

Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement in India

An InfluenceMap Briefing

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Table of Contents

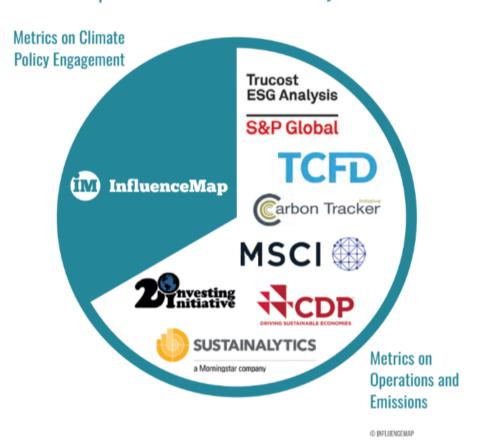
About	: InfluenceMap	2		
Execu	tive Summary	3		
Glossa	ary	4		
Introd	luction	6		
	The Role of Government Policy in Addressing Climate Change	6		
	InfluenceMap's Approach to Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement	6		
Adapt	Adapting LobbyMap's Methodology for India			
	Defining and Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement in India	9		
	Climate Policies Covered by InfluenceMap's Assessment	13		
	Benchmarks for Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement in India	18		



About InfluenceMap

InfluenceMap is a London-based think tank with offices in New York, Tokyo, Seoul, and Canberra. We provide data-driven analysis to investors, corporations, governments, global media, and civil society on issues related to energy and climate change. InfluenceMap's *LobbyMap* platform assesses corporate engagement with government climate policy and regulations. We are a key partner to the *Climate Action 100+* global investor stewardship process – the largest investor collaboration in history, with over 700 investors and \$68 Tn (USD) in assets – and inform the global investor community with our *LobbyMap* data. Shareholders use InfluenceMap metrics to assess both climate risk in individual companies and to drive good climate governance through the entire corporate sector. As a thought leader in the assessment of corporate performance on climate change, InfluenceMap has *testified on climate policy engagement issues* at the US Senate and worked with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on its 2021 advisory release to governments, *Lobbying in the 21st Century*. The role that LobbyMap data plays in investor assessment of companies compared with other well-known data sources is illustrated below.

Corporate Climate Metrics: What They Measure





Executive Summary

- This briefing provides an overview of InfluenceMap's method of assessing corporate climate policy engagement in India. It is intended for a limited distribution to key stakeholders for comment, following which it may be finalized into a release alongside sector-specific pilot briefings for key industries in India, including steel and automotives.
- This briefing finds that, similar to many other countries, the Indian corporate sector is actively engaged on climate policy, using all the channels noted in the UN 2013 Guide for Responsible Corporate Engagement in Climate Policy. These include frequent meetings with government representatives, funding and publicizing research on policy issues, submission of policy recommendations to government departments, and the use of news media as well as social media to promote its policy positions.
- InfluenceMap proposes to track and assess such corporate and industry climate policy engagement in India, covering all climate-motivated policy processes triggered by the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), from high-level statements of intent to detailed and prescriptive legislation. This briefing summarizes some key policy developments in India over the last few years that would be covered by this research, including the government targets to reduce GHG emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030, net zero emissions by 2070, and achieve 50% cumulative electricity installed capacity from non-fossil fuel energy sources by 2030. Specific policy measures covered include the proposed India Carbon Market, Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards and the FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India) scheme.
- To assess corporate and industry engagement with such policy streams, InfluenceMap deploys independent and authoritative benchmarks which reflect stated government ambition and Science-Based Policy (SBP) for delivering on the goals of the Paris Agreement. InfluenceMap recognizes the Paris Agreement's provisions for 'Common But Differentiated Responsibilities' and has adapted its benchmarks to fairly assess climate policy engagement in countries with different economic needs and requirements, referencing Chapter 5 of the 2018 Special Report, titled 'Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication and Reducing Inequalities'. For example, India is assessed using benchmarks that take into account the need for wealth and technology transfer from higher income countries, as well as the need to address systemic barriers to policy implementation as a precondition for introducing ambitious climate measures.



Glossary

Science-Based Policy (SBP) – The policies highlighted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to deliver the Paris Agreement's goals of limiting global temperature rises of well below 2°C and towards 1.5°C. This includes specific technology and policy-level insights that are used by InfluenceMap analysis as Science-Based Policy Benchmarks.

