Bahamas

Independent Regional Assessment for climate change

Key opportunities for climate ambition or implementation

- Enhance coastal resilience by implementing nature-based solutions, such as mangrove restoration, combined with investments in climate-resilient infrastructure to protect communities from hurricanes and saltwater intrusion.
- Advance the energy transition by increasing renewable energy capacity by at least 30% on the main islands by 2030, leveraging solar and wind technologies and both local and international financing programs.
- Secure additional funding from the Green Climate Fund and explore innovative mechanisms such as blue bonds and climate insurance, prioritizing resilient infrastructure and sustainable energy projects.

The Bahamas, as a low-lying small island developing state (SIDS), faces disproportionate impacts from climate change, including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and economic losses. These challenges underscore the urgent need for climate justice, with a focus on loss and damage financing to support affected communities. Ensuring human rights and equitable adaptation measures is critical, especially for vulnerable populations. International cooperation and enhanced financial support are essential to address these issues and to safeguard the nation's resilience and sustainable development.

Climate Justice

Climate policy instruments

In compliance with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, parties have developed policy instruments and institutional and budgetary arrangements to address the effects of climate change at the national level. The following is a list of some of the instruments that frame climate action in Bahamas.

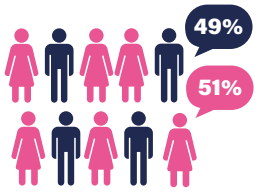
NDC	NDC (2016) and 1 revised NDC (2022)
2030-2050 Targets	Conditional: Reducing net emissions by 30% compared to BAU (Business as Usual) scenario.
BUR	1 BUR (2022)
LTS	The Bahamas has not yet submitted its Long-term Decarbonization Strategy.
NC	2 National Communications (2001, 2014)
NAP	The Bahamas has not yet submitted its National Adaptation Plan.
Laws relevant to climate change	- Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act, 2022 (Act No. 15 of 2022). - Carbon Markets and Greenhouse Gasses Regulations, 2023 - Environmental Planning and Protection Act, 2019 - Electricity Act, 2015 - Forestry Act, 2010 and Forestry Regulations, 2014 - National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change, 2005

Note: This profile is based on the referenced sources and may not fully capture the country's current reality. If you have additional information, please feel free to reach out to us.

Bahamas

Context

DEMOGRAPHIC



Population of **0.93 million** (2021)
Source: World Bank, 2022

There is no information for the Bahamas on the population belonging to or descended from Indigenous peoples.

Per capita emissions, 14.3 tCO_2e/cápita.
Source: BUR, 2022

SOCIOECONOMIC

Bahamas		Regional average
85.7%	**Population lived** in **urban areas** Source: World Bank, 2022	**81.2%**
0.81%	**Human development** index 2021 Source: World Bank, 2022	**0.75%**
28,239USD$	**GDP per capita** in 2021 Source: World Bank, 2022	**8,340USD$**
NO DATA	**Poverty** 2022	**32%**
NO DATA	**Gini index** in 2020	**0.46**

HABITAT AND ENVIRONMENT

Deaths attributed to air **pollution** slight rise in the last period.
Source: IHME, 2020

The area of represents **native forests 36.7%** of the total area of Bahamas. (**13,880 km²** in 2020)
Source: World Bank, 2022

Bahamas

Adaptation and Vulnerability

With the signing of the Paris Agreement, the parties committed to increasing their capacity to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and build climate resilience and low GHG development.

CONTEXT

The Bahamas is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its low-lying geography, exposure to rising sea levels, and increasing frequency of extreme weather events, including hurricanes and coastal flooding.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

Strengthen adaptation through nature-based solutions, such as mangrove and coral reef restoration, combined with resilient infrastructure to address flooding, saltwater intrusion, and community displacement caused by intensifying climate impacts.

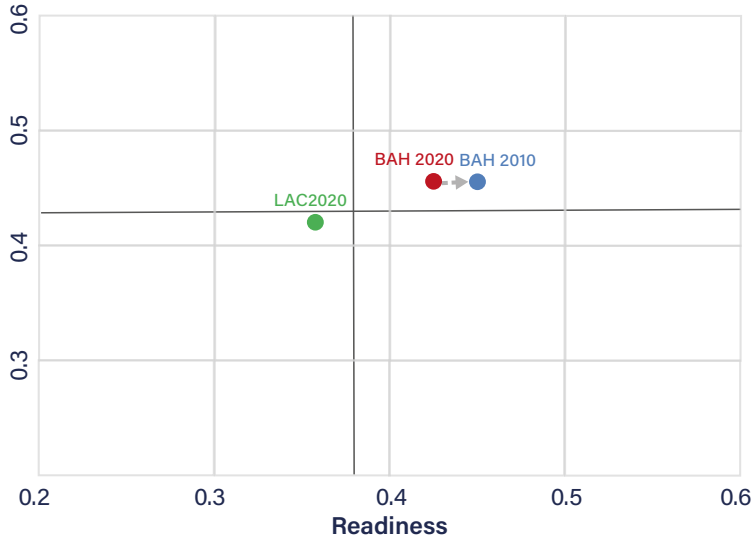
3.1 Vulnerability and Readiness

The Bahamas is in a situation of great risk and vulnerability given its geographic characteristics as a low-lying country surrounded by the sea.

According to the methodology developed by the University of Notre Dame (ND-GAIN Country Index ,) to establish the degree of vulnerability of countries in relation to their degree of readiness, the Bahamas shows high levels in both aspects, with no major advances in its level of readiness from 2010 to the present (ND-GAIN, 2023).

The vertical axis shows the vulnerability score, while the horizontal axis shows the readiness score for the country. The dark blue dot represents

Figure 1. Comparative resilience, 2010-2020 period.



Source: Own elaboration based on ND-GAIN, 2023.

