



Department of State (State)  
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)



Agency Priority Goal | Action Plan | FY 2024 – Quarter 1

# Climate Change

**Goal Leader(s):**

State:

Trigg Talley, Senior Director, Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate Change (SPEC)

- Supported by Christine Dragisic, Acting Branch Chief, Partnerships and Initiatives, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES), Office of Global Change (EGC)

USAID:

Gillian Caldwell, Chief Climate Officer and Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Resilience, Environment, and Food Security (REFS)

- Supported by Kathryn Stratos, Director, Center for Climate Positive Development (REFS/CCPD)

# Goal Overview

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## Problem to Be Solved

The climate crisis profoundly threatens the global economy, national security, global health, food security, and natural ecosystems. To avoid catastrophic damages, we must change the global emissions trajectory to limit global temperature rise to 1.5° Celsius and help hundreds of millions of people adapt to and manage the impacts of climate change.

## What Success Looks Like

The United States, working in partnership with host country and international institutions, is a premier global provider of innovation, support, and solutions for emissions reductions and adaptation. Over the next two years, State and USAID will strategically assist partner countries to make major contributions to global efforts to mitigate climate change and adapt to and manage its impacts. This work will harness our diplomatic, development, and technical expertise and that of our partner agencies, and will drive implementation of the [Paris Agreement](#) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) commitments. Specifically, we focus on:

1. Implementing engagement strategies with clearly defined mitigation and/or adaptation objectives.
2. Driving countries to achieve high impact results that reflect significant new progress toward keeping a 1.5°C future within reach and/or strengthened resilience to climate impacts in line with the [President's Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience \(PREPARE\)](#).
3. Supporting countries to develop and prepare to submit in 2025 updated and more ambitious nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in accordance with the Paris Agreement.
4. Enhancing the institutional frameworks and capacity for countries to deliver timely, high quality National Inventory Reports and Biennial Transparency Reports.

# Goal Overview

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**By September 30, 2025, State and USAID aim to combat global climate change by advancing:**

- **Strategic Engagement:** The U.S. Government (USG) is actively implementing a climate engagement strategy in 60 countries with clearly defined mitigation and/or adaptation objectives.
- **High Impact Results:** USG diplomatic, technical, or financial support contributes to the achievement of 30 outcomes that reflect significant new progress toward keeping a 1.5°C future within reach and/or strengthened resilience to climate impacts in line with PREPARE.
- **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):** USG technical, financial, or diplomatic support to 20 countries contributes to those countries developing and submitting updated and more ambitious NDCs in accordance with the Paris Agreement.
- **Inventory and Transparency:** USG technical, financial, or diplomatic support contributes to 20 countries enhancing their institutional frameworks and capacity to deliver timely, high-quality National Inventory Reports and Biennial Transparency Reports.

# Goal Target(s)

Achievement statement		Key indicator(s)	Quantify progress				Frequency^	
We will...	Name of indicator (units in parentheses)	Start value	As of (Date)	Target value	Current value	As of (Date)	Update cycle	
1	<b>Strategic Engagement:</b> In 60 countries, implement climate engagement strategies with clearly defined mitigation and/or adaptation objectives.	Number of countries in which the USG is actively implementing an engagement strategy with clearly defined mitigation and/or adaptation objectives and appropriate interagency coordination.	0	October 1, 2023	60	--	January 1, 2024	Biannually (6 months)
2	<b>High Impact Results:</b> Contribute to the achievement of 30 outcomes that reflect significant new progress toward keeping a 1.5°C future within reach and/or strengthened resilience to climate impacts in line with PREPARE.	Number of high-impact results reflecting significant new progress toward keeping a 1.5°C future within reach and/or strengthened resilience to climate impacts in line with PREPARE.	0	October 1, 2023	30	--	January 1, 2024	Annually (12 months)
3	<b>NDCs:</b> Provide support to 20 countries to develop and submit updated and ambitious NDCs in accordance with the Paris Agreement.	Number of countries receiving USG support to develop and submit more ambitious NDCs before UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) 30.	0	October 1, 2023	20	0	January 1, 2024	Quarterly (3 months)
4	<b>Inventory and Transparency:</b> Provide support to 20 countries to enhance their institutional frameworks and capacity to deliver timely, high-quality National Inventory Reports and Biennial Transparency Reports.	Number of countries to which the U.S. provides sustained support for enhanced institutional frameworks and capacity to facilitate delivery of timely, high-quality National Inventory Reports and Biennial Transparency Reports.	12	October 1, 2023	20	--	January 1, 2024	Biannually (6 months)

^State and USAID will report on the biannual measures in Q2 and Q4, and on the annual measure in Q4.

