



# Republic of the Marshall Islands:

## A Short Way to Go

On November 22, 2018, The Republic of Marshall Islands was the first country to submit an updated NDC, almost two years ahead of COP 26, that was supposed to happen in December 2020. This is a strong signal of the country's prominent leadership, both domestically and internationally, and a key step for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

The updated NDC makes the previous indicative target of reducing emissions 45% below 2010 levels by 2030 binding, while setting a new indicative target to reduce emissions at least 58% below 2010 levels by 2035. The NDC also reaffirms Marshall Islands' aspiration to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and presents its 2020 Climate Change Strategy as an attachment. The country also commits to developing a National Adaptation Plan in 2019.

Considering its low responsibility and capacity and according to the #TheNDCsWeWant Checklist, we consider that RMI's NDC has a **Short Way to Go** to become an #NDCWeWant. The postponement of COP 26 presents an opportunity for RMI to provide an update on plans and policies under their NDC and LTS, such as the National Adaptation Plan envisaged for 2019 and definition of cost and clear outcomes for conditional and unconditional commitments.

### Advances

The NDC has been developed as part of a participatory process to adopt a long-term strategy (*Tile Til Eo* - TTE). In 2018, the TTE Committee was created to lead the development of the 2050 Strategy. Its objectives are to monitor the alignment and consistency of relevant legislation, policies and measures with the Strategy 2050; supervise the updating of the 2050 Strategy every five years - including the objectives it contains; monitor progress towards reaching NDC implementation; and recommend the goals and objectives of future NDCs.

The country's 2050 strategy presents new goals, expanding the areas of activity and including health, education, information and other factors that can contribute to broad development in the long term. It also presents a component of Gender and Human Rights.

The updated NDC includes commitments to produce a National Adaptation Plan and to submit an Adaptation Communication to the UNFCCC.

## Gaps

The most relevant gaps refer to access to financing and the heavy reliance on fossil fuel imports. International support is crucial for the implementation of the NDC and the country's National Strategic Development Plan: Vision 2018, as well as to support the transition to a low-carbon economy. More clarity on goals and an action plan for the implementation of the NDC are still needed, as well as on finance needs for conditional and unconditional commitments.



### For more information

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