



# PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE SOUTH AFRICA'S STRATEGIC PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE PARIS AGREEMENT

23 February 2021



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# Presentation Outline

- Background
- South Africa's commitment to the Paris agreement
- National Determined Contribution (NDC) update
- South Africa's Mitigation System in response to its NDC and the Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS)
- National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCS)
- Climate Change Bill

# BACKGROUND

1997

SA joined the United Nations Convention on Climate Change

National Climate Change Committee Established

2010 - 2011

SA Pledged to reduce its emission by a 34% and a 42% below its business as usual emissions growth trajectory by 2020 and 2025, respectively.

Cabinet approve the **National Climate Change Response Policy (NCCRP)**

Provided a framework for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Policy defines SA national GHG emissions Trajectory Range, called the Peak, Plateau and Decline (**PPD**) range

2012 - 2014

**Long Term Adaptation Scenarios (LTAS)** Phase 1& 2 Finalised

**Let's Respond Toolkit** launched to support mainstream of climate change in local government.

Sectoral Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Provincial adaptation Strategies

2015 - 2018

SA ratified the Paris agreement.

Our NDC is in line with the Peak, Plateau and Decline (PPD) - emissions will be within the range **398-614 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2025 and 2030**

**National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS)** Finalised

Climate Adaptation Strategies for District Municipalities Developed

Draft Climate Change Bill

2019 - 2020

**National Climate Change Information System** developed & operationalized

Cabinet approved **National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS)**

Cabinet approved the **Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS)**

Cabinet approved the establishment of the **Presidential Climate Change Coordinating Commission**

# SA's progress and commitment to the Paris Agreement

- In order to remain committed to the Paris Agreement we need to:
  - Update and communicate to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) before COP 26 in 2021 the updated Nationally Determined Contribution
  - Implement the domestic Mitigation System
  - Table the Climate Change Bill in parliament
  - Communicate to the UNFCCC by 2020 the mid-century long-term low greenhouse gas emission strategy (LEDS)
  - Implement the National Adaptation Strategy (NAS)
  - Set up a Presidential Climate Change Coordination Commission (P4C).

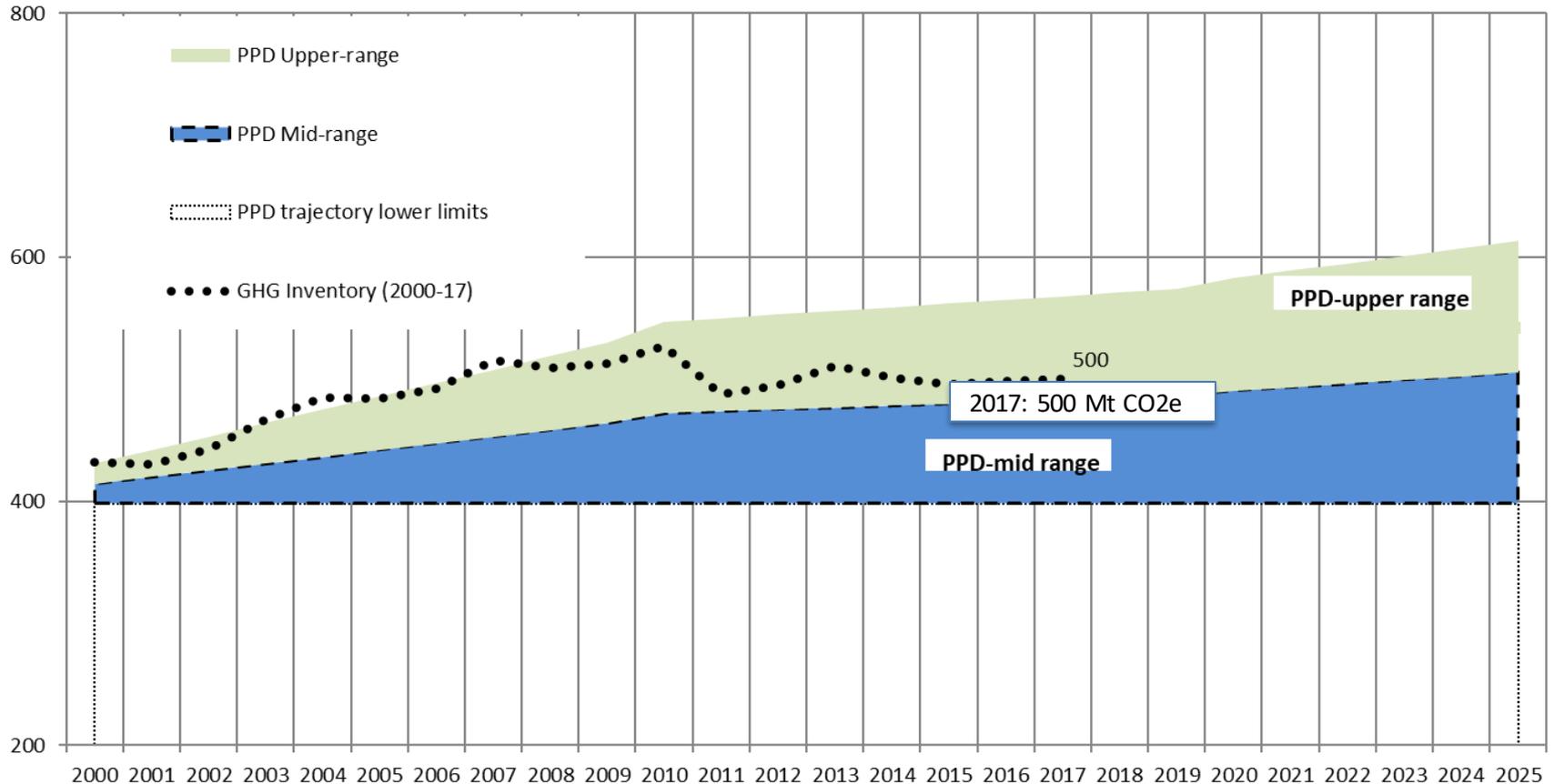
# Nationally Determined Contribution - Update

