



LIFE Climate Path 2050 International Conference Designing Pathways toward Climate Neutrality

How important is that the long-term strategies are participatory and inclusive?

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06 October 2021

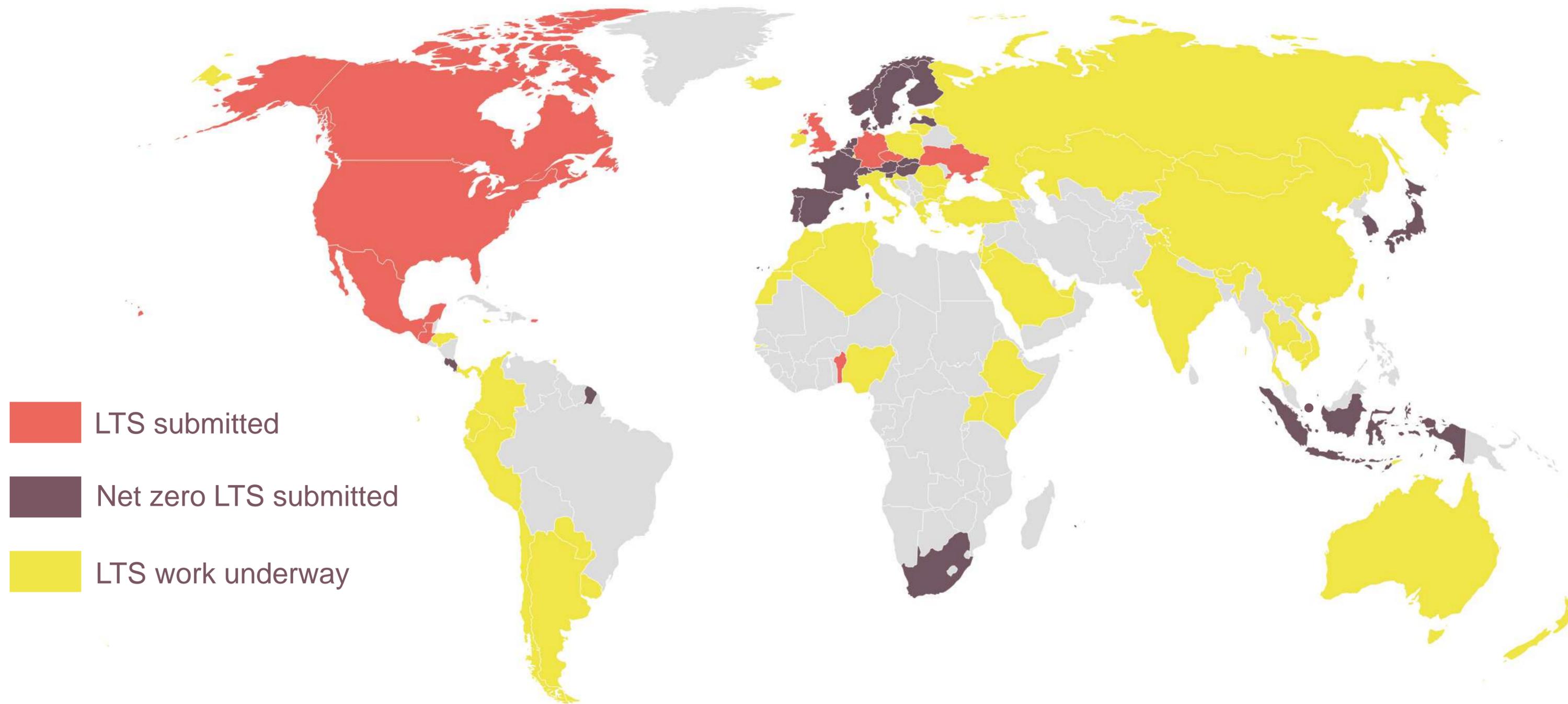
October 2021: 34 country members



2050 Pathways Platform

Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategies as submitted to UNFCCC

(22 Sep. 2021)



