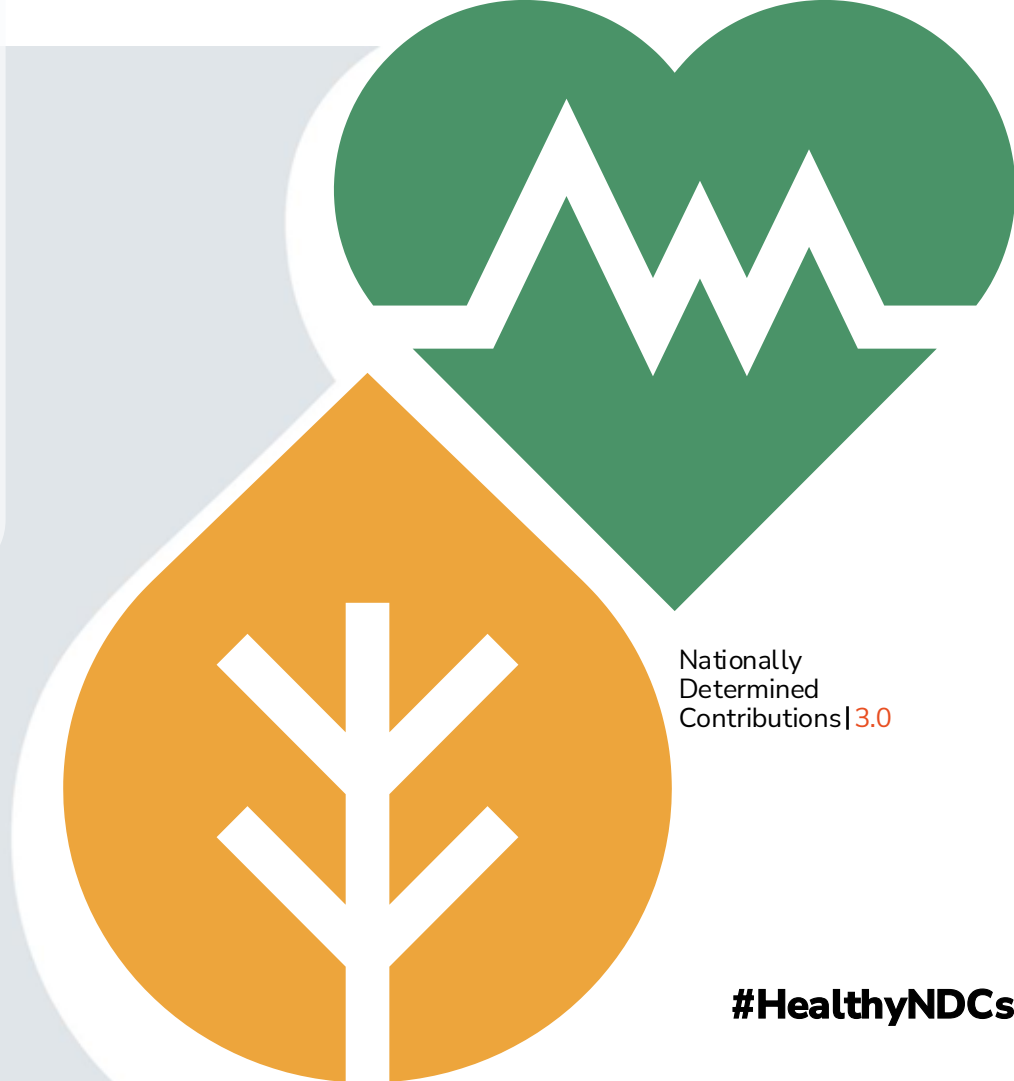
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Overview

Introduction and methods



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Methods

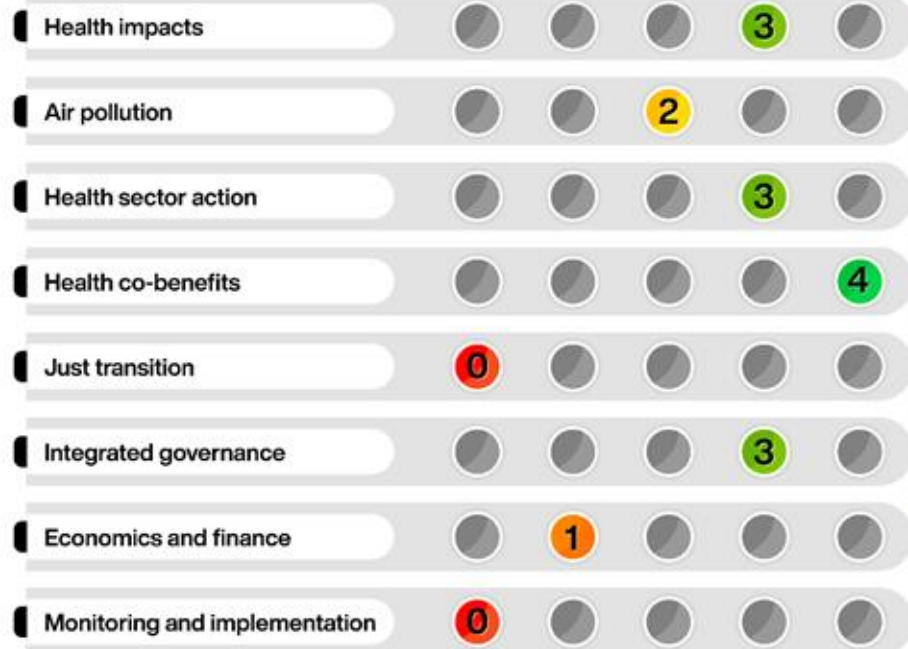
- **117 NDCs (covering 132 countries) analyzed with the inclusion criteria:**
 - Submitted up until 1st August, 2026
 - End date of 2035 or later
- Changes from previous scorecard: **4 points per category** (instead of 3) and **8 categories** (instead of 6)
- **Two phase analysis:**
 - **Collection:** keyword search with collection of every hit
 - **Coding:** anonymized to prevent bias, coded every hit as “not relevant” or in one of the categories



