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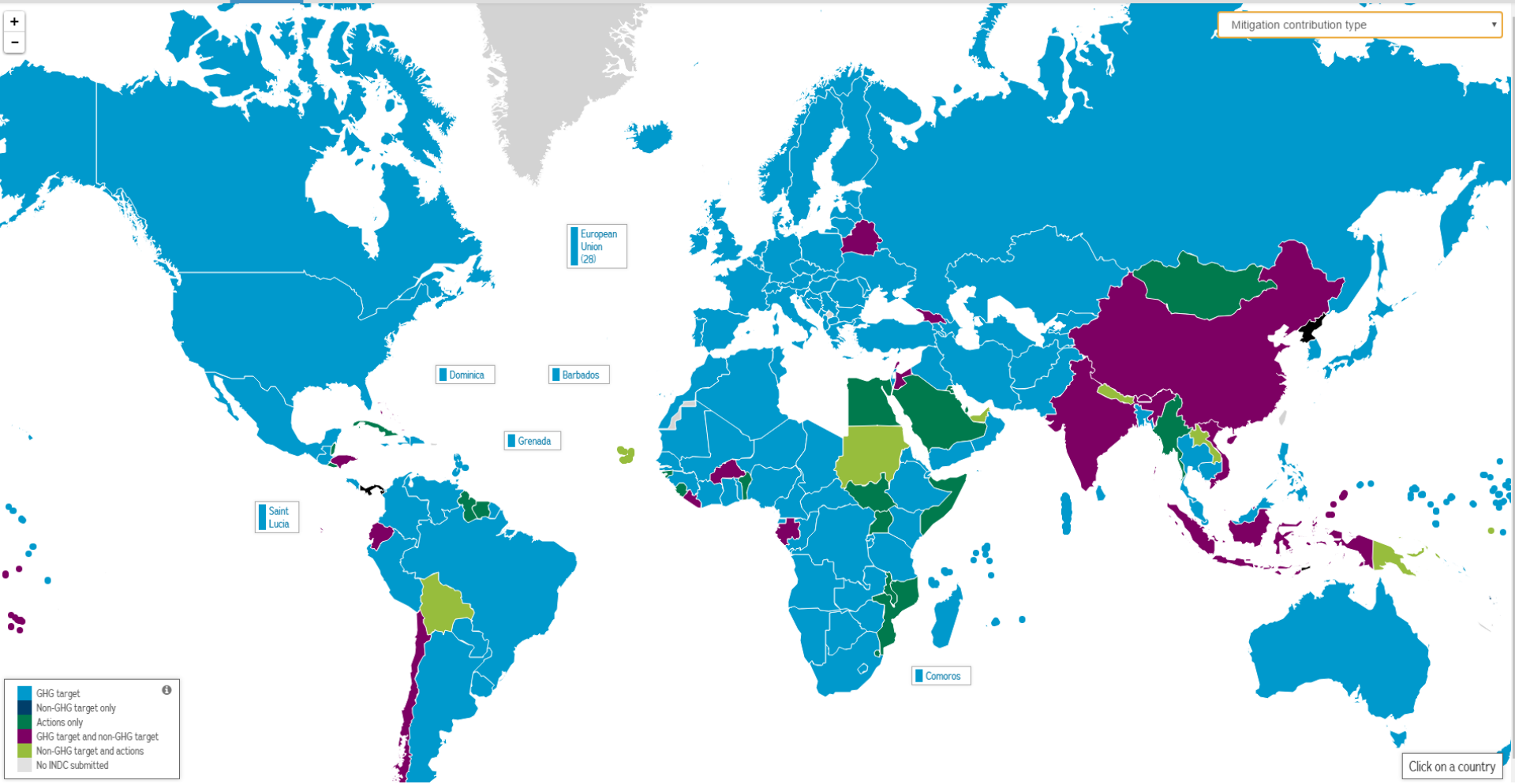
TRACKING NDC PROGRESS THROUGH POLICIES AND ACTIONS

