



COUNTRY DIAGNOSTIC PROFILE

South Africa

ZA · Sub-Saharan Africa · UMIC · 18 May 2026

95.3

IMPLEMENTATION GAP SCORE

100.0

FINANCE READINESS SCORE

Sustain

QUADRANT

Climate Policy Indicators

NDC Version	3.0	Investment Plan	Detailed
GHG Target	Unconditional	CAT Rating	Highly Insufficient
Coastal State	Yes	Adaptation Communication	Yes
Long-Term Strategy	Yes	National Adaptation Plan	Yes
BUR/BTR Filings	BUR1; BUR2; BUR3; BUR4; BUR5; BTR1	Most Recent Filing	2025

Article 6 Readiness

Article 6 Signal	High Opportunity (5/5)	MRV Filing Count	6
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Component Analysis



Component Definitions

S1 NDC Ambition	NDC version and update cycle	S2 Investment Plan	Costed, detailed, or generic plan
S3 MRV Maturity	BUR/BTR filing track record	S4 Filing Recency	Most recent submission date
S5 Coastal Exposure	Coastal state status	S6 Adaptation	Adaptation Communication filed
S7 LTS	Long-Term Strategy submitted	S8 NAP	National Adaptation Plan filed
S9 GHG Target	Unconditional, conditional, or both	S10 CAT Rating	External policy assessment (42 rated)

Regional Comparison – Sub-Saharan Africa

South Africa compared against 48 peers in Sub-Saharan Africa. Regional average IGS: 77.4 | Regional average FRS: 77.7.

#	COUNTRY	IGS	FRS	QUADRANT
1	South Africa ▶	95.3	100.0	Sustain
2	Cote d'Ivoire	95.0	95.4	Sustain
3	Mozambique	92.5	90.8	Sustain
4	Ghana	91.2	78.5	Sustain
5	Seychelles	91.2	90.8	Sustain
6	Kenya	90.6	90.8	Sustain
7	Nigeria	90.6	95.4	Sustain
8	Namibia	88.8	81.5	Sustain
9	Liberia	87.5	86.2	Sustain
10	Sierra Leone	87.5	86.2	Sustain
11	Somalia	87.5	86.2	Sustain
12	Angola	86.2	80.0	Sustain
13	Uganda	86.2	90.8	Sustain
14	Malawi	85.0	90.8	Sustain
15	Rwanda	85.0	90.8	Sustain
16	Senegal	85.0	86.2	Sustain
17	Sao Tome and Principe	85.0	80.0	Sustain
18	Zimbabwe	85.0	90.8	Sustain
19	Gambia	83.5	86.2	Sustain
20	Cape Verde	82.5	86.2	Sustain
21	Gabon	81.2	69.2	Sustain
22	Guinea-Bissau	81.2	84.6	Sustain
23	Madagascar	80.0	80.0	Sustain
24	Eswatini	80.0	90.8	Sustain
25	Sudan	78.8	76.9	Sustain
26	Ethiopia	76.5	86.2	Sustain

#	COUNTRY	IGS	FRS	QUADRANT
27	Botswana	75.0	80.0	Sustain
28	Eritrea	75.0	80.0	Sustain
29	Mauritius	75.0	60.0	Sustain
30	Togo	75.0	69.2	Sustain
31	Zambia	75.0	84.6	Sustain
32	Burundi	73.8	75.4	Sustain
33	Cameroon	73.8	64.6	Sustain
34	Mauritania	70.0	69.2	Sustain
35	DRC Congo	68.8	70.8	Sustain
36	Guinea	68.8	61.5	Sustain
37	Tanzania	68.8	67.7	Sustain
38	Central African Republic	67.5	75.4	Sustain
39	Chad	67.5	70.8	Sustain
40	Benin	66.2	64.6	Sustain
41	Lesotho	66.2	76.9	Sustain
42	South Sudan	66.2	70.8	Sustain
43	Burkina Faso	63.8	69.2	Priority finance target
44	Niger	63.8	69.2	Priority finance target
45	Mali	60.0	64.6	Priority finance target
46	Congo Republic	58.8	55.4	Watch
47	Equatorial Guinea	58.8	52.3	Watch
48	Comoros	40.0	24.6	Watch

Showing top 48 countries in region, ranked by IGS.

Methodology & Data Sources

Scoring Framework

Meridia scores each Paris Agreement party across 10 indicators grouped into 4 constructs: Signalling & Ambition, Institutional Readiness, MRV & Transparency, and Finance Absorption Capacity. Indicator weights are derived from Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and validated against Climate Action Tracker (CAT) ratings for 42 countries (Spearman $\rho \geq 0.879$ across 6 weighting schemes).

Composite Scores

IGS (Implementation Gap Score, 0-100): Weighted composite of all 10 indicators measuring the gap between NDC commitments and implementation infrastructure.

FRS (Finance Readiness Score, 0-100): Weighted composite emphasizing finance absorption capacity, MRV maturity, and institutional frameworks.

Quadrant Classification

Countries are classified based on thresholds (IGS ≥ 40.0 , FRS ≥ 25.0): **Sustain** (high readiness, strong finance), **Priority Finance Target** (gaps but finance-ready), **Structural Challenge** (strong implementation, finance constraints), **Watch** (early-stage).

PCA Weight Coefficients (v3)

Signalling & Ambition: 0.318 | Institutional Readiness: 0.307 | MRV & Transparency: 0.123 | Finance Absorption: 0.252

Data Sources

- UNFCCC NDC Registry — NDC versions, submission dates, GHG targets
- UNFCCC Transparency Portal — BUR/BTR filings, National Communications
- Climate Action Tracker — Independent policy assessment ratings (42 countries)
- UNFCCC Adaptation Communications Registry — Adaptation plans, LTS submissions
- World Bank Development Indicators — Income classification, geographic metadata
- Green Climate Fund — Country programme readiness indicators

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Coverage: 197 Paris Agreement parties

Methodology: PCA-validated, peer-reviewed (submitted to *Climate Policy*, Taylor & Francis)

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