LTS process



HEAD OF
GOVERNMENT



POLICYMAKERS



STAKEHOLDERS



MODELING
COMMUNITY



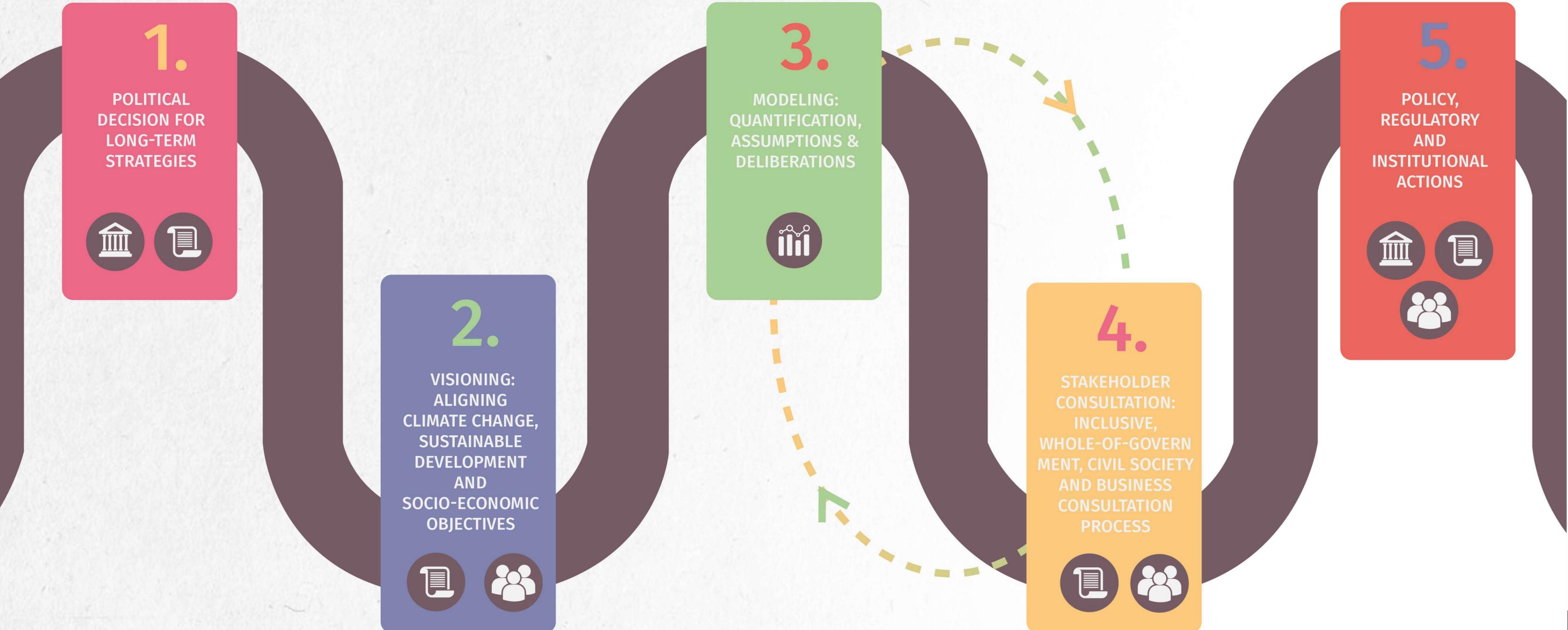
1.
POLITICAL
DECISION FOR
LONG-TERM
STRATEGIES

2.
VISIONING:
ALIGNING
CLIMATE CHANGE,
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
AND
SOCIO-ECONOMIC
OBJECTIVES

3.
MODELING:
QUANTIFICATION,
ASSUMPTIONS &
DELIBERATIONS

4.
STAKEHOLDER
CONSULTATION:
INCLUSIVE,
WHOLE-OF-GOVERN
MENT, CIVIL SOCIETY
AND BUSINESS
CONSULTATION
PROCESS

5.
POLICY,
REGULATORY
AND
INSTITUTIONAL
ACTIONS



Enabling societal consensus



“The increasing complexity of policy making and the failure to find solutions to some of the most pressing policy problems have prompted politicians, policy makers, civil society organisations, and citizens to reflect on how collective public decisions should be taken in the 21st century” – OECD, 2020

- **Importance of public engagement:** Planning the economic transformation to a low-carbon future requires difficult decisions and the public should be informed and involved. This will also help facilitate implementation of policies envisioned in the LTS.
- **Societal consensus:** The participatory process should be at the heart of LTS to consolidate different viewpoints, co-create the strategy, raise awareness, and maximize buy in across the country. Interest groups should be brought in early in the process.
- **Who to engage:** A wide variety of stakeholders that will be most affected by the LTS in their design, including the private sector as well as other non-state actors that play a role in implementation, such as subnational entities, civil society organisations, and experts. Once the strategy is out, it is important to engage the public at large.

