

Taiwan accelerating action for global transition to net-zero

1. Introduction

Climate change is rapidly reshaping the global economic system and risk landscape. Taiwan is not exempt from these growing challenges. Extreme climate risks have profoundly impacted regional development and human security. As a responsible member of the international community, Taiwan has responded to climate change by making the net-zero transition a national strategic priority. It continues to actively integrate public and private sector resources and collaborate with its diplomatic allies and other like-minded countries to promote concrete climate action.

2. Taiwan's climate action initiatives

2.1. Approval of Phase 3 Greenhouse Gas Periodic Regulatory Goals

To achieve its long-term greenhouse gas reduction targets, Taiwan has established periodic regulatory goals based on a five-year cycle. The Phase 3 Greenhouse Gas Periodic Regulatory Goals were approved by the Executive Yuan on May 6. They serve as the basis for government efforts at all levels to reduce emissions between 2026 and 2030. Taiwan's 2030 target has been increased from the original 24±1 percent reduction compared to 2005 levels to a 28±2 percent reduction. The 2030 electricity emission factor target has been set at 0.319 kgCO₂e/kWh.

2.2. Proposal to revise 2032 and 2035 targets

Compared to 2005 levels, Taiwan aims to achieve a 32±2 percent reduction in emissions by 2032 and a 38±2 percent reduction by 2035.

2.3. 2025 National Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Taiwan's 2025 National Greenhouse Gas Inventory was released on May 26. The results showed that Taiwan's net emissions in 2023 amounted to 256.9 million metric tons of CO₂e, a 4.64 percent reduction compared to the baseline year. Overall greenhouse gas emissions are already showing a downward trend. In 2023, Taiwan's carbon intensity fell by 44.62 percent compared to the baseline year, demonstrating a year-on-year improvement in energy efficiency.

2.4. Advancing a combined carbon fee and ETS approach to carbon pricing

Taiwan officially launched its carbon fee system this year, marking a new milestone in carbon pricing. The initial carbon fee has been set at approximately US\$10 per metric ton and is expected to gradually rise.

To strengthen its carbon pricing framework, Taiwan plans to pilot a cap-and-trade emissions trading scheme (ETS) in 2026, with dual-track operations alongside the carbon fee system expected to begin from 2027 to 2028. The arrangement meets industry expectations for diverse incentives and market tools, bolsters institutional resilience, and lays the groundwork for integration with international carbon markets.

2.5. Integrating diverse resources to expand the adaptation action framework

In response to the impact of climate change, Taiwan is actively promoting

national climate change adaptation policies. The Ministry of Environment (MOENV), as the central competent authority, has developed the National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan. The initiative follows a four-year cycle and covers seven major areas, including critical infrastructure, water resources, land use, and health. The plan also enhances capacity building.

To promote grassroots adaptation that is suited to local contexts, municipalities have developed their own climate change adaptation plans. These include community-based, indigenous-centered, and vulnerable group-focused measures, as well as nature-based solutions.

This year, the MOENV joined hands with local governments, public health experts, and nongovernmental organizations to establish the Heat Adaptation Strategy Alliance. This created a mechanism to respond to extreme heat. Moving forward, the MOENV will continue to use this model of public-private partnership to develop more climate risk adaptation strategies and action plans, broaden the adaptation action network, and enhance overall national resilience.

3. Calling for Taiwan's participation in the UNFCCC

Taiwan is moving forward with renewed determination to promote the net-zero transition. By strengthening carbon pricing, instituting structural reform, deepening adaptation actions, and developing policy frameworks, Taiwan has demonstrated its resolve and ambition to address climate challenges. Yet, Taiwan knows that no country can do this alone. Net-zero is a global journey.

We call on all countries to support Taiwan's participation in the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to be held in Belem, Brazil, from November 10 to 21. In the spirit of COP30's *Global Mutirão*, it is time to allow Taiwan to work with the international community to jointly respond to the climate crisis, take collective action to accelerate the full implementation of the Paris Agreement, and collaborate for a net-zero world.