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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVE FOR TRANSPARENCY

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INTRODUCTION

1. The aim of this report is to provide an overview of the progress by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to support the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) establishment and operations. This report covers activities that have taken place between April 16, 2021, and September 30, 2021 since the last Progress Report was presented for the 60th GEF Council Meeting in December June 2021.¹

2. The total CBIT project portfolio as of September 30, 2021 provides support to a total of 81 projects—79 countries, through 75 individual country projects and one regional project that covers four countries; and five global projects. The total CBIT support amount to \$130.9 million, including GEF Project Financing, Agency Fees, and Project Preparation Grants (PPGs). Of the 81 projects approved to date, 44 are supported with CBIT Trust Fund (CBIT TF) resources and 37 are supported with GEF Trust Fund (GEF TF) set-aside resources.

CBIT TRUST FUND

3. The support for CBIT started with the establishment of the CBIT Trust Fund (TF), which was finalized in September 2016, following the Paris Agreement decision on the CBIT. At the twenty-second Conference of the Parties (COP 22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), twelve donors issued a joint statement expressing their intention to support the CBIT TF with over \$50 million. The CBIT TF received the first donor contributions prior to COP 22 and the GEF Secretariat approved the first set of projects under the CBIT. Background information on CBIT can be found in Annex I.

4. Originally, the CBIT TF was set to accept contributions until June 30, 2018, at the end of the GEF-6 period. The Council, at its 54th meeting in June 2018, decided to extend the CBIT TF contribution date and project approval date to October 31, 2018, to accommodate additional voluntary financial contributions.²

5. As of June 30, 2020, the Trustee had received a total amount of \$61.6 million from fourteen donors: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. This amount represents the full pledged amount by all participating donors per their respective contribution agreements to the CBIT TF.

6. From late 2016 to October 2018, the GEF approved 44 CBIT projects using resources from the CBIT TF. Within two years of its establishment, the CBIT TF successfully programmed all available resources—amounting to \$58.3 million, or 94.6 percent of the total contributions. The amount includes GEF Project Financing, Project Preparation Grants (PPGs), PPG fees and Agency Fees.

¹ GEF, 2021, [Progress Report on Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.60/Inf.05.

² GEF, 2018, [Joint Summary of the Chairs](#), 54th GEF Council.

7. Resources amounting to \$3.2 million has been set aside to cover CBIT TF administrative costs until the date of the trust fund's termination on April 30, 2025, eighteen months after the final Trustee commitment and cash transfer date of October 31, 2023.

CBIT SUPPORT UNDER GEF-7

8. The GEF-7 period extends from July 2018 to June 2022 and coincides with a key phase in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The GEF-7 framework is structured to address the seminal COP decisions for the Paris Agreement, and to further support climate action in developing countries in line with the GEF's role as an operating entity of the financial mechanism for the UNFCCC. The adopted GEF-7 Programming Directions include specific provisions for CBIT support through the climate change mitigation focal area.³ This CBIT support is in line with the "Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency"⁴ document, which states that the CBIT efforts will be an integral part of the GEF's climate change support for GEF-7, financed by the GEF TF under regular replenishment. According to the agreed GEF-7 Resource Allocation Framework, \$55 million have been notionally allocated to the CBIT.

9. As of September 30, 2021, \$71.0 million has been programmed to support 40 CBIT projects. The GEF has reallocated available set-aside resources from the related enabling activities support to continue to support CBIT project proposals in alignment with its programming directions, while ensuring continued support to reporting obligations under the UNFCCC, including the new Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) under the Paris Agreement.

10. Country allocations are available to deliver on other enabling activities. In general, all climate change projects are required to demonstrate alignment to national priorities included in national climate strategies and plans, such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPAs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Communications (NCs), Biennial Update Reports (BURs), and Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs).

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

11. Since the last Progress Report, seven additional projects have been approved. These comprise Burundi, Ecuador, Lesotho, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Uzbekistan and Vanuatu. Additional details can be found in Annex II.

12. The CBIT Programming Directions stipulated that "proposals [would] be prioritized for those countries that are in most need of capacity-building assistance for transparency-related activities, in particular [least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States

³ GEF, 2018, [Summary of the Negotiations of the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund](#), Council Document GEF/C.54/19/Rev.02.

⁴ GEF, 2016, [Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.50/05.

(SIDS)].”⁵ Through these projects, 28 LDCs and fifteen SIDS are being supported in their efforts to enhance transparency. Of the seven projects approved since the last progress report, five projects that have been approved is either an LDC or a SIDS. CBIT continues to prioritize capacity-building support for transparency-related activities to countries that most need it.

13. During the reporting period, sixteen projects have received CEO approval after the submission and review of their project proposals. Of these sixteen projects, fourteen are national projects, in Bahamas, Colombia, Fiji, the Gambia, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritius, Montenegro, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe. One regional project “Regional capacity building of COMESA member states in Eastern and Southern Africa for enhanced transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification as defined in the Paris Agreement” in Comoros, Eritrea, Seychelles and Zambia; and one global project “Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement” were also CEO approved in this reporting period. A full listing of CBIT approved projects is available in Annex III.

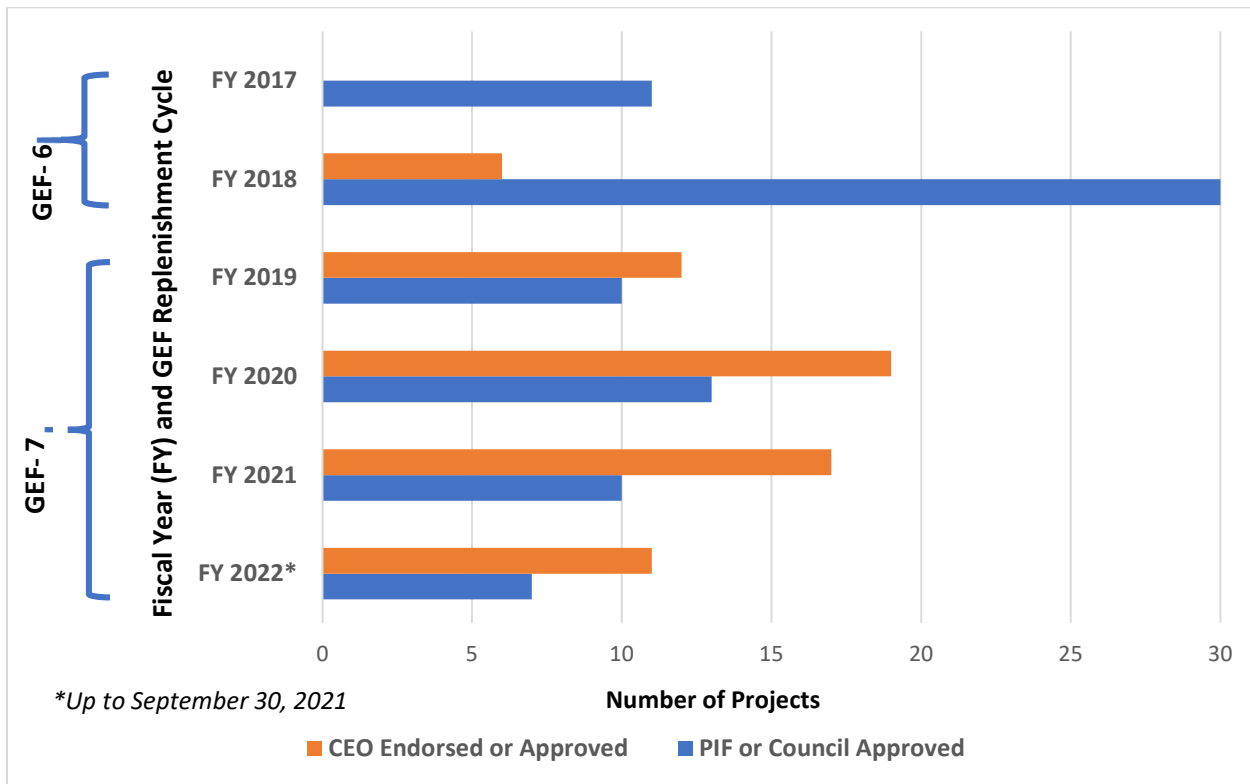
14. The number of projects approved per fiscal year (FY) has varied since the CBIT TF was established. Eleven projects were concept approved by Council as FSPs or approved by the CEO as Medium-Sized Projects (MSPs), in FY 2017, and 30 projects in FY 2018.⁶ In sum, 41 CBIT projects were approved in GEF-6, which concluded at the end of FY 2018. In FY 2019, the first year of GEF-7, ten CBIT projects were approved, thirteen projects were approved in FY 2020, and ten projects were approved in FY 2021. In FY 2022, as of September 30, 2021, seven projects have been concept approved. Since the launch of GEF-7, a total of 40 projects have been concept approved.

15. Of the 81 projects in the portfolio, 65 have been CEO approved or endorsed and have begun implementation. Of these, 59 projects were approved or endorsed in GEF-7 while six projects were approved or endorsed in GEF-6. This indicates that the CBIT portfolio is maturing as most projects have completed the design and approval stages and have transitioned to the implementation phase (Figure 1).

⁵ GEF, 2016, [Programming Directions for the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.50/06.

⁶ For the purposes of the GEF, fiscal year refers to the 12-month period ending on June 30 of the year referenced.

Figure 1: Project Status of CBIT Portfolio by Fiscal Year (FY 2017 to September 30, 2021)



16. As of September 30, 2021, 29 CBIT projects had submitted Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) and two have completed implementation and submitted their Terminal Evaluations (TEs). Six of these projects were CEO endorsed or approved in FY 2018, and twelve in FY 2019, and thirteen in FY 2020. Of the two that have submitted TEs, the overall project ranking for both was in the satisfactory range.⁷ Of the 29 projects that submitted PIRs, 96.6 percent of projects had a Development Objective rating in the satisfactory range, with 20.7 percent of projects rated as “highly satisfactory”. The Implementation Progress rating for the satisfactory range is 93.1 percent and 10.3 percent of projects rated as “highly satisfactory”.

17. In total, these projects have made cumulative disbursements amounting to \$16.0 million out of a total of \$36.2 million of GEF Project Financing, or 44 percent.

18. One way to assess the efficiency of operations is the speed at which projects disburse GEF resources. For the CBIT portfolio, the average time from CEO approval or endorsement to first disbursement was five and a half months for FY 2021.

19. While these metrics provide an indication of the implementation progress of the CBIT portfolio, they must be considered within the nature of the CBIT portfolio, including its

⁷ This range indicates projects that are rated moderately satisfactory or higher.