Climate Policy Engagement – In 2013, the UN issued a *Guide for Responsible Corporate Engagement in Climate Policy* which describes a range of corporate activities that can be defined as engagement, ranging from advertising and social media to public relations, sponsoring research, direct contact with elected officials, and participation in policy advisory committees.

Data Sources – InfluenceMap's *methodology* looks for evidence of engagement with climate policy from seven data sources: D1 – Organizational websites; D2 – Organizational media (e.g. social media); D3 – CDP disclosures; D4 – Legislative and regulatory consultations; D5 – Media; D6 – CEO messaging; and D7 – Financial disclosures.

Investor Expectations on Corporate Climate Policy Engagement – Various investor representatives (UN PRI, IIGCC) have set out expectations regarding how companies should manage their climate policy engagement processes, focused on broader governance and disclosure processes. *InfluenceMap* relies on the structure of these to assess corporate policy engagement processes and disclosures.

Influencer – Refers to entities funded and/or controlled by the corporate sector whose whole or partial function is to influence government policy and regulation. These consist of industry associations, business federations, Chambers of Commerce, corporate advocacy groups and think tanks.

Organization Score (0-100%) – Within InfluenceMap's *scoring system*, Organization Score measures an entity's engagement against Government and Science-Based Policy benchmarks. Scores above 75% indicate support for climate policy, while scores below 50% indicate increasing opposition and misalignment from the goals of the Paris Agreement. This applies to all organizations, both corporations and industry groups.

Relationship Score (0-100%) – The Relationship Score is an aggregate assessment of the climate policy engagement of a company's industry associations, and measures the extent to which this is in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Performance Band (A+ through F) – This is a combination of the corporate Organization Score and Relationship Score. The resulting 0 to 100% aggregate score is transposed into an A to F grade scale (A = support, F = opposition).



Engagement Intensity (EI) – This is a measure of the level of engagement activity demonstrated by the entity. Above 12% indicates active engagement, while above 25% indicates active or strategic engagement. Below 12% indicates relatively limited engagement. El indicates the level of advocacy activity irrespective of whether that activity is positive or negative.



Introduction

This briefing provides an overview of InfluenceMap's methodology for assessing corporate climate policy engagement and how it can be applied in India. It is intended for a limited distribution to key stakeholders for comment, following which it may be finalized into a release alongside sector-specific pilot briefings for key industries in India, including steel and automotives.

The Role of Government Policy in Addressing Climate Change

Successive reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have made clear that significantly accelerated and strong action from governments globally is urgently needed to address climate change. In October 2018, the IPCC released its landmark *Special Report* on Global Warming of 1.5°C. The report stated that to limit warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot, all industrial sectors will require rapid and steep reduction in GHG emissions by 2030. The IPCC further stated that such transformation will require robust, systematic policy interventions at all levels of government. The IPCC's March 2023 IPCC *Synthesis Report* highlights that policies implemented by the end of 2020 fall far short of what is needed, indicating an 'implementation gap'. Without a strengthening of policies globally, emissions are projected to rise, leading to a median global warming of 2.2°C–3.5°C by 2100.

InfluenceMap's Approach to Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement

InfluenceMap's assessment methodology was devised to achieve an objective score, comparable across entities, sectors, and geographies, based on numerous data points in order to show a pattern of behavior for each company and industry association covered. Key elements and outputs of InfluenceMap's methodology are overviewed below, with full details of the methodology provided on this *online page*. InfluenceMap's methodology continually evolves based on the movement of key global norms such as IPCC guidance to policymakers. The methodology evolution is guided by an independent group of key external stakeholders including representatives from the global investment community (see *LobbyMap Advisors*). Some key principles of the Global Methodology are noted below:

- InfluenceMap's system adheres to key features of sound corporate assessment metrics: objectivity, transparency, ease of comprehension and use, and allows for like-for-like comparisons across and within sectors.
- InfluenceMap's system does not judge climate policy itself, but instead measures corporate positions against Paris Agreement-aligned benchmarks based on governmental policy, and Science-Based Policy (SBP) benchmarks devised in alignment with IPCC guidance.
- InfluenceMap defines "policy engagement" based on the 2013 UN Guide for Responsible Corporate
 Engagement in Climate Policy which defines a range of corporate activities as engagement, including



advertising, social media, public relations, sponsoring research, direct contact with regulators, and political funding.