Outline

1. Policies and actions in the NDCs
2. Purposes of tracking progress of policies and actions
3. Approaches to tracking progress
4. Relationship to GHG inventories

Policies and actions in the NDCs

- ~15 countries put forward actions as their NDC
 - Some of these are a mix of actions and sectoral targets
- The majority of countries have economy-wide GHG reduction targets – many include policies and actions as a means of achieving targets
- Both types of NDCs benefit from tracking progress of policies and actions



Purposes of tracking progress of policies and actions

- Ensure actions are being implemented as planned
- Track progress toward targeted outcomes
- Understand the extent to which actions taken to achieve the NDC have been effective in delivering their intended results – and what additional progress is needed to achieve the NDC
- Inform decision making on which policies and actions to implement, enhance, continue, discontinue, etc.
- Report on progress made to domestic and international audiences
- Fulfill Paris Agreement transparency provisions and inform the global stock take under the Paris Agreement

Approaches to tracking progress of policies and actions

- Three approaches, on a spectrum from simpler to more complex:
 - A. Tracking implementation of actions
 - B. Tracking indicators related to impacts of actions
 - C. Estimating impacts in terms of GHG reductions and other sustainable development benefits

A. Tracking implementation of actions

- Important to ensure that actions are being implemented as planned
- Progress can be tracked along a policy implementation process from **planned** to **adopted** to **implemented** actions
- Useful to identify clear milestones for policy implementation and track the progress of indicators related to implementation, such as:
 - Financing of actions
 - Licensing, permitting, and procurement
 - Information monitoring
 - Compliance and enforcement
 - Other policy administration activities necessary to ensure effective implementation of actions

Status	Description
Planned	Policy or action options that are under discussion and have a realistic chance of being adopted and implemented in the future, but that have not yet been adopted
Adopted	Policies and actions for which an official government decision has been made and there is a clear commitment to proceed with implementation, but that have not yet begun to be implemented (for example, a law has been passed, but regulations to implement the law have not yet been established or are not being enforced)
Implemented	Policies and actions that are currently in effect, as evidenced by one or more of the following: (a) relevant legislation or regulation is in force; (b) one or more voluntary agreements have been established and are in force; (c) financial resources have been allocated; (d) human resources have been mobilized.

Further reference

Climate Policy Implementation Tracking Framework (WRI, 2014)

https://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/climate_tracking_framework_working.pdf

