

Session 3: Article 6 Role in NDC Ambition



Thelma T. Mahachi
Policy Researcher

**Paris Agreement Article 6
Implementation Partnership Center**

Article 6 linkage with NDC

Paris Agreement Article 6.1

Parties recognize that some Parties choose to pursue **voluntary cooperation** in the implementation of their **nationally determined contributions (NDCs)** to allow for higher ambition in their mitigation and adaptation actions and **to promote sustainable development and environmental integrity.**

Cooperative Approaches under Article 6.2

- The voluntary use of **internationally transferred mitigation outcomes** (ITMOs) between countries to achieve NDCs.

Article 6.4 Mechanisms

- Allows for the creation of **emission reduction credits** that contribute to both sustainable development and emissions reductions. These credits can be used towards achieving NDCs

Framework for Non- Market Approaches Article 6.8

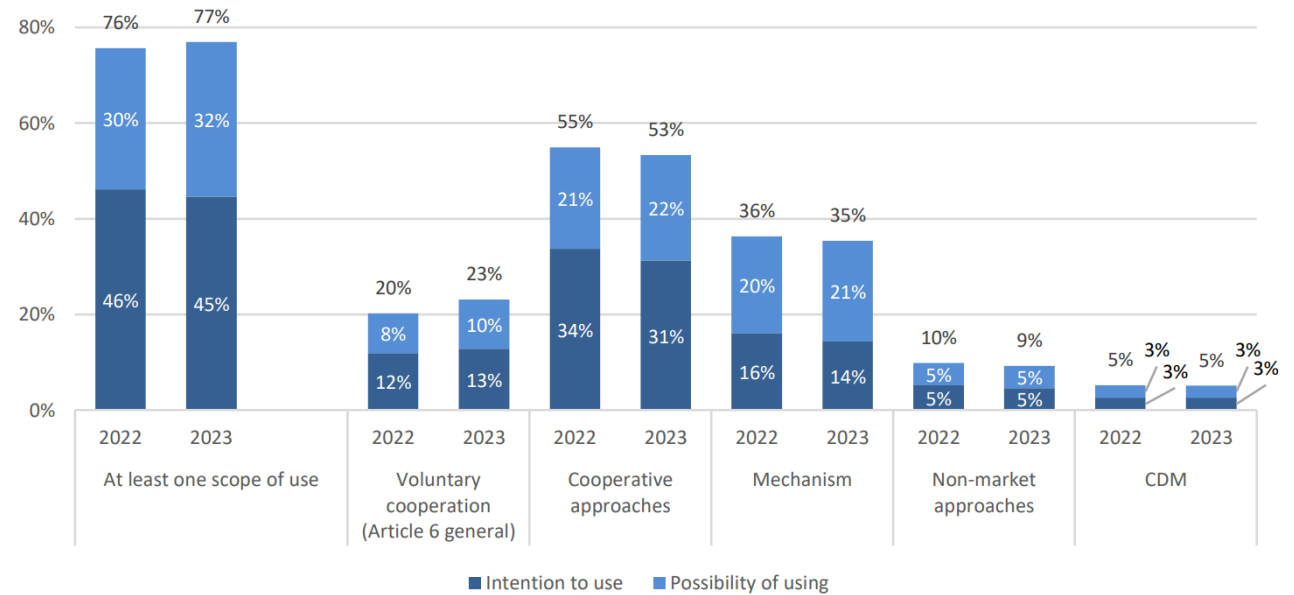
- Recognizes the importance of **non-market approaches** to assist NDCs in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Intention to use Article 6

77% of Parties to the Paris Agreement stated that they plan to or will possibly use at least one type of voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

- **53%:** Use of cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement
- **35%:** Use of the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4
- **23%:** General use of voluntary cooperation
- This increasing interest in cooperative approaches highlights the recognition by many countries of the **benefits** A6 in meeting their NDC targets

Share of Parties indicating in nationally determined contributions the intention to use or possibility of using specific scopes of voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement



Source: Image from [2023 NDC Synthesis Report](#) (UNFCC Secretariat)

Gaps in achieving NDC Ambition

Sectoral Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many NDCs cover economic sectors, focusing predominantly on energy as opposed to agriculture, waste, transport, or land use, which can contribute significantly to GHG emissions.
GHG Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some NDCs focus primarily on CO2, often leaving out other potent GHGs like methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), and fluorinated gases (F-gases). These gases, although less abundant than carbon dioxide, have significantly higher global warming and are harder to monitor and regulate.
Financial Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Countries especially in developing countries are failing to meet their NDC targets due to limited financial resources. Transitioning to a low-carbon economy, particularly in sectors like transport and industry, involves high upfront investment in infrastructure, research, and technology.
Technical Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Countries lack access to the latest low-carbon technologies, making it difficult to transition sectors like energy, industry, and agriculture towards low-emission pathways.
Policy Barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieving NDC targets requires policies across various sectors (energy, transport, agriculture, etc.) to be aligned. Often, there is fragmentation in governance, where policies in one sector may conflict with goals in another. A lack of coherence between national policies and climate targets can lead to inefficiencies and slow progress toward NDC goals.

Bridging NDC Ambition Gaps through Article 6

Facilitating Sectoral Cooperation

- Engaging in Article 6 activities allow countries to target sectors that may be difficult to decarbonize domestically, by funding reductions in sectors elsewhere. It provides financial incentives for emission reductions in **hard-to-abate sectors** like **aviation, heavy industry, or agriculture**. This allows countries to reach their NDC goals more cost-effectively

Addressing GHG Coverage

- Article 6 establishes a global market mechanism for the generation of emission reduction credits. This mechanism **incentivizes investments** in projects that target various GHGs, helping countries cover all **relevant gases** and increasing their capacity to achieve more ambitious targets.

