

## **Executive 2025 Executive Training Course for Policymakers on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

### **Call to Action Proposal Plan Template**

Based on what you have learned in the training these last days, please share at least two activities you can propose to support that integrate SDG and climate synergies to drive more efficient and effective SDG and climate implementation in your national context. This template is a guide to think about follow-up and applying knowledge and lessons learned and identifying SDG and climate action opportunities/priorities for your country. See the example provided below. For questions or comments please contact your facilitator(s).

#### **Categories for inclusion**

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| Main goal and objectives                   | What is the key goal that the Call to Action Plan will achieve and what are its objectives for each sector/theme/issue area of importance?   |
| Links with Country Strategies and Policies | What national (and, if relevant, regional and subnational) policies, strategies and plans are important to align the Call to Action Plan with, and why?  |
| Added Climate and SDG element              | Explain how climate and sustainable development will be integrated and what is the added value to the relevant thematic area or sector.  |
| Rationale                                  | Motivation for strategy that can be used to make the case to ministers, other ministries and agencies, citizens, banks and development partners etc.   |
| Stakeholders to engage                     | Reflect on key stakeholders who will be affected, including vulnerable groups, vested interests who could pose a barrier, local communities,   |
| Expected outcome                           | What is the ultimate successful outcome from the Call to Action Plan when fully implemented? What are the benefits for climate and SDGs, for relevant sectors, for impacted communities, for the government, etc.? |
| Risk management strategy                   | What are the most important risks that can create problems during planning and implementation? How will they be overcome?  |

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| Title: Payment for Environmental Services (PES) focused on marine and coastal ecosystems  |   |  |  |  |   |  |
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| Main goal and objectives  | Links with Country Strategies and Policies  | Added Climate and SDG element  | Rationale  | Stakeholders to engage   | Expected outcomes   | Risk management strategy   |
| <p>Goal: Costa Rica aims to establish a new category of Payment for Environmental Services (PES) focused on marine and coastal ecosystems to incentivize their conservation and restoration. Funding for this PES could come from public sources, such as environmental fees and international conservation funds, as well as from the private sector through blue carbon credits and environmental compensation schemes.</p> <p><b>Objective 1:</b> To establish the legal and institutional framework necessary to implement a new category of Payment for Environmental Services (PES) for marine and coastal ecosystems, ensuring alignment with national conservation policies and</p> | Liked with the National Biodiversity Strategy, National Policy and Plan for Climate Change Adaptation | Marine PES would contribute to multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), promoting sustainable resource management and the resilience of coastal communities. | The benefits include protecting mangroves, coral reefs, and coastal wetlands, which are essential for biodiversity and climate resilience, while also generating green jobs and economic opportunities for coastal communities through ecotourism and sustainable fisheries. This initiative would positively impact coastal development by strengthening local economies and improving food security. | Civil society, private sector, MINAE, ICT, Incopesca, non-governmental organizations, academia | <p>(1) Improve the economic development of Costa Rica's coastal population</p> <p>(2) Economic and real private sector involvement</p> <p>(3) Improving the management of the place investment funds from the ministry to the communities</p> | <p>(1) Ensure a mix of financial mechanisms, including environmental fees, private-sector contributions, and international conservation funds, to establish a stable and resilient financing strategy. Given the current geopolitical landscape, integrating the private sector as a fixed funding source is crucial for long-term sustainability.</p> <p>(2) To capacitate the population for them to know how to access the resources</p> <p>(3) The capacity of the Ministry to place investment funds.</p> |

