

# Consultation on setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target



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## Contact information

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## Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? Yes

1b. What is most important to you?

It is most important to me that we have a credible plan with concrete polices to transition to a low emissions world.

We need an ambitious target of at least 40% emissions reduction in net emissions below 1990 levels by 2030.

What would be a fair contribution for New Zealand?

2. What do you think the nature of New Zealand's emissions and economy means for the level of target that we set?

I think defining fairness only by the nature of New Zealand's emissions and economy is an excuse to do nothing and completely unfair.

Every country has "unique" circumstances that they all put forward at the UNFCCC negotiations. NZ is a small developed country with capacity, resources and technology, we could be putting our economy on a path to low emissions today, yet we choose not to.

Our fair contribution must consider our per capita emissions, our wealth and what we must do to prevent the worst impacts of climate change. We can't go to the talks in Paris and expect other countries to put forward ambitious targets (including countries where millions of people live in poverty) yet not do that ourselves. If we put forward a low target, that enables every other country to do the same and we will not solve the climate crisis.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

3. What level of cost is appropriate for New Zealand to reduce it's greenhouse gas emissions? For example, what would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?

Like many people said at the public meetings, the discussion document did not analyse the costs of not acting on climate change.

Additionally, international research demonstrates that countries can improve their economic performance while acting on climate change and cutting emissions.

4. Of the opportunities for New Zealand to reduce its emissions (as outlined on page 15 of the discussion document), which do you think are the most likely to occur, or be most important for New Zealand?

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It is really important to me that NZ reduces its domestic emissions, and not invest in the international carbon market to meet our target.

We should invest in public transport.

We should stop converting forestry to dairy farms.

## Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?

We should assume that technologies are going to get better and be more efficient.

Moreover, we should reduce uncertainties by investing in technology ourselves and supporting existing technology.

## Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.

We need an ambitious target of at least 40% emissions reduction in net emissions below 1990 levels by 2030. We need a concrete analysis of how to achieve that target and specific policy options put forward and discussed by the public. We should phase out the ETS and put a price on carbon.

The NZ public is inadequately informed about the consequences of climate change to our country and globally (eg. increased poverty, loss of island nations, security threats), the options we have here in NZ to reduce our emissions, and what other countries are doing etc. The Government should be educating NZ about what is happening, so that we can make informed choices.

It is important to me as a New Zealander that we provide technology and finance to help developing countries reduce their emissions.