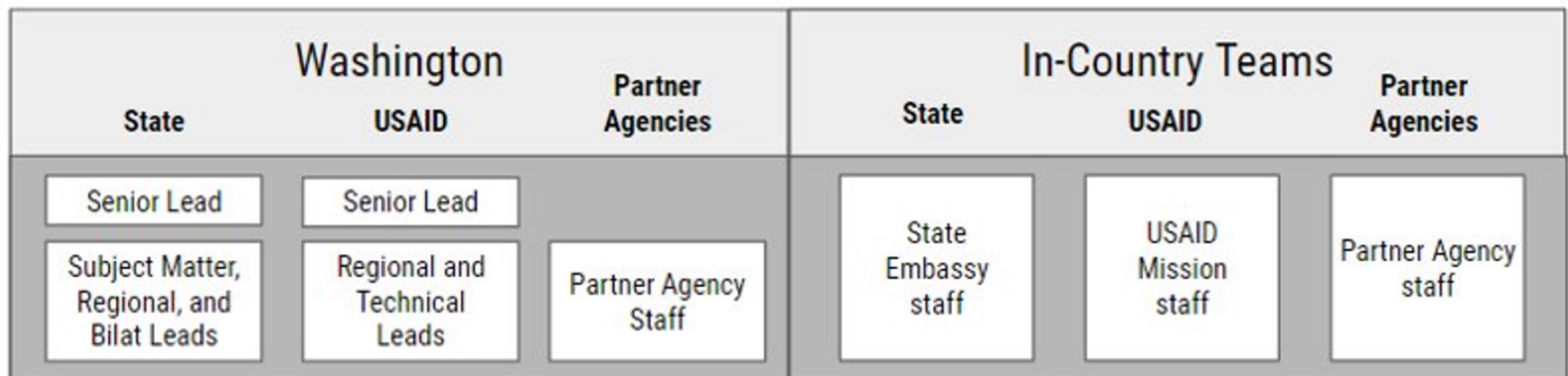
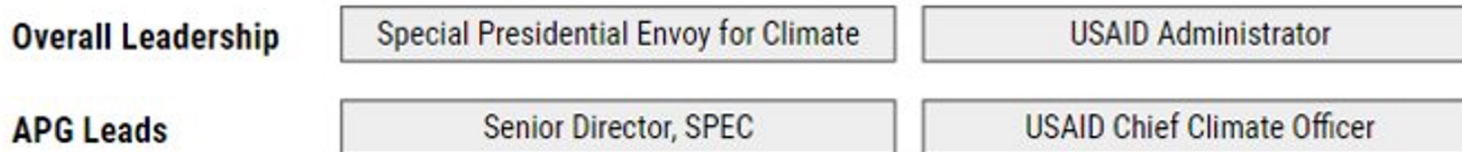
# Narrative – FY 2024, Quarter 1

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**Bottom line up front:** This quarter we are reporting on Indicator 3 and our first quarterly milestone. Progress on both was delayed in FY 2024 Q1 as the team surged staff to secure a successful outcome at the COP28 UN Climate Conference in Dubai in December, closed out reporting on the FY 2022-2023 Climate APG, and navigated holiday schedules. Despite this delay, we were able to lay important groundwork for future progress.

- **Indicator #3:** At COP28, we negotiated language that provides critical guidance on NDCs. This language will inform our work over the next year in supporting countries seeking to develop and update their NDCs, and we are refining the strategy to most effectively target this work. Because we are still developing the tracking system for our new APG cycle, we are reporting "0" for Indicator #3 rather than an estimated level so that we can apply a consistent methodology for reported values in coming quarters.
- **First quarterly milestone:** We made significant headway toward developing a system to track progress on this APG and integrate that system into core policy. We are also finalizing a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan through which we will establish a process for comprehensive interagency reporting for PREPARE. This system, which we expect to finalize in Q3, will enable USAID and State to completely report on country engagement, interagency coordination, and high-impact results that are advancing climate adaptation. We also met several times to begin developing tracking methods for other indicators. We expect to further develop those methods in Q2.
- Though reporting is not due this quarter for other indicators, we have made progress on those fronts as well. For Indicator #1 (Strategic Engagement), efforts continue to develop, refine, and/or implement these strategies in key countries. For Indicator #2 (High Impact Results), several meetings and announcements on the margins of COP28 advanced work toward high impact results, and several embassies and USAID have advanced conversations with partner countries. On Indicator #4 (Inventory and Transparency), in October 2023 we sent a cable to all posts requesting that they consult with host country counterparts to check on progress in developing Biennial Transparency Reports, and to offer USG support. This has resulted in several follow-up conversations on potential support for Paris Agreement reporting.