- InfluenceMap relies on a range of data sources which are publicly accessible and are reliable representations of corporate policy engagement. These include organizational websites, additional organizational communication channels, senior management statements, CDP disclosures, regulatory consultation comments, financial disclosures, and reliable media reporting.
- InfluenceMap's database is updated continuously as new information becomes available, which is then assessed and added to the InfluenceMap.org online database. These results are freely available and in the public domain, along with all the primary evidence used in the analysis.

InfluenceMap's analysis of corporate climate policy influence produces several core metrics, explained in Table 1 below.

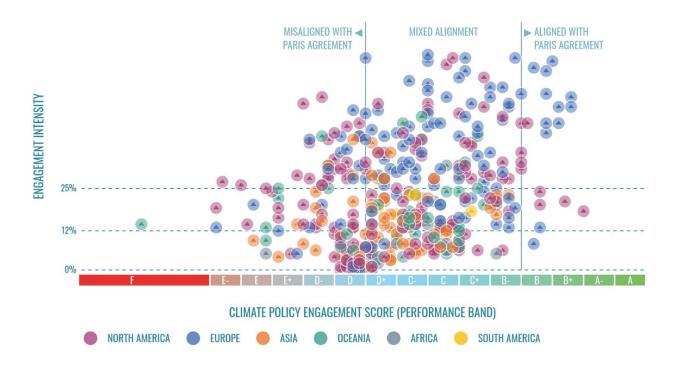
Table 1: LobbyMap Core Metrics

Metric	Explanation
Organization	Organization Score (expressed as a percentage from 0 to 100) is a measure of how
Score	supportive or obstructive the company's direct engagement is towards climate policy
	aligned with the Paris Agreement, with 0% being fully opposed and 100% being fully
	supportive.
Relationship	Relationship Score (expressed as a percentage score from 0 to 100) is a measure of
Score	how supportive or obstructive the company's industry associations are towards climate
	policy aligned with the Paris Agreement, with 0% being fully opposed and 100% being
	fully supportive.
Performance	Performance Band (A+ to F) is a full measure of a company's climate policy
Band	engagement, accounting for both its own engagement and that of its industry
	associations. For companies, the 'Organization Score' and 'Relationship Score' are
	combined to result in a total score that places the company in a Performance Band.
	Industry associations do not have a 'Relationship Score', so the Performance Band for
	industry associations is made up of only the 'Organization Score'.
Engagement	Engagement Intensity (expressed as a percentage score from 0% to 100%) is a
Intensity	measure of the level of policy engagement by the company, whether positive or
	negative. Scores above 12% indicate active engagement with climate policy, and scores
	above 25% indicate highly active or strategic engagement with climate policy. Scores
	below 5% indicate low-level engagement with climate policy. Entities with scores below
	5% are not attributed an Organization Score.



The metrics produced by InfluenceMap can be plotted on a quadrant chart to compare different companies' influence over climate policy. Figure 1 below shows a range of the world's largest corporations, coded by region, and their climate policy engagement. The data behind this chart is based on corporate climate policy engagement in major global economies including the US, Canada, Europe, Japan, Australia, and South Korea.

Figure 1: Climate Policy Engagement by Region





Adapting LobbyMap's Methodology for India

India hosts a significant number of global companies in sectors which are being transitioned by climate change risks and opportunities. The way these companies manage these risks and opportunities is of interest to domestic and global investors who hold a stake in Indian companies. Corporate climate action will also play a key role in the Government of India's ability to implement ambitious climate policy. Thus, the LobbyMap assessment of the Indian corporate sector and its climate policy engagement activities is of vital importance to the global investor agenda on climate change.

Defining and Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement in India

In India, as in other regions globally, InfluenceMap's research shows that large corporations and industry associations exhibit various forms of policy engagement. InfluenceMap uses the 2013 UN Guide for Responsible Corporate Engagement in Climate Policy to define the scope for tracking corporate policy engagement.

Meaningful and useful assessment of corporate climate policy engagement in India (as in all other regions globally) requires a thorough understanding of and sensitivities for local practices, data sources and societal norms. The nature and tactics of corporate policy engagement differ by region, with several implications in terms of adapting the global methodology that the LobbyMap system deploys. For example, in Japan and South Korea, the focus of activity tends to be collective engagement through industry associations, while in the US and Europe, individual companies may also exhibit significant engagement activity.

