

The Climate Dictionary: An everyday guide to climate change

This is a list commonly used terms relating to climate compiled by the [UNDP Climate Promise](#).

“ Weather vs. Climate

/weðə(r) / noun /ˈklaɪmət/ noun

Weather refers to atmospheric conditions at a particular time in a particular location, including temperature, humidity, precipitation, cloudiness, wind, and visibility. Weather conditions do not happen in isolation, they have a ripple effect. The weather in one region will eventually affect the weather hundreds or thousands of kilometers away.

Climate is the average of weather patterns in a specific area over a longer period of time, usually 30 or more years, that represents the overall state of the climate system.

Human activity in the industrial age, and particularly during the last century, is significantly altering our planet's climate through the release of harmful greenhouse gases.

“ Greenhouse gas emissions

/ˈɡriːn.haʊs ˈɡæs ɪmɪʃns/ noun

Greenhouse gases are gases that trap heat in the atmosphere, causing global warming and climate change. The main greenhouse gases released by human activity are carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, as well as fluorinated gases used for cooling and refrigeration. To prevent catastrophic climate change, the world's governments must work together to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and keep global warming below the dangerous threshold of 1.5°C.

“ Global warming vs. Climate change

/ˌɡləʊbl ˈwɔːmɪŋ/ noun /ˈklaɪmət tʃeɪndʒ/ noun

Global warming is an increase in the Earth's average surface temperature that occurs when the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere increases. These gases absorb more solar radiation and trap more heat, thus causing the planet to get hotter. Burning fossil fuels, cutting down forests, and farming livestock are some human activities that release greenhouse gases and contribute to global warming.

Climate change refers to the long-term changes in the Earth's climate that are warming the atmosphere, ocean and land. Climate change is affecting the balance of ecosystems that support life and biodiversity, and impacting health. It also causes more extreme weather events, such as more intense and/or frequent hurricanes, floods, heat waves, and droughts, and leads to sea level rise and coastal erosion as a result of ocean warming, melting of glaciers, and loss of ice sheets.

“ Climate crisis

/klaɪmət kraɪsɪs/ noun

The climate crisis refers to the serious problems that are being caused or are likely to be caused by changes in the planet's climate. Since the 1800s, the Earth's average temperature has increased by 1.1° C, already causing significant damage in many parts of the world. Scientists expect that an increase beyond 1.5° C would lead to a series of dangerous tipping points that would make many changes irreversible and pose a very serious threat to human civilization.

“ Feedback loop

/fiːdbæk luːp/ noun

Climate feedback loops happen when one change in the climate triggers further changes, in a chain reaction that reinforces itself as time goes on. Ultimately, feedback loops can trigger tipping points, at which point the changes to our planet's climate systems become severe and irreversible.

Currently, scientists are aware of some serious feedback loops that are driving global warming. For example, as sea ice in the Arctic melts, more heat is being absorbed by the darker ocean waters, thus speeding up the warming process and leading to more ice melting. Similarly, as wildfires burn down forests, they release greenhouse gases leading to more warming and more wildfires. Other feedback loops include the thawing of the permafrost, forest dieback, and insect outbreaks.

“ Tipping point

/ˈtɪpɪŋ pɔɪnt/ noun

A tipping point is a threshold after which certain changes caused by climate change become irreversible. These changes may lead to abrupt and dangerous impacts with very serious implications for the future of our planet.

Scientists have already identified areas of concern, such as dieback of forests and corals, the melting of permafrost and glaciers, and deep ocean warming and acidification, but more research is needed.

“ Climate overshoot

/ˈklaɪmət, əʊvəʃu:t/ noun

Under the Paris Agreement, countries are expected to take the necessary measures to limit global warming to 1.5° C. But even best-case scenarios now indicate a significant chance of overshooting these goals, even if temporarily. Climate overshoot refers to the period during which warming will have increased past 1.5° C, before falling back down. This period will probably occur around the middle of this century.

The longer the climate overshoot lasts, the more dangerous it will become. A prolonged period of higher global temperatures will have devastating and irreversible impacts on natural ecosystems, biodiversity, and human communities, particularly in dry areas, coastal zones, and other vulnerable locations. Making deep emission cuts during this decade is of extreme importance to limiting the duration and impacts of the climate overshoot.