# Goal Team



The Department of State and USAID work closely with several partner agencies to implement this APG, including the Department of Energy (DOE), Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA), the Department of Treasury, the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Forest Service (USFS), and the Geological Survey (USGS). Agreements with partner agencies vary, and may include in-kind support, implementation support with funding, and other types of agreements.

# Goal Strategies

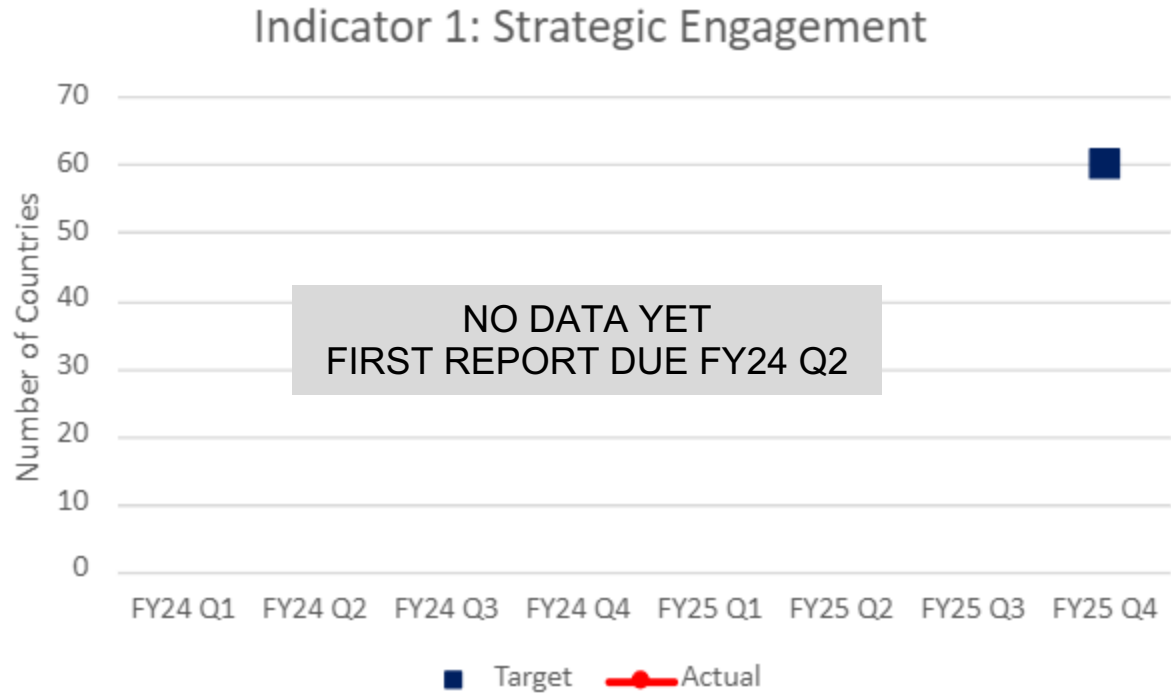
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State and USAID leaders will guide coordinated climate engagement with priority countries that leverages the strength and expertise of each organization. State and USAID will integrate climate change considerations and objectives across foreign policy, including in development and humanitarian assistance.

- **Strategic Engagement:** State and USAID, in collaboration with other agencies, will review existing climate change engagement strategies and update their mitigation and adaptation objectives, as appropriate. Every six months, State and USAID will document and report on strategies that are being implemented with appropriate interagency coordination. State and USAID will develop and use a climate data hub to facilitate collecting data and reporting.
- **High Impact Results:** State and USAID will support partner countries to achieve tangible outcomes that help them reach their climate mitigation and adaptation targets and that encourage them to increase their climate ambition. After developing illustrative examples of high-impact results, State and USAID will use existing and updated communications and reporting processes (including annual Performance Plan and Reports [PPRs]) to track, document, and report on these results annually.
- **NDCs:** State and USAID will provide diplomatic, financial, and technical support to countries to help them develop, prepare, and submit updated, more ambitious and/or more comprehensive and transparent NDCs in accordance with the Paris Agreement and consistent with scientific recommendations to limit average global warming to no more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial mean temperatures. State and USAID will provide support through foreign assistance programs, multilateral programs, and bilateral programs.
- **Inventory and Transparency:** State and USAID will provide diplomatic, financial, and technical support to countries around the world to develop and improve reporting systems that will facilitate meeting the reporting requirements of the Paris Agreement Enhanced Transparency Framework. State and USAID facilitate building capacity and enhancing systems through multi-country programs like the Transparency Accelerator and tailored bilateral programs.