1 The ND-GAIN Country Index summarizes a country's vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges in combination with its readiness to improve resilience. It aims to help governments, businesses, and communities to better prioritize investments for a more efficient response to the immediate global challenges ahead. In this methodology, vulnerability measures a country's exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity to the negative effects of climate change, considering six life-supporting sectors: food, water, health, ecosystem services, human habitat, and infrastructure. On the other hand, readiness measures a country's capacity to leverage investments and convert them into adaptation actions, considering three components: economic readiness, governance readiness, and social readiness.

2020. The graph is divided into four quadrants, delimited by the vulnerability and readiness median values, considering the values of all the countries in the world.

The green dot, on the other hand, indicates the Vulnerability and Readiness Median for the 15 LAC countries analyzed in this report.

Figure 2. Examples of changes observed in Bahamas

TEMPERATURE

The average annual temperature in the Bahamas has been increasing; historical records show that average annual temperatures have increased an average rate of 0.11°C per decade. The average daily maximum temperature for July has increased by an average of 2°C over 100 years.

EXTREME EVENTS

Since 1990 there has been an increase in the frequency of tropical storms, and increased heat waves. In less than a decade, three major tropical cyclones affected the Bahamas. In 2019, Category 5 Hurricane Dorian wreaked havoc on the Bahamian Islands and their communities.

Source: NDC, 2020

Figure 3. Projected impacts

BIODIVERSITY

Climate change-related stress factors such as rising sea surface temperatures, which are already causing coral bleaching on the nation's reefs. These impacts also involve changes in marine biodiversity and losses in fisheries productivity.

CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS:

Groundwater supplies (wells) are at risk of saltwater intrusion and contamination during hidrometeorological events. Furthermore, due to its location and lack of resilience, water-related infrastructure such as reverse osmosis facilities are also at risk of flooding.

TOURISM:

If the sea level rise predicted for 2050 is reached, 10-12% of the territory will be lost, especially in coastal areas, where the main tourist assets are located. Estimates calculate the losses at more than US$2.4 billion for the four decades analyzed. Over the same period, the estimated total impacts of progressive climate change are between B$17 billion and B$19 billion, with the estimated discount rates applied.

COASTAL ZONES:

The sea level in the Bahamas could rise by the end of the 21st century, from 0.4 m in an optimistic scenario (RCP 2.6) to almost 0.7 m in a pessimistic scenario (RCP 8.5).

Source: Own elaboration based on NPACC, 2005; NC2, 2014; NDC, 2022; World Bank, 2022; BUR, 2022.

3.2 Adaptation policies and measures

The Bahamas has taken meaningful steps to develop and implement adaptation policies and measures to address the escalating impacts of climate change. As a low-lying island nation, the country faces significant vulnerabilities, including rising sea levels, intensified hurricanes, and saltwater intrusion. While The Bahamas has yet to submit a National Adaptation Plan (NAP), its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) outlines key priorities for enhancing resilience in sectors such as coastal management, water resources, biodiversity conservation, and disaster risk reduction.

Aligned with the Paris Agreement's principles of financing, technology transfer, and capacity building, The Bahamas has integrated climate adaptation into its national development strategies. This multi-sectoral approach emphasizes strengthening institutional frameworks, fostering community-based resilience initiatives, and leveraging nature-based solutions like mangrove restoration. By addressing vulnerabilities across critical sectors, The Bahamas aims to safeguard its ecosystems, infrastructure, and communities while advancing sustainable development goals.

Table 1. Adaptation policies and measures

Sectors		Measures	Degree of implementation (identified priorities / initiatives / flagship projects)
	Institutional/ Sectoral plans	Conduct a national study on sectoral vulnerability based on geographic data and indicators	National vulnerability study is ongoing, with initial assessments completed; full-scale analysis expected by 2026.
		Conduct a study on economics of climate change in The Bahamas with a cost benefit analysis of adaptation actions	Preliminary cost-benefit analysis on climate change adaptation has been initiated; comprehensive national study still in progress.
		Develop and implement a National Adaptation Plan covering priority sectors	The National Climate Adaptation Policy has been developed, and implementation across priority sectors is underway.
		Review and update the National Policy for Adaptation to Climate Change	The National Policy for Adaptation to Climate Change was updated in 2024, aligning with current priorities and international standards.
		Strengthen effective delivery of climate change contents in the national educational program including usefulness of relevant meteorological information	Climate change content has been integrated into educational programs, with delivery reaching 60% of schools nationwide.
		Promote public awareness of the possible effects of climate change and disseminate good adaptation practices, in alignment with the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)	Public awareness campaigns aligned with ACE have been implemented, engaging approximately 70% of identified vulnerable populations.
	Energy	Achieve a 30% of renewable energy mix on each major island by 2030	Renewable energy mix currently less than 1%; Integrated Resource and Resilience Plan (IRRP) developed in 2023 to guide energy generation.
		Increase the percentage of electric vehicles to Government Fleet	Target of 35% electric and 15% hybrid vehicles for government fleet by 2030; progress data limited.

