

# SAINT VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

## and the Paris Agreement



### Sectors

Energy (including domestic transport); Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF); industrial processes and product use; Agriculture; Waste



### National Implementing Agency

Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, Sustainable Development, and Information Technology (MFEPDIT)



### Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) submitted

November 18, 2015

### Paris Agreement signed

April 22, 2016

### Paris Agreement ratified

June 29, 2016

## Background

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is a 32-island nation, considered as an extremely vulnerable country given that most of its social and economic activities are concentrated on the narrow, low-lying coast line, at risk to sea-level rise. Its National Economic and Social Development Plan 2013 – 2025 considers the sustainable development goals agenda, taking into account how dependent the country's economy is on its natural resources. The plan highlights adaptation measures based on the necessity to improve physical infrastructure, preserve the environment and build resilience. The multi-island country is also committed to reducing its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by developing, among others, a National Energy Action Plan and a comprehensive Mitigation Assessment as included in their INDC.



### About the INDC Project

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. In the run up to the historic Paris Agreement, the European Commission and others provided financial and technical support specifically to advance the preparation of countries' INDCs. This support, in the context of the larger global LECB Programme called the INDC Project, continued post-Paris and has enabled advances in implementation and country-driven action.



# ACTIONS & IMPACTS

## INDC developed and submitted through a consultative process

The INDC submission, led by the government with support of the INDC Project, was formulated after conveying the outcomes of technical consultations among key stakeholders in the most relevant governmental sectors for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. These outcomes were contained in a document that was the main input for discussion and review before submission to the UNFCCC portal.

## Active participation of civil society stakeholders through awareness raising

After the INDC submission, public consultations were organized simultaneously with informative events targeting rural communities, where women cooperatives and NGOs were reached, to socialize the INDC and build capacities within the country regarding climate change science and the INDC process. The content of the INDC was shared within a larger scale context that considered climate change recognition and understanding, including the UNFCCC process and its Paris Agreement commitments. Important information was collected for further analysis in light of the NDC upgrade required by 2020.



## Contribution to NDC implementation

The process of formulating the INDC allowed the MFEPDIT to assemble key technical information such as GHG emission reduction potential, co-benefits of climate change and monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) needs and priorities. This helped to better understand the country's NDC implementation priorities, necessities and constraints. Pending tasks were also identified, including the need for a comprehensive analysis to increase ambition by 2020, and measuring the cost of adaptation actions considered in the NDC.



## Alignment of country policies by considering climate change from a development perspective

Through the INDC process the government has recognized the importance of aligning the INDC measures with policy instruments like the Transport Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA). In addition, the country is currently working on a national climate change policy that seeks to harmonize the sectoral plans and goals with the targets and actions set in the INDC. St. Vincent is considering both domestic and international climate change frameworks and priorities in developing further policy instruments.



## Better insight towards a country-driven NDC implementation by key stakeholders

Awareness and consultation sessions held with civil society representatives in rural communities helped create a better appreciation and understanding of how climate change is increasing their vulnerability, and what the government is planning to ensure low emission, resilient development in their communities. These exchanges among government officers from different agencies helped to grow consciousness on the necessity to make climate change a national priority within a global agenda.

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