InfluenceMap has successfully adapted and implemented its methodology for Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Japan and South Korea. Its climate policy engagement platforms representing these and other regions can be accessed through this landing *page*. While LobbyMap's core assessment process and benchmarks remain consistent, aspects of the LobbyMap methodology are adapted to best suit each region in terms of corporate practices and data sources available for assessment.

InfluenceMap has undertaken a similar process to adapt the LobbyMap methodology for India. Table 2 below outlines the types of corporate policy engagement activity covered in the 2013 UN Guide for Responsible Corporate Engagement in Climate and – using examples provided by InfluenceMap's analysis to date – indicates which ones are practiced in India.



Table 2: Corporate Climate Policy Engagement Activities Practiced in India

UN Guide for Responsible Corporate Engagement on Climate Policy	Apply to India?	Policy engagement tactics disclosed by Indian companies and IAs	Examples identified by InfluenceMap
Examples of DIRECT Engagement Activities	es		
Lobbying of government officials	Yes	Policy proposals and advocacy documents to federal and state governments	Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) released a <i>policy advocacy paper</i> on green hydrogen in August 2023, while the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) submitted a <i>policy proposal</i> on FAME III (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India) in December 2023.
		Provide policy information in written form	ReNew responded in March 2023 to a <i>consultation</i> on Renewable Energy Certificates.
		Direct contact with policymakers	President of FICCI <i>met</i> with the government's Ministry of Mines in April 2023.
		Host policy-related meetings, including seminars and conferences	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) hosted the 2nd edition of its <i>India Energy Transition Summit</i> in September 2023.
		Provide studies on policies to governments	Both <i>CII</i> and <i>FICCI</i> have web pages on policy and thematic studies, including climate change and energy policy, which are used for its engagement with the government.
Contributing to electoral campaigns	Yes	Corporations can fund electoral campaigns	<i>Previously</i> , corporations could anonymously fund election campaigns. However, in <i>February 2024</i> , the Supreme Court of India struck down anonymous electoral bonds as unconstitutional, stating they violated voters' freedom of information.



Providing testimony, endorsements or participating in government agency working groups	Yes	Companies and industry associations with membership to government agency working groups	CII states it is a member of the government's Committee on Standard Bidding Guidelines for procuring green hydrogen, in its 2022-23 <i>Annual Report</i> p.91, published May 2023.
Participating in public-private partnerships	Yes	No corporate disclosures, but companies participate in the Public Private Partnership <i>program</i> under the Department of Economic Affairs	Tata Power disclosed its Public Private Partnership with the Government of Delhi for power distribution in a February 2022 <i>press release</i> .
Participating in national or international forums on trade, technologies	Yes	Campaign through industry conferences and forums	CII disclosed which council, committees, forums and taskforces that it sits on as chair in its 2022-23 <i>Annual Report</i> p.203, published in May 2023.
Examples of INDIRECT Engagement Activities			
Information and public relations campaigns targeting customers, suppliers, general public	Yes	Hold press conferences that touch on policy issues	CII hosted the 3rd edition of its <i>International Conference & Exhibition on 'Pathways for Global Partnership in Green Energy'</i> in October 2023.
		Submit articles to the media	ReNew CEO wrote an article in <i>Forbes</i> highlighting the role of electrification in November 2024.
		Run training sessions on policy issues	FICCI, through its <i>Centre for Sustainability Leadership</i> , offers training programs on capacity building for climate action.
		Hold banquet and invite government officials	CII hosted an <i>Investors Roundtable & Leadership Dinner</i> attended by India's Minister for Finance in April 2023.
Contributions to external, non- governmental organizations	Yes	Engage in philanthropy	Reliance Industries Limited has a philanthropic non-for- profit organization called the <i>Reliance Foundation</i> .
		Support scholarly research on policy-related matters	ReNew, in partnership with IIT Delhi, set up the <i>ReNew IIT Delhi Centre of Excellence</i> in 2017, a research and development facility for renewable energy solutions.