	Energy	Adoption and implementation of revised building code for all new buildings and renovations	Building code revision efforts delayed; minimal progress reported as of late 2024.
		Include climate change considerations in the design of new energy infrastructure (establish requirements), as well as contingency plans to reduce long power outages	New energy infrastructure considerations and contingency planning ongoing; implementation remains partial.
		Awareness campaign for energy efficiency and energy conservation	Public awareness campaigns conducted; specific metrics on reach and impact unavailable.
		Assessment of renewable energy potential across all occupied islands	Renewable energy potential assessments underway; utility-scale projects initiated on New Providence and Family Islands in 2024.
		Assessment of variations in energy demand derived from the effect of climate change	Early-stage studies on energy demand variations; comprehensive analyses needed.
		Develop incentives to encourage the purchase of electric vehicles	Electric vehicle incentives included in NDC; detailed programs under development, limited progress.
		Improve financial incentives for citizens/businesses to convert to solar	Solar energy expansion supported by IDB and BDB; financial incentives in planning, limited implementation.
	Agriculture/ Food security	Provide farmers with relevant meteorological information regularly, as well as weather forecasts, with the aim to foster climate-sensitive farming	Initial programs for delivering climate-related data are under development; 40% of targeted vulnerable farming communities included by 2026.
		Promote climate-smart sustainable agriculture measures (optimization of water use/storage, soil conservation, etc.) and agroforestry practices (including diversification of crops and raising livestock simultaneously, using significantly less land)	15 hydroponic container farms introduced, with a projected 25% increase in sustainable agricultural outputs by 2025.
		Assess climate change risk and impacts on the Agriculture/Fisheries sector (productivity and food security)	Risk assessments are 60% completed, with findings expected by mid-2025.
		Investment in research on climate-resilient crops	Propagation facilities have trained 200 farmers since 2023, aiming to train 300 more by the end of 2025.
		Establishment of climate monitoring systems for farms	Monitoring systems are 50% operational, targeting full deployment by the end of 2025.
	Ecosystems/ Biodiversity/ Forests	Establishment of payments for ecosystem services and other sustainable financing options to enhance protection of habitats for climate resilient communities (water purification, flood mitigation, carbon sequestration, etc.)	$120 million allocated through a debt-for-nature swap for conservation projects over 15 years.

	Ecosystems/ Biodiversity/ Forests	Review and update existing forest management plans (such as the Master Plan for The Bahamas National Protected Area System)	Forest management plan updates under the Integrated Landscape Management project; progress ongoing.
		Increase (marine and terrestrial) protected areas under effective management	17% of the nearshore environment designated as protected areas, aiming for 20% by 2030.
		Enhance protection and restoration of damaged/degraded ecosystems (e.g., terrestrial forests, mangroves, coral reefs)	Commitment to plant one million mangroves by 2025; restoration underway.
		Promote Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) approaches to sustain ecosystems that ensure resilience against climate-related threats (ex. coral reef and mangrove) involving local communities	Coral research and restoration projects involving local communities in progress.
		Develop ecological and economic analysis to increase knowledge on the value of forest, mangrove, coral reef and sea grass ecosystems	Ecological and economic analyses of key ecosystems are being developed to inform conservation strategies.
		Increase awareness of the importance of coral reefs and mangrove forests for sustainable development and coastal protection	Public awareness campaigns on coral reefs and mangrove forests actively conducted by local organizations.
	Production/ Industry/ Private Sector/ Circular Economy	Promote the use of public and private partnerships to increase funding for adaptation actions	The government has established a comprehensive PPP policy framework to facilitate collaboration with private entities in delivering resilient and sustainable infrastructure services.
		Leverage carbon markets to access adaptation funding	The Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act, enacted in 2022, provides a legal framework for the trade and management of carbon credits within The Bahamas.
	Infrastructure	Update and implement the Building Code so it considers the incorporation of the climate variable into infrastructure construction and reconstruction processes	Progress on updating the building code is ongoing, with an IDB-supported consultancy initiated. However, the review committee has met only twice as of late 2024, delaying substantial progress.
		Strengthening sensitive social and economic infrastructure across islands	$36 million has been allocated for renewable energy and infrastructure recovery in Abaco and East Grand Bahama. Additional road and airport redevelopment projects are underway across several islands to enhance resilience.
	Water resources	Protect freshwater lenses to avoid losing natural well-fields to other land use	Ongoing studies, such as those by Simon Fraser University, are modeling freshwater lenses to forecast impacts of climate change and inform protection strategies.
		Modelling extreme precipitation, sea-level rise and storm surge events, to develop a better understanding of the risks and consequences of these phenomena on water utility systems and availability of groundwater resources	Efforts are underway to model extreme weather events to understand their effects on water utility systems and groundwater availability.

	Water resources	Increase investments in desalination plants to ensure water availability, particularly on the islands with fewer freshwater resources (ex. New Providence) and promote on-site renewable power supplies (lowering costs of operation)	Significant investments have been made to expand desalination capacity. For example, the Blue Hills plant's capacity increased by 67% to 12 million gallons per day.
	Water, sanitation, and public services	Explore new technological solutions for ensuring population's access to drinking water	The Bahamas has advanced with smart water infrastructure supported by a $50 million IDB loan, focusing on implementing technologies to reduce non-revenue water and improve service reliability across the islands.
	Risk management	Engage the community in the implementation of regular simulation evacuations	The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has conducted regular hurricane preparedness drills, engaging communities across various islands to enhance readiness for natural disasters.
		Develop contingency planning for essential systems (electricity, heating, cooling, ventilation, water supply, sanitation services, waste management, and communications) to ensure functionality during extreme weather events	The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Authority has developed comprehensive contingency plans to ensure the functionality of critical infrastructure—such as electricity, water supply, and communications—during extreme weather events.
		Improve access to accurate weather and climate-related data and projections (including flood maps) to inform land use planning and understand risks across sectors.	The Bahamas National Geographic Information Systems (BNGIS) Centre has improved access to precise weather and climate-related data, including flood maps, to inform land use planning and risk assessment across sectors.
	Health	Strengthen epidemiological surveillance systems and develop epidemic early warning systems informed by climate scenarios	The Ministry of Health and Wellness launched the Health National Adaptation Plan (HNAP) in October 2024, which includes strategies to enhance epidemiological surveillance and develop early warning systems informed by climate scenarios.
		Promote climate-smart clinics and health-related infrastructure	The HNAP outlines plans to build climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable healthcare facilities, aiming to ensure that health services remain operational during and after climate-related events.
		Raise awareness among vulnerable populations on climate change and climate-related health risks	The HNAP emphasizes the importance of community engagement and public awareness campaigns to educate vulnerable populations about climate change and related health risks, with initiatives planned to disseminate information and promote adaptive behaviors.
	Seas/oceans /coastal zones	Develop and implement a plan for integrated coastal zone management to promote sustainable development of coastal zones	A $3.84 million IDB-funded project launched to develop a comprehensive ICZM Master Plan, incorporating traditional and nature-based solutions for coastal resilience.
		Enhance land use planning to ensure climate change-related risks are appropriately addressed, including providing guidance on coastal development	The Climate Resilient Coastal Management and Infrastructure Program focuses on integrating coastal hazard risk into development standards, ensuring sustainable coastal planning.