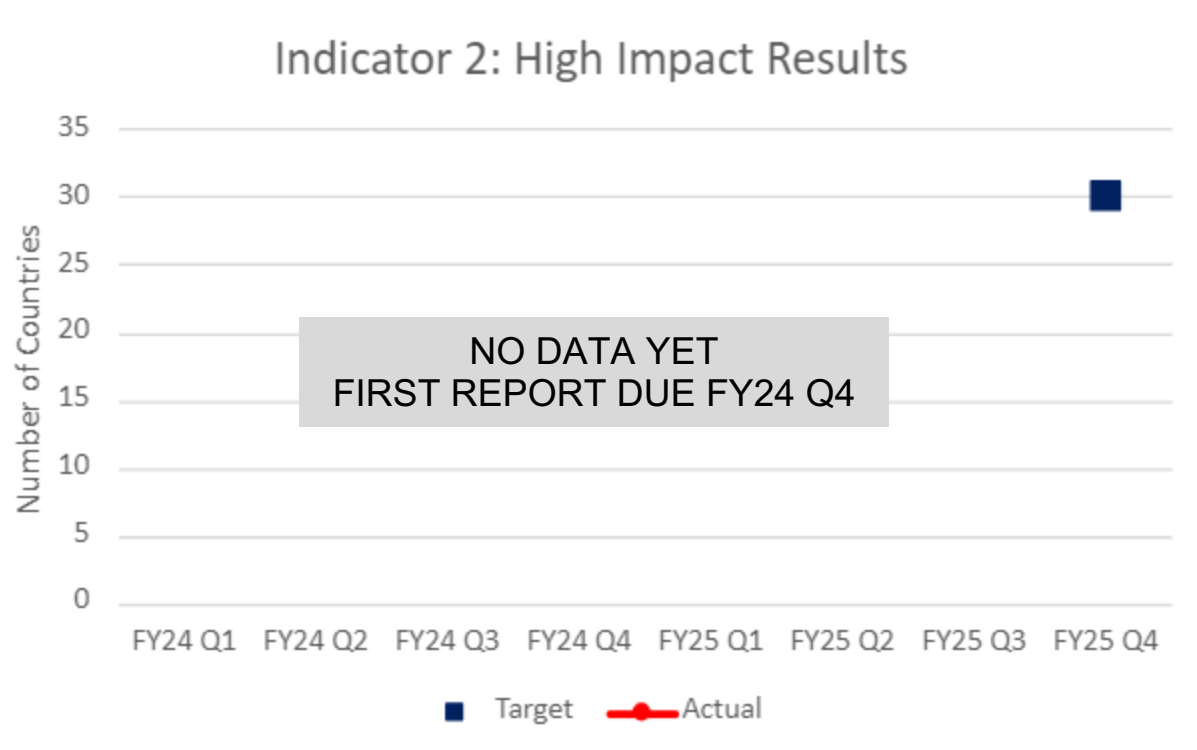
# Key Indicators

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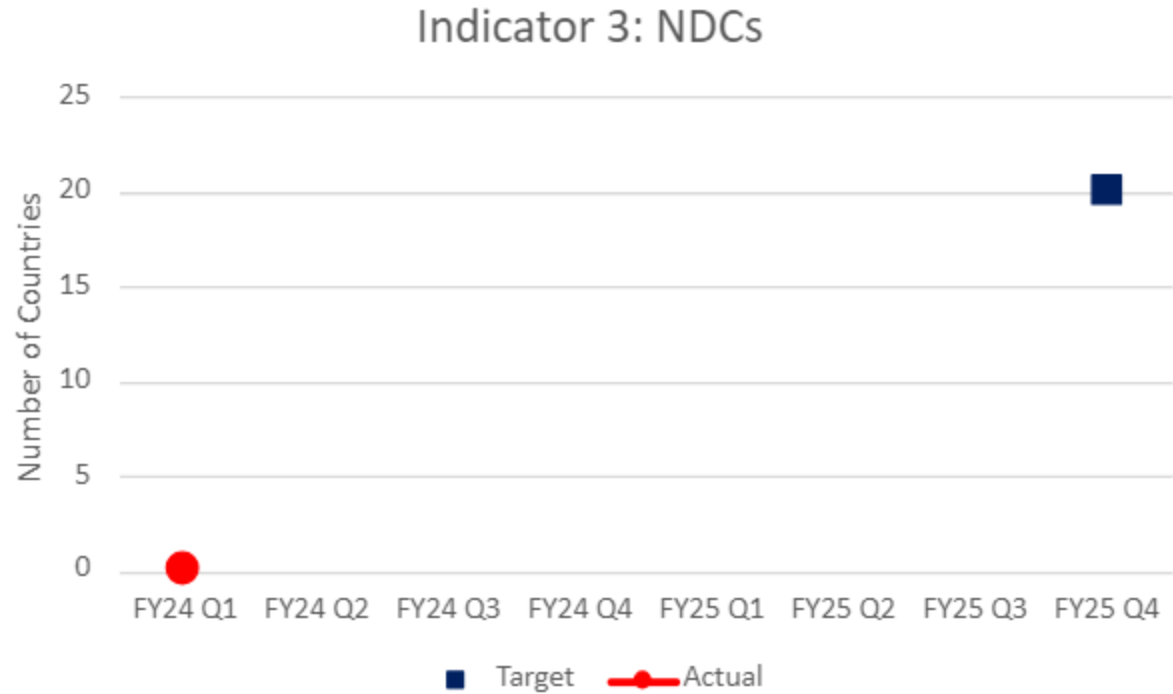