Membership in trade groups and business associations	Yes	Membership in industry associations and chamber of commerce	InfluenceMap analysis shows several Indian companies are members of the Indian Chambers of Commerce such as <i>CII</i> and <i>FICCI</i> alongside other global industry associations.
Former employee taking jobs as government officials (current or former employees) or corporate hiring of former government officials	Yes	Employ former government officials	Reliance Industries independent directors include former Finance Secretary of Govt of India according to its 2022-23 <i>Annual Report</i> p.25, published August 2023.
Engagement in international or national business alliances or initiatives	Yes	Executives in board positions on international business initiatives	ReNew CEO, Sumant Sinha, is part of <i>Energy Transition</i> Commission and co-chair of <i>Electricity Governor's group and</i> Member of Stewardship Board at the World Economic Forum.
Call to action, convening, and example setting with customers, suppliers, competitors, public	Yes	Industry climate coalitions and joint statements	The Climate Group led an August 2023 <i>joint corporate letter</i> to G20 leaders calling for 1.5C aligned transition policies with signatories including JSW Steel, ReNew and UltraTech Cement.
Participation in scientific or economic committees	Yes	Advise policymakers as a committee member of governments at different levels	Reliance Industries Limited CEO, Mukesh Ambani, is on the <i>COP28 advisory committee</i> .



Climate Policies Covered by InfluenceMap's Assessment

Background

InfluenceMap's classification of climate-related policy includes all climate-motivated policy and regulatory processes triggered from government regulators as a result of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It considers existing, evolving and likely future policy measures issued by mandated bodies, such as various levels of government or government-authorized bodies that are currently tasked with nationally determined contributions (NDCs) implementation in their regions.

The climate policy measures covered in the assessment encompass a spectrum of actions, ranging from high-level statements of intent to detailed and prescriptive legislation. They include the establishment of targets, implementation standards, fiscal interventions, and other binding regulatory requirements. Climate considerations are also increasingly influencing policy areas that are not traditionally associated with climate, such as building codes, land use policy, trade policy, and fiscal regulations. The climate-related components within these policies fall under InfluenceMap's definition of "Climate Policy."

InfluenceMap breaks down the climate policy engagement agenda into a series of subcategories. The evidence we gather of corporate engagement with these climate policy subcategories builds a full picture of corporate interaction across the climate policy agenda. The "high-level" categories capture engagement with broad issues that inform the wider context and narratives surrounding climate policy action. The "policy-level" categories capture engagement on specific legislative and regulatory strands that may be present at a regional or national level.

Table 3: Climate Policy Categories

Туре	Policy Category	Description
High-level	Climate Science	Transparency around climate change science
High-level	Alignment with IPCC on Climate Action	Position on the needed response to climate change science
High-level	Need for Climate Regulation	Support for regulations to tackle climate change in general
High-level	The UN Climate Process	Support for the UN FCCC process on climate change
Policy-level	Carbon Tax	Support for policies/regulation on this topic
Policy-level	Emissions Trading	Support for policies/regulation on this topic
Policy-level	Energy & Resource Efficiency	Support for policies/regulation on this topic
Policy-level	Renewable Energy	Support for policies/regulation on this topic
Policy-level	Energy Transition & Zero Carbon Technologies	Support for policies/regulation on this topic



Policy-level	GHG Emission Regulation	Support for policies/regulation on this topic
Policy-level	Carbon Sinks	Support for policies/regulation on this topic

Recent Climate Policies in India Included in InfluenceMap's Assessment

On 22nd April 2016, India became one of the 196 parties to adopt the Paris Agreement, an international treaty on climate change, at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP12) in Paris, France. The Paris Agreement (Article 4, Paragraph 2) requires each country to outline and communicate their post-2020 climate actions, known as their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). Together, these climate actions determine whether the world achieves the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise this century to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit temperature increase even further to 1.5°C.

India passed its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for consideration by the UNFCCC under the Paris Agreement on 3rd August 2022, to reach India's goal of net zero emissions by 2070. This was a translation of the Panchamrit (five nectar elements) – India's action plan against climate change which was announced at COP26 in Glasgow, United Kingdom.

There are three quantifiable goals under India's NDC submission:

- Reduce GHG emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030, from 2005 levels
- Achieve 50% cumulative electricity installed capacity from non-fossil fuel energy sources by 2030, with help of technology transfer and climate finance - including Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Create an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3bn tons of CO2 equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

Broad corporate and industry communications concerning the science and need to act on climate change, the UNFCCC process, or the resulting need for government intervention and regulation are all captured in InfluenceMap's 'high-level' policy categories (as per Table 3 above). All other corporate climate policy engagement in India is captured under various "policy-level" categories. A brief overview of recent climate policy in India is presented in Table 4 alongside the relevant "policy-level" category to provide a picture of climate policies assessed by InfluenceMap.