	Cities/ Human Settlements/ Housing	Develop and implement community-based climate change adaptation plans on most vulnerable islands	Initiatives like the Resilient Islands project, a collaboration between the Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), have been launched to develop and implement adaptation strategies in vulnerable communities, focusing on nature-based solutions and increased awareness.
		Build capacity among local communities for alternative livelihoods as a means of economic recovery/ diversification to improve climate resilience	Programs such as the Community Resilience Seminar, conducted by the U.S. Forest Service, have been implemented to build capacity among local communities. These programs focus on alternative livelihoods and ecosystem restoration, including mangrove planting, to improve climate resilience.
	Evaluation and monitoring	Establish national standards for collecting geospatial data particularly for coral reefs, fisheries, forests, agriculture, health, public works, water resources and supply, economics, and climate change awareness	Draft standards covering 106 geospatial parameters were introduced in 2024, targeting data collection across key sectors like coral reefs, fisheries, and climate change awareness.
		Cross-sectorial tracking and data collection of renewable energy installations (both private and public) to maintain accurate records of systems	Solar microgrid development on Family Islands is underway, supporting the 30% renewable energy target by 2030 with improved data collection efforts.

Source: Own elaboration based on NDC, 2022.

Bahamas

Mitigation

With the signing of the Paris Agreement, the parties committed to keep the-global average temperature increase well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to continue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

CONTEXT

The Bahamas' energy sector is heavily reliant on fossil fuels, making it the largest contributor to national emissions. Transitioning to renewable energy and improving energy efficiency are critical for achieving mitigation targets.

KEY OPPORTUNITY

Expand renewable energy capacity to 30% by 2030, implement energy-efficient technologies, and promote electric mobility. Leveraging international financing and partnerships can accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy while reducing emissions.

4.1 Country contribution to emissions

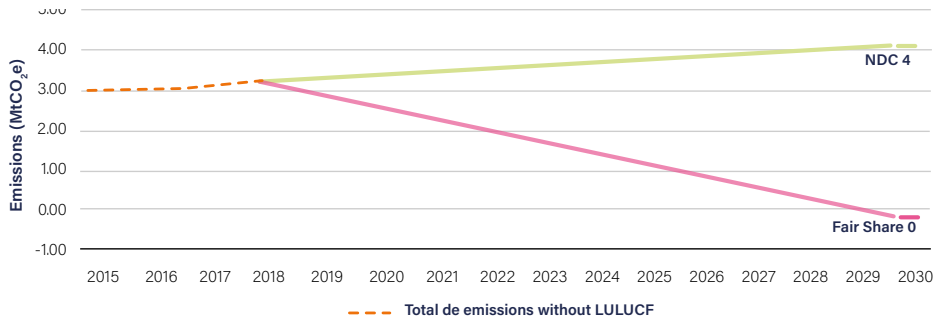
The Bahamas' latest reported total annual emissions were 6.26 $MtCO_2e$ in 2018 (BUR, 2022), , considering emissions from land uses (LULUCF).

The Bahamas did not include an unconditional target in its latest NDC update. But it commits, conditionally, to achieve a 30% emissions reduction by 2030 compared to its Business as Usual (BAU) scenario, which means not exceeding 4 $MtCO_2e$ yearly in 2030 (Figure 4).

Whereas, considering the fair share[2] for the Bahamas, according to the Stockholm Environment Institute Calculator (SEI, 2023), the Bahamas should achieve net zero emissions by 2030, 0 $MtCO_2e$ (without considering LULUCF). This involves a 100% reduction compared to emissions in 2018 (BUR, 2022; NDC, 2022; SEI, 2023).

2 The Fair Share is the fraction of emissions that each country should emit at most (in this case by 2030) in order not to exceed the 1.5°C average global temperature increase barrier. There are various methodologies for calculating the fair share, but the one developed by the SEI is used here because it provides information for all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Considerations used for the calculation (SEI): Historical responsibility, since 1850. Mitigation path: 1.5°C standard (excluding LULUCF), Capacity: $0 development threshold, 50% Responsibility - 50% Capacity.

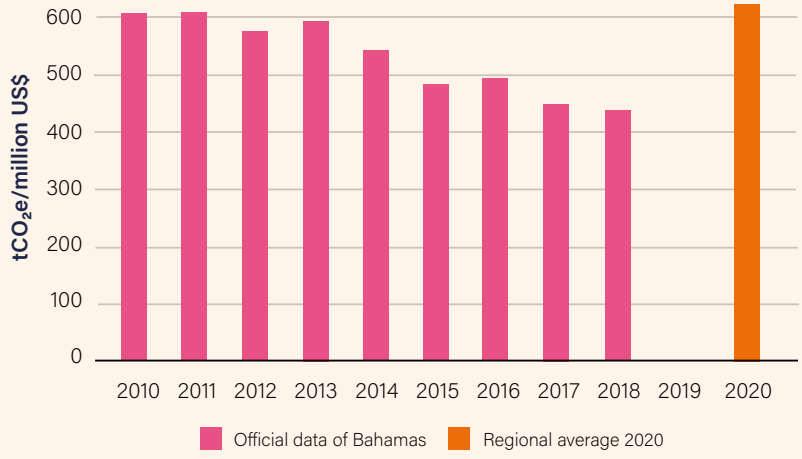
Figure 4. Total emissions trends without LULUCF, Bahamas NDC target, and Bahamas Fair Share without LULUCF



Source: Own elaboration based on BUR, 2022; NDC, 2022; SEI, 2023.