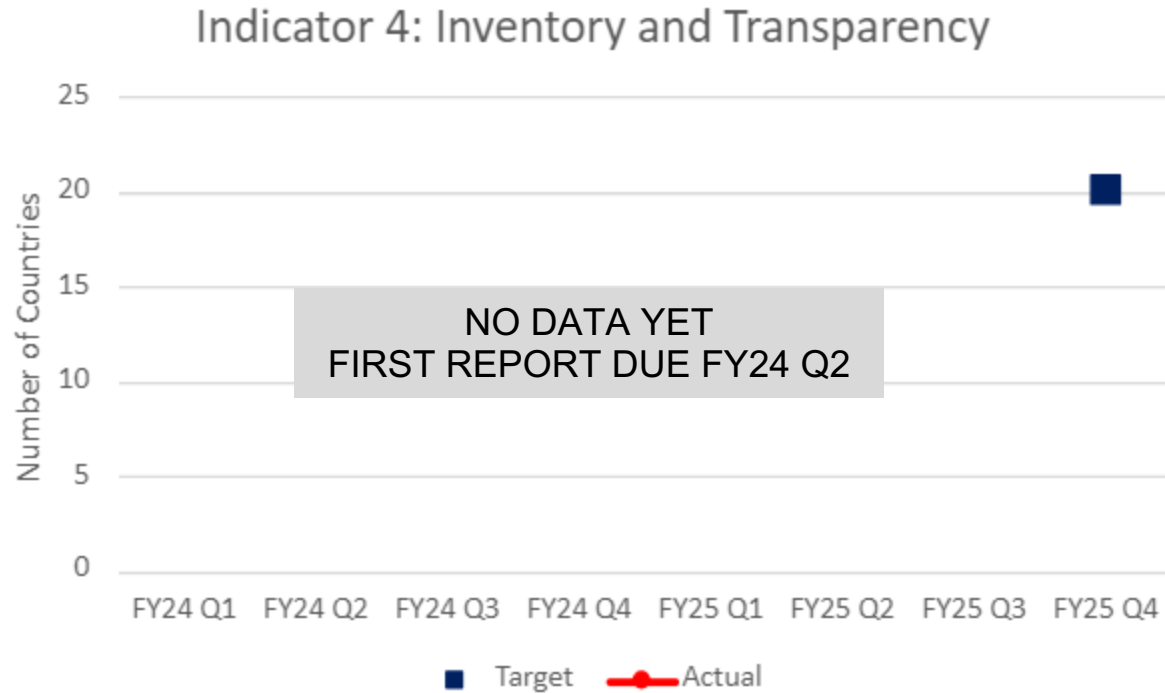
# Key Indicators



# Key Indicators



# Key Indicators



# Key Milestones

Milestone Summary				
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Owner	Comments
System for tracking progress for this Agency Priority Goal (APG) and integrating into core policy processes developed	Q1 FY 2024	Delayed	State and USAID	We are finalizing a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan to enable comprehensive interagency reporting for (PREPARE), and we conducted several meetings to begin developing other tracking systems, with further development expected in Q2.
Review of countries' NDCs status informs next steps in achievement of indicator 3	Q2 FY 2024	--	State and USAID	
Review of APG communication and reporting processes completed	Q3 FY 2024	--	State and USAID	
System in place to communicate APG success stories to internal and external audiences	Q4 FY 2024	--	State and USAID	
Review of Year 1 APG progress informs strategy and tactics on indicators 1, 2, 3, and 4 in Year 2	Q1 FY 2025	--	State and USAID	
Review of quantity and quality of Biennial Transparency Report submissions informs future work on indicator 4	Q2 FY 2025	--	State and USAID	
Review of PPR results, including progress on key metrics, informs future work on indicators 1, 2, and 3	Q3 FY 2025	--	State and USAID	
Review and analyze NDCs submissions to inform further work on indicator 3	Q4 FY 2025	--	State and USAID	

# Data Accuracy & Reliability

Data Source*	Accuracy	Reliability	Notes
Official Diplomatic Records	High	High	Official records include cables, Mission and Embassy communications, letters and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), Operational Plans, and Integrated Country Strategies.
Program Indicator Reports*	High	High	All technical assistance programs report every 6 months on indicators.
Performance Plan and Report (PPR)**	High	High	All technical assistance programs report outcomes into a PPR annually.
Press Releases, Award Announcements, and other Public Commitments	High	High	Published records include press releases, award announcements, Country Development Cooperation Strategies (CDCSs) and Climate Change Annexes and Updates, and other public commitments.
Mission and Embassy Communications	High	High	Internal records include meeting notes, workshop reports, activity terms of reference (TOR), official responses in the USG Country Data Collection & Reporting Tool, and Activity Annual Reports.

\*Data for assessing indicators and milestones relates to developing and implementing new or strengthened relationships, and providing diplomatic, technical, and financial support to achieve the stated objectives.