“ Mitigation

/mɪtɪˈɡeɪʃn/ noun

Mitigation refers to any action taken by governments, businesses, and people to reduce, sequester, or prevent greenhouse gas emissions.

Examples of mitigation include transitioning to renewable energy like wind and solar, investing in carbon-free transportation, promoting sustainable agriculture and land use, planting forests to act as carbon sinks, and changing consumption practices and diet behaviors.

Did you know: To limit global warming to 1.5° C, which scientists have set as the threshold before irreversible climate impacts occur, the world must take mitigation actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% before 2030 and reach net-zero CO2 emissions by mid-century.

“ Adaptation

/ædæp'teɪʃn/ noun

Adaptation refers to actions that help reduce vulnerability to the current or expected impacts of climate change.

Examples of adaptation include planting crop varieties that are more resistant to drought or changing conditions, managing land to reduce wildfire risks, building stronger flood defenses, relocating infrastructure from coastal areas affected by sea level rise, and developing insurance mechanisms specific to climate-related threats.

“ Resilience

/rɪ'zɪliəns/ noun

Resilience is the capacity of a community or environment to anticipate and manage dangerous climatic events and recover and transform after the ensuing shock, with minimal damage to societal wellbeing, economic activity, and the environment.

Examples of increasing resilience in a community include long-term planning, early warning systems, training for new skills, diversifying the sources of household income, strengthening nature-based solutions, and building robust communal response and recovery capacities.

“ Carbon footprint

/'kɑ:bən 'fʊtprɪnt/ noun

A carbon footprint is a measure of the greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere by a particular person, organization, product, or activity. A bigger carbon footprint means more emissions of carbon dioxide and methane, and therefore a bigger contribution to the climate crisis.

Measuring a person's or an organization's carbon footprint entails looking at both the direct emissions resulting from the burning of fossil fuels for energy production,

heating, and land and air travel, and indirect emissions resulting from the production and disposal of all food, manufactured goods, and services they consume.

Carbon footprints can be reduced by shifting to low-carbon energy sources like wind and solar, improving energy efficiency, strengthening industry policies and regulations, changing purchasing and travel habits, and reducing meat consumption and food waste.

“ Climate justice

/ˈklaɪmət ˈdʒʌstɪs/ noun

Climate justice means putting equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change.

One aspect of climate justice relates to the unequal historical responsibility that countries bear in relation to the climate crisis. The concept suggests that the countries, industries, and businesses that have become wealthy from activities that emitted the most greenhouse gas emissions have a responsibility to help mitigate the impacts of climate change on those affected, particularly the most vulnerable countries and communities, who often are the ones that have contributed the least to the crisis.

Even within the same country, because of structural inequalities based on race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status, the responsibilities in addressing climate change need to be divided fairly, with the biggest responsibility resting on those who have contributed to and benefitted from causing the crisis the most.

Another aspect of climate justice is the intergenerational one. Children and young people today have not contributed to the climate crisis in a significant way but will bear the full force of climate change impacts as they advance through life. Because their human rights are threatened by the decisions of previous generations, they must have a central role in all climate decision-making and action.

“ Nature-based solutions

/ˈneɪtʃə(r) beɪst səˈluːʃns/ noun

Nature-based solutions support climate change adaptation and mitigation by using natural systems and processes to restore ecosystems, conserve biodiversity, and enable sustainable livelihoods. They are actions that prioritize ecosystems and biodiversity and are designed and implemented with the full engagement and consent of local communities and Indigenous Peoples.

Examples include green roofs and urban parks and gardens, restoring wetlands, savannahs and other ecosystems, conserving mangrove forests, or switching to regenerative farming practices.

Did you know: Nature-based solutions are seen as a win-win for people and nature. They can create jobs, provide new and more resilient livelihood opportunities, and increase income while also protecting the planet.

“ Indigenous knowledge

/mɪˈdɪʒənəs ˈnɒlɪdʒ/ noun

Indigenous Peoples' ways of life are inherently low-carbon and emphasize balance between humans and the natural world. Their traditional practices have low impact on the environment and are responsive to it, fostering self-sustaining ecosystems.