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Canada



Climate ambition

Source:
Climate Action Tracker

Catastrophic for
human health

<2°C
Paris Agreement compliant

<1.5°C
Science aligned

<3°C

Air pollution deaths
per 100,000 people

8.2

Source: State of Global Air

Total Score

16/32



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Healthy NDC Scorecard

Are national climate
commitments enough
to protect our health?

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Contribution published
12/02/2025

Full details:
<http://bit.ly/HealthyNDCs3-0>

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Results

Key trends



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Health Impacts

79% of NDCs considered some type of health impact

- 32% quantified health impacts in some way
- 26% mentioned air pollution specifically as a health impact

Top specific health impacts mentioned:

- Food security
- Malaria
- Heat
- Malnutrition



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Air Pollution

94% of NDCs secured points in this category

- **26%** included targets or monitoring for air pollution, with black carbon and HFCs being the most mentioned in a target

Specific Air Pollutants (out of 1382 mentions)

- Black carbon: **45 times**
- Nitrogen dioxide: **39 times**
- Particulate matter: **35 times**
- Sulfur dioxide: **21 times**
- Carbon monoxide: **5 times**
- VOCs: **10 times**



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Health Sector Actions

80% of NDCs mention a health sector action

- **51%** of NDCs included language on either a Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment or health as an adaptation priority
- **36%** of NDCs mention actions that would contribute to mitigation in the health sector

2nd highest average score with 2.35 points



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Health Co-Benefits

82% of NDCs mention health co-benefits, either in specific or general terms

- Agriculture/food and transportation top two sectors mentioned
- Nutrition, food security, biking, and walking top co-benefits mentioned

43% of NDCs specifically mention improved air quality as a co-benefit

Top average score of 2.38 points



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Integrated Governance

83% of NDCs included some mention of integrated governance of health in climate policy

Only **17 NDCs** explicitly mention the Ministry of Health being consulted in the development of the NDC with an **average score of 17.8 points**

- Average score overall is 11.8 points



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Just Transition

15% of NDCs mentioned health in a just transition in some way

Only **Colombia** received all points possible for this category

Lowest average score of **0.19 points**



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Economics and Finance

43% of NDCs include language on costs, finance, budget and ROI of health impacts and actions

Only 9 NDCs explicitly mention the costs of health impacts



Monitoring and Implementation

28% of NDCs mention monitoring and implementation of targets in or outside of the health sector

Only 8 NDCs include monitoring or projection of health outcomes



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Top 10 Scores

1. **Colombia (29 points)**
2. Nigeria (25 points)
3. Cambodia (24 points)
4. Paraguay (22 points)
5. Timor-Leste (22 points)
6. Morocco (21 points)
7. The Republic of Moldova (21 points)
8. Sierra Leone (21 points)
9. Suriname (21 points)
10. Armenia (19 points)

*Full Ranking on Website



Photo: Rabhimbh Bardhan, Unsplash



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Other Results

19 of the top 20 scores are secured by low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)

Average scores for each ambition level based on Climate Action Tracker:

- “Insufficient”: **8.3 points**
- “Highly insufficient”: **9.8 points**
- “Critically insufficient”: **11.5 points**



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Recommendations

for health-inclusive national climate policymaking

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Recommendations



Coordinate climate policy between ministries, including the Ministry of Health

Conduct **health impact assessments** as part of sectoral plans

Integrate health as a core component of **just transitions**



Prioritize **short-lived climate pollutants** to minimize overshoot of 1.5°C

Set robust **air quality targets** in line with WHO Air Quality Guidelines

Prevent undue influence in decision-making from high-polluting industries



Scale-up **international financial commitments** by developed countries in line with the Paris Agreement

Reform **tax and subsidy** policies to reflect the real price of health-harming and polluting products, such as fossil fuels

Outline the **costs and returns on investment** of implementing health related actions to strengthen the rationale for increased domestic and international finance



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Thank you

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