The path towards meeting the NDC (4 $MtCO_2e$) presents a gap to reach the fair share measure by 2030. The emissions intensity of the Bahamian economy according to national data, has steadily decreased in the 2010-2018 period, reaching its minimum of 435.5 tCO_2e/million USD in the last year (EDGAR, 2022; IPCC, 2022, World Bank, 2022). Official data of the Bahamas show an emissions intensity of 490.9 tCO_2e/million USD in 2018 (BUR, 2022).

Figure 5. Carbon intensity of the economy (tCO_2e/million USD)

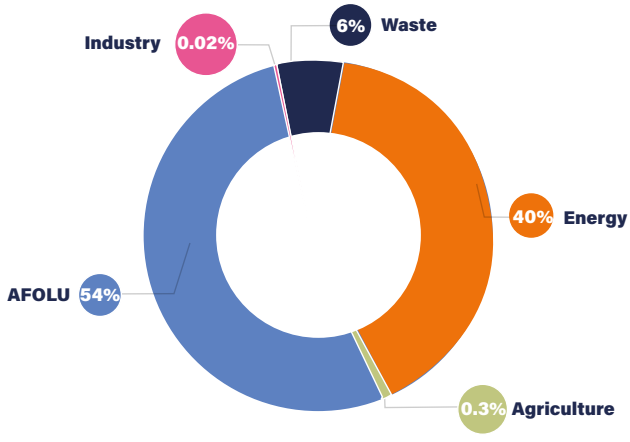


Source: own elaboration based on official country data, BUR, 2022.

4.2 Emissions by sector

Of the country's emissions, 54% come from the LULUCF sector, while another 40% come from the Energy sector (Figure 6) (BUR, 2022).

Figure 6. Total emissions by sector 2018



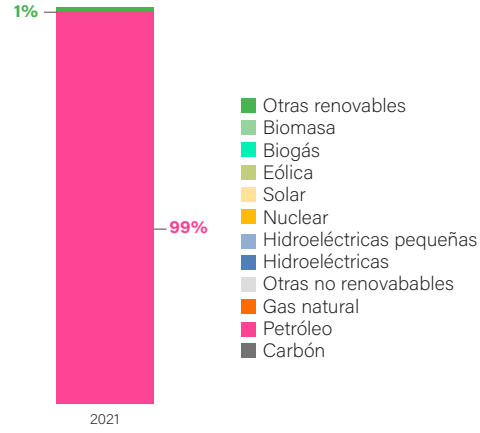
Source: Own elaboration based on BUR, 2022.

Energy

Fossil fuel reserves (natural gas, oil, and coal) in The Bahamas are negligible, as the country has no proven reserves of easily exploitable fossil fuel sources in significant quantities within its exclusive economic zone (EEZ) (NEP, 2012).

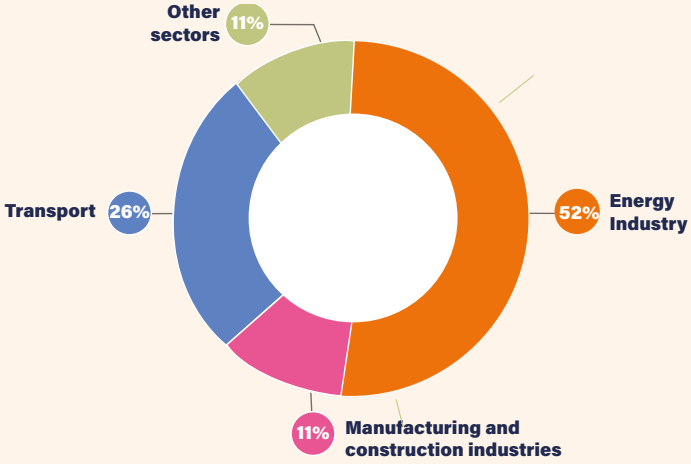
According to IRENA (2024), the energy supply in The Bahamas in 2021 was heavily dependent on oil, which accounted for 99% of the total supply. Renewable energy represented only 1%, primarily consisting of bioenergy (82%), solar energy (17%), and wind energy (1%).

Figure 7. Primary power mix -2021



Source: IRENA, 2024

Figure 8. Energy sector emissions by subsector, 2018.



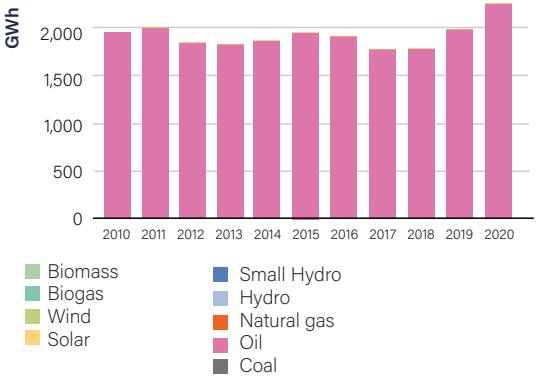
Emissions from the energy sector showed an increase between 2010 and 2012, then slowly declined until 2015, when they started to increase again until 2019. The lowest level was reached in 2020, coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic, with a sudden increase in 2021. The energy industry is the largest emissions contributor of this sector with a 47% share in 2021, followed by Transport, with 33% (Figure 8) (EDGAR, 2022).

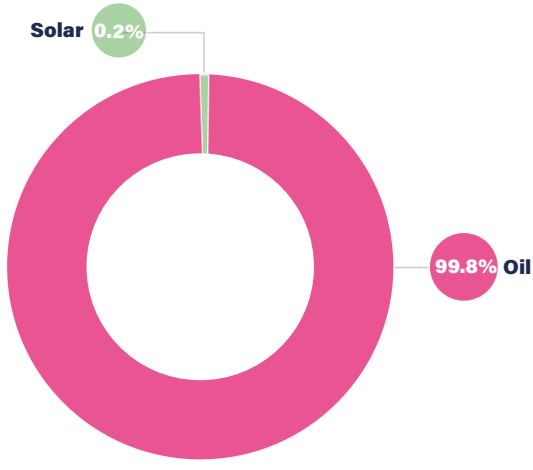
Source: Own elaboration based on BUR, 2022.