Indigenous Peoples were among the first to notice climate change and their knowledge and practices help navigate and adapt to its impacts. Indigenous knowledge, which is intergenerational and community-based, is a great source of meaningful climate solutions that can advance mitigation, enhance adaptation, and build resilience. It can also complement scientific data with precise landscape information that is critical to evaluating climate change scenarios.

Indigenous Peoples protect an estimated 80 percent of the world's remaining biodiversity yet continue to be excluded from almost all global decision-making processes on climate change. Their collective knowledge, valuable insights, and rights to their ancestral lands, territories and resources, and their way of life must be recognized and included across climate policies and actions.

“ Loss and damage

/lɒs ənd ˈdæmɪdʒ/ noun

There is no agreed definition of "Loss and damage" in the international climate negotiations. However, the term can refer to the unavoidable impacts of climate change that occur despite, or in the absence of, [mitigation](#) and [adaptation](#). Importantly, it highlights that there are limits to what adaptation can accomplish; when tipping point thresholds are crossed, climate change impacts can become unavoidable.

Loss and damage can refer to both economic and non-economic losses. Economic loss and damage can include things like the costs of rebuilding infrastructure that has repeatedly been damaged due to cyclones or floods, or the loss of coastline land (and homes and businesses) due to sea-level rise and coastal erosion.

Non-economic loss and damage include negative impacts that can't be easily assigned a monetary value. This can include things such as trauma from experiencing a climate-related natural disaster, loss of life, the displacement of communities, loss of history and culture or [loss of biodiversity](#).

“ Climate security

/'klaɪmət sɪ'kjʊərəti/ noun

Climate change can exacerbate food, water, and livelihood insecurity, with cascading effects such as displacement and migration and increased competition over natural resources, all of which can lead to increased tensions and instability in a country or a region. Furthermore, the impacts of climate change can aggravate or prolong existing violent conflicts and make it more difficult to deliver climate action and to reach and sustain peace.

Climate security refers to evaluating, managing, and reducing the risks to peace and stability brought on by the climate crisis. This means ensuring that climate mitigation and adaptation goes beyond doing no harm and contributes positively to peace and stability. It also means that conflict prevention and peacebuilding interventions take climate impacts into account. The technical solutions to climate action and adaptation can serve as opportunities to build peace and mend the social fabric, especially in countries affected by conflict and fragility.

Did you know: Climate action can help alleviate the underlying drivers of conflict and fragility. For example, access to renewable energy can be a lifeline which supports clean water, light, warmth, and sustenance, as well as basic and emergency services. It also powers local economic development, while setting countries on a sustainable development pathway to recovery.

“ Climate finance

/'klaɪmət 'faɪnæns/ noun

Climate finance refers to financial resources and instruments that are used to support action on climate change. Climate finance is critical to addressing climate change because of the large-scale investments that are needed to transition to a low-carbon global economy and to help societies build resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Climate finance can come from different sources, public or private, national or international, bilateral or multilateral. It can employ different instruments such as grants and donations, green bonds, debt swaps, guarantees, and concessional loans.

And it can be used for different activities, including mitigation, adaptation, and resilience-building.

Some multilateral funds that countries can access include the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Adaptation Fund (AF). High-income countries with a significant historical contribution to climate change have committed to raising [US\\$100 billion every year](#) to fund climate action in low-income countries. However, this target has not yet been reached and more funding is required for both mitigation and adaptation interventions.

Did you know: Many studies and reports show that investments in climate action can yield results that dramatically outweigh the upfront costs. One [study by the World Bank](#) shows that an investment of US\$1 can yield, on average, \$4 in benefits.

“ Net zero

/ˌnet ˈziərəʊ/ noun

Reaching net zero requires us to ensure that carbon dioxide emissions from human activity are balanced by human efforts to remove carbon dioxide emissions (for example, by creating carbon sinks to absorb carbon dioxide) - thereby stopping further increases in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Transitioning to net zero requires a complete transformation of our energy, transportation, and production and consumption systems. This is necessary to avert the worst consequences of climate change.

“ Renewable energy

/rɪˈnjuːəbl ˈenədʒi/ noun

Renewable energy is energy derived from natural sources that are constantly being replenished, such as wind, sunlight, the flow of moving water, and geothermal heat. In contrast to energy sourced from fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas, which accounts for [75 percent](#) of the harmful greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change, energy from renewable sources is cheap, clean, sustainable, and generates more jobs.

Transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy in all sectors – power, heating and cooling, transportation, and industry – is key to addressing the climate crisis. To stay under 1.5°C of global warming, the world needs to phase out fossil fuel use and undergo a profound transformation of the energy system through rapid electrification and sourcing energy from renewable sources.

Did you know: In 2022, renewable sources provided 29 percent of global electricity. With the right investments, cheap electricity from renewable sources could provide [65 percent](#) of the world's total electricity supply by 2030.

“ Carbon sink

/kɑːbən sɪŋk/ noun

A carbon sink is anything that absorbs more carbon from the atmosphere than it releases. Forests, wetlands, oceans, and soil are the world's largest carbon sinks.

Today, human activity, like burning fossil fuels and deforestation, causes more carbon to be released into the atmosphere than the Earth's natural carbon sinks can absorb, leading to global warming and climate change. Therefore, protecting and expanding carbon sinks is a key strategy for tackling climate change and stabilizing the climate.

“ Carbon removal vs. carbon capture

/kɑːbən rɪ'muːvl/ noun /kɑːbən kæptʃə(r)/ noun

Carbon removal is the process of removing greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere, through actions such as planting trees or capturing and sequestering carbon from biofuels and bioenergy plants. Carbon removal could slow, limit, or even reverse climate change — but it is not a substitute for cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

Carbon capture and storage is the process of taking emissions produced by power generation or industrial activity and storing them deep underground.

In short, carbon removal is the elimination of carbon emissions after they have entered our atmosphere. Carbon capture and storage is the trapping of carbon emissions just after they've been emitted but before they can enter our atmosphere. The efficacy of these processes remains largely untested.

“ Carbon markets

/kɑːbən mɑːkt/ noun

Carbon markets are trading systems in which carbon is quantified into a “carbon credit” that can be bought and sold. Companies or individuals can use carbon

markets to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions by purchasing carbon credits from entities that remove or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

One tradable carbon credit equals one tonne of carbon dioxide, or the equivalent amount of a different greenhouse gas reduced, sequestered or avoided. When a credit is used to reduce, sequester, or avoid emissions, it becomes an offset and is no longer tradable.

“ Regenerative agriculture

/rɪ'dʒenərətɪv 'ægrɪkʌltʃə(r)/ noun

Regenerative agriculture is a way of farming that nurtures and restores soil health, and therefore reduces water use, prevents land degradation, and promotes biodiversity. By minimizing land ploughing, practicing rotating crops, and using animal manure and compost, regenerative agriculture ensures that the soil stores more carbon, conserves more moisture, and is healthier due to thriving fungal communities.

Intensive agriculture is responsible for a third of global greenhouse gas emissions, uses 70 percent of the fresh water we consume, and leads to soil degradation through its use of heavy machinery, chemical fertilizers, and pesticides. It is also the biggest contributor to biodiversity loss. By contrast, regenerative agriculture helps lower greenhouse gas emissions, conserves water, and restores land. Moreover, healthy soil produces more food and better nutrition and has other positive impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity.

“ Reforestation vs. Afforestation

/rɪ:fɒrɪ'steɪʃn/ noun */ə'fɒrɪ'steɪʃn/* noun

Forests provide immense benefits by removing carbon dioxide and pollutants from the atmosphere, preventing soil erosion, filtering water, and housing half of the world's land species of animals, plants and insects. Reforestation and afforestation are two of the most effective nature-based solutions in fighting climate change and limiting its impacts.

Reforestation is the process of replanting trees in areas that had recent tree cover but where forests were lost, due to wildfires, drought, disease, or human activity such as agricultural clearing.

Afforestation is the process of planting trees in areas that have not been forested in recent history. Afforestation helps restore abandoned and degraded agricultural lands,

prevent desertification, create carbon sinks, and generate new economic opportunities for local communities.

“ Rewilding

/ri:'wɑɪldɪŋ/ noun

Rewilding is the mass restoration of ecosystems that have been damaged by human activity. More than conservation, which focuses on saving specific species through dedicated human intervention, rewilding refers to setting aside large areas for the natural world to regenerate in on its own terms. This sometimes requires the reintroduction of key species that have been driven extinct in a particular region, such as beavers, wolves, or large herbivores, who help shape entire ecosystems.

