The 5th Call closed on 15 March 2018. 76 outlines were submitted (one more than in the 4th Call), demonstrating a continued high interest in Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions and in the offer of the NAMA Facility. 23 Outlines were submitted by applicants from 15 least developed countries (LDCs); Outlines came from nine Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The total requested funding was close to EUR 1.1b. After the in-depth assessment of 12 preselected Outlines, 7 Outlines were selected for support of their detailed preparation phase (DPP). DPP contracts are scheduled to begin in Q1/2019.

Following the success of the 5th Call, Donors decided to launch a 6th Call at the COP24 in December 2018, earmarking up to EUR 80 million. Procedures were slightly amended to include lessons learned from previous Calls (for example, shortening the DPP to 15 months at maximum).

The portfolio further evolved in 2018:

- Two NSPs (South Africa Public Buildings and Infrastructure, Thailand Rice) were approved for implementation.
- Six NSPs (Guatemala Cookstoves, Mexico SME Energy Efficiency, Mexico Sugar Mills, Philippines Distributed Solar, Tunisia Clean Energy in Buildings, Brazil Beef) concluded their Appraisal Phase/DPP and handed in full NSP Proposals.
- One NSP (Uganda Cookstoves) was discontinued due to concerns about feasibility.
- One NSP from the 4th Call (The Gambia Grid-Connected Solar) began its DPP.

At the end of 2018, the NAMA Facility portfolio consisted of eleven NSPs in implementation, one concluded NSP component (Mexico Housing TC, concluded in 2017) and 15 NSPs in preparation (Appraisal/DPP).

The NAMA Facility developed an amendment policy in 2018. Using this policy, five NSPs/NSP components were extended in 2018: Mexico Housing, Costa Rica Coffee, Colombia Transit-Oriented Development, Chile Renewable Energy. (All of these are 1st Call NSPs.)

First results from NSPs in implementation indicate that transformation is most likely in clearly delineated and compact sub-sectors like the coffee sector or the cooling sector. Political will, is an important element for change and is reflected in NSP Proposals via their close link to the partner countries’ NDC which are considered by the countries as the building block for NDC implementation. It was also found that significant direct GHG reductions attributable to the NSPs are likely to be achieved towards the end of an NSP’s implementation period once the supported investments start operating, thus current GHG reductions reported by NSPs are still comparatively low.

Achievement in all mandatory core indicators increased. The target for 2019 has been reached for indicator M4 (Volume of public finance mobilised) and is on track for indicator M3 (transformational change). However, a significant increase over next 12 months is necessary to meet 2019 milestones for indicators M1 (GHG emission reduction), M2 (number of beneficiaries) and M5 (Volume of private finance mobilised). This is mainly due to delays between approval of implementation by the NAMA Facility Board and the actual start of implementation, caused, among others, by delays in concluding intergovernmental project agreements, implementation agreements and other contractual arrangements. Some NSPs from the 1st and 2nd Call also have been overconfident in formulating their
targets. 2018 is the first year in which an NSP asked for a downward adjustment of its indicators (Costa Rica Coffee; the adjustment was not approved by Donors). It should be noted that a planned update of the log frame milestones is expected to take place in 2019. The update will align methodologies across the entire NAMA Facility portfolio.

In 2018, the NAMA Facility continued to enhance its knowledge creation approach. The draft knowledge creation strategy was refined and its main objectives were approved by the Donors. Once Donors approve the corresponding 3-year work plan, the knowledge creation strategy will support the NAMA Facility’s role as a knowledge and learning hub.

At the COP24, the NAMA Facility launched its comprehensive six-year report entitled “Inspiring Climate Action – The NAMA Facility: A Snapshot”. Further communication activities included side events at the Bonn Climate Conference and the COP24.

Reliable M&E is a cornerstone of implementation. In order to strengthen NSP’s monitoring, the NAMA Facility’s M&E framework was updated in 2018. The changes will be implemented as of 2019.

In 2018, the NAMA Facility also continued to exchange with climate finance stakeholders (World Resource Institute, Climate Investment Funds) on transformational change and provided input to the review of UK’s international climate finance conducted by the UK Independent Commission for Aid Impact.