Power generation

In the Bahamas, the share of renewables in the power generation mix is minimal, reaching only 0.2% in 2020 (Figure 9) (IRENA, 2022).

Figure 9. Power generation mix from 2010 to 2020

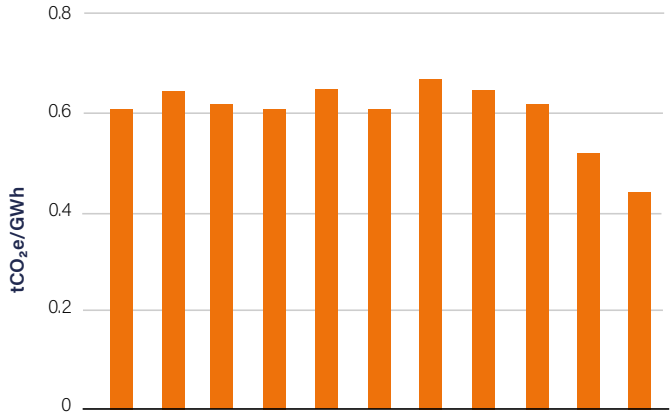




Source: Own elaboration based on IRENA, 2022.

On the other hand, the emissions intensity of power generation remained above 0.6 tCO_2e/GWh between 2010 and 2018 and went through a 35% reduction between 2018 and 2020 (Figure 10) (EDGAR, 2022; IRENA, 2022).

Figure 10. Carbon intensity of power generation ($ktCO_2e$/GWh).



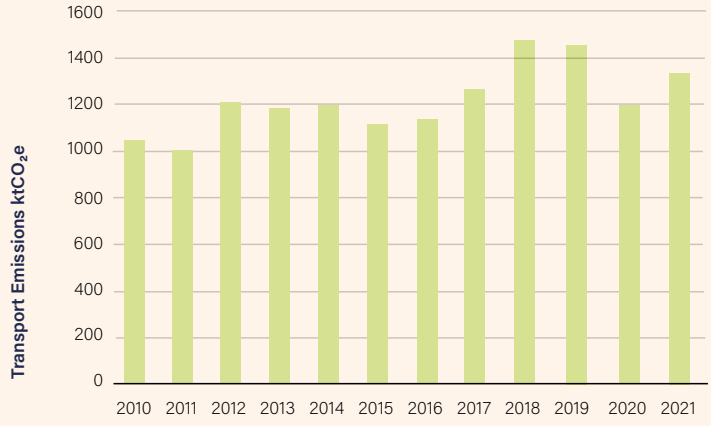
Source: Own elaboration based on EDGAR, 2022; IRENA, 2022.

Transport

Emissions from the transport sector have increased by 27% in the 2010-2021 period, except for 2020, coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic (EDGAR, 2022).

Source: Own elaboration based on EDGAR, 2022.

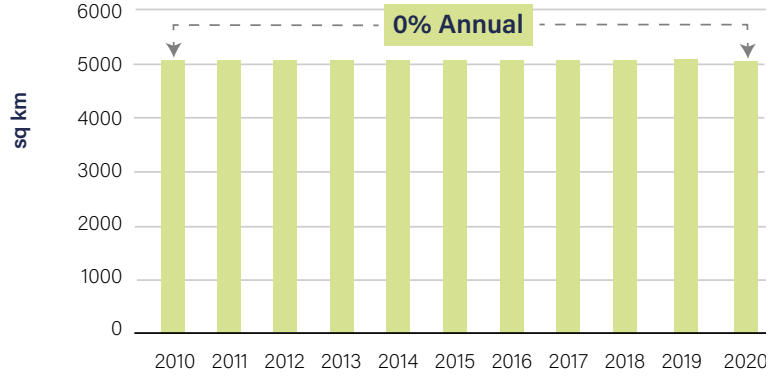
Figure 11. Transport Emissions, 2010-2021, and share of total emissions



Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU)

During the last decade (2010-2020), the Bahamas has not experienced forest land losses (World Bank, 2022).

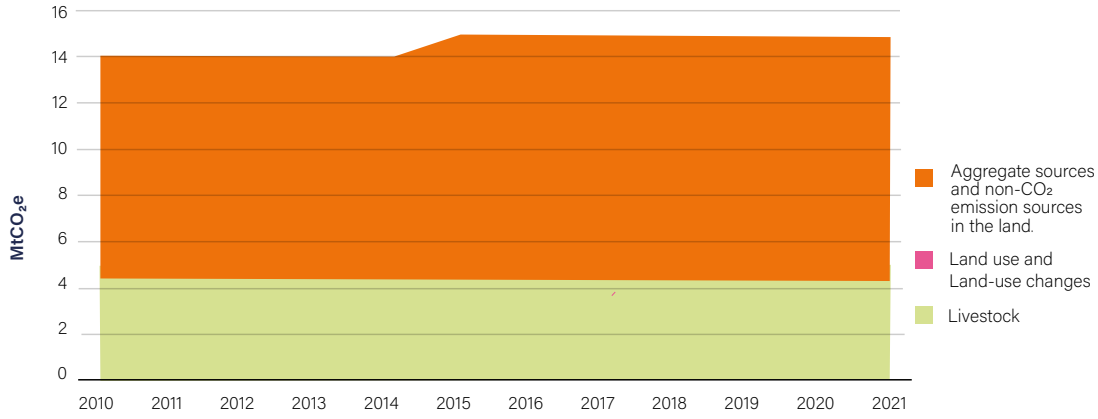
Figure 12. Area of native forests in the Bahamas and average annual loss rates



Source: Own elaboration based on World Bank, 2022.