- SA is committed to updating its NDC
- The NDC Update Process has 5 parts:
  1. Technical analysis done and concluded- focused on the following areas
    - Projections are being studied that include current policies and measures to assess
    - the options for mitigation for 2025 and 2030.
    - Updated and comprehensive assessment of climate change vulnerabilities will comprise the adaptation communication
  2. Consultation with Government
  3. Consultation with broader stakeholders
  4. Provincial workshops will take place between February and April 2021
  5. Government Clusters and Cabinet by June 2021

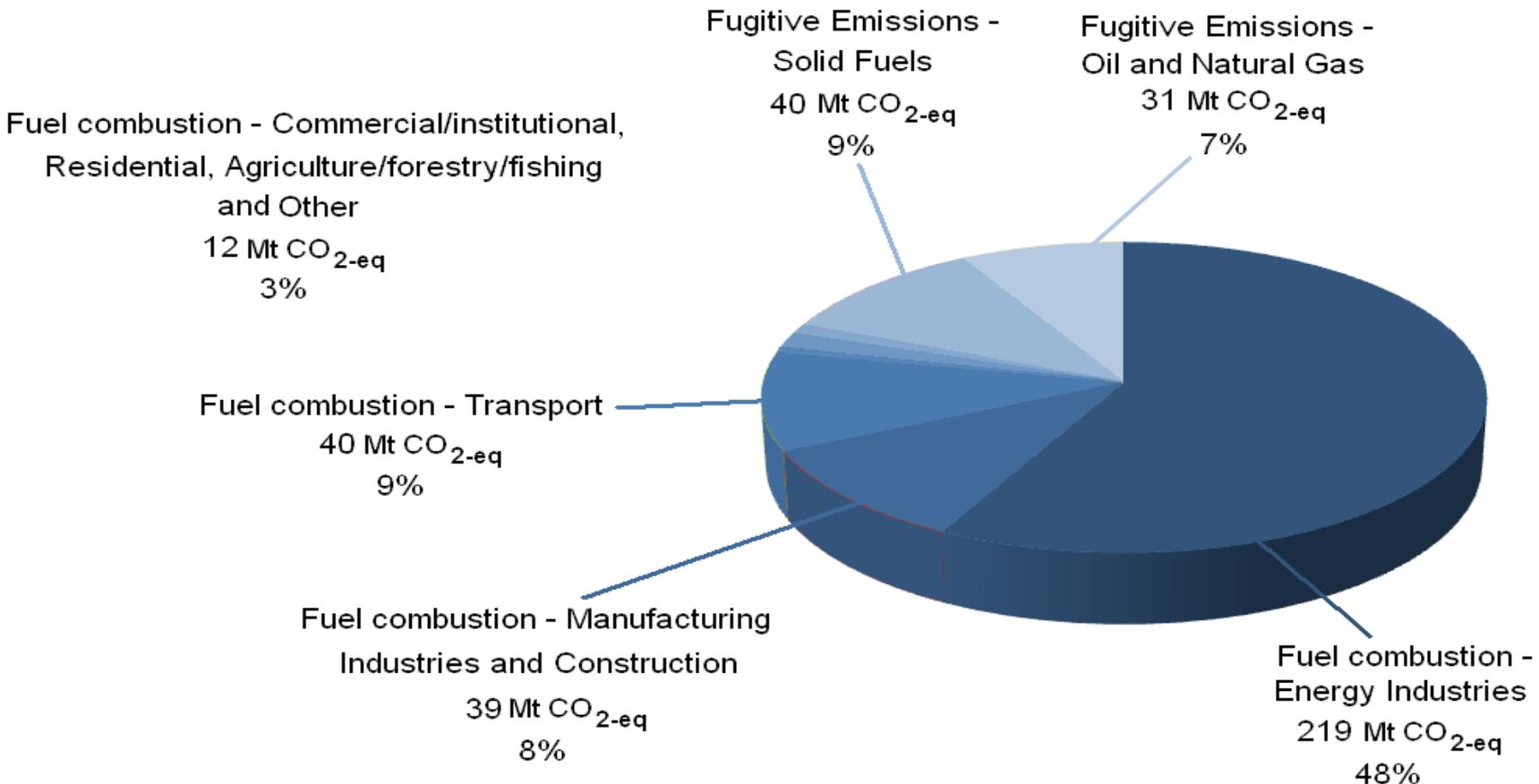
**Submission to the UNFCCC before COP 26 in November 2021**