Rewilding can help combat climate change by removing more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through healthy natural processes such as natural woodland regeneration. It also helps prevent species extinction by creating nature-rich habitats that allow wildlife to adapt to climate change and move north as warming intensifies.

“ Circular economy

/sɜ:kjələ(r) i'kɒnəmi/ noun

Presently, we are using more than the available amount of Earth's natural resources to sustain current levels of human consumption. Estimates show that if we continue on our current path, we will need the equivalent of almost three planets' worth of natural resources.

Having a circular economy means that economic systems are based on the reuse and regeneration of materials or products, ensuring that production and consumption is done in a sustainable or environmentally friendly way that reduces and reuses waste.

Circular economy approaches can help countries accelerate their transition to more resilient and lower-carbon economies while also creating new green jobs.

“ Blue economy

/blu: i'kɒnəmi/ noun

The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents, and life – drive global systems that make Earth habitable for humankind. Our rainwater, drinking water,

weather, climate, coastlines, much of our food, medicines and even the oxygen in the air we breathe, are all provided and regulated by the seas. However, because of climate change, the health of our oceans is now at significant risk.

The "blue economy" concept seeks to promote economic development, social inclusion, and the preservation or improvement of livelihoods while at the same time ensuring environmental sustainability of the oceans and coastal areas.

Blue economy has diverse components, including established traditional ocean industries such as fisheries, tourism, and maritime transport, but also new and emerging activities, such as offshore renewable energy, aquaculture, seabed extractive activities, and marine biotechnology.

“ Green jobs

/gri:n dʒɒbs/ noun

Green jobs are decent jobs that contribute to protecting and restoring the environment and addressing climate change. Green jobs can be found in both the production of green products and services, such as renewable energy, and in environmentally friendly processes, such as recycling. Green jobs help improve energy and raw material efficiency, limit greenhouse gas emissions, minimize waste and pollution, protect and restore ecosystems, and support adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

As the market for green jobs is expanding, countries must ensure that the workforce is equipped with the specific skills and education required to carry them out. This can be achieved by investing in training young people for future green jobs and by retraining workers from carbon-intensive industries. The latter is a key part of ensuring countries are [pursuing a just transition](#) and leave no one behind.

“ Greenwashing

/gri:nwɔʃɪŋ/ noun

With public pressure to address the climate crisis rising, private sector companies are joining the transition to a low-carbon global economy. However, their efforts can sometimes turn into more of a marketing exercise than real, meaningful action.

Greenwashing refers to situations where a company makes misleading claims about their positive environmental impact or the sustainability of their products and services to convince consumers that they are acting on climate change. In some cases, greenwashing can be unintentional, because of lack of knowledge on environmental

issues. However, it can also be carried out intentionally as a marketing and public relations exercise, exploiting public support towards environmental policies for profit.

Greenwashing can erode public confidence in sustainability and allow negative environmental impacts to continue unabated.

“ Just transition

/dʒʌst træn'zɪʃn/ noun

In the context of climate change, transitioning to a low-carbon or net-zero economy requires massive transformation of our economic systems. Such transformation runs the risk of further increasing social inequality, exclusion, civil unrest, and less competitive businesses, sectors, and markets.

As countries work to meet their climate goals, it's vital that they ensure the whole-of-society – all communities, all workers, all social groups – are brought along and part of the structural change that takes place.

Ensuring a just transition means that countries choose to green their economy through transition pathways and approaches that reinforce equality and inclusivity. This means looking at the impacts of the transition on different groups of workers across the economy and providing opportunities for training and reskilling that support decent work and aim to leave no one behind.

“ UNFCCC

abbreviation

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international environmental treaty adopted in 1992 to combat dangerous human interference with the climate system. It entered into force in 1994 and enjoys near universal membership, having been signed by 199 parties. It is the parent treaty of both the Paris Agreement and the Kyoto Protocol.

The [UNFCCC secretariat](#) is the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change. The secretariat facilitates intergovernmental climate change negotiations by organizing between two and four negotiating sessions each year, the largest and most important of which is the Conference of the Parties (COP). It also provides technical expertise and assists in the analysis and review of climate change information and maintains the [registry of Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDC\)](#).

