

## **Progress on NDC implementation: Green jobs and local investment**

*Key take-ways from NDC dialogue, Asia-Pacific Climate Week, September 2-6 2019*

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are the backbone of the Paris Agreement with its implementation has clear linkages to achievement of SDG agenda and national development goals. There is a strong nexus between NDC implementation and SDG 8 on promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Scaling-up NDC implementation will help accelerate transition towards low-carbon and climate resilient development with tremendous opportunities for new green jobs and local investments through adaptation and mitigation measures with co-benefits for achievement of SDGs and national development agendas.



Reports show that a transition to a low-carbon and climate resilient economy will lead to a net increase in employment across regions and economic sectors. For instance, climate action through implementation of NDCs will accelerate creation of jobs in new emerging green sectors including renewable energies which are rapidly expanding. Socially vulnerable communities will also benefit from sustainable energy solutions through new job opportunities related to installation, maintenance and local investment. Likewise, adaptation measures also lead to creation of climate resilient job opportunities especially in the agriculture and water sectors, reforestation, coastal resilience and

development of new climate resistant infrastructure. According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), 14.2 million jobs could be added in the Asia-Pacific region by 2030 if countries adopt changes in energy use that limit global warming to 2°C (ILO 2018 Greening with Jobs. WESO report).

During the recent NDC dialogue organised on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Climate Week in Bangkok (September 2-3, 2019), TERI has presented key findings of a [research study](#) (supported by The Royal Norwegian Embassy in India) highlighting synergies between climate actions in the form of NDCs and SDG goals in the Asian countries. As per which, certain NDCs reflect strong alignment between NDCs and SDGs with prominent goal of ensuring access to affordable and clean energy (SDG 7) and taking urgent action to combat climate action (SDG 13). However, there are only 10 Asian countries, which in their NDCs, explicitly mentioned and focuses on promoting sustained economic growth and decent work for all. For all these countries, the major focus is on improving resource efficiency and endeavours to decouple economic growth from environment degradation (target 8.4). This clearly shows that countries need to mainstream the principles of the 2030 SDG agenda while revising and updating their NDCs and implementation strategies. This also calls for an urgent need for establishing institutional framework towards integrating SDGs in the national policies and NDCs goals.

India has introduced several policy-level initiatives and schemes towards attaining SDG 8, most notably initiatives like Make in India, Start-up India, Skill India, Digital India, among others (NITI Aayog 2016). As per the estimates, these policies for promoting indigenous manufacturing have a potential to create 100 million jobs by 2022. However, the key is to focus on development strategies at the community level through encouraging local entrepreneurship and investments.