Emissions from the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use sector remained almost constant between 2010-2021. The sub-sector with the largest contribution is the Aggregate Sources and Non-CO_2 Emissions from Land, which includes nitrous oxide (N2O) emissions from nitrogen fertilizer use (Figure 13) (EDGAR, 2022 and FAO 2022).

Figura 13. AFOLU emissions by subsector



Source: Own elaboration based on EDGAR, 2022; FAO, 2022.

4.3 Mitigation policies and measures

The Bahamas has prioritized climate change mitigation as a key component of its national climate strategy. The country's focus is on transitioning to renewable energy, reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, and promoting sustainable development. Efforts include expanding solar and other renewable energy sources to meet the national target of 30% renewables by 2030 (NDC, 2022), alongside improving energy efficiency in public and private sectors.

Electric mobility and waste-to-energy initiatives are gaining traction as part of broader efforts to lower greenhouse gas emissions. These actions not only address the energy sector but also contribute to the overall resilience of the economy and communities, positioning The Bahamas as an active participant in global climate action.

Table 2. Mitigation measures in multiple sectors

Sector	Measure	Degree of implementation (identified priorities / initiatives /flagship projects)
Transport	Standards implemented for vehicle fuel efficiency Improved Incentives for electric vehicle Assessment and integration of electric vehicles into the Government Fleet Installation of charging stations for electric vehicles Increase sales of electric vehicles to 35% and hybrid vehicles to 15% by 2030 Promotion of the use of Public Transport	Updates include reduced excise duties on smaller vehicles (25%) as part of improved incentives for electric vehicles and the integration of electric vehicles into the Government Fleet, highlighted by the Office of the Prime Minister acquiring its first EV. Regarding the other measures—fuel efficiency standards, EV charging stations, EV and hybrid sales targets, and public transport promotion—development is still in early stages, with no tangible progress reported.

Energy	Promotion of energy efficiency through revised building codes, lighting retrofits, efficient air conditioning standards, and public awareness campaigns.	The third edition of the Building Code is in effect, providing minimum efficiency standards.
	Conduct energy audits for government, hotel, and industrial buildings with targeted implementation of efficiency measures.	Energy audits for government buildings and some hotel facilities are ongoing. Partial efficiency measures have been implemented based on audit findings.
	Promotion of energy efficiency in water production.	Active programs are optimizing energy consumption in water production, focusing on improving existing systems.
	Expand renewable energy capacity to 30% on major islands by 2030, supported by resource assessments and upgraded incentives.	The current share of renewable energy in the power mix remains below 5%.
	Expand solar energy capacity through farms, distributed generation, and installations in public and private facilities.	Solar projects are under development, including a 3MW solar farm in Grand Bahama.
	Installation of 15MW Waste to Energy.	These measures remain in the planning or feasibility stages, with no tangible progress reported to date.
	Pilot Project for a 30kW OTEC Plant.	
	Installation of 20MW of wind power.	
	Five (5) carbon-neutral Marine Protected Area facilities powered by photovoltaic systems.	
	Develop financing mechanisms and integrated resource plans to enhance energy resilience and promote EE and RE projects.	Integrated resource and resilience plans are being developed with support from institutions like CCREEE.
Industrial Processes and Product Use	20% Phase Out of HFC	The Bahamas remains in the preparatory phase, with no tangible progress reported.
Waste	Development of a waste management system to include composting systems	The Bahamas remains in the preparatory phase, with no tangible progress reported.
	Introduction of a National Recycling Programme	The Bahamas has improved waste management through the New Providence Ecology Park, which composts 20,000-30,000 tons of green waste annually and runs recycling programs for materials like glass, plastic, and paper.

Source: Own elaboration based on BUR, 2022; NDC, 2022.

Table 3. Sectors with mitigation measures for the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use sector.

Sector	Measure	Degree of implementation (identified priorities / initiatives /flagship projects)
Agriculture	Sustainable agroforestry practices in Andros, Grand Bahama, Acklins, Crooked Island, Planna and Samana Cays by 2025	Plans for sustainable agroforestry by 2025 remain outlined, but no tangible progress has been reported.
LULUCF	The establishment of a Forestry Estate on 283,750.18 hectares (20% of the total land cover of The Bahamas) comprised of areas to be established as: Conservation Forests (149, 396.99 hectares), Forest Reserves (96,542.61 hectares), and Protected Forests (37,810.58 hectares) on Abaco, Andros, Grand Bahamas and New Providence by 2025	The Bahamas is progressing with initiatives such as the GEF Pine Island Project to establish a National Forest Estate, a 50-hectare mangrove restoration project in Davis Creek, Andros, and the development of a national strategy with FAO to achieve zero emissions in the LULUCF sector by 2045.
	Reestablishment & Rehabilitation of 50 ha of Davis Creek, Andros Ecosystem	
	Sustainable Land Use practices to result in zero emissions in the LULUCF Sector by 2045	

Source: Own elaboration based on BUR, 2022; NDC, 2022.

Bahamas

Finance

Under the Paris Agreement, the Parties committed to making sure that financial flows will be consistent with a scenario towards low GHG emissions and resilient climate development.

CONTEXT

The Bahamas faces significant economic and environmental challenges due to its dependence on imported fossil fuels, making the transition to renewable energy and climate-resilient infrastructure critical for sustainable development.