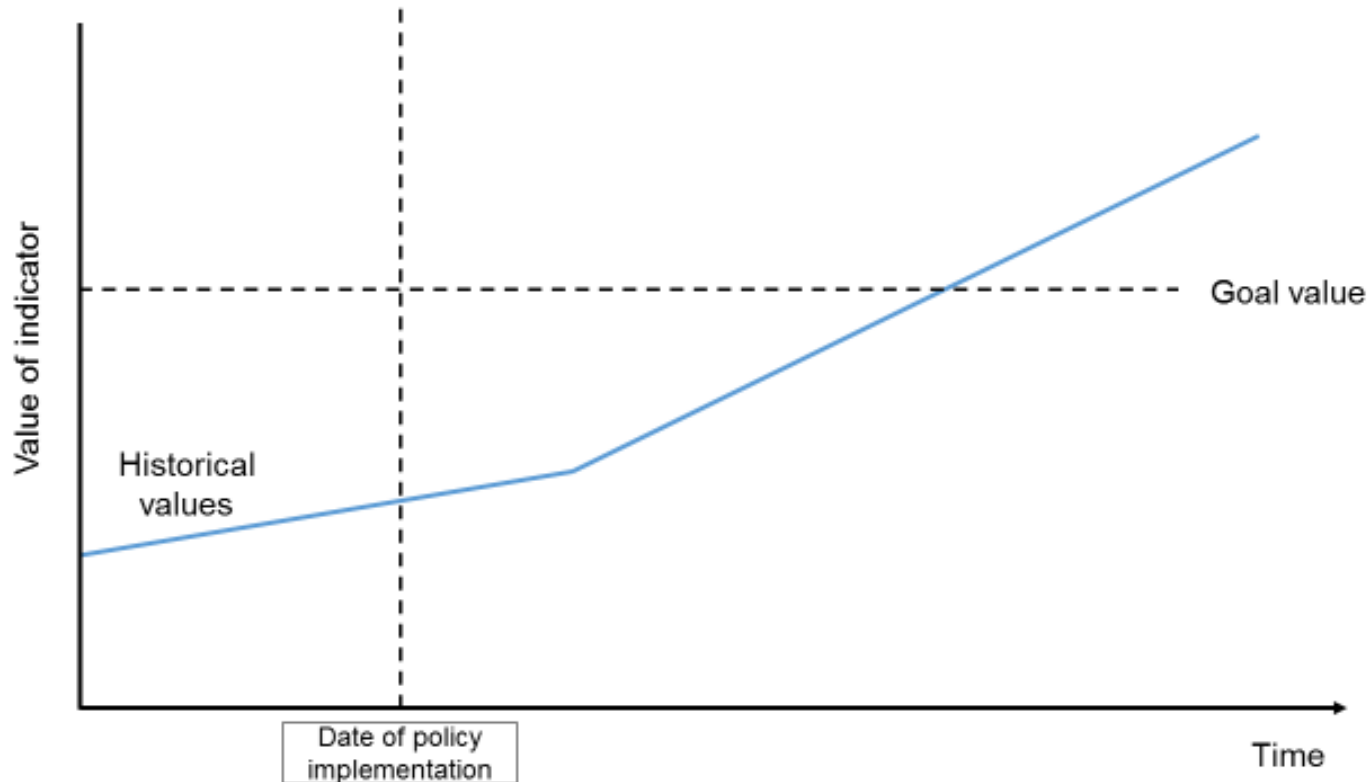
B. Tracking indicators related to impacts

- Useful to tracking indicators related to the desired impacts of policies and actions to ensure that actions are delivering the intended results
- Relatively simple approach

Examples of policies	Examples of relevant indicators
Renewable energy policy	Total electricity generation by source (wind, solar, biomass, hydro, coal, natural gas), share of renewable energy in the energy mix, installed capacity by source
Energy efficiency policy	Total energy consumption (of the country, or of a sector, or a group of facilities) Energy intensity of the economy (or of a sector, or a group of facilities)
Public transit policies	Passenger-kilometers traveled by transportation mode (subway, bus, train, private car, taxi, bicycle)
Waste management regulation	Tonnes (or percentage) of waste sent to landfills, tonnes (or percentage) of waste sent to recycling facilities, tonnes (or percentage) of waste sent to incineration facilities
Afforestation/reforestation policies	Area of land restored or reforested, percent or area of land covered by forest, forest stock volume (cubic meters), tonnes of CO ₂ sequestered per year

B. Tracking indicators related to impacts

- Indicators can be monitored over time relative to: historical values, goal values, and/or the starting date of policy implementation