Where societal consensus helps, e.g.



- **Sensitisation:** Understanding the severity and challenges of the climate change problem – climate action cannot happen against/without citizens.
- **Carbon / energy pricing:** Announcing cost increases, understanding economic vulnerabilities, organising and announcing possible redistribution for a progressive approach. The same approach should be taken as old, carbon-intensive practices are regulated out of the market and low-C innovation pushed in – is affordability assured?
- **Regional transitions:** All industrial basins and economic regions are not equally ‘exposed’ to the transition. E.g. how can coal basins anticipate future impacts? How to embark these communities in the transition? How can existing skills be adapted to the transition?
- **Behavioural changes:** Deep emission reductions will be facilitated by behavioural changes (mobility, diets, consumption patterns, etc.) These changes cannot be forced but can be triggered by enhanced social awareness on climate implications of actions.

Co-constructing the LTS in practice

- **Forums** – with representatives from all relevant stakeholders, generally established under the leadership of the Head of State, as part of the LTS governance. Can also be established to monitor progress towards LTS.
- **Roundtables** – South Africa organised a series of roundtables during the elaboration process of its LTS, across different Ministries. Each successive roundtable took learnings from the previous and tried to address key questions that were raised. Some countries with a federal structure also undertake regional roundtables (e.g., Nigeria, Argentina). Costa Rica undertook sectoral stakeholder consultations after having issued its LTS as part of its implementation efforts.
- **Industry roadmaps** - The Norwegian government provided a broad direction and asked various sectors to present their own plan towards net zero emissions, with a view on international competitiveness. These plans were reflected in the LTS.
- **Online workshops** – given the impact that the global COVID-19 pandemic is having on mobility, increasingly countries are holding online consultations. The 2050 Pathways Platform supported the organisation of sectoral and high-level workshops in countries such as Argentina, Ethiopia, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru etc.

