

SOUTH AFRICA

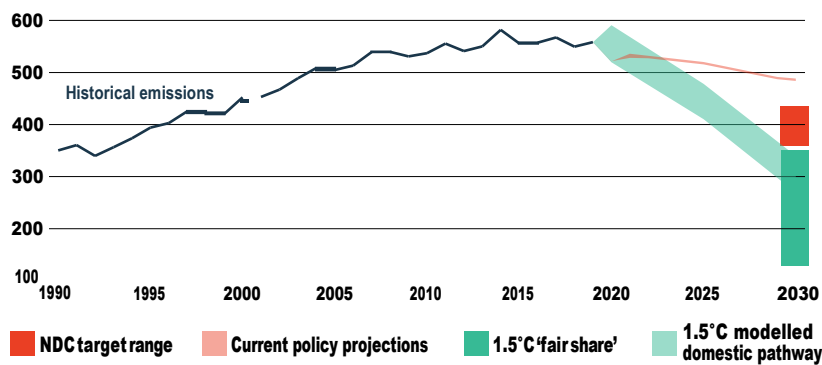
CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT: COMPARING G20 CLIMATE ACTION

2022



NOT ON TRACK FOR A 1.5°C WORLD

1.5°C compatible emissions pathway (MtCO₂e/year)¹

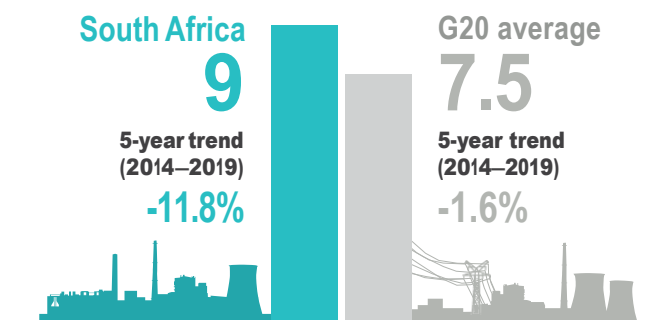


South Africa's updated NDC target would reduce emissions 22–34% below 1990 levels, or to approximately 366–436 MtCO₂e (excl. LULUCF). To keep below the 1.5°C temperature limit, analysis by the 1.5°C Pathways Explorer shows that South Africa's 2030 emissions would need to be around 304 MtCO₂e, leaving an ambition gap of about 62 MtCO₂e. When compared with its 1.5°C 'fair share' contribution, South Africa would need to achieve reductions in line with the bottom of its 2030 NDC range.

Climate Action Tracker, 2022a, 2022b;
Climate Analytics, 2022; Gütschow et al., 2021

PER CAPITA GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS ABOVE G20 AVERAGE

tCO₂e/capita² in 2019



South Africa's per capita emissions are 1.2 times the G20 average. Total per capita emissions have decreased by 11.8% from 2014 to 2019.

Gütschow et al., 2021; World Bank, 2022

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS



One of the largest solar PV projects (with battery storage) in the world was approved through the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Procurement Programme, with solar capacity of 540 MW and battery capacity of 225 MWh–1,140 MWh.



Some large fossil gas projects have been delayed by court rulings; however, substantial gas developments are still underway, with plans to import fossil gas from Mozambique's new gasfield.



President Ramaphosa's plan to end the electricity crisis currently crippling the country's economy includes several measures for boosting the scale and pace of renewable energy deployment.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENHANCING CLIMATE AMBITION



Finalise the passage of the Climate Change Bill, submitted to Parliament in February 2022, which would establish the framework for setting carbon budgets, sectoral emissions targets and update the national greenhouse gas emissions trajectory.



Once funds have been mobilised, implement the Just Energy Transition Partnership to accelerate phase-out of coal power while ensuring resources are used to support communities and job creation in the transition away from fossil fuels.



Prioritise green hydrogen in the implementation of the South African Hydrogen Society Roadmap. Developing green hydrogen markets in South Africa can promote low-carbon industries and create jobs.