

From Commitment to Action: The Global Environment Facility role in the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency

As part of the Paris Agreement, Parties decided to establish a **Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)**, requesting the **Global Environment Facility (GEF)** to make arrangements to support its establishment and operation.

The CBIT aims to:

- Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities;
- Provide relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement;
- Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

Following Paris, the GEF established the CBIT with high levels of donor support and engagement of stakeholders and countries:

- **December 2015:** The Paris Agreement requests the GEF to support the establishment of the CBIT through voluntary contributions during GEF-6 and future replenishment cycles
- **June 2016:** The GEF Council approves the establishment of a new CBIT Trust Fund and the Programming Directions for CBIT
- **August 2016:** The CBIT Trust Fund is formally established and open to receive contributions
- **September 2016:** Project documents begin to arrive at the GEF
- **October 2016:** First donor Contribution Agreement is signed

Canada, New Zealand, Scotland, and the United Kingdom have pledged to make voluntary contributions to the CBIT, with others expressing their intention to pledge in the near future.

Next Steps and Announcements

- Working closely with GEF Partner Agencies and recipient countries, the GEF has already received multiple project concepts.
- During 2017 and 2018, the GEF expects to support additional national projects and global/regional coordination under the CBIT.
- CBIT activities will be an integral part of GEF-7 (2018 - 2022).

Eligible Countries and Activities under CBIT

- All developing country Parties have access to the CBIT upon request.
- Eligible activities are delineated in the approved CBIT programming directions document.
- Developing countries can request resources to implement priority needs to build capacity to meet enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.
- The GEF also supports a cross-cutting global coordination platform to support CBIT management, enable coordination, maximize learning opportunities, and enable knowledge sharing to facilitate transparency enhancements. The platform engages countries, GEF Partner Agencies, the GEF Secretariat, and other relevant entities and institutions to enhance partnership of national, multilateral, and bilaterally-supported capacity-building initiatives.

Transparency within the Paris Agreement

As part of the Paris Agreement, all countries agreed to an enhanced transparency framework for action and buildups upon collective experience. The purpose of the framework for transparency of actions is to provide a clear understanding of climate change action in light of the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2, including clarity and tracking of progress towards achieving Parties' individual nationally determined contributions, and Parties' adaptation actions, including good practices, priorities, needs and gaps, to inform the global stocktake under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement.

Specifically, all countries committed to provide the following information:

- A national inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases, prepared using good practice methodologies accepted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;
- Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its nationally determined contribution under Article 4.

The Paris Agreement also states that countries should provide information on climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Agreement. The purpose of the framework for transparency of support is to provide clarity on support provided and received by relevant individual Parties, and, to the extent possible, to provide a full overview of aggregate financial support provided to inform the global stocktake.

Find out more at: thegef.org/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit
November 2016