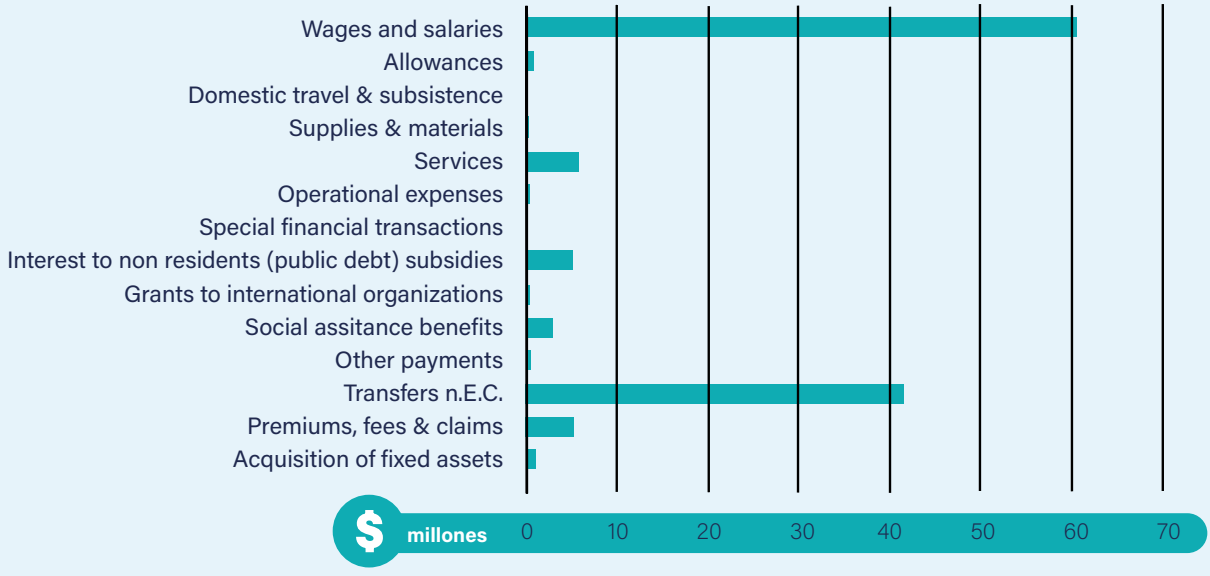
KEY OPPORTUNITY

Leverage international climate financing and innovative tools like debt-for-nature swaps to scale renewable energy adoption, support nature-based solutions, and enhance resilience against climate risks in vulnerable communities.

5.1 The role of the public sector

The distribution of the federal budget makes it possible to identify government priorities in the development planning of Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Figure 14. Budget allocation for climate and Disaster Risk Management initiatives by economic segments in the Bahamas (2021-2022)

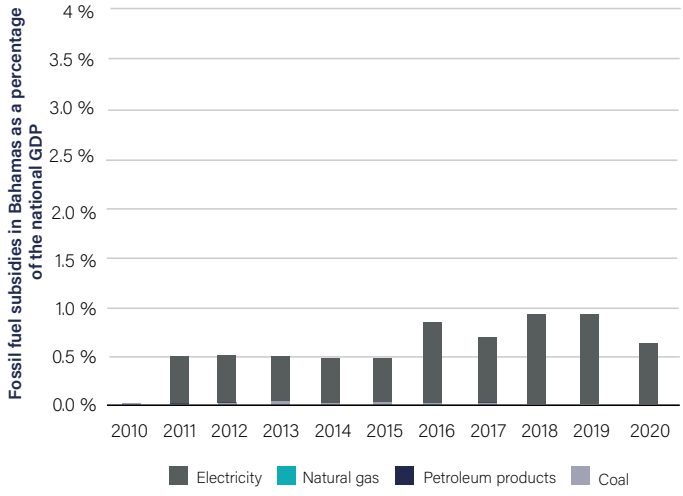


Source: Own elaboration based on Government of the Bahamas, 2021.

The table provides a detailed breakdown of The Bahamas' budget allocations by economic categories, including wages and salaries, subsidies, grants, and operational expenses. These allocations underscore the government's strategic approach to managing resources for climate resilience and disaster risk management, aligning public expenditures with sustainability priorities across key areas such as infrastructure and social assistance.

The Bahamas has no carbon tax whatsoever (Our World in Data, 2022). The only fossil fuel subsidy in the country is for fossil-fuel-generated electricity (Figure 15) (Fossil Fuel Subsidy Tracker, 2022).

Figure 15. Fossil fuel subsidies as a percentage of GDP



Source: Own elaboration based on Fossil Fuel Subsidy Tracker, 2022.

5.2 International Cooperation

The mitigation and adaptation objectives presented in the updated NDC depend on receiving international support for technology transfer, capacity building, and financial resources, including through the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Adaptation Fund (AF), multilateral and bilateral agreements, and the local private sector. The indicative cost for NDC measures identified in the Bahamas up to 2030 exceeds US$4 billion for mitigation and adaptation actions. The exact cost of these activities will be developed further in the coming years. As a result of low international mitigation ambition, as well as still very high subsidies for financing carbon-intensive activities, the cost of adaptation is expected to continue to increase and even exceed the adaptive capacity of certain sectors (NDC, 2022).

Bahamas receives international cooperation for mitigation and adaptation projects from different international organizations. These resources include non-reimbursable support and loans.

Table 4. List of approved projects and amounts for the Bahamas by different international cooperation agencies

Agency / Institution	Scope of the project	Amount approved, 2016-2022 period (Million USD)			Approved projects 2016-2022 period			
		No reembolsable	Préstamo	Cofinanciamiento	Mitigación	Adaptación	Otros	Preparación
Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Only Bahamas	4.1	--	--	--	--	--	7
	Multiple countries	0.7	27.6	86.6	2	2	--	2
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Only Bahamas	7.6	--	12.3	--	--	2	--
	Multiple countries	3.1	--	1.8	--	--	5	--
UN Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)	Only Bahamas	0.5	--	--	1	--	1	--
	Multiple countries	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	Only Bahamas	--	669.2	--	9	8	6	--
	Multiple countries	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Source: Own elaboration based on CTCN, 2022; IDB, 2022; GEF, 2022; GCF, 2022.

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Bahamas

Country profile
January 2025

This profile contributes to the iGST Independent Regional Climate Change Balance for Latin America and the Caribbean. Find the Regional Balance and other country profiles at **iniciativaclimatica.org**

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Note: This profile is based on the referenced sources and may not fully capture the country's current reality. If you have additional information, please feel free to reach out to us.

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