\*\*State and USAID conduct Data Quality Assessments (DQAs) for new performance indicators within 12 months prior to reporting externally on those indicators for the first time and every three years thereafter, or more frequently, if needed.

\*\*\*High is defined as any data for which State and USAID would say "Yes" on "Reliability" and "Precision" through a DQA.

## Additional Information

# Climate in USG Strategies and Policy Documents

### Executive Order (E.O.) 14008

*"Putting the climate crisis at the center of United States foreign policy and national security."*

### U.S. National Security Strategy

*"Climate change is the existential challenge of our time."*

### E.O. 14057

*"It is... the policy of my Administration for the Federal Government to lead by example.." 100% carbon free electricity by 2030; 100% zero emission vehicles by 2035; 100% net-zero emissions buildings by 2045.*

### State & USAID Learning Agendas

*How can State and USAID's tools best address the climate crisis and support adaptation?*

### State-USAID Joint Strategic Plan

*"Objective 1.2: Secure ambitious climate mitigation and adaptation outcomes, including supporting effective Paris Agreement implementation."*

### USAID Climate Strategy

*Six high-level targets for 2030: 6 billion metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e mitigated, 100 million hectares protected, 500 million people more resilient, \$150 billion mobilized, 80 countries supported, and critical populations engaged in 40 countries.*

### State-USAID APG

*Strengthen mitigation collaboration with 27 countries, adaptation collaboration with 75 countries, and provide inventory support to 30 countries.*

### E.O. 14013

*"Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration." Included mandate for White House Report on the Impact of Climate Change on Migration.*

### International Climate Finance Plan

*Scaling-up U.S. finance, mobilizing private finance, addressing fossil fuel finance, making capital flows consistent with climate, and defining and tracking U.S. finance.*

### PREPARE Action Plan

*Three pillars: (1) Knowledge; (2) Plans & Programs; and (3) Resources.*

### Plan to Conserve Global Forests

*Whole-of-government plan to slow, halt, and reverse forest cover and carbon loss. Includes intent to dedicate up to \$9 billion by 2030 toward Plan objectives.*

(not an exhaustive list)

### Department Sustainability Plans

*Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan, Sustainability Plan, Zero-Emissions Vehicle Fleet Strategic Plan*

### Country Strategies

*Integrated Country Strategies, CDCSSs.*