B. Tracking indicators related to impacts

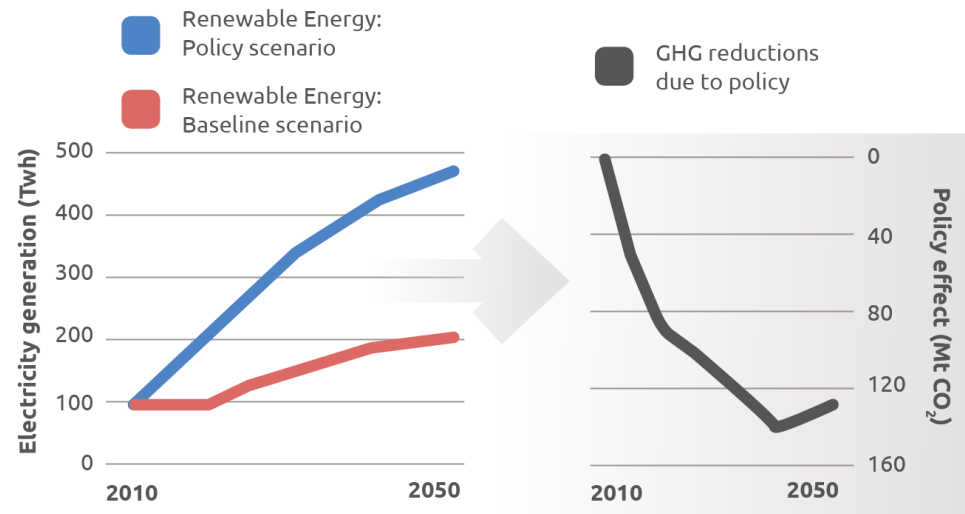
- Sustainable development indicators across social, economic and environmental dimensions can be tracked at the same time to track progress toward the SDGs



- References for indicators:
 - UN Sustainable Development Goals website: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>
 - UN SDG indicators website: <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>, which includes the Global Database (<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/>) and official list of SDG indicators (<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>)
 - UN Commission on Sustainable Development Indicators of Sustainable Development: Guidelines and Methodologies: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/indicators/guidelines.pdf>

C. Estimating impacts of policies and actions

- The most robust approach to estimate GHG emission reductions of key policies and actions in the NDC
- Can be done both ex-post (backward-looking) or ex-ante (forward looking)
- Provides an estimate of policy impact that demonstrates whether the policy or action is having the desired impacts
- Basic steps:
 - Identify all expected impacts (positive and negative, intended and unintended) e.g. through a causal chain
 - Collect necessary data
 - Define a baseline scenario and estimate baseline emissions
 - Define a policy scenario and estimate policy scenario emissions
 - Subtract to estimate the impact
- Sustainable development impacts can be estimated alongside GHG impacts



