Consultations on Climate & SDGs Synergies to Recover Better and Stronger from the Covid-19 Pandemic:

Shaping the Final Report

1. Global Consultations: Highlights thus far
2. Early Thinking on Final Report:
   - Key messages
   - Recommendations
   - Next steps

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Global Consultations on Climate & SDGs Synergies to Recover Better and Stronger from Covid-19

Highlights thus far:

- Broad participation!
  - 1,500+ participants from 105 countries
  - 30 speakers; 7 disciplines
  - More than 4,000 viewed on FB Live; 421+ active engagements
  - 77 questionnaires
Early thinking on the Final Report:

Key messages

Climate & SDG synergies widely considered key to a better, stronger recovery

- Recovery measures are big and urgent enough to unite actors to go beyond crisis response, to build resilience and deliver climate and SDG objectives.

- SDGs & Climate Change are - in turn- big and urgent enough to drive the public investment, collective action and inclusive growth required to recover.

- Existing -proven- initiatives can be scaled to improve lives now, while laying the ground for a climate-responsible economic recovery and just transitions.

- Renewables & green infrastructure, social protection, health and social services, eco-system restoration and sustainable agriculture - present opportunities to maximize climate and SDG co-benefits.
Early thinking on the Final Report: Key messages

Integrated planning to date offers important lessons

- Coordination and capacity shortfalls are reoccurring barriers in practice- including to analyze and plan for climate-SDG synergies.

- Inclusive, localized approaches to planning reveal many context specific synergies –visible by engaging diverse stakeholders.

- To monitor impact - data must capture the multiplier effects of spending on integrated objectives

- Countries increasingly working towards monitoring climate & SDG synergies in context of the Paris Agreement’s enhanced transparency framework.
Early thinking on the Final Report:

Key Messages

Pandemic brings new urgency and demand for know-how, financing and partnerships to drive climate & SDG synergies - including at local level

- To address underlying systemic risks and facilitate just transitions - sustained, longer term financing and coordination is required.

- Public debt from the COVID lockdown risks reducing real or perceived fiscal space for public investment, particularly in the global South.

- Fiscal space need not be a binding constraint for recovery; steps can be taken to maintain and build fiscal space

- Longer-term investment require strong support from society, built through social dialogue and civic engagement in planning for recovery policies and just transitions.
Early thinking on the Final Report:

Recommendations

- Countries should use the opportunity to redouble their SDG and Climate efforts, and advance a just, resilient and sustainable recovery; monitoring recovery plans against more ambitious NDC targets, required under the Paris Agreement
- At a minimum, COVID recovery measures should be monitored against NDCs and national SDGs, prompting action to ensure progress is not reversed
- To realize climate & SDG synergies, recovery planning must prioritize and include marginalized and vulnerable communities; reflect the key role of sub-national authorities, women, indigenous and local communities.
- Collective action, technologies and know-how must reach across local, national and global levels - to facilitate and enable climate & SDG synergies for recovery.
Early thinking on the Final Report: 

Recommendations

- Relevant intergovernmental processes e.g. biodiversity, oceans, transport, disaster, food systems, energy, etc. should be leveraged to strengthen synergetic responses.

- Actors in climate, socioeconomic, environmental, human rights and other spheres - should work through coalitions to:
  - Strengthen the capacity of national and local stakeholders to build climate & SDG synergies into recovery plans & initiatives.
  - Advocate for recovery spending that aligns with - rather than displaces - measures essential to SDG and Paris climate commitments.

We welcome your contributions and specific proposals.
Early thinking on the Final Report:

Next Steps

- Reflect actions and contributions made here today
- Draft key messages for consultations
- High Level Political Forum
- Launch of the final report (4th Q, 2020)
- Development of on-line learning materials and knowledge platform (3-4th Q, 2020)
- Planning for the 3rd Climate-SDGs Synergy Conference in 2021