# SA GHG Emissions Profile

Where are we (economy-wide GHG emissions) relative to the PPD?



# Key GHG Emitting Sectors – Energy Sector



All percentages are percentages of total emissions

# What is the climate mitigation system?

- National Climate Change Response Policy (NCCRP) laid out South Africa's response to climate mitigation and adaptation
  - Now encapsulated in Draft Climate Change Bill
- Mitigation component included a number of elements which jointly aim to reduce SA's GHGs.

# Elements of the Climate Mitigation system?

## Mitigation Goal

National GHG Emissions Trajectory Range, against which outcome of all mitigation actions will be measured

## Sectoral Targets

Defining Desired Emission Reduction Outcomes (DEROs), now **Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs)**, for each significant sector or sub-sector of the economy

## Industry implementation

**Mitigation plans** to demonstrate how mitigation by companies is to be achieved

## Monitoring of GHG emissions

Data collection, GHG inventory and M&E system

## Industry emissions limits

Adopting a **carbon budget** approach to provide for flexibility and least cost mitigation in sectors and/or sub-sectors

## Sector policies to drive mitigation

Policies and Measures (PAMS), economic measures to drive mitigation (e.g. IRP 2019 – REIPPP)

# South African Low Emission Development Strategy has a vital role to play in the implementation of the SETs and Carbon Budgets

Phase	Actions
<p><b>Phase 1: Starting Right</b> (start immediately and complete by end of 2020/21 financial year)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start the process of developing long term plans for each sector, to avoid lock-in to emissions intensive infrastructure and establish the basis for transformation at scale</li> <li>• Develop approaches for allocation of Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs) and carbon budgets to high emitting entities</li> <li>• Develop Sector Jobs Resilience Plans (SJRPs) to support the transition to the low carbon economy and climate resilient society in a Just manner</li> <li>• Identify the institutional, legislative, finance and other changes required to achieve the transformation</li> <li>• Develop an understanding of the relevant government decisions which need to be taken to achieve the long-term plans</li> <li>• Develop a monitoring plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Phase 2: Turning the corner</b> (start immediately, as appropriate, and complete by 2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and begin to implement detailed transformation plans for each sector, which is supported by the implementation of the SETs, carbon budgets and SJRPs</li> <li>• Develop investment pathways to support the transformation</li> <li>• Implement foundational changes to drive down the national trajectory</li> <li>• Implement the institutional changes to accelerate the rate of transformation and remove barriers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Phase 3: Massive roll-out</b> (to 2050)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roll-out the implementation plans for each sector along with measures to support changes until they become the new reality</li> <li>• Refine strategies as required, to account for changes in technologies, society and markets</li> </ul>

# SETs and Carbon Budgets:

## Where are we now?

- DEFF has been working on the development of SETs and Carbon Budgets approaches over the past five years
  - Trialed with implementation of a voluntary carbon budget for a selection of companies (Phase I of the mitigation system)
  - Developed in parallel with carbon tax, which has now been implemented
  - SETs framework to be finalized in the 2021/22 financial year
  - Mandatory Carbon Budget implementation to start in January 2023 in line with the Carbon Tax phase II implementation
  - The alignment between the carbon tax and carbon budget will ensure that the carbon tax enforces the carbon budget (i.e. higher tax rate applied to emissions above the carbon budget)

# Examples of Policies and Measures for SETs:

- Integrated Resource Plan (deployment of RE technologies and Decommissioning of old coal-fired power plants)
- National Energy Efficiency Strategy
- Green Transport Strategy
- National Waste Management Strategy (DEFF's mandate)
- Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act
- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act
- Carbon Tax Act