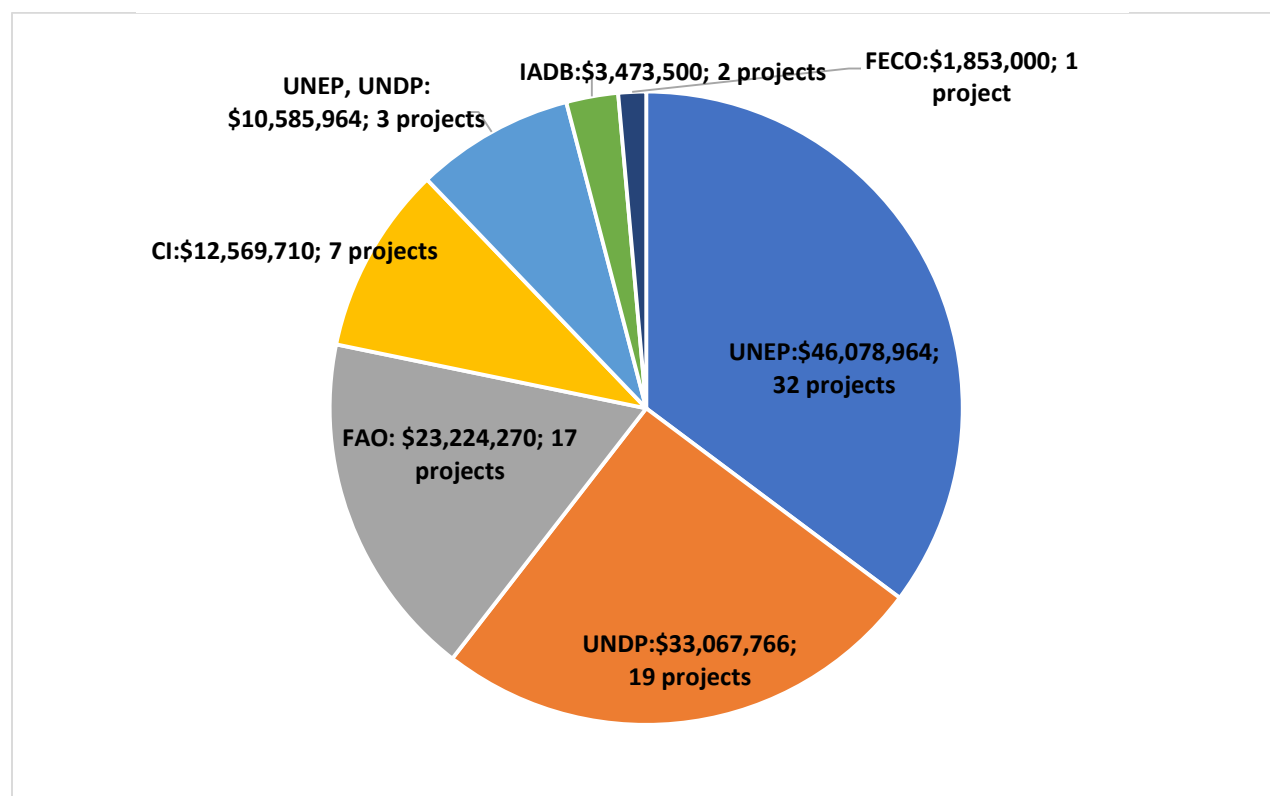
relatively small size, nascent transition to implementation, and short project durations (an average of three years). Nevertheless, they provide an early stocktaking exercise of implementation progress to date.

Agency Distribution

20. CBIT projects have so far been submitted by six out of the eighteen GEF Agencies. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has the largest share with 32 projects, followed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with nineteen projects, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with seventeen projects, Conservation International (CI) with seven, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) with two, and the Foreign Economic Cooperation Center Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO) with one project. In addition, UNDP and UNEP have three joint projects approved under CBIT.

21. Figure 2 shows the distribution of approved CBIT projects per GEF implementing agency by CBIT resources, including GEF Project Financing, PPGs, PPG fees and Agency Fees.

Figure 2: CBIT Projects by Agency (as of September 30, 2021)

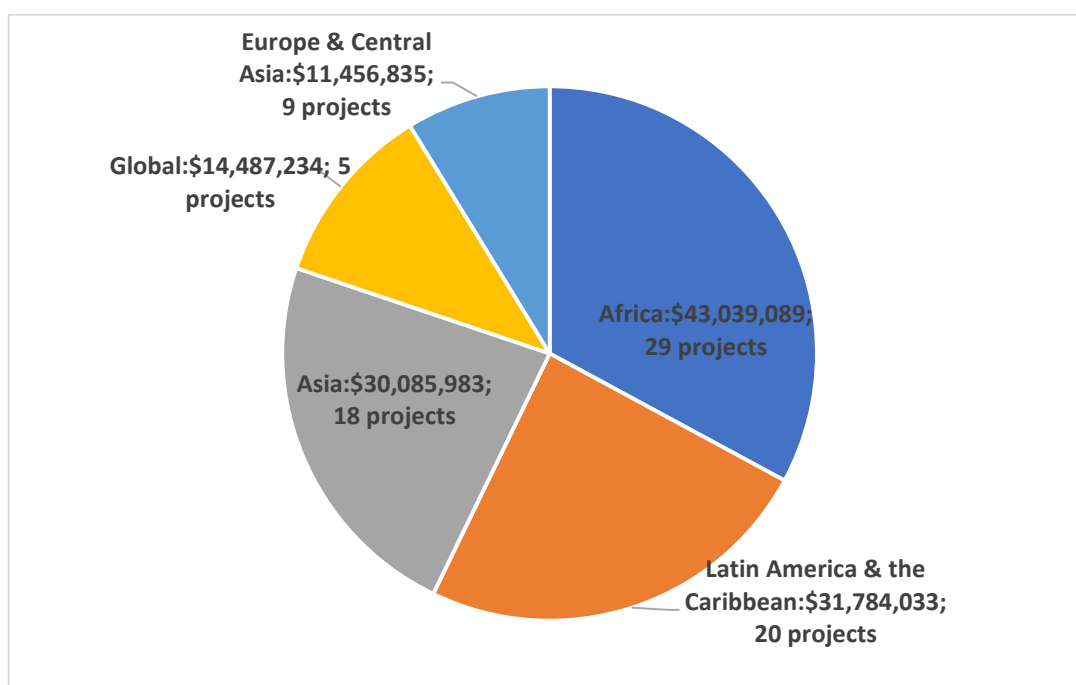


22. Countries have engaged a wide choice of GEF implementing agencies for CBIT projects in comparison to projects supporting the preparation of NCs and BURs. Most NC and BUR projects have been implemented by UNEP and UNDP.

Regional Distribution

23. Overall, the CBIT is supporting a regionally balanced portfolio. A breakdown of the portfolio by region is provided in Figure 3. The Africa region has 29 projects approved to date, with cumulative totals (including GEF Project Financing, PPG, PPG fees and Agency Fees) amounting to \$43.0 million, while the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region has 20 projects amounting to \$31.8 million. The Asia region has eighteen projects (amounting to \$30.1 million) with the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region following with nine projects (amounting to \$11.5 million). Finally, five CBIT projects with a global scope have been approved (\$14.5 million). The total portfolio amount to date, including GEF Project Financing, PPG, PPG fees and Agency Fees, for CBIT is \$130.9 million.

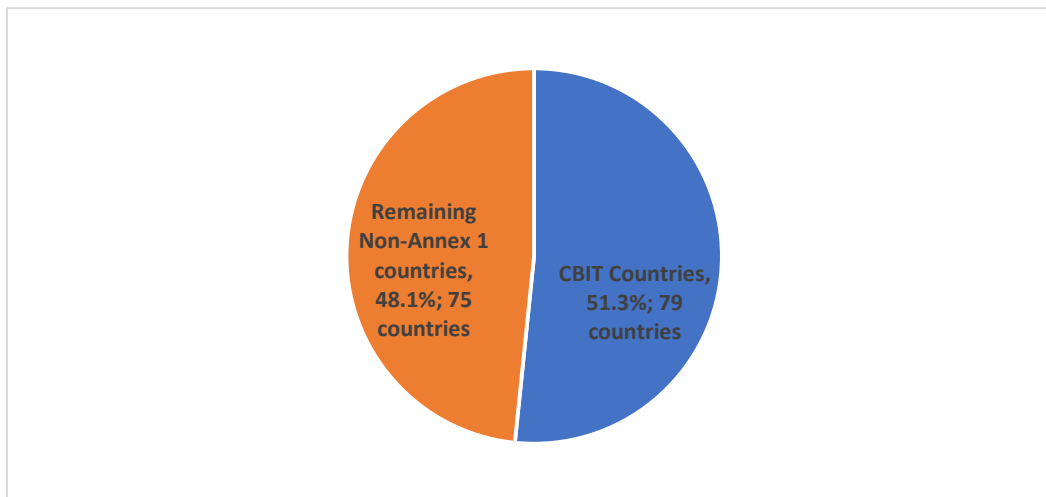
Figure 3: CBIT Projects by Region (as of September 30, 2021)



Coverage of CBIT Support to Non-Annex I Parties

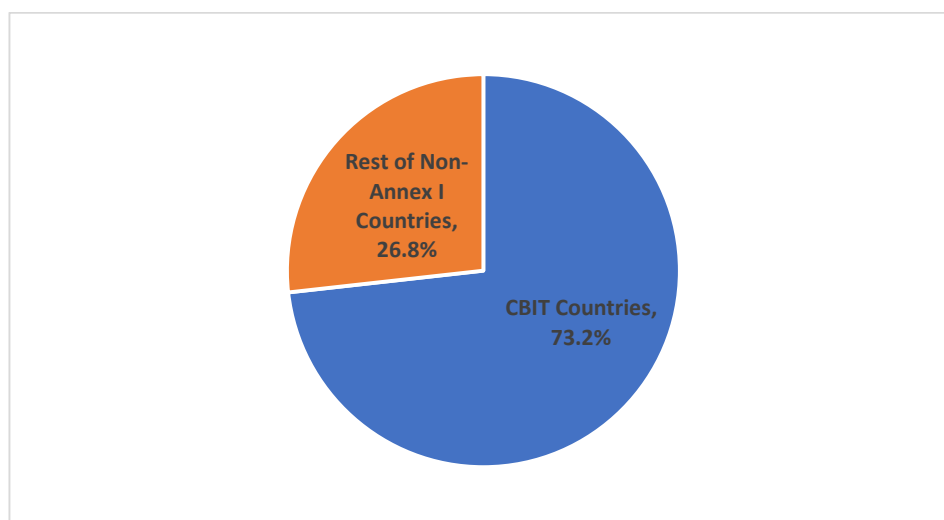
24. Figure 4 highlights the proportion of Non-Annex I Parties supported by CBIT through national and regional projects. As of September 30, 2021, (75 individual countries and four countries in a regional project) out of 154 Non-Annex-I countries or 51.3 percent, have received CBIT support.