Table 4: Recent Climate Policies in India

Climate Policy Areas	InfluenceMap Climate Policy Category	Recent Climate Policies in India
Carbon Pricing	Q7. Emissions Trading	India's Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act, <i>passed</i> in December 2022, looks to develop the Indian Carbon Market (ICM). The government of India's (GOI) Bureau of Energy Efficiency released a draft plan for a Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, which targeted high-emitting sectors including energy, steel and cement. The planned scheme <i>appears</i> to enable trading of certificates and voluntary credits, to raise investment into low-carbon solutions. In July 2024, the government released <i>detailed regulations</i> for the planned compliance carbon market under the CCTS.
Energy Efficiency	Q8. Energy and Resource Efficiency	India's Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act (2022) <i>includes</i> energy efficiency measures for commercial and residential buildings under the Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC), and energy consumption standards for ships and vehicles. India has four initiatives, under its National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE), including its Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme in place since 2012. The scheme <i>aims</i> to reduce specific energy consumption in energy intensive industries, covering roughly 25% of energy use. The PAT scheme has a market-based mechanism to trade energy saving certificates to achieve intensity-based targets.
Primary Energy Mix	Q9. Renewable Energy	The May 2023 National Electricity Policy (NEP), which is <i>updated</i> every five years to guide priorities for the power sector, plans to add considerable renewable energy capacity to help achieve India's 50% target for cumulative electricity installed capacity from non-fossil fuel energy sources by 2030, as part of its NDC. There are also a range of policies to help renewable energy development, including renewable energy purchase obligations (RPOs) and a production linked incentive (PLI) <i>scheme</i> for solar modules.



		The GOI has also demonstrated its intention for green hydrogen development through its National Green Hydrogen Mission <i>announced</i> in January 2023. This also includes a target to produce 5 million tons per year of green hydrogen by 2030.
	Q10. Energy Transition & Zero Carbon Technologies	Coal <i>accounted</i> for 55% of India's total primary energy consumption in 2022. India also announced plans to halt new coal-fired power plants construction for the next five years apart from those already planned in the NEP (2023). The announcement was part of efforts to put greater focus on renewable energy development. However, in November 2023 the Ministry of Coal <i>expressed</i> India's intention to increase coal mining in a bid to reduce coal imports. The GOI <i>established</i> its aims to create a "gas-based economy", setting a target to increase the share of fossil gas in the energy mix from 6% in 2021 to 15% by 2030. The government has taken <i>initiatives</i> to support the expected import growth through the expansion of LNG terminals and re-gasification capacity, and infrastructure development to facilitate LNG transportation.
GHG Emissions Reductions Policy	Q11. GHG Emissions Regulation	India's updated NDC specified a target to reduce GHG emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030, from 2005 levels.
Sector-Based Plans for Industrial Emissions	Q10. Energy Transition & Zero Carbon Technologies	India's Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act, <i>passed</i> in December 2022, mandates the use of non-fossil fuel sources including green hydrogen, green ammonia, biomass and ethanol for energy and feedstock in industries. Policies for the steel sector include the Steel Scrap Recycling Policy, National Steel Policy and the Performance Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, which exists for a range of sectors including Steel and Solar PV modules to boost domestic manufacturing by providing subsidies.



Road Transport	Q10. Energy Transition & Zero Carbon Technologies	India joined the Accelerating to Zero coalition (A2Z) <i>launched</i> at COP27 agreeing that 100% of new car and van sales in 2040 should be electric vehicles, or 2035 for leading markets. As part of this, the government of India (GOI) <i>announced</i> several EV targets, including a 30% EV share target in new light-duty vehicle sales by 2030, 70% for commercial vehicles, and an 80% share of electric two-wheelers or three-wheelers by 2030. To achieve these targets, the GOI <i>launched</i> the continuation of its FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India) scheme. This includes both supply and demand side measures to increase the uptake of EVs, such as manufacturing incentives for batteries and a Goods and Services Tax (GST) reduction on the consumption of EVs. This scheme was <i>replaced</i> the by PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) in September 2024. Some of the salient features of this scheme include focus on e-buses adoption and increased outlay for public charging infrastructure, among many others.
	Q8. Energy and Resource & Q11. GHG emissions Regulation	Also in the road transport sector, the GOI <i>introduced</i> Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards to increase fuel efficiency to lower carbon emissions and Bharat Stage (BS) VI standards to regulate the tailpipe emissions of air pollutants.