“ COP

abbreviation

The annual United Nations conference dedicated to climate change, called “Conference of the Parties” or “COP,” has been organized under the [UN Framework Convention on Climate Change \(UNFCCC\)](#) since 1995. At the 21st COP, or COP21, which took place in 2015, the Paris Agreement was signed.

The conference now brings together all nations who are parties to the Paris Agreement to discuss their next steps to combat climate change and further establish legally binding agreements to support climate action. The next conference, COP28, will take place in the United Arab Emirates in December 2023.

“ Paris Agreement

/pæris ə'gri:mənt/ proper noun

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty aiming to limit global warming to well below 2° C, preferably to 1.5° C, compared to pre-industrial levels. It was adopted by 196 Parties in 2015 at COP21 in Paris and entered into force in 2016.

The [Paris Agreement](#) is a landmark achievement in international cooperation on climate change because it is a binding agreement for all Parties to scale up efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects. It also provides the instruments for developed nations to assist developing nations in their climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, while creating a framework for transparent monitoring and reporting of results.

“ Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

/næʃnəli di'tɜ:mɪnd ˌkɒntri'bju:ʃns/ noun

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are climate pledges and action plans that each country is required to develop in line with the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global warming to 1.5° C. [NDCs](#) represent short to medium-term plans that are updated every five years with higher ambition on climate.

NDCs outline mitigation and adaptation priorities a country will pursue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, build resilience, and adapt to climate change, as well as financing strategies and monitoring and verification approaches. In 2023, the first in a

series of global “stock takes” will assess progress on the implementation of NDCs and Paris Agreement goals.

“ Transparency

/træns'pærənsi/ noun

Under the Paris Agreement, countries must regularly report on the implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions. It is crucial that this reporting is done with transparency to allow the global community to accurately assess collective progress and build trust that everyone is playing their part.

Transparent reporting allows governments and international bodies to have access to reliable data and make evidence-based decisions. It also enhances our scientific understanding of climate change and the actions and policies needed to mitigate it and adapt to its impacts. Ultimately, transparency is key to unlocking the full potential of the Paris Agreement, by promoting trust, collaboration and knowledge transfer and encouraging further ambition on climate targets.

“ National Adaptation Plans

/næʃnəl ,ædæp'teɪʃn plæns/ noun

National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) help countries plan and implement actions to reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and strengthen adaptive capacity and resilience. NAPs link to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other national and sectoral policies and programmes.

For NAPs to be successful they need to be participatory, inclusive, gender-responsive, and transparent. This means that at the design stage, NAPs need to evaluate the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different groups in the country, paying particular attention to those most vulnerable to climate change impacts and involving them in developing and implementing strategies and programmes.

“ Long-term strategies

/lɒŋ 'tɜ:m 'strætədʒi/ noun

Under the Paris Agreement, countries are invited to communicate long-term strategies for emissions reductions that envision a whole-of-society transformation over several

decades, usually up to 2050. LTS documents align to the long-term objectives of limiting global warming and achieving net-zero by 2050.

[Long-term strategies look beyond shorter term NDCs](#) and are a guide for countries to pursue low-carbon development, boost innovation, plan for sustainable infrastructure, and promote just and equitable transitions for their workforce.

When countries officially communicate their LTS to the UNFCCC it is called a [Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy \(LT-LEDS\)](#).

“ REDD+

abbreviation

Forest conservation and restoration can provide more than one quarter of the greenhouse gas emissions reductions needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. REDD+ is a framework [agreed by countries in the international climate negotiations](#) that aims to curb climate change by reducing deforestation and forest degradation, and sustainably managing and conserving forests in developing countries.

REDD stands for "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation". The "+" signifies the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

“ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

/ˌɪntəˈɡʌvnməntl ˈpænl ɒn ˈklaɪmət tʃeɪndʒ/ noun

The [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) is an independent body founded under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The IPCC's main role is to assess the scientific literature and findings on climate change and provide vital scientific information and evidenced-based recommendations to policymakers and the public. It is widely recognized as the most credible source of information related to the science of climate change and its complex analysis of impacts, risks, and adaptation and mitigation options.