**Figure 4: Share of Non-Annex I Parties Supported by CBIT Projects
(as of September 30, 2021)**



25. Total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from Non-Annex I Parties amounted to approximately 32,253 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e) in 2018.⁸ The GHG emissions from the 79 countries that are supported by CBIT (which include China and India, the two largest emitters of the Non-Annex I countries) amount to 48.3 percent of global GHG emissions and 73.2 percent of total GHG emissions from Non-Annex I countries indicating significant coverage (Figure 5).⁹

**Figure 5: Percentage of Total Non-Annex I GHG Emissions supported by CBIT projects (2018)
as of September 30, 2021**



⁸ Using 2018 data from the World Resources Institute's (WRI) Climate Watch. World Resources Institute, Climate Watch, 2021. Available online at: <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/>

⁹ WRI, Climate Watch, 2021. Available online at: <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/>

26. In addition to the 79 countries that have been directly supported by a CBIT project, additional countries have been part of the CBIT through participation in capacity building and other support through the global projects. The target for the CBIT as stated in the Programming Directions document is to support a minimum of 100 countries that have articulated their capacity needs and priorities for transparency.¹⁰ Steady progress is being made towards achieving this target.

Project Cycle Analysis

27. The GEF Secretariat continues to monitor the timeliness of project review, approval, and preparation of the CBIT projects.

28. For all 81 CBIT projects, the average amount of time for the GEF Secretariat to complete the initial project review was approximately fifteen working days. For MSPs, it takes sixteen weeks on average for PIF approval from first submission, while for FSPs on average it takes 30 weeks for Council approval. This period represents the time necessary for countries and Agencies to review and incorporate the GEF Secretariat's feedback into the CBIT proposals, and to resubmit to the Secretariat or Council for final review and approval.

29. In previous progress reports, the GEF Secretariat provided an initial analysis of the impact of the pandemic on the CBIT portfolio. Below is an updated analysis of the project cycle of the CBIT portfolio as of September 30, 2021. It is worth noting that the COVID pandemic has impacted the project cycle, as reflected in the automatic extensions for all GEF projects as well as force majeure extensions requested by individual projects.

30. In the CBIT portfolio, all MSPs under the old Cancellation Policy (44 projects) met their submission deadline to submit the full project proposal within twelve months of PIF approval, and therefore have not been impacted by the extensions granted. For these, it took an average eleven months for project development (PIF approval to submission of CEO approval request), 31 weeks from CEO approval request submission to CEO approval, and eighteen months from PIF approval to CEO approval. All these MSPs have received CEO approval.

31. Of the 33 MSPs under the new cancellation policy, twenty projects have been CEO approved as of September 30, 2021, and remaining thirteen projects pending CEO approval.

32. Of the twenty MSP projects that have been CEO approved, one project met the original deadline for CEO submission (eight months from PIF approval) and CEO approval (twelve months from PIF approval). Two additional projects met the first deadline of submitting CEO approval request within eight months of PIF submission, and two different projects met the deadline of CEO approval within twelve months of PIF approval. Eight projects invoked force majeure due to COVID for an extension on the CEO approval deadline, and five projects requested an extension for CEO submission — four of these projects were the same, i.e.

¹⁰ GEF, 2016, [*Programming Directions for the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency*](#), Council document GEF/C.50/.06.

requested both extension and invoked force majeure. For these twenty MSP projects that are CEO approved, the time for project development (from PIF approval to submitting CEO approval request) is about eleven months; time taken from PIF approval to CEO approval is about sixteen months. The entire project cycle for these projects from concept submission to the CEO approval is on average 20 months.

33. Of the thirteen MSPs currently under project development, the deadlines for nine projects have not been reached, and as a result it is not yet clear if these projects will face delays. Of the remaining four projects, all four have requested an extension for CEO submission, and two have invoked force majeure.

34. For FSPs, the average project cycle timeline and impact of the extensions provided is more difficult to assess due to the small sample size.

35. Based on the analysis presented above, COVID-19 pandemic seems to continue to have an impact leading to delays for the CBIT portfolio.

36. The GEF Secretariat will continue to monitor the project cycle and report any findings of the overall impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in following progress reports.

Project Priorities

37. There is a diverse level of capacities among countries in the CBIT portfolio for transparency and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems. This can be illustrated by the level of experience with existing reporting requirements under the Convention. Of the countries that CBIT is supporting, all have submitted at least one NC and about 54.7 percent (41 countries) have submitted at least one BUR. However, only 8.0 percent (six countries) have submitted more than four NCs and 6.7 percent have submitted more than three BURs (five countries). On adaptation, there is overall less experience in reporting as 18.7 percent (fourteen countries) have submitted a NAP.

38. In comparison to the overall portfolio, all LDCs and SIDS in the CBIT portfolio have submitted at least one NC (36 countries) and 44.4 percent (sixteen countries) have submitted three NCs. Also, 30.6 percent of LDCs and SIDS have submitted one BUR (eleven countries) and only one has submitted two BURs. On adaptation, 13.9 percent (five countries) have submitted a NAP and 66.7 percent (24 countries) have submitted NAPAs.

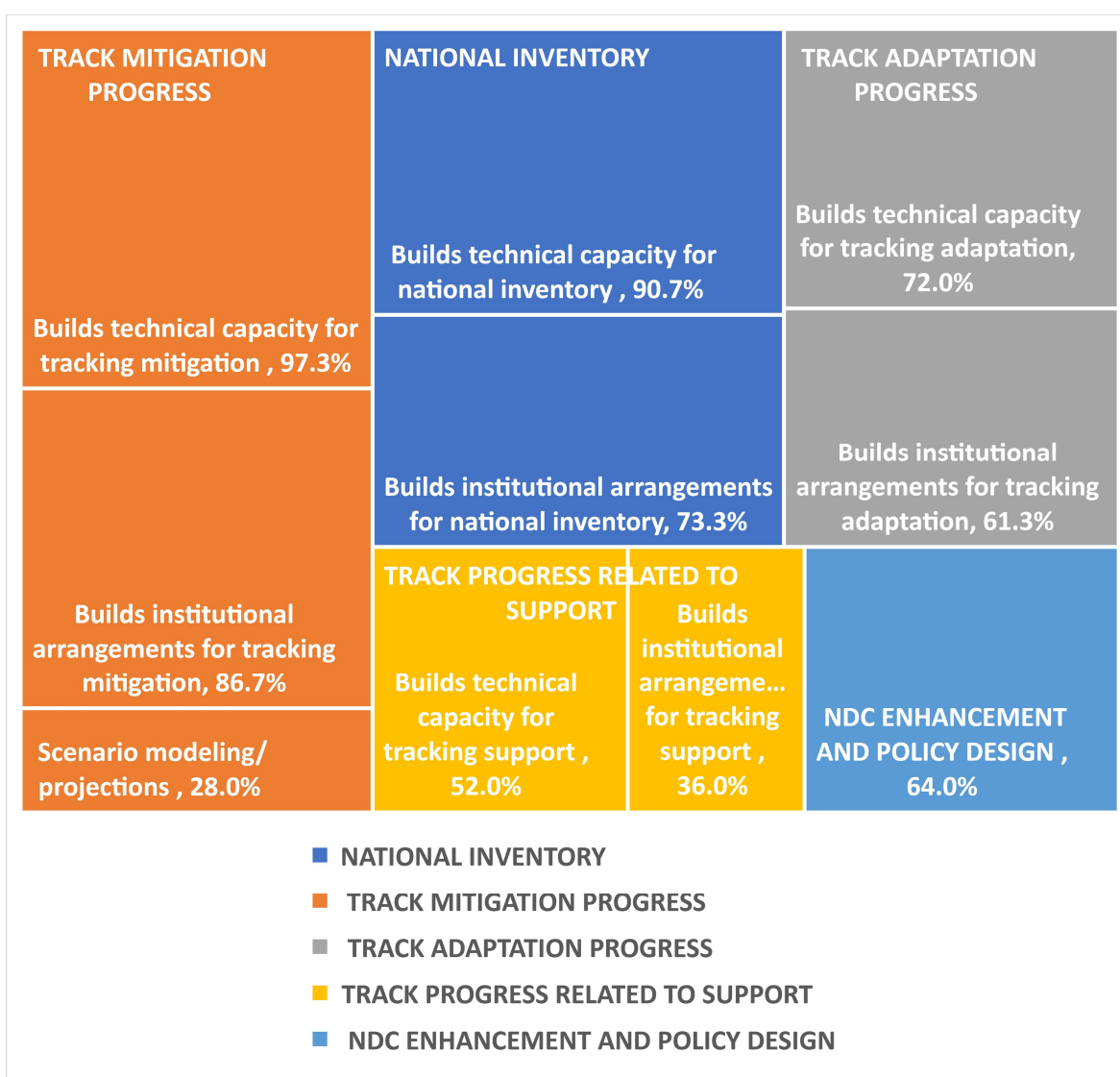
39. Overall, the approved CBIT project proposals continue to largely address the eligible programming activities set forth in the CBIT Programming Directions.¹¹ To better understand the CBIT project portfolio, each project was categorized according to the areas of support prioritized. The area of support corresponds to the key elements of the enhanced transparency framework, including capacity building for national inventories, to track mitigation progress, to

¹¹ GEF, 2016, [Programming Directions for the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.50/06.

track adaptation progress, and to track progress related to support needed and received and NDC enhancement and review.

40. Figure 6 illustrates the percentage of approved CBIT projects that included a particular type of activity in their proposal, while also showing the overall proportion of project activity types as they relate to one another. The percentages in the figure represent a count of occurrences of type of activity across the portfolio and are not correlated to the amount of resources designated for specific activities. Since one project may have several of these individual categories, the percentages overlap and do not add up to 100 percent.