Mobilizing Financial Resources

- Revenues generated through ITMOs allows countries to **reinvest into their NDC implementation efforts**, particularly in sectors with high mitigation potential but limited funding. Article 6 also unlocks significant **private sector finance** for mitigation projects across sectors.

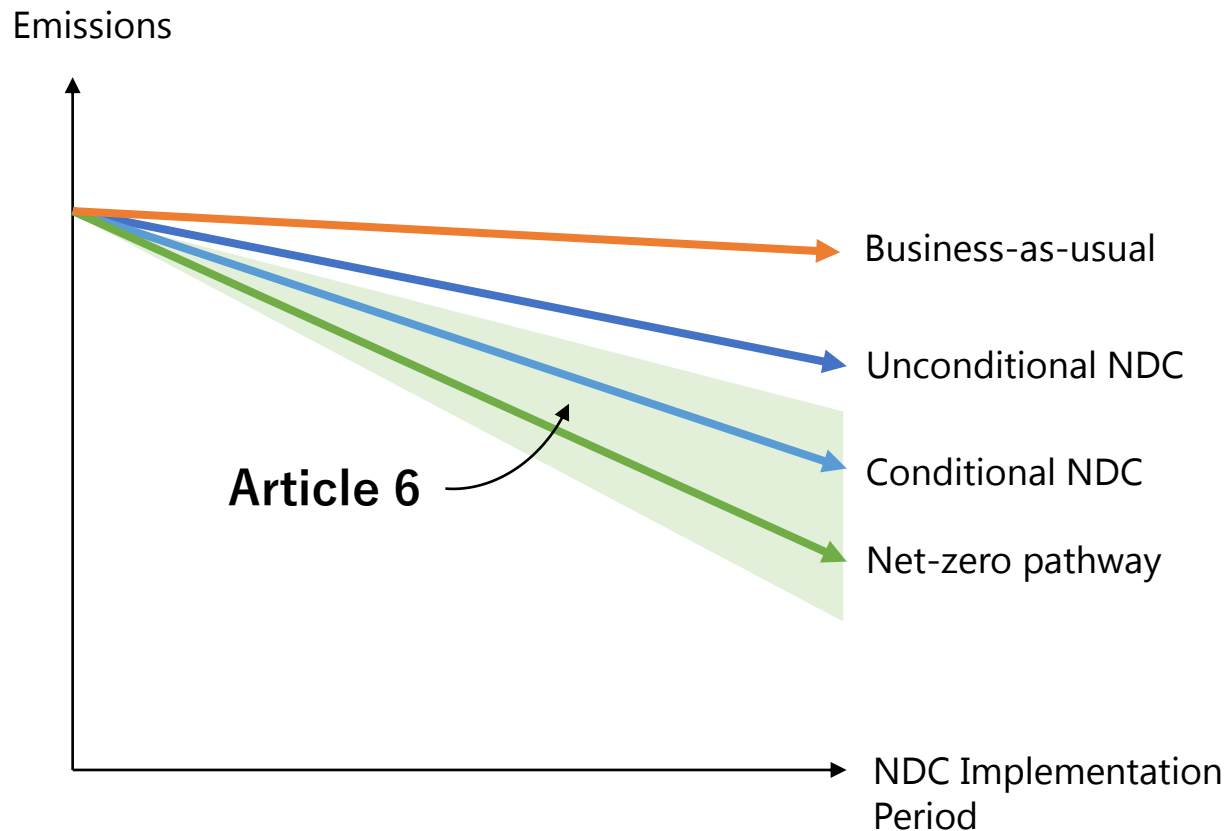
Technology Transfer

- Participation in Article 6 mechanisms **promotes technology transfer** from developed to developing countries. This helps to reduce the technology gap in sectors like energy, industry, and waste management.

Enhancing Policy Coherence

- Article 6 mechanisms encourage countries to develop sectoral linkages through carbon markets. For example, sectors like forestry and agriculture can generate carbon credits that are used to meet NDCs in other sectors such as energy. This integration across sectors fosters **policy coherence and helps countries address emissions holistically**

Article 6 in the context of NDC mitigation ambition



Article 6 could be used to promote higher ambition in the NDC in the following manners:

- Driving mitigation actions beyond NDC's unconditional target and contribute to achievement of the conditional target
- Enhancing ambition to be consistent with long-term low GHG emissions pathway / long term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.
- Accelerating climate action to allow countries to achieve net-zero earlier

Potential role of Article 6 in ambition raising is conditional upon countries making sound strategic decision (avoid low hanging fruits) and applying robust accounting to avoid double counting.

Article 6 in Action

	Ghana and Switzerland	Thailand and Switzerland	Vanuatu and Switzerland
Project Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Adoption of Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) for rice cultivation. Under common agricultural practice in Ghana rice farmers flood their rice field throughout the cropping season. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The Bangkok E-Bus Program to support a cleaner transportation solution. The program centers around the promotion of electric buses to replace traditional diesel buses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Electrification of Vanuatu's Inhabited Islands through Solar Power ITMO Programme. This activity supports Vanuatu's rollout of decentralized solar power installations to supply electricity across Vanuatu's inhabited islands.
Contribution to NDC ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Through this initiative, Ghana will aim to increase the NDC ambition by transferring ITMOs covering mitigation activities outside the NDC, which amount to 12% of the total national emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ This effort promotes development and transfer of advanced technologies and innovation and provides access to financial resources that supports Thailand's achievement of NDC and long-term strategies for carbon neutrality by 2050 and net zero emissions by 2065. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ This activity will help contribute to the achievement of NDC target of 72 GgCO₂eq in the energy sector by 2030.

Thank you for your attention

Any questions

E-mail: a6_partnership@env.go.jp

Website: <https://a6partnership.org/>