C. Available methods for estimating impacts of policies and actions



INITIATIVE FOR
**Climate Action
Transparency**

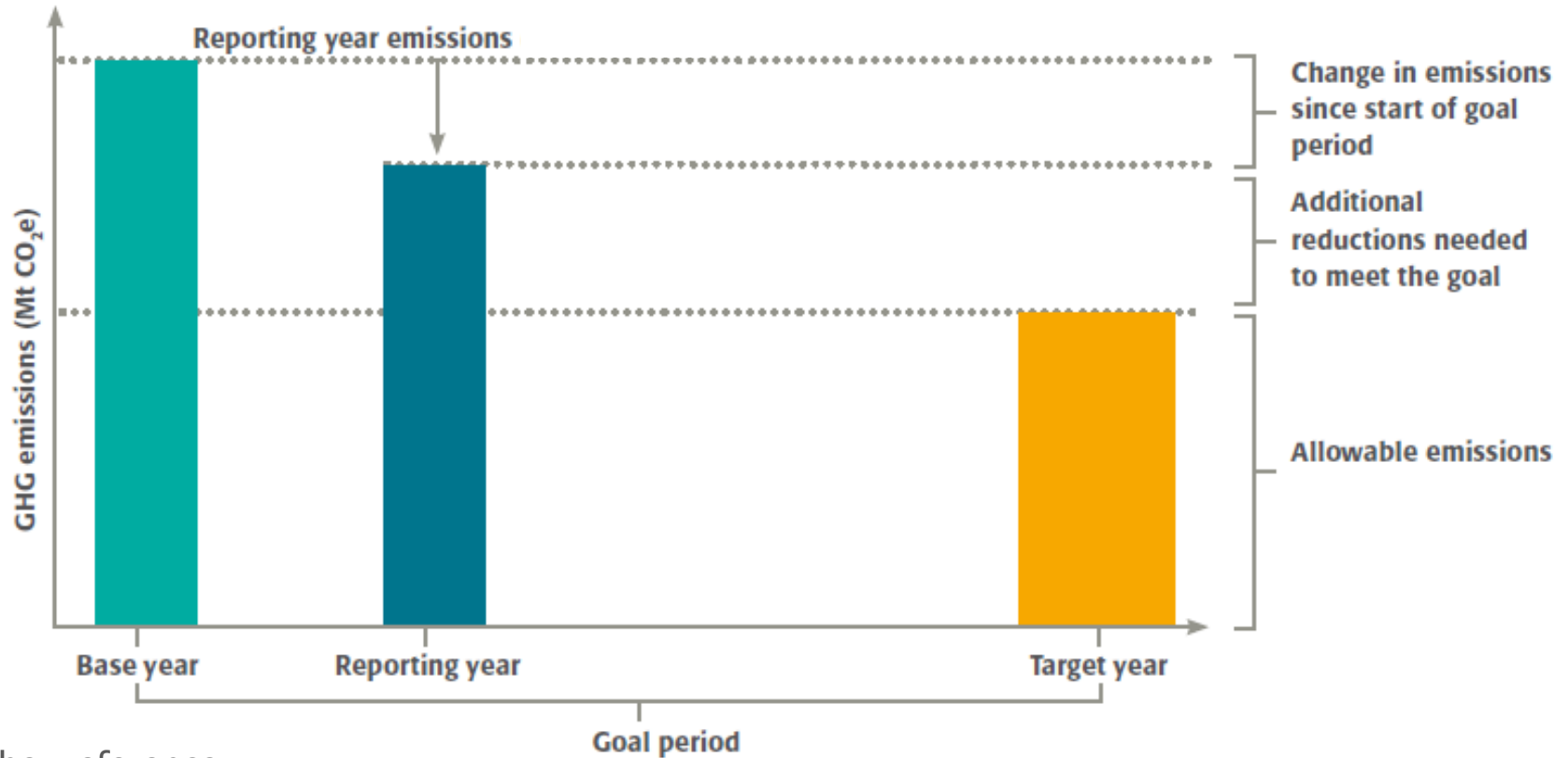
- Guidance for how to estimate the greenhouse gas effects of policies and actions
- Available at:
www.ghgprotocol.org/policy-and-action-standard
- Includes:
 - Standard and e-learning courses in Spanish, French and English
 - Excel calculation tool
 - Additional sector guidance
- New guidance being developed:
 - Detailed GHG guidance for the agriculture, forestry, buildings, renewable energy, transport sectors
 - Sustainable development impacts
 - Transformational change
 - Stakeholder participation
 - Technical review
- First drafts available late July at:
<http://www.climateactiontransparency.org/>

GHG inventory versus tracking policies and actions

Type of accounting	Purpose	Limitations
GHG inventory accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive accounting of a jurisdiction's or organization's GHG emissions impact on the atmosphere Provides information on the sources of emissions and trends over time Necessary to track overall progress toward GHG reduction goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May not explain why emissions change over time Does not reveal the effects of individual policies
Policy/action accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attributes changes in emissions to specific policies and actions Informs policy design and evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a comprehensive accounting of total emissions; overall emissions may increase even if individual policies and actions are reducing emissions (compared to a baseline scenario)

- The impacts of individual policies and actions are not visible in the GHG inventory, but should be reflected in overall emissions trends
- Some overlap in data and methods; some distinct data and methods (bottom-up versus top-down)
- Calculation methods from IPCC *Guidelines for National GHG Inventories* should be used for both to ensure comparability between policy/action assessments and the GHG inventory