Figure 6: CBIT Project Priorities per Type of Activity (as of September 30, 2021)



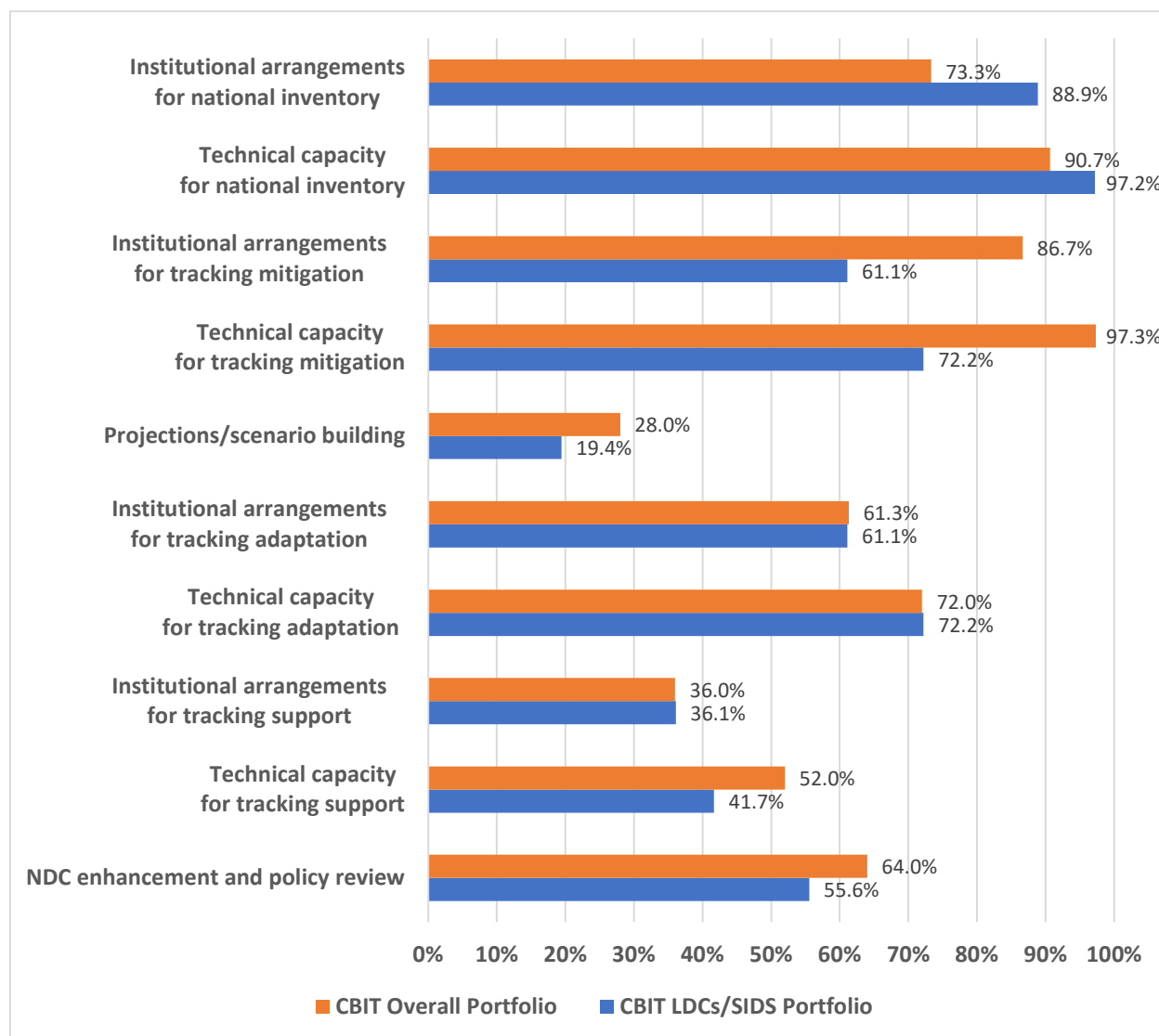
41. CBIT support is primarily being used by countries to develop the necessary institutional arrangements and build their technical capacity to track mitigation progress (86.7 and 97.3 percent of projects, respectively). Also, 28.0 percent of projects include developing projections or scenario modeling as a component. This is encouraging as it indicates that CBIT is assisting countries with some of the more advanced and complex aspects of the transparency requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

42. Since establishing national GHG inventories is a first step in meeting transparency requirements, a high percentage of countries (90.7 percent) have a strong component related to building technical capacities for the national inventory, and for building institutional arrangements for them (73.3 percent). A significant number of projects also include a component for building capacities for tracking adaptation progress with 72.0 percent focused on building technical capacities and 61.3 percent for developing relevant institutional arrangements.

43. About 64.0 percent of country projects aim for NDC enhancement and policy review – an important aspect for longer-term impact of CBIT projects. Among individual country projects, 37.3 percent have included a specific component for enhancing measurement and transparency of GHG emissions from the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector, reflecting the relative importance of this sector.

44. Compared to the full CBIT project portfolio, the projects by LDCs and SIDS tend to follow similar prioritization (Figure 7). Strong emphasis is placed on components related to building technical capacity for tracking mitigation progress (72.2 percent) and building technical capacity for the national inventory (97.2 percent). However, LDCs and SIDS tend to show less priority on projections and scenario modeling (19.4 percent compared to 28.0 percent for the overall portfolio). Of note, there is less of an emphasis on building technical capacities for tracking support for LDCs and SIDS compared to the overall project portfolio (41.7 percent compared to 52.0 percent) as well. NDC enhancement and policy design is also lower for LDCs and SIDS as compared to the full project portfolio (55.6 percent compared to 64.0 percent for the overall portfolio). Finally, 41.7 percent of the LDC and SIDS projects have an AFOLU component, a slightly stronger emphasis compared with the overall project portfolio (37.3 percent).

Figure 7: LDC and SIDS CBIT Project Priorities per Type of Activity Compared to Overall Portfolio (as of September 30, 2021)



COUNTRY CASE STUDIES

45. The CBIT has been under operation for close to five years. This section provides insights and key lessons learned from the experience of CBIT projects on implementing the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement. The GEF Secretariat would like to extend its gratitude to the Agencies and country representatives who provided relevant information to present these case studies.

Argentina

46. This CBIT project was CEO approved on July 19, 2019 and is being implemented by UNEP.

47. The domestic MRV system and the national GHG inventory system are the core instruments of the transparency framework in Argentina. This CBIT project aims to improve the quality of the national GHG inventory in line with the TACCC principles (Transparency, Accuracy, Consistency, Completeness and Comparability) and to provide tools and capacities to enhance and scale-up domestic MRV system both to track mitigation actions and the support received.

48. A fundamental element of this CBIT project is to enhance engagement and collaboration with key stakeholders of the National Climate Change Cabinet (NCCC). Through trainings and meetings, a wide participation of data providers and stakeholders has been achieved. This has resulted in the improvement of the National GHG Inventory, the integration of the gender perspective in the national climate policies, and significant progress in terms of monitoring mitigation measures and support received.

49. Specifically, the project has been instrumental in the improvement of new GHG inventory categories such as the harvested wood products category including in estimating the emissions and removals, which was not being undertaken prior to this project. The activity data, time series and the calculations were conducted in close collaboration with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishers, and the National Forestry Directorate. Knowledge products such as videos and guidelines have been created to strengthen capacities, which further facilitated familiarization with the National Climate Change Directorate's internal processes and the reports to be elaborated. Virtual trainings have been conducted on different topics such as gender and soils.

50. Strong stakeholder participation has been sought thus far including from Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries; National Agricultural Technology Institute (INTA); Faculty of Agronomy (UBA); Universidad Nacional de La Pampa; Secretary of Energy, and the technical team of the National Directorate of Climate Change, and several others. In addition, the CBIT project is working in close coordination with the Ministry of Transport to strengthen the monitoring of transport-related mitigation measures.

51. A fundamental aspect of the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) is the tracking of support needed and received. One of the key challenges is to establish agreed definitions of the terminology used and to develop methodologies for compiling, processing, and reporting information in accordance with the national context. The CBIT project is currently addressing the systematization of the information needed to meet this requirement, as well as the training of key stakeholders who provide the necessary data. The project is also enabling the generation of local capacities related to medium and long-term emission projections and supporting the development of subnational capacities.

Bangladesh

52. This project was CEO approved on August 6, 2019 and is being implemented by FAO.

53. To help stakeholders understand the key elements of a country's ETF, the Bangladesh CBIT project adopted a collaborative approach with other development partners engaged at various levels on climate change projects. This greatly reduced the coordination burden for the Department of Environment (DoE), who is ultimately responsible for coordinating all climate change projects. For example, both the NAP and CBIT projects will develop web platforms and tools that support climate change actions. Due to the strong coordination among teams, the NAP platform will track financial flows for both mitigation and adaptation projects in the country's Annual Development Plan while NGO, civil society and private sector projects will be tracked in the CBIT platform.

54. The project is in early stages and is organizing an inter-ministerial meeting between the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and DoE to discuss responsibilities for data collection, archiving, and data sharing. This includes several "warm up" meetings to help the National Statistical Office understand the purposes of GHG Inventory as well as adaptation and mitigation action monitoring. The registry based integrated MRV platform is under development and will ultimately facilitate the regular GHG, adaptation and mitigation data collection, sharing and archiving between DoE/BBS and data providers.

Georgia

55. This CBIT project was CEO approved on August 2, 2019 and is being implemented by UNEP.

56. The CBIT project supports the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA) to accomplish its mandate as a secretariat of Climate Change Council. One Climate Change Council meeting session and two sessions of the Coordination Group of Covenant of Mayors signatory Municipalities under the Climate Change Council (MDCP) have been conducted with the support of CBIT. The council recommended the Government of Georgia on updated NDC, Climate Strategy and Action Plan for 2030, as national basics for reporting under ETF. In September 2020, Working Procedures of the Coordination Group of Covenant of Mayors Signatory Municipalities under the Climate Change Council was adopted unanimously by fifteen members of the Coordination Group attended the session. The procedures strengthened and highlighted the rights of the small municipalities (with population 50,000 and less).

57. A key aspect of climate policy in Georgia is to define and strengthen synergies between central and sub-national climate policy implementation. The CBIT project helped advance this by developing the draft by-law on MPGs titled "On adoption of the rules of implementation of the nationally harmonized reporting system in the field of climate change for the CoM (Covenant of Mayors) signatory Municipalities in Georgia." Within this by-law, Georgia defines possible synergies between the national and sub-national levels on GHG inventory, mitigation,

and adaptation fields. During the elaboration of this draft by-law, a key challenge was to address the recommendation received at the first session of Coordination Group of CoM Signatory Municipalities: “in case of differences between national and municipal visions the last one shall not be a subject of elimination.”

58. The CBIT project team held an expert consultation meeting, and feedback received enabled the successful submission of the final document to the second meeting of the Coordination Group. The document has been unanimously recommended for adoption to the MEPA. The expert consultation mode worked effectively as an alternative solution of joint work of national and international expert, originally planned in the project.

