

## ***Third Informal Consultation Meeting on Financial Support for Biennial Transparency Reports***

**Date: February 24, 2022  
(THURSDAY)  
Time: 8:00-11:00  
Eastern Standard Time  
via Webex**

### **Background:**

The modalities, procedures, and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement were adopted in December 2018 at the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP24). The Global Environment Facility (GEF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, was requested to support developing country Parties in preparing their first and subsequent biennial transparency reports (BTRs).

In November 2021, the third Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA.3) provided specific guidance to the GEF, *inter alia*, it welcomed actions taken by the GEF to provide support to developing country Parties in preparing their BTRs in accordance with Article 13, paragraphs 14–15, of the Paris Agreement. It also reiterated its request to the GEF to consider increasing its support for the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement and requested the GEF to provide to the CMA an estimate of the cost related to support for reporting, capacity-building and system establishment for reporting in developing countries.

In June 2020, the GEF organized the first virtual “*Informal Consultation Meeting on Financial Support for Biennial Transparency Reports*”<sup>1</sup> to discuss support needs, possible modalities, and timing for BTRs with partners. In November 2020, a second informal consultation<sup>2</sup> was carried out to present the modalities made available by the GEF for supporting the BTRs and related reporting and get feedback from the various stakeholders.

Following the informal consultations, the information note on the “*Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement*”<sup>3</sup> was submitted to the 59<sup>th</sup> GEF Council, which met in December 2020. The GEF CEO then made the support modalities available and communicated them to all countries in February 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> Information is available at: <https://www.thegef.org/events/informal-consultation-meeting-financial-support-biennial-transparency-reports-under-paris>

<sup>2</sup> Information is available at: <https://www.thegef.org/events/second-informal-consultation-financial-support-biennial-transparency-reports>

<sup>3</sup> GEF, 2020, [Information Note on the Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement](#), Council Document GEF/C.59/Inf.19.

Since then, the GEF has started to receive and approve requests for support from developing country Parties for preparing their first BTRs. As of October 1, 2021, the GEF has approved four enabling projects supporting 12 BTRs in 11 countries. Eight of these countries are least developed countries (LDCs) or small island developing States (SIDS). As of October 1 2021, the GEF has provided \$11.6 million to prepare BTRs. Moreover, the GEF is looking at potential modalities to provide expedited support to developing country Parties to submit their first BTRs by December 31 2024, at the latest, in accordance with 18/CMA. 1, para. 3.

### **Meeting Objective:**

The GEF is organizing a third *Informal Consultation Meeting on Financial Support for the BTRs* to receive informal feedback to help identify and assess any necessary adjustments to the current operational guidelines and costing related to the support for BTR preparation, in light of the above guidance received at CMA.3. Participants will include government representatives, members from the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE), the UNFCCC Secretariat, and relevant GEF Implementing Agencies.

The key questions that will be explored at this meeting:

1. How are the current operational modalities and procedures responding to the need to further support countries to prepare and submit their first BTR before December 31, 2024, and can any possible adjustment be introduced to enhance efficiency and timeliness?
2. What are the suggested cost elements that may merit adjustments for BTR support in the GEF-8 period, based on the adopted modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs), and how could they be adjusted?
3. How can the GEF help to expedite the support provision to countries, so as to enable timely BTR submission to UNFCCC?

**Provisional Agenda  
(as of February 24, 2022)**

Time	Agenda item
8:00-8:15	<p><b>Welcome remarks and introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, <i>CEO, GEF Secretariat</i></li> </ul>
8:15–8:35	<p><b>Update on Enhanced Transparency Framework and BTRs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jigme, <i>Manager, MRV/ETF Support Subdivision, Transparency Division, UNFCCC Secretariat</i></li> </ul> <p>The UNFCCC will provide an overview of the Enhanced Transparency Framework and BTRs based on the outcomes of COP26 and CMA.3.</p>
8:35-9:30	<p><b>Costing of BTRs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderated by Filippo Berardi, <i>Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat.</i></li> <li>• Presentation by Esteban Bermudez Forn – <i>Climate Change Specialist, GEF Secretariat</i></li> </ul> <p>The GEF will provide the costing of the BTR that has been made available to countries, and request feedback on participants on any needs to merit adjustments and rationale.</p>
9:30-10:45	<p><b>Perspectives on modalities for enhanced BTR support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderated by Filippo Berardi, <i>Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Enhanced BTR support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by Patricia Marcos Huidobro – <i>Senior Climate Change Specialist, GEF Secretariat</i></li> </ul> <p>The GEF will present the available modalities to support BTRs in the GEF-7 period. The GEF will solicit feedback on the modalities based on experience to date and anticipated needs. Inputs from the informal discussion will help inform possible modality updates for the GEF-8 period.</p> <p><i>Perspectives on modalities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by <i>UNDP and UNEP</i></li> </ul> <p>The UNDP and UNEP will present their perspectives on modalities to provide expedited support to the first BTRs by the end of 2024 based on the adopted modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs).</p>
10:45-11:00	<p><b>Closing: outcomes and next steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chizuru Aoki, <i>Lead Environmental Specialist, GEF Secretariat</i></li> </ul>

## **Webex meeting information:**

Registry link:

<https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m07290fdb71b52a753c5040db03aeb2b>

Meeting link:

<https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m4445704f1d539e320aa109274fa09dd5>

Meeting number:

2307 448 8169

Password:

TRm3FBdki28

Join by video system

Dial 23074488169@worldbankgroup.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

1-650-479-3207 Call-in number (US/Canada)

°Access code: 2307 448 8169

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