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| <p>international environmental commitments.</p> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> To identify and mobilize diverse funding sources such as environmental canons</p> <p><b>Objective 3:</b> To develop mechanisms to distribute the financial gains from the PES program to the coastal community in order to enhance their economic resilience.</p> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Title: Strategy for Sustainable Eco-Tourism  |   |  |  |   |  |   |
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| Main goal and objectives   | Links with Country Strategies and Policies  | Added Climate and SDG element  | Rationale  | Stakeholders to engage  | Expected outcomes  | Risk management strategy  |
| <p><b>Goal:</b> Costa Rica aims to establish an improved Strategy for the management of the growing tourism in the country with an ecological and sustainable focus</p> <p><b>Objective 1:</b> To improve the current International Tourism public policy framework</p> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> To strengthen research and data collection for the improvement of the understanding of each ecosystem's capacity to sustain tourism in natural areas, ensuring evidence-based decision-making for sustainable visitor management.</p> <p><b>Objective 3:</b> To establish sustainable tourism strategies that harmonize ecosystem protection with</p> | National Tourism Plan, National Biodiversity Strategy, National Policy and Plan for Climate Change Adaptation | SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth),SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) | <p>Regulating mass tourism through effective public policies is essential to balancing economic growth with ecosystem conservation. Increasing visitor capacity in protected natural areas without proper management can lead to negative impacts such as habitat degradation, wildlife disturbances, and pollution.</p> <p>To achieve this balance, public policies should focus on strategies such as:</p> <p>Carrying Capacity and Adaptive Management – Establishing clear visitor limits in sensitive areas based on scientific research and continuous ecosystem monitoring.</p> <p>Sustainable Financing Mechanisms – Implementing differentiated fees, environmental contributions, or payment-for-ecosystem-services schemes to reinvest in conservation and tourism management.</p> <p>Sustainable Infrastructure – Designing trails, visitor centers, and recreational areas with ecological criteria</p> | Civil society, private sector, MINAE, ICT, non-governmental organizations, academia | <p>(1) Preservation of Biodiversity: By managing ecotourism sustainably, protected areas can maintain their ecological integrity, ensuring that local wildlife and plant species are conserved for future generations.</p> <p>(2) Economic Diversification: Ecotourism can become a significant source of income for local communities, providing economic opportunities beyond traditional sectors like agriculture or extraction industries, thereby contributing to poverty reduction.</p> <p>(3) Promotion of Sustainable Practices: Strengthened policies can promote environmentally-friendly tourism practices, such as</p> | <p>(1) Ecological Degradation from Increased Visitors: Even with sustainable policies in place, a significant increase in visitors may still put pressure on fragile ecosystems, leading to pollution, habitat destruction, and wildlife disturbance if visitor numbers are not properly managed. Overdependence on Ecotourism: Relying too heavily on ecotourism for economic growth can make local communities vulnerable to fluctuations in tourist numbers due to factors like natural disasters, political instability, or global economic downturns.</p> <p>(2) Increased Resource Consumption: The growth of tourism infrastructure, such as hotels, roads, and other amenities, can increase resource consumption, like water, energy, and food, potentially stressing the very ecosystems that the policies aim to protect.</p> <p>(3) Local Community</p> |

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| <p>economic opportunities, ensuring that ecotourism thrives while preventing the negative impacts of mass tourism.</p> |  |  | <p>to minimize environmental impact.</p> <p>Regulation and Certification of Tour Operators – Promoting sustainability standards, environmental certifications, and mandatory training for guides and businesses operating in protected areas.</p> <p>Community Participation – Engaging local communities in decision-making and ensuring they benefit from ecotourism, strengthening governance and fair income distribution.</p> <p>Education and Awareness – Implementing campaigns for tourists and operators about the importance of conserving ecosystems and reducing their environmental footprint.</p> <p>Effectively regulating mass tourism not only protects biodiversity and ecosystem functionality but also ensures the long-term sustainability of the tourism economy. A well-managed ecotourism model directly contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).</p> <p>The challenge is clear: developing public policies that transform tourism into an ally of conservation rather than a threat to the ecosystems it depends on.</p> |  | <p>waste reduction, energy conservation, and responsible behavior among tourists, helping to minimize negative environmental impacts.</p> <p>(4) Local Community Empowerment: Policies can ensure that local communities benefit from ecotourism, empowering them to actively participate in conservation efforts and decision-making, which in turn fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility for the protection of natural resources.</p> | <p>Displacement: If ecotourism development is not managed equitably, local populations may be displaced or lose access to their lands or resources due to the establishment of tourist infrastructure or conservation areas, leading to social conflicts.</p> |
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