59. Moreover, the by-law offers the tools supporting the municipalities processing the harmonized reports through the computer programme “Climate Change Online Data Management System” and assessment of the synergy level by preparing “Comparability Technical Review Report (CTR).” Both the software tool, and draft of the CTR report have been developed by the CBIT project. At the second meeting of the Coordination Group the draft by-law on MPGs titled “On adoption of the rules of implementation of the nationally harmonized reporting system in the field of climate change for the CoM signatory Municipalities in Georgia” was recommended to be delivered to the MEPA for adoption.

60. The project has successfully designed and implemented training sessions at the sub-national level aiming to increase capacity in the following areas: mitigation actions and their effects, mitigation and adaptation policies, identification of support needed, and learning practical skills, such as working on the Climate Change Online Data Management System.

Liberia

61. The project was CEO approved on October 29, 2018 and is being implemented by Conservation International.

62. This project has been successful in building national capacity in the areas of GHG data collection, processing, storage, and analysis, and the preparation of GHG Inventories (GHGI). For example, experts, grouped in GHG emission sector hubs at specific Ministries and Agencies (MACs), now have the skills, knowledge, and tools to collect, process, and analyze GHG data hence report effectively. High-level engagement of policymakers in the NDC roadmap has resulted in in-country ownership of the CBIT results which is critical to achieving transparency over time.

63. Specifically, the project has strengthened the institutional structure to guide and manage the implementation of the NDC. It supported the establishment and operationalization of a GHG data sharing Cooperation Framework Agreement (MoU) between Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and six institutions - five NDC institutions and one university. The MoU outlines commitments, responsibilities, and obligations of the NDC sector institutions and academia to GHG data collection, processing, and sharing. As a result, Liberia has built a

centralized institutional arrangement where GHG data from an NDC sector is supplied by key stakeholders to the EPA for analysis and reporting.

64. A strong understanding of institutional and organizational structures and how they work was critical to identifying ways of influencing processes of change within them. For instance, during the establishment of the cooperative framework agreement, EPA as the lead institution for all environment-related issues, led the negotiations and ensured that the agreement was signed by all the other ministries and agencies namely Forestry Development Authority (FDA), Ministry of Transport (MoT), Monrovia City Corporation (MCC), Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), and University of Liberia (UL). Sound analyses proved critical to identify ways in which partners can influence processes of change and can guide important decisions such as the operationalization of the cooperative framework arrangement.

65. The national institutional capacity to establish and manage transparency systems that can measure, track and report mitigation and adaptation activities has also been strengthened by establishing a GHGI and a MRV system. A total of 389 stakeholders from the five NDC sectors and the University of Liberia were trained and equipped to use the MRV system/GHGI.

66. The project has also helped procure MRV equipment. By developing protocols and guidelines, the project is enabling the country to fill some gaps in the NDC and report accurately. A GHG protocol consisting of standard methods for measuring, tracking, and reporting GHG data for each of the NDC sectors was developed in compliance with the requirements of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); and a technical guide on GHG data transmission and communication in compliance with the requirements of the IPCC was developed.

67. The project has played an instrumental role in strengthening technical capacity of stakeholders from the emission sectors to establish and undertake transparency-related activities. Overall, a total of 1,128 stakeholders were trained on GHG data collection, processing, and transmission, and how to prepare GHG inventories. The project developed and implemented a gender mainstreaming strategy that led to a total of 1,555 stakeholders from the government, civil society organizations, private sector, and academic institutions participating in project activities, out of which, a total of 1,128 people directly benefitted from the project.

68. A key learning of the project is that capacity-building should be tailored, flexible, and demand-driven. The CBIT Liberia project undertook a training and capacity needs assessment where it was revealed that young professionals/experts are enthusiastic and eager to learn when working toward goals they are passionate about. Additionally, building capacities and training for hard and soft skills is important, as is maintaining flexibility. A key learning from the project is that capacity building is a process and thus, at every stage, gaps or needs must be identified and possible solutions explored. A robust framework to assess progress in capacity building with clear targets and very specific indicators to guide capacity-building support and reveal the significance or impact of the capacity built can be helpful. For instance, this project conducted a needs assessment, developed a course implementation plan, a database to

monitor participant progress, a competency-based monitoring tool, and facilitator and participant evaluations which were key components of the trainings. This enabled the team to evaluate the effectiveness of the trainings.

69. The project offers several lessons learnt from a COVID-19 perspective. Firstly, buy-in from stakeholders is critical as it creates a sense of ownership and this motivates them to participate in the project effortlessly. Additionally, adaptive management is crucial in project management. While virtual training is a viable alternative to the traditional face-to-face approach, it may not have a long-term impact due to frequent disruptions resulting from internet connection challenges. For instance, out of the 90 GHG experts who were selected to be trained, only 67 completed all the courses and were certified. The pandemic led to the realization of the importance of always blending virtual trainings with in-person trainings post-pandemic. Blending international and national expertise is cost-effective and builds the country's national capacity e.g., the local consultants learn firsthand from the international consultants, and over time, they will be able to confidently undertake these assignments.

Madagascar

70. This project was CEO approved on June 24, 2019 and is being implemented by Conservation International.

71. The project has successfully developed a national MRV system and a MRV system for five sub-sectors (energy, AFOLU, Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), waste, transportation); and built the technical capacity of 123 stakeholders (59 percent men and 41 percent women) through technical trainings on various technical aspects under mitigation and adaptation. The team has also developed methodological guidelines for monitoring sectoral adaptation actions in the agriculture, water resources, coastal zones, forestry and biodiversity, public health, and infrastructure sub-sectors; established sectoral protocols for GHG data collection, processing, and transfer and; developed 67 specific emission factors for the AFOLU and energy sectors. An online database management system was launched to share information on GHG emissions and removals, and mitigation and adaptation activities related to the NDC and a communication strategy on the utilization of the web portal was prepared.

72. The project has been playing a critical role in supporting national priorities and decision making. Working in close collaboration with the Madagascar National Office for Coordination of Climate Change (BNCCC) and sectoral stakeholders, the project team supported the country to update and submit the Madagascar NDC. The updated NDC will guide the development of the long-term low-carbon development strategy. Additionally, the project has supported the development of climate-proof legislative frameworks. So far, six National Climate Change Strategies integrating climate change and the transparency elements of the Paris Agreement and one climate change adaptation plan integrating the transparency elements of the Paris agreement were developed. The development of the climate change strategy for the energy sector is in progress.

Uruguay

73. This CBIT project was CEO approved on February 16, 2018 and is being implemented by UNDP.

74. Specifically, with the project's support, an NDC online monitoring system has been designed and operationalized that contains detailed information on each of the objectives and measures included in Uruguay's NDC. For each objective and each measure, all the information necessary to know the objective and the context in which the measure is framed has been compiled and put in a common format, as well as information on the progress indicators in its implementation.

75. The project is undertaking an innovative strategy for the incorporation of gender aspects in the NDC monitoring system. Specific training was carried out on gender and its linkages with climate change which helped build capacities. The work developed a better understanding of how specific actions to reduce gender gaps can be included when implementing measures whose objective is the mitigation or adaptation to climate change, but which may have a co-benefit associated with increasing gender equity.

76. The NDC monitoring system serves as a “control panel” to visualize the implementation status of the NDC. This is a valuable planning tool for decision makers as they are able to get a simple but comprehensive view of the status of NDC actions. In addition, the visualization available to all public, helps to publicize the content of the NDC and its implementation status, and helps those involved in its implementation, including the private sector, to recognize the impact of their actions on the implementation of the NDC. It also serves as an instrument of accountability to citizens.

77. Through the support offered by the project, Uruguay was able to take a significant step in completing the series of national GHGI in Uruguay, available online in the greenhouse gas emissions and removals viewer. The matrices for the Consistent Representation of Lands have been generated using the results of the Collect Earth tool, and eight new categories of lands have been reported.

78. The country is analyzing the issuance of a Sustainability-Linked Sovereign Bond (SLSB), whose indicators will be associated with the objectives of the NDC, so the measurement and reporting being advanced through this CBIT project provides a solid basis for this process.

CBIT GLOBAL SUPPORT PROGRESS

CBIT Global Coordination Platform

79. The first project supporting the development of a CBIT Global Coordination Platform began implementation in October 2017 and reached completion in December 2019 by UNEP and UNDP.¹² The Platform achieved its objectives to bring together practitioners from countries

¹² The CBIT Global Coordination Platform can be accessed from: <https://www.cbitplatform.org/>

and Agencies in order to enable coordination of transparency actions and ideas, identify needs and gaps in national transparency systems, share lessons learned through regional and global meetings, and to facilitate access to emerging practices, methodologies, and guidance on transparency of climate action. To ensure that the critical work of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform continues, two subsequent phases have been approved.¹³

CBIT-Forest

80. The aim of the Global CBIT-Forest project¹⁴ implemented by FAO is to build institutional arrangements and technical capacities on forest-related data collection, analysis and dissemination processes to enable developing countries to meet Article 13 requirements.

81. The project has made significant progress. It developed and rolled out a massive open online course (MOOC) on “Forest and Transparency under the Paris Agreement” designed to train the participants to: recognize the role and importance of forests in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement; identify the progressive changes in moving from the current MRV framework to the ETF under the Paris Agreement; better understand the foundation concept of a national forest monitoring system; and understand how open and transparent forest-related data can support countries’ activities of reporting under the ETF.

82. Two editions of the MOOC have been conducted in English, French and Spanish, drawing more than 1,200 participants from over 120 countries, and a third edition is scheduled to take place from 20 September to 8 October 2021. Furthermore, the project carried out National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) assessments in seven pilot countries to identify and examine capacity needs and gaps for establishing or improving the NFMS. Based on these assessments, the project assisted the countries to develop their capacity building action plan and is helping to address country-specific capacity needs for forest monitoring in Brazil, Cote d’Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, Laos, Thailand and Uganda.¹⁵

83. The project updated the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and NFMS tools to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to effectively address ETF requirements in the forestry sector. The updated FRA tool is available in all six UN languages (English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and Russian) and operational with an open-access dissemination module with the following functionalities: (a) visualization of all data reported by individual countries; (b) download of individual reporting tables in csv format; (c) download of regional and sub-regional summary statistics in a non-proprietary spreadsheet format; and (d) bulk download for all data.

¹³ Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II A: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (GEF ID 10128) and Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II B: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (GEF ID 10088) were approved on October 2018 and December 2019, respectively.