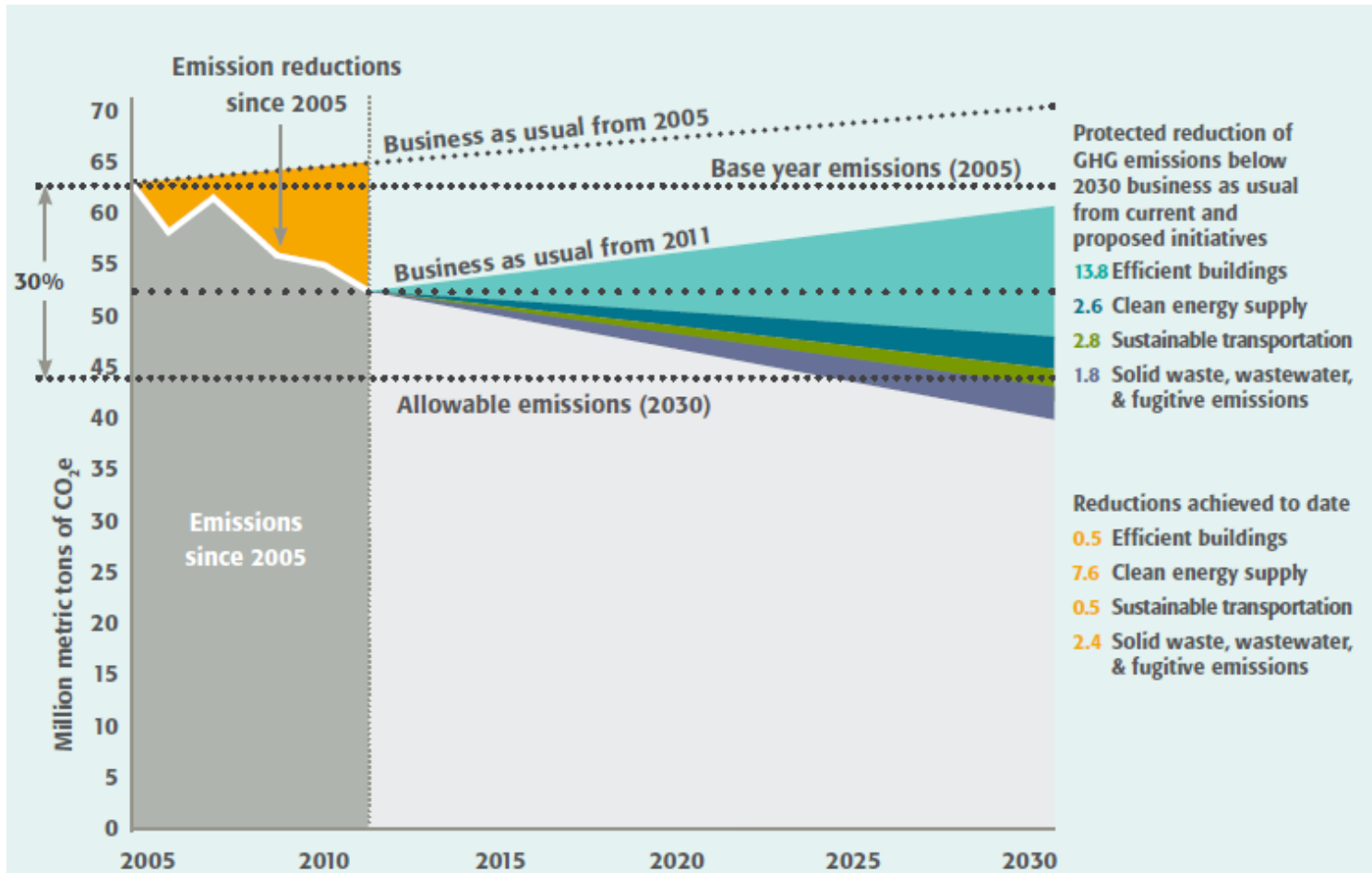
Assessing progress toward the NDC based on a GHG inventory