Engaging the wider public

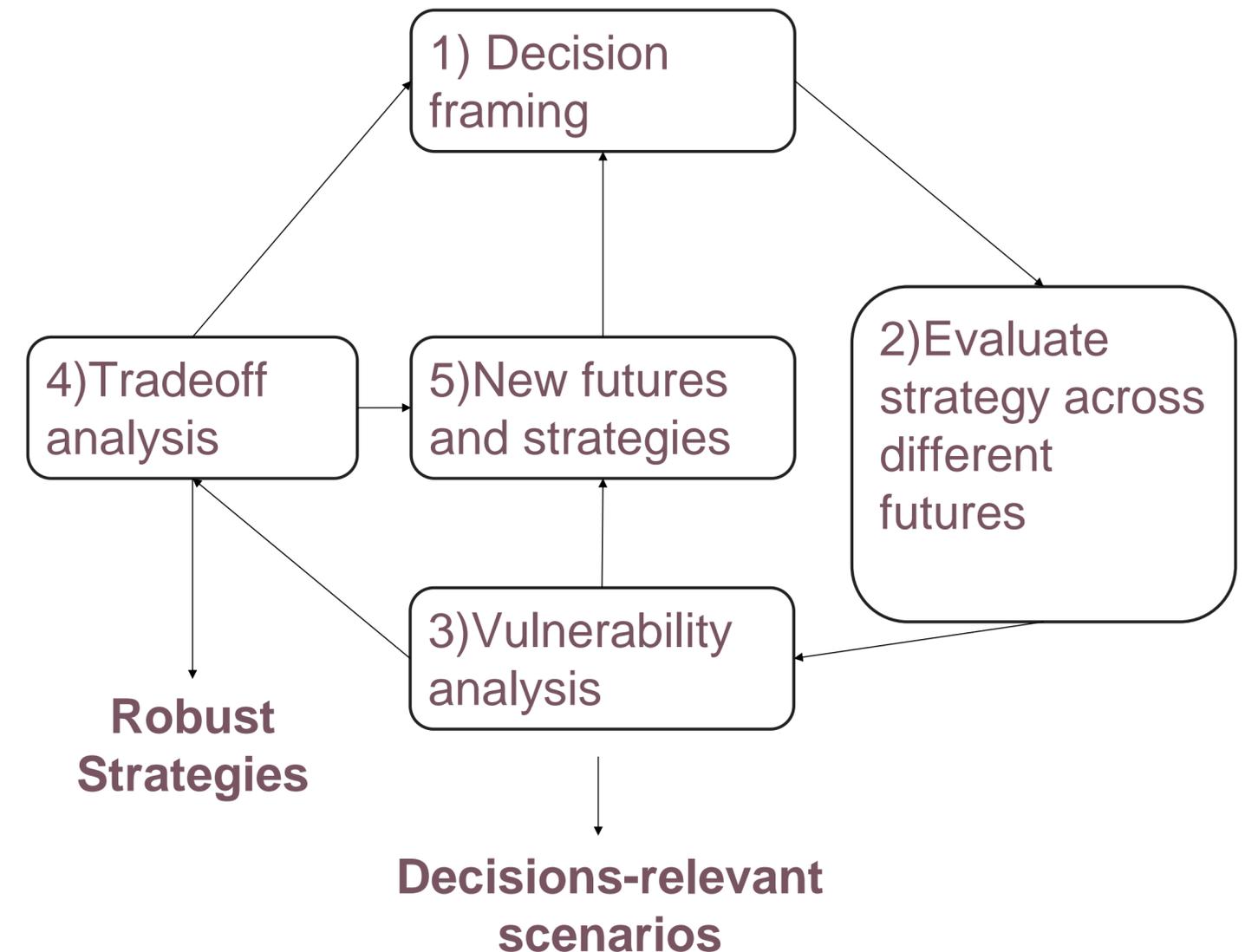
- **Public survey** - Singapore conducted a public survey to gather views and opinions from all parts of society on the issue of climate change and what actions are needed to combat it as well as individual actions that could be incentivized.
- **Citizens' Assemblies** - France and the UK held Citizens Assemblies on climate change to solicit diverse ideas and views (France: policies to deliver 2030 mitigation). Spain also created a “Citizen’s Assembly for Climate Change”, which includes youth climate activists and focuses on just transition.
- **Pamphlets** – to reach remote places and increase public engagement Bhutan is distributing 1-page flyers to the local governments.
- **Web-based interactive tools** - the UK Government developed an open-source energy model called the [2050 Calculator](#) to allow policy makers, stakeholders and the public to engage in the debate and explore the options available to reduce emissions. Other such tools are the country-wide [C-ROADS](#) and [EN-ROADS](#).

Participatory approach in LTS modelling

Robust Decision Making (ex. Peru, Costa Rica)

The objective of an RDM analysis is to:

- Engage stakeholders to reflect goals and ideas:
 - Different views on mitigation options?
 - Different views on costs, availability?
- Make use of existing data and models
- Simulate a variety of possible futures and policies to understand their implications
- Identify robust policy options



1/ Lempert R.J. (2019) Robust Decision Making (RDM). En: Marchau V., Walker W., Bloemen P., Popper S. (eds) Decision Making under Deep Uncertainty. Springer.

Summary: for an inclusive long-term strategy



- The transition to 'net-zero' emissions implies **major social, economic and technological transformations**
- The 'Long Term Strategy' should **start building consensus** towards this transformation – a quasi **new 'social contract'** between citizens, government (whole of government) and private sector actors, co-shaping the vision for the country
- Inclusiveness is critical to the elaboration of cross-cutting and robust policy decisions – climate policy **cannot be decided from an average citizen's point of view**
- There is a **wealth of experience** in the LTS space to organize effective consultations and inclusion of various stakeholders – the 2050 Pathways Platform provides a forum for this community of practice
- The LTS should be approached as a process, looking far **beyond the official document** for submission to the UNFCCC

Resources

- [OECD innovative citizen participation and new democratic institutions](#), OECD 2020
- [UNFCCC repository of long-term strategies](#)
- [Handbook](#), 2050 Pathways Platform
- [Quality Assurance Checklist: For long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies](#), WRI and UNDP 2021
- [Making Long-Term Low GHG Emissions Development Strategies a Reality](#), GIZ 2020
- [Designing and communication net-zero targets](#), WRI 2020
- [Good governance for long-term low-emissions development strategies](#), WRI 2019
- [Long-term low emissions development strategies, cross-country experience](#), OECD 2020

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*“Having a good plan is not a sufficient condition for success.
But not having one is always a recipe for failure”*

F. Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji – COP23