¹⁴ More details can be found here: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/boosting-transparency-forest-data/es/>

¹⁵ The one-to-one capacity building support is based on the NFMS assessment in six countries while one (i.e. Brazil) is based on capacity needs evident from FAO’s ongoing work on NFMS in the country.

CBIT-AFOLU

84. The CBIT-AFOLU project¹⁶ implemented by FAO addresses the challenges that countries face when applying enhanced transparency framework specifications within the AFOLU sector, including data unavailability and weak institutional arrangements, as well as low levels of methodological sophistication and technical capacity.

85. The project developed and delivered a series of five webinars covering the following topics: (a) ETF with focus on AFOLU sector and FAO's related work; (b) the role and importance of institutional arrangements in ETF and national GHG inventory systems including the introduction of revised US EPA templates for IA; (c) quality assurance of national GHG inventories and management system; (d) making GHG inventory transparent and applying MPGs for transparency; and (e) FAO's methodology for damage and loss assessment for adaptation reporting in agriculture and land use sector.

86. Follow-up support was provided to build capacity of country teams on a one-to-one basis. For instance, following the webinar on quality assurance (QA) of the national GHG inventory and management system, the project provided one-to-one support on the QA review exercise in sixteen countries.

87. In addition, the project launched an e-learning series on FAO's e-learning Academy to impart knowledge and guidance on planning and conducting national GHG inventories. This series include e-learning courses on: (a) preparation of GHG inventory under ETF; (b) national GHG inventory for agriculture; (c) national GHG inventory for land use; (d) assessment of uncertainties in the national GHG inventory with focus on the LULUCF sector; and (e) estimation of methane emissions from enteric fermentation at Tier 2 level. Project experts, in close collaboration with IPCC, tested and provided technical comments to the AFOLU section of the upgraded version IPCC software.

88. To support countries and develop appropriate tools, a GHG database for the AFOLU sector was developed, based on the country submissions to the UNFCCC. The database helps to assess countries' capacity to address the reporting requirements. To address the reporting requirements in the ETF modalities, processes and guidelines (MPGs), an NDC tracking tool is under development with an in-depth focus on the AFOLU sector. The tool would help to assess the impact of implemented policies and measures on the achievement of the NDCs. Based on the review of the Ex-Ante Carbon Balance Tool (EX-ACT), a first version of NDC enhancement index tool (NEXT) was developed and tested with data from four African countries. The tool aims to support countries in the development of scenarios and projections (another item required in the BTR) based on the policies and measures put forward in the NDC. Taking stock from the long-term work on NDC analysis, the NDC-Ag Navigator is under development to show the agriculture policy that countries put forward in NDC and potential gaps and opportunities to enhance their commitments. Finally, the AFOLU MRV guidance and land representation matrix,

¹⁶ More details can be found here: <http://www.fao.org/gef/projects/detail/en/c/1105975/>

have been developed and will be subjected to review, testing and improvements over the remaining period of the project.

Awareness Raising and Outreach

89. The GEF continues to actively engage and coordinate with existing and emerging GHG transparency initiatives to help implement the CBIT, including the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), the Coalition on Paris Agreement Capacity Building, the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA), the NDC Partnership, the Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-Innovation (PaSTI), and other entities engaged in enhancing transparency.

90. At COP 26, the GEF participated in negotiations around the transparency agenda, engaged in bilateral discussions with current and prospective CBIT countries, and reported on the progress of the CBIT.

91. The GEF organized its side event at COP 26 on “Enhancing Climate Ambition through Increased Transparency: Perspectives on the Progress and Role of CBIT” on November 6, 2021 at the GCF + GEF Pavilion. The event provided an opportunity for country leaders and key actors to discuss how the transparency framework can further enhance climate ambition, the role CBIT and GEF is playing in making countries “ETF ready” and providing support for timely preparation of BTRs, and the role of the private sector in enabling more ambitious actions.

92. Beyond COP 26 engagement, awareness raising, and outreach activities have continued through various channels, including the following:

- (a) The CBIT web page continues to be regularly updated, including relevant links to approved project documents.¹⁷
- (b) The GEF has been an active partner of the #Data4BetterClimateAction campaign convened by ICAT.
- (c) The GEF participated in the virtual Annual Partnership Retreat on the PATPA on October 5-7, 2021.

93. The draft Programming Directions for GEF-8 include specific provisions for CBIT support. The GEF Secretariat will continue to consult with replenishment participants and the UNFCCC to ensure that the CBIT and any relevant guidance are adequately addressed in the GEF-8 replenishment process.

94. Opportunities for consultations among partners play an increasingly important role as implementation experiences and lessons learned become available. The GEF is committed to discussing ongoing and planned activities and sharing experiences with partners through

¹⁷ The website can be accessed from: <https://www.thegef.org/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit>

available means including virtual meetings, particularly to enhance coordination of activities at the country and regional level.

CBIT OUTLOOK

95. After nearly five years of operations, the CBIT is steadily increasing its coverage of countries receiving support: it is now supporting 51.3 percent of Non-Annex I countries representing over 73.2 percent of Non-Annex I emissions. The network of CBIT countries includes a representative proportion of LDCs and SIDS, as well as key economies in each region with significant emission profiles.

96. Programming for CBIT resources in the GEF-7 period has progressed rapidly over the last three years, responding to country requests to address their capacity needs and gaps well ahead of the transition to the new transparency regime in 2024. This demand and successful programming have also meant that the notional set-aside resources as agreed for the GEF-7 replenishment have been utilized quickly.

97. As of September 30, 2021, \$71.0 million have been programmed under the GEF TF for CBIT projects. As the Secretariat has the flexibility to adjust the notional allocation for set-aside resources for the CBIT and enabling activities, CBIT projects continue to be supported upon request above the original \$55 million allocation for CBIT set-aside resources. The GEF Secretariat will continue to review and approve new CBIT project proposals in alignment with its programming directions and in response to COP guidance in the remaining GEF-7 period.

98. FY 2022 is expected to be a milestone year for CBIT and transparency. As the December 2024 deadline for the first BTRs under the Paris Agreement approaches, there is growing attention to CBIT's role and contributions to help build human and institutional capacity in developing countries to achieve enhanced transparency. Furthermore, 2021 is the five-year anniversary of the CBIT establishment.

99. The Secretariat stands ready to continue to support the implementation of the existing portfolio of CBIT projects, while taking into account the impacts of the pandemic. The entire portfolio of CBIT projects supported by the CBIT Trust Fund is expected to reach the implementation phase during FY 2022. Therefore, the GEF Secretariat plans to enhance its monitoring and review functions in collaboration with the GEF Agencies. Regular reporting on the CBIT progress and results to the GEF Council, UNFCCC bodies, as well as coordination with partners will continue, with additional focus on implementation progress.

100. Finally, the GEF is going to commence its work to assess the complementary role of the CBIT and the GEF support for the preparation of BTRs, to help inform GEF-8 support opportunities and to share lessons learned with countries and Agencies.

ANNEX I: BACKGROUND ON THE CBIT

1. The Paris Agreement was adopted at the Twenty-First Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2015. Paragraph 84 of the COP decision adopting the Paris Agreement decided to establish “a Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency in order to build institutional and technical capacity, both pre- and post-2020” that “will support developing country Parties, upon request, in meeting enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Agreement in a timely manner.”¹⁸
2. Paragraph 86 of the COP decision urged and requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to make arrangements to support the establishment and operation of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), including through voluntary contributions to support developing countries during GEF-6 and future replenishment cycles.

¹⁸ UNFCCC, 2015, Decision 1/CP.21

ANNEX II: DESCRIPTION OF CBIT PROJECTS APPROVED SINCE LAST PROGRESS REPORT

1. Seven new projects have been approved in the reporting period (between April 15, 2021 and September 30, 2021). These comprise Burundi, Ecuador, Lesotho, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Uzbekistan and Vanuatu. This section provides a brief overview of each of these projects.
2. **Burundi.** *Building capacities in Burundi to implement the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement* (GEF ID: 10648); Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Grant: \$1,228,000; Co-financing: \$123,000. Burundi, a LDC and landlocked country at the heart of Africa's Great Lakes Region, is extremely vulnerable to climate change as its economy is highly dependent on subsistence farming. GHG emissions have been rising between 2005-2015 primarily due to economic growth, deforestation and the conversion of forest land and meadows into cultivated land. Several capacity building needs related to transparency remain. Along with helping build institutional arrangements and legal framework to collect and manage data for the GHG Inventories and NDC tracking, this CBIT project will adopt an innovative approach by operationalizing a national MRV system that will allow for the integration of climate change data and information and allow for improvement of transparency over time. The project will also establish a National GHG inventory system and training will be provided to relevant stakeholders, potentially through a collaboration with the University of Burundi.
3. **Ecuador.** *Implementing Ecuador's Climate Transparency System* (GEF ID: 10818); Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Grant: 1,988,000; Co-financing: \$1,080,057. Ecuador does not have adequate institutional arrangements for data collection in the context of transparency. It also has limited technical capacities to design, implement and manage a complex, country wide climate transparency system and currently there is limited integration of climate change considerations into political decision making. Ecuador submitted its first BUR in 2016 and its third NC in 2017. The CBIT project will help streamline the collection, management, processing, and production of high-quality climate information for the purpose of international reporting. Specifically, the project will enable the introduction of Tier 2 country-specific emissions factors in key sectors. A climate change information repository and knowledge management system will be established in cooperation with National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, research institutions and academia. This will be used for decision-making at the national and sub-national level. The project also aims to establish a capacity building program on transparency.
4. **Lesotho.** *Enabling Lesotho's Enhanced Transparency Framework* (GEF ID: 10635); Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Grant: \$1,182,500; Co-financing: \$217,800. Lesotho, a LDC, contains one of Southern Africa's main water catchment areas, capturing around 50 percent of the total catchment run-off and serves as one of the major sources of fresh water and drainage areas in the Southern Africa region. Impacts of climate change could

be detrimental to national and regional water dependent life forms, ecosystems and socio-economic activities. Key challenges related to the implementation of the ETF include lack of institutional arrangements and coordination of climate change-related activities, lack of data and access to information for a robust and detailed GHG Inventory and a national MRV system; lack of technical expertise and tools and methodologies; and financial constraints and costs associated with the implementation of an ETF. The CBIT project focuses on building institutional arrangements and legal framework to collect and manage GHG Inventory data and NDC tracking data; improving the national GHG Inventory Management System and training relevant stakeholders on latest guidelines and tools for national GHG inventories; and designing, testing, and operationalizing a national MRV system.