Further reference

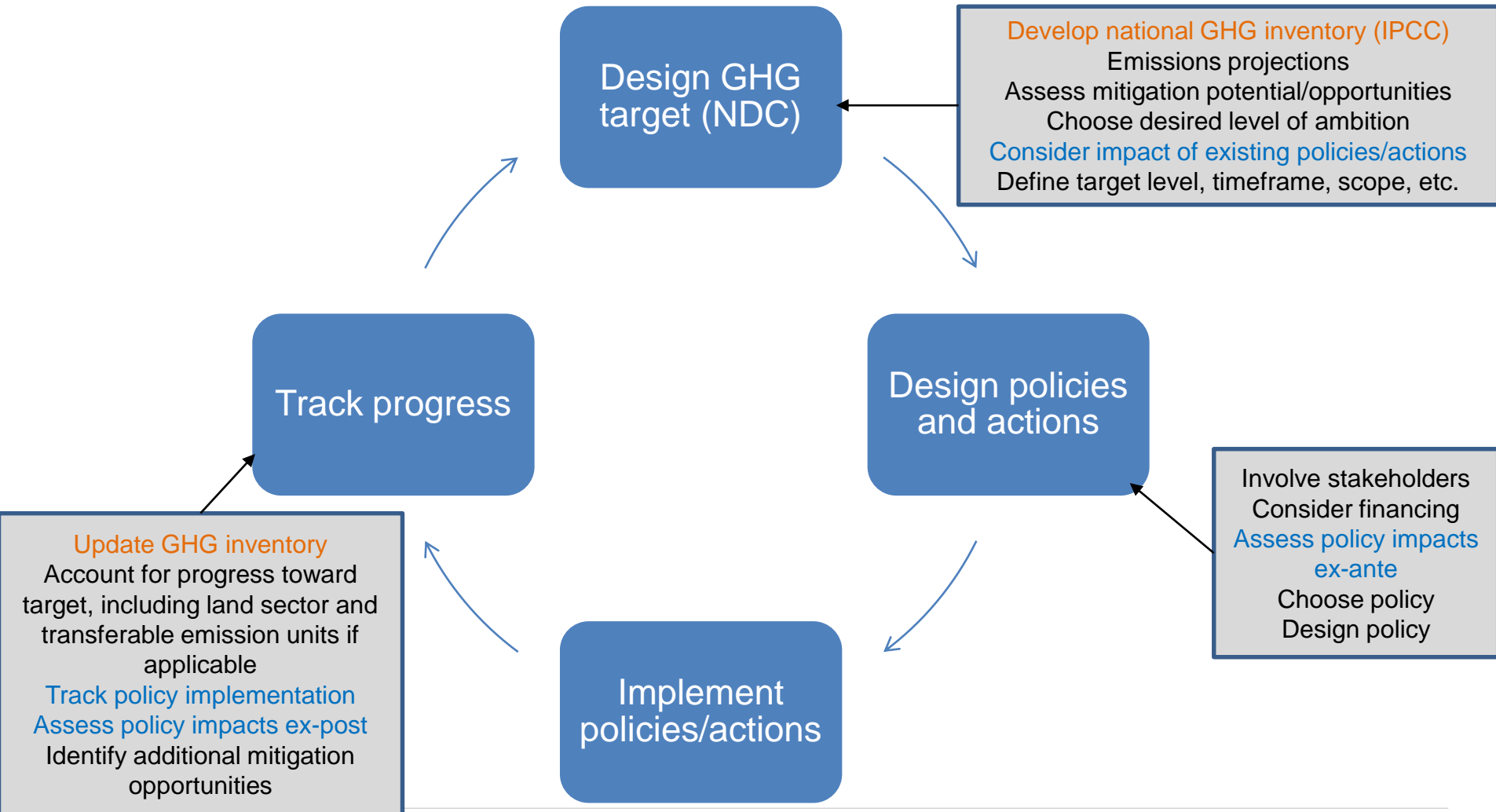
- *Mitigation Goal Standard*
- Guidance for how to track progress toward national or subnational GHG reduction goals
- Available at: www.ghgprotocol.org/mitigation-goal-standard

Example of combining both approaches



Source: New York City 2013.

Combining both approaches in a mitigation target and action cycle



Thank you

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