Benchmarks for Assessing Corporate Climate Policy Engagement in India

InfluenceMap does not judge climate policy itself, but instead measures corporate positions against government policy benchmarks based on stated government ambition, and Science-Based Policy (SBP) benchmarks based on analysis of IPCC statements.

According to the scope of the methodology set out in the previous two sections, InfluenceMap seeks to collect as many data points as feasible on a company or industry association's positioning towards, and efforts to influence, climate change policy. This process can render several hundred items of evidence over the course of a few years.

InfluenceMap assesses each evidence item individually. To remove subjectivity and value judgements from the scoring process, these evaluations are done according to strict processes that compare the subject matter to external and authoritative standards. InfluenceMap refers to this process as "benchmarking". The aggregation of this scored evidence produces the metrics overviewed in the introduction of this briefing.

The designation of benchmarks under InfluenceMap's methodology is designed to reflect two processes fundamental to The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s efforts to deliver the goals of the Paris Agreement, to "avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C":

- The development of consensus-based scientific analysis on the best ways to deliver the Paris Agreement's goals by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the UN's scientific body for advancing climate science.
- Efforts by nation states that have signed the Paris Agreement to devise and implement commitments set out in their National Determined Contributions. This includes by proposing and developing climate policy and regulations that consider a range of political, geographical, and economic conditions specific to their country.

These two processes directly correspond to the two sets of benchmarks used in InfluenceMap's analysis, set out in the table below.

Table 5: InfluenceMap's Benchmarks

Benchmark	Source	Description
Science-Based Policy Benchmarks	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	Summaries of the IPCC on technology and policy pathways to decarbonize different aspects of the global economy.
Government Policy Benchmarks	Government Websites and Announcements	Policy and regulatory proposals from government bodies mandated to deliver GHG emission reductions in line with a country's Nationally Determined Contribution.



Using two sets of authoritative and external benchmarks has several important benefits:

- It allows InfluenceMap to stay "policy neutral." InfluenceMap does not advocate or take positions on the best policy pathways. Instead, our assessments enable a comparison between what companies are advocating and what scientists and governments say is needed.
- It ensures that our analysis has a solid foundation based on the latest scientific consensus on how to address climate change, while at the same time accounting for regional nuances and context on countries' preferred route to net zero.
- It enables a detailed and nuanced analysis of whether an entity is supporting efforts to deliver the Paris Agreement's goals, based on hundreds of data points. This provides a far stronger measure of corporate support for climate action than one-off, high-level statements or commitments.

Different levels of capability for responding to climate change is a core principle of international climate action in the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement makes provisions for 'Common But Differentiated Responsibilities', in recognition of the variation in countries' historical emissions and therefore in different levels of contribution to climate change, as well as of their current capability to implement an urgent climate response.

To create adapted benchmarks for fairly assessing climate policy engagement in countries with different economic needs and requirements, InfluenceMap referred to Chapter 5 of the IPCC's 2018 Special Report, titled 'Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication and Reducing Inequalities'. The IPCC acknowledges that many countries have a comparative lack of resources and higher systemic barriers for rapidly implementing climate policy.

The IPCC's 2018 *Special Report* concludes that ambitious climate policy and rapid transition to renewable energy in all countries have synergies with sustainable development goals, while mitigating the worst effects of global warming. The adapted benchmarks include recognition of such positions and concerns, taking into account the following:

- Support for wealth and technology transfer from wealthier countries to support a climate policy or target;
- Support for addressing systemic barriers to policy implementation as a precondition for introducing ambitious climate measures.

InfluenceMap applies these adapted benchmarks for assessing engagement in countries that are not in the Top 100 GDP per capita, including India, using the World Bank database as shown in Table 6. While this is an incomplete measure of a country's responsibility and capability when it comes to climate change, this



metric was chosen based on the understanding that capability to implement climate policy would be significantly dependent on economic wealth per capita.

Table 6: India's GDP per Capita Ranking

	GDP per Capita ranking - World Bank 2023	Application of Sustainable Development Benchmarks
India	138th	Yes