5. **Solomon Islands.** *Strengthening capacity in the agriculture and land-use as well as energy sectors in Solomon Islands for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Solomon Island's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)* (GEF ID: 10760); Agency: FAO; GEF Project Grant: \$1,137,215; Co-financing: \$2,676,856.76. Solomon Islands, a SIDS, comprising more than nine hundred volcanic and coral islands in the Pacific Ring of fire and cyclone zone makes it very vulnerable to natural disasters and extreme events. The energy sector is the key source of GHG and the country is currently preparing its third NC and its first BUR. The key barriers related to transparency include absence of mitigation and adaptation activity data and information system, lack of an integrated and systematic coordination and institutional mechanism for data and information sharing, and insufficient technical expertise. The CBIT project will ensure efficient and comprehensive mitigation and adaptation-related information system through building technical and human capacities. The project adopts an innovative approach by developing a comprehensive coordination mechanism for enhanced transparency; and establishes a monitoring and reporting framework for adaptation. It will also establish a dedicated climate change knowledge management and information system.
6. **Tanzania.** *Tanzania's Climate Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)* (GEF ID:10668); Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Grant: \$1,144,000; Co-financing: \$113,850. Tanzania is a low-income country and the second largest economy in the East African Community. Tanzania remains highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, especially since agriculture is the backbone of its economy. Tanzania is currently preparing its third NC and the first BUR. Even though Tanzania has taken steps to strengthen its domestic MRV system by establishing a National Carbon Monitoring Center (NCMC), challenges remain. These include lack of systematization and institutional arrangements for data gathering; lack of technology, methodologies and activity data for assessing the impact of mitigation actions and enhancing the GHG inventory quality; lack of common and comparable sectorial indicators for tracking progress; and others. The CBIT project will help establish and enhance Tanzania's transparency system by strengthening and formalizing long-term institutional arrangements for the elaboration

of GHG inventories. It will improve the overall data quality and management procedures for tracking of NDC implementation, to help inform national decision-making processes as well as the global stocktake. The project will provide technical assistance to develop appropriate GHG emissions modeling to inform decision making.

7. **Uzbekistan.** *Capacity-building to establish an integrated and enhanced transparency framework in Uzbekistan to track the national climate actions and support measures received* (GEF ID:10772); Agency: FAO; GEF Project Grant: \$1,319,863; Co-financing: \$500,000. The Republic of Uzbekistan is a land-locked country in Central Asia. Agriculture is the most vulnerable sector and can have a profound impact on food security. The country is currently preparing its first BUR and fourth NC. While Uzbekistan has some elements of GHG inventory established, the MRV systems for adaptation and mitigation remain in early stages of development. Apart from establishing a capacity building program, The CBIT project will help Uzbekistan improve its ability to effectively define and implement climate change related policies and measure in the long term. The project will assist in effectively organizing data for GHG inventory and MRV system; help in tracking NDCs; enable enhancement of GHG inventories, and economic and emission projections. The project will also facilitate the development of tracking tools and platforms to increase Uzbekistan's ability to monitor support received and progress toward their commitments.
8. **Vanuatu.** *Strengthening capacity in the Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land-use Sectors for Enhanced Transparency in the Implementation and Monitoring of Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution* (GEF ID: 10761); Agency: FAO; GEF Project Grant: \$1,137,215; Co-financing: \$2,994,500. Vanuatu, an archipelagic country and a SIDS in the South Pacific was listed as one of the most vulnerable country in the world to natural hazards and climate change by the United Nations World Risk Report (2012). Around 76 percent of the population covering 81 percent of the land mass is exposed to natural hazards such as cyclones, droughts, storm surge and others. Three major sectors — AFOLU, energy and waste — are the largest contributors to GHG emissions. Vanuatu is currently preparing its third national communication. This CBIT project will build Vanuatu's institutional and human capacities for complying with the ETF and develop implementation and monitoring of the country's NDC focusing on the AFOLU sector. The project will specifically provide long-term benefits by addressing the current weaknesses of the GHG inventory system and partnering with relevant institutions. The project will leverage technical expertise on best practices, tools and lessons learned on climate change issues such as Open Foris and SEPAL for GHG inventory data generation in the forestry sector.

ANNEX III: LIST OF CBIT APPROVED PROJECTS (AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021)

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
9652	UNEP	Costa Rica	Costa Rica's Integrated Reporting and Transparency System	CEO Approved	GEF-6	11/4/16	1/3/18	\$1,090,000	\$2,750,000	\$ 3,840,000
9673	UNEP	South Africa	Capacity Building Programme to Implement South Africa's Climate National System	CEO Approved	GEF-6	11/4/16	10/22/18	\$1,237,350	\$1,318,969	\$ 2,556,319
9674	CI	Kenya	Strengthening National Institutions in Kenya to Meet the Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement and Sharing Best Practices in the East Africa Region	CEO Approved	GEF-6	11/9/16	12/20/17	\$1,144,500	\$1,100,000	\$ 2,244,500
9675	UNEP, UNDP	Global	CBIT Global Coordination Platform	CEO Approved	GEF-6	11/4/16	8/11/17	\$1,095,000	\$400,000	\$ 1,495,000
9739	UNDP	Uruguay	Building institutional and technical capacities to enhance transparency in the framework of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	3/6/17	2/16/18	\$1,231,875	\$760,000	\$ 1,991,875
9814	UNEP	Uganda	Strengthening the Capacity of Institutions in Uganda to comply with the Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/9/17	5/22/18	\$1,253,500	\$619,455	\$ 1,872,955
9820	UNEP	Ghana	Strengthening Ghana's National Capacity for Transparency and Ambitious Climate Reporting	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/15/17	11/19/18	\$1,237,350	\$1,177,500	\$ 2,414,850

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
9828	UNDP	Cote d'Ivoire	Strengthening the Transparency System for Enhanced Climate Action in Côte d'Ivoire	CEO Approved	GEF-6	10/26/17	4/3/19	\$ 1,303,050	\$210,000	\$ 1,513,050
9833	FAO	Papua New Guinea	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture and land-use sectors for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement in Papua New Guinea	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/12/17	10/29/18	\$1,000,000	\$2,600,000	\$ 3,600,000
9834	FAO	Mongolia	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture and land-use sectors in Mongolia for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Mongolia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/1/17	11/26/18	\$1,000,000	\$460,000	\$ 1,460,000
9835	UNEP	Chile	Strengthening Chile's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Transparency Framework	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/1/17	3/15/18	\$1,381,890	\$870,000	\$ 2,251,890
9837	FAO	Cambodia	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture and land-use sectors for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Cambodia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/1/17	10/29/18	\$1,000,000	\$2,131,331	\$ 3,131,331

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
9849	UNEP	Antigua and Barbuda	Capacity Building for Improved Transparency on Climate Actions through an Environment Registry in Antigua & Barbuda	CEO Approved	GEF-6	4/9/18	7/19/19	\$1,149,750	\$200,000	\$ 1,349,750
9864	FAO	Global	Global capacity-building products towards enhanced transparency in the AFOLU sector (CBIT-AFOLU)	CEO Approved	GEF-6	8/15/17	10/23/18	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
9869	UNEP	Dominican Republic	Strengthening the capacity of the Dominican Republic to generate climate information and knowledge in the framework of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/6/18	3/28/20	\$1,237,350	\$360,000	\$ 1,597,350
9872	UNEP	Peru	Capacity Building for Peru's transparency system for climate change mitigation and adaptation	CEO Approved	GEF-6	9/25/17	3/20/19	\$1,367,655	\$700,000	\$ 2,067,655
9923	CI	Liberia	Building and strengthening Liberia's national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Climate Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	11/16/17	10/29/18	\$1,520,000	\$1,600,000	\$ 3,120,000
9925	UNDP	Lebanon	Establishing Lebanon's Transparency Framework	PIF Approved	GEF-6	11/1/17		\$1,084,050	\$632,000	\$ 1,716,050
9942	UNEP	Honduras	Support in the design and implementation of the integrated monitoring system of climate change for Honduras	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/5/18	9/10/20	\$1,171,650	\$150,000	\$ 1,321,650

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
9948	CI	Madagascar	Building and Strengthening Madagascar's National Capacity to Implement the Transparency Elements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	3/28/18	6/24/19	\$1,520,000	\$180,590	\$ 1,700,590
9955	UNEP	Argentina	Strengthening Argentina's Transparency Framework on GHG Inventories and Mitigation	CEO Approved	GEF-6	1/16/18	7/19/19	\$2,244,531	\$350,000	\$ 2,594,531
9966	UNDP	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Integrated reporting and transparency system of Bosnia and Herzegovina	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/25/18	7/6/20	\$1,335,900	\$250,000	\$ 1,585,900
9967	UNDP	Ethiopia	Capacity-building program to comply with the Paris Agreement and implement its transparency requirements at the national level	CEO Approved	GEF-6	3/28/18	8/6/19	\$1,331,520	\$192,000	\$ 1,523,520
9970	FAO	Cuba	Enhancing Cuba's institutional and technical capacities in the agriculture and land-use sectors for enhanced transparency under the Paris Agreement.	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/8/18	8/22/20	\$1,000,000	\$650,000	\$ 1,650,000
9986	FAO	Bangladesh	Strengthening capacity for monitoring environmental emissions under the Paris Agreement in Bangladesh	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/31/18	8/6/19	\$ 1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$ 2,000,000
9997	CI	Rwanda	Strengthening the Capacity of Institutions in Rwanda to implement the Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	3/28/18	8/7/19	\$1,144,500	\$100,000	\$ 1,244,500

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10002	UNEP	Swaziland (Eswatini)	Capacity Building for Enhanced Transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification	CEO Approved	GEF-6	3/28/18	8/2/19	\$1,133,325	\$270,000	\$ 1,403,325
10004	UNDP	Morocco	Developing an integrated transparency framework for NDC planning and monitoring	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/6/18	6/9/20	\$1,675,350	\$300,000	\$ 1,975,350
10014	IADB	Jamaica	Strengthening Jamaica's Capacity to meet transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/21/18	10/22/19	\$1,423,500	\$180,500	\$ 1,604,000
10021	UNDP	Montenegro	Strengthening Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and Adaptation Activities Transparency Framework	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/18/18	6/10/21	\$1,204,500	\$290,000	\$ 1,494,500
10023	UNEP	Panama	Development of the National Framework for Climate Transparency of Panama	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/5/18	6/8/20	\$985,500	\$150,000	\$ 1,135,500
10025	UNEP	Burkina Faso	Capacity building for Burkina Faso's transparency system for climate change mitigation and adaptation	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/5/18	8/2/19	\$1,346,850	\$150,000	\$ 1,496,850
10026	UNEP	Togo	Togo Climate Transparency Framework	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/6/18	3/28/20	\$1,160,992	\$300,000	\$ 1,460,992
10027	UNEP	Sierra Leone	Building and strengthening Sierra Leone's national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/8/18	1/8/20	\$1,526,972	\$200,000	\$ 1,726,972