# Climate Change Adaptation



# PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION

- As part of mainstreaming climate change into planning frameworks, the Disaster Management Act;
- Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plans have been developed by the following sectors at national level: Water, Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Health, Biodiversity and a Climate Change Policy Framework for State Owned Companies and Rural Human Settlements;
- All 9 provinces have developed climate change response plans. All 44 district municipalities and metros have been capacitated to mainstream climate change into Integrated Development Plans (IDPs);
- Supported the All district municipalities in developing the climate change adaptation plans;

# PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION

- South Africa has a number of early warning systems and is in the process of developing more for different sectors and different weather-related hazards;
- The following systems have been developed by SAWS and the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC):
  - South African Flash Flood Guidance (SAFFG) system which provides guidance on potential flash flood watches and warnings within 1 to 6 hours.
  - Drought early warning systems which provides information on drought conditions based on the interpretation of satellite and climate data;
  - Drought Monitoring Desk which provides information on long range seasonal forecasts, observed rainfall as well as maps of Standardised Precipitation Index (SPI);
  - National Veld and Forest Fire Act provides for the prevention of fires through the development of a National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS), launched in 2005 and the Advanced Fire Information System (AFIS) to locate fires in near-real time over southern Africa.
  - South Africa has early warning system by hazard that include floods, drought, fires and storm surges;

# National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

## approved by Cabinet;

- **Intervention 1:** Reduce human, economic, environmental, physical and ecological infrastructure vulnerability and build adaptive capacity
- **Intervention 2:** Develop a coordinated Climate Services system that provides climate products and services for key climate vulnerable sectors and geographic areas.
- **Intervention 3:** Develop a vulnerability and resilience methodology framework that integrates biophysical and socio-economic aspects of vulnerability and resilience.
- **Intervention 4:** Facilitate mainstreaming of adaptation responses into sectoral planning and implementation.
- **Intervention 5:** Promote research application, technology development, transfer and adoption to support planning and implementation.
- **Intervention 6:** Build the necessary capacity and awareness for climate change responses.
- **Intervention 7:** Establish effective governance and legislative processes to integrate climate change in development planning.
- **Intervention 8:** Enable substantial flows of climate change adaptation finance from various sources.
- **Intervention 9:** Develop and implement an M&E system that tracks implementation of adaptation actions and their effectiveness.

# National Framework for Climate Services

The National Framework on Climate Services (NFCS) has been developed to be user driven, and to address the entire value chain for the production and application of climate services. The focus of the NFCS-SA is on the following climate sensitive sectors:

Disaster Risk  
Reduction

Health

Water Resource  
Management

Agriculture and  
Food Security

Human  
Settlements

Infrastructure

Transport

Biodiversity

Oceans and  
Coasts

Energy

# CLIMATE CHANGE BILL



# Legal Form

- The Bill will be a specific environmental management act, as defined in the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 and requires the Bill to be read, interpreted and applied in conjunction with that Act.
- The Bill will be **overarching**, and create the necessary **framework** to enable coordinated planning and action to address climate change;
- It will provide **single legal reference** to determine obligations rather having to refer to multiple statutes
- It provides the necessary cross-cutting **policy certainty** to the business and industry sector, to make investment decisions that result in GHG reductions and climate resilience;

# Objectives

- To provide for the **co-ordinated and integrated response** to climate change and its impacts by all spheres of government in accordance with the **principles of co-operative governance**, as well as designated /prescribed entities;
- To provide for the **effective management of inevitable climate change impacts** through enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to building social, economic, and environmental resilience and an adequate national adaptation response in the context of the global climate change response;
- **Make a fair contribution to the global effort to stabilise greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations** in the atmosphere at a level that avoids dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system within a timeframe that enables economic, social and environmental development to proceed in a sustainable manner;

# Process

## Sequence of the Process;

- The Draft Bill will be submitted to the State Law Advisor for vetting;
- The Draft bill will be submitted to Cabinet for approval to be tabled at Parliament in 2021;
- Public consultations under the auspices of the Parliamentary process

# Presidential Climate Change Coordinating Commission

- Cabinet approved the establishment of the Presidential Climate Change Coordinating Commission (PCCCC);
- The overall objective of the Commission is to advise on South Africa's climate change response to ensure realisation of the vision for effective climate change response and the long-term just transition to a climate resilient and low carbon economy and society.
- The composition of the PCCCC should include representation from relevant departments across the state, the social partners, business organizations, academic and experts, civil society (non-governmental organisations and community based organisations, relevant research institutions;
- The PCCC inaugural meeting is scheduled for 19 February 2021

# Conclusion

- The NDC update process is underway and the department is moving to the stakeholder engagement process to ensure that the technical analysis process is shaped by views of all social partners
- DEFF will continue to coordinate the domestication of the Paris Agreement and its implementation in the areas of Mitigation; Adaptation and the Just Transition

Thank You



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