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10028	UNEP	Georgia	Georgia's Integrated Transparency Framework for Implementation of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/6/18	8/2/19	\$1,127,850	\$452,340	\$ 1,580,190
10029	UNDP	Serbia	Capacity Building to Enhance Transparency Framework for the Republic of Serbia under the framework of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/18/18	1/11/19	\$1,204,500	\$100,000	\$ 1,304,500
10031	IADB	Mexico	Transparency under the Paris Agreement: National and Subnational Contribution and Tracking towards Mexico's NDC	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/6/18	12/2/20	\$2,050,000	\$1,250,000	\$ 3,300,000
10039	UNEP	Lao PDR	Strengthening Lao PDR's institutional capacity to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/5/18	7/24/19	\$1,357,800	\$150,000	\$ 1,507,800
10040	FAO	Sri Lanka	Enhancing and bridging knowledge gaps in Sri Lanka's NDC implementation of AFOLU sector for Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)	CEO Approved	GEF-6	5/25/18	12/21/20	\$1,000,000	\$1,796,000	\$ 2,796,000
10042	UNDP	Macedonia	Strengthening Institutional and Technical Macedonian Capacities to Enhance Transparency in the Framework of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/5/18	3/1/19	\$1,445,400	\$1,410,000	\$ 2,855,400
10043	UNEP	Azerbaijan	Capacity Building to Meet enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-6	6/8/18	2/3/20	\$1,470,585	\$350,000	\$ 1,820,585

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10071	FAO	Global	Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest)	CEO Approved	GEF-7	10/23/18	10/22/19	\$1,901,270	\$5,200,000	\$ 7,101,270
10088	UNEP, UNDP	Global	Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II B: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement	Council Approved	GEF-7	12/19/19		\$7,246,214	\$900,000	\$ 8,146,214
10093	CI	Regional	Regional capacity building of COMESA member states in Eastern and Southern Africa for enhanced transparency in Climate Change Monitoring, Reporting and Verification as defined in the Paris Agreement.	CEO Approved	GEF-7	6/13/19	6/8/21	\$4,733,710	\$1,546,000	\$ 6,279,710
10118	FAO	Nicaragua	Strengthen institutional and technical capacities in the agricultural and forestry sectors of Nicaragua to respond to the requirements of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.	CEO Approved	GEF-7	10/30/18	8/24/20	\$1,000,000	\$309,600	\$ 1,309,600
10120	FAO	Equatorial Guinea	Enhancing Equatorial Guinea's institutional and technical capacity in the agriculture, forestry and other land-use sector for enhanced transparency under the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	6/27/19	5/19/20	\$1,000,000	\$536,896	\$ 1,536,896
10121	UNDP	Colombia	Colombia's 2030 MRV Strategic Vision	CEO Approved	GEF-7	12/20/18	8/25/21	\$4,206,497	\$1,810,138	\$ 6,016,635

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10128	UNEP, UNDP	Global	Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	10/30/18	7/12/21	\$2,244,750	\$400,000	\$ 2,644,750
10138	UNDP	Armenia	Building Armenia's national transparency framework under Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	4/17/19	5/19/20	\$1,084,050	\$570,000	\$ 1,654,050
10149	UNEP	Malawi	Malawi Climate Transparency Framework	CEO Approved	GEF-7	8/6/19	1/22/21	\$1,211,070	\$150,000	\$ 1,361,070
10150	UNEP	Thailand	Strengthening Thailand's institutional and technical capacities to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	9/25/19	3/23/21	\$2,234,895	\$2,027,293	\$ 4,262,188
10155	FAO	Afghanistan	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture, land-use and other sectors for monitoring and reporting on Afghanistan's mitigation and adaptation targets	CEO Approved	GEF-7	5/29/19	11/20/20	\$1,533,000	\$1,500,000	\$ 3,033,000
10156	FAO	Benin	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture, forestry and other land-use sector for enhanced transparency in the implementation and monitoring of Benin's Nationally Determined Contribution	CEO Approved	GEF-7	9/25/19	3/31/21	\$1,500,000	\$460,000	\$ 1,960,000

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10157	UNDP	Namibia	Enhancing Namibia's capacity to establish a comprehensive Transparency Framework for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate actions and reporting on NDC implementation under the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	8/6/19	11/25/20	\$1,259,250	\$60,000	\$ 1,319,250
10194	UNDP	India	Capacity-building for establishing an Integrated and Enhanced Transparency Framework for Climate actions and support measures	Council Approved	GEF-7	6/13/19		\$4,270,500	\$1,000,000	\$ 5,270,500
10227	FECO	China	China Capacity Building for Enhanced Transparency Phase I	CEO Approved	GEF-7	6/27/19	12/21/20	\$1,853,000	\$1,437,000	\$ 3,290,000
10260	UNDP	Mauritius	Strengthening the national greenhouse gas inventory of the Republic of Mauritius to improve climate reporting and transparency	CEO Approved	GEF-7	10/3/19	6/3/21	\$1,445,236	\$798,500	\$ 2,243,736
10305	UNDP	Guatemala	Strengthening Guatemala's transparency framework through capacity building to implement the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	1/9/20	7/14/21	\$1,697,250	\$300,000	\$ 1,997,250
10308	UNDP	Indonesia	Strengthening the Capacity of Institutions in Indonesia to comply with the Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement (CBIT)	CEO Approved	GEF-7	10/22/19	7/16/21	\$2,135,250	\$2,755,000	\$ 4,890,250

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10317	UNEP	Maldives	Capacity Strengthening for Improved Transparency of Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Actions in the Maldives	CEO Approved	GEF-7	12/11/19	6/7/21	\$1,645,237	\$440,000	\$ 2,085,237
10318	UNDP	Haiti	Strengthening National Institutions in Haiti to meet the Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	10/22/19	8/31/21	\$1,500,150	\$40,000	\$ 1,540,150
10342	UNEP	Paraguay	Establish an integral MRV/M&E system to enhance climate transparency in Paraguay	CEO Approved	GEF-7	12/13/19	4/20/21	\$2,066,813	\$350,000	\$ 2,416,813
10355	UNDP	Vietnam	Strengthen Viet Nam's capacities to manage data flows and report information adequately to fulfill the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement requirements	CEO Approved	GEF-7	6/17/20	9/27/21	\$2,244,173	\$3,175,000	\$ 5,419,173
10380	UNEP	Myanmar	Strengthening Myanmar's institutional and technical capacities to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement	PIF Approved	GEF-7	7/1/20		\$1,597,003	\$ -	\$ 1,597,003
10427	UNEP	Bahamas	Building the Bahamas capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation	CEO Approved	GEF-7	7/21/20	7/12/21	\$1,537,599	\$338,333	\$ 1,875,932
10428	UNEP	Mauritania	Strengthening Mauritania's national capacity for transparency and ambitious climate reporting	PIF approved	GEF-7	11/25/20		\$1,261,659	\$161,450	\$ 1,423,109

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10429	UNEP	Zimbabwe	Strengthening the Capacity of Institutions in Zimbabwe to conform to the Transparency Requirements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	7/21/20	7/8/21	\$1,379,700	\$355,600	\$ 1,735,300
10446	UNEP	Cameroon	Capacity-building for transparency in NDC implementation in Cameroon	PIF Approved	GEF-7	10/21/20		\$1,804,012	\$311,000	\$ 2,115,012
10449	UNEP	Fiji	Strengthen capacity to ensure transparency of action implemented and support received to implement Fiji's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS)	CEO Approved	GEF-7	4/2/20	8/30/21	\$1,615,125	\$100,000	\$ 1,715,125
10479	UNDP	Sudan	Sudan's Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency Project	PIF Approved	GEF-7	7/1/20		\$1,409,265	\$400,000	\$ 1,809,265
10485	CI	Gambia	Strengthening capacity of institutions in The Gambia to meet transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement	CEO Approved	GEF-7	7/2/20	9/3/21	\$1,253,500	\$145,000	\$ 1,398,500
10596	UNEP	Trinidad and Tobago	Strengthening Trinidad and Tobago's capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation	CEO Approved	GEF-7	7/2/20	7/12/21	\$1,210,413	\$385,672	\$ 1,596,085
10635	UNEP	Lesotho	Enabling Lesotho's Enhanced Transparency Framework	PIF Approved	GEF-7	8/5/21		\$1,349,588	\$217,800	\$ 1,567,388

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10648	UNEP	Burundi	Building Capacities in Burundi to implement the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement	PIF Approved	GEF-7	7/8/21		\$1,399,410	\$123,000	\$ 1,522,410
10668	UNEP	Tanzania	Tanzania's Climate Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)	PIF Approved	GEF-7	8/20/21		\$1,307,430	\$113,850	\$ 1,421,280
10669	FAO	Bhutan	Strengthening institutional and technical capacities for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Bhutan's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)	PIF Approved	GEF-7	2/23/21		\$2,000,000	\$1,895,600	\$ 3,895,600
10734	FAO	Democratic Republic of Congo	Strengthening capacities in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use sector of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to enhance transparency and tracking of the Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement	PIF Approved	GEF-7	3/1/21		\$2,190,000	\$105,428	\$ 2,295,428
10760	FAO	Solomon Islands	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture and land-use as well as energy sectors in Solomon Islands for enhanced transparency in implementation and monitoring of Solomon Island's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)	PIF Approved	GEF-7	7/14/21		\$1,300,000	\$2,676,857	\$ 3,976,857

GEF ID	Agency	Country	Title	Project Status	GEF Phase	PIF Approved	CEO endorsement	Total GEF amount	Co-financing	Total project cost
10761	FAO	Vanuatu	Strengthening capacity in the Energy, Agriculture, Forestry and other Land-use sectors for Enhanced Transparency in the Implementation and Monitoring of Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution	PIF Approved	GEF-7	7/22/21		\$1,300,000	\$2,994,500	\$ 4,294,500
10772	FAO	Uzbekistan	Capacity building to establish an integrated and enhanced transparency framework in Uzbekistan to track the national climate actions and support measures received	PIF Approved	GEF-7	8/20/21		\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$ 2,000,000
10818	UNEP	Ecuador	Implementing Ecuador's Transparency System	PIF Approved	GEF-7	7/8/21		\$2,231,610	\$1,080,057	\$ 3,311,667