

Workshop on Reporting Systems under the Enhanced Transparency Framework

Date: October 12, 2022 (WEDNESDAY) Time: 8:00-10:30 am EDT (UTC-4) via Webex

Background:

The Paris Agreement was adopted by the Parties at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) Twenty-first Conference of the Parties (COP 21) in December 2015. The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) is a crucial result of the Paris Agreement for tracking and reporting the progress of existing and future country commitments, with built-in flexibility for developing country Parties.

In November 2021, the third Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA.3) provided guidance to the GEF related to the support to developing country Parties for the implementation of the ETF. In particular, decision 12/CMA.3 paragraph 7(a) requested the GEF to estimate "the cost to developing countries of implementing the enhanced transparency framework, which includes establishing and enhancing a reporting system, as well as the full agreed cost of reporting and the cost of capacity-building for reporting."

In the absence of a specific definition of what constitutes a reporting system, such a system can be interpreted to be referring to the institutional arrangements and technical capacities indicated in decision 18/CMA.1 for reporting by developing countries of information on GHG inventories, tracking the progress of NDCs, mitigation, adaptation, as well as the support needed and received. Additional elements should include the information technology infrastructure (hardware and software) necessary to manage such information.

Several of the elements listed above, related to the establishment and enhancement of the reporting systems, are currently eligible for support through the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). To respond to CMA guidance, the GEF Secretariat has conducted an analysis to highlight the relevance of the current CBIT portfolio in providing support for the building blocks of a reporting system, and the related costs. Countries and GEF Agencies will share case studies aimed at contributing to advance the participants' common understanding of the typical building blocks that constitute such reporting systems and their associated costs.

The CBIT was established by the Global Environment Facility in response to the Paris Agreement decision to help strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of developing countries to meet the ETF requirements defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The CBIT has three aims: (i) Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities; (ii) Provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement; and (iii) Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

The total CBIT project portfolio, as of September 21, 2022, comprises 88 projects; 82 are individual country projects, one is a regional project (including four countries), and five are global projects. These 86 countries represent 55.8 percent of all 154 non-Annex I Parties. The total CBIT support amounts to \$144.6 million, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

As in prior GEF cycles, the Eight Replenishment (GEF-8) Climate Change focal area strategy will continue to address the need for enabling conditions to mainstream climate change concerns into national planning and development agendas. The GEF will continue to support enabling activities, including Convention obligations and the CBIT, through sound data collection, analysis, and enhanced policy frameworks. Countries will also continue to have access to resources intended for Convention obligations and CBIT support from set-asides that do not draw on country allocations.

Meeting Objective:

The objective of this workshop is to discuss how the GEF, countries, and Agencies are addressing issues related to establishing and enhancing the reporting system referred to in paragraph 7 (a) of decision 12/CMA.3. Participants will include government representatives, members from the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE), the UNFCCC Secretariat, and relevant GEF Implementing Agencies.

Agenda (as of October 6, 2022):

Time	Agenda item
8:00-8:15	Welcome remarks and introduction
	Chizuru Aoki, Lead Environmental Specialist, GEF Secretariat
8:15-8:30	Update on Enhanced Transparency Framework
	Ms. Tugba Icmeli, Team Lead, CGE/ETF Support Unit, Transparency Division, UNFCCC Secretariat – Presenter on behalf of the UNFCCC Secretariat
	The UNFCCC will provide an overview of the ETF in the run-up to COP27, and particularly of any elements related to how to define a reporting system under the ETF.
8:30-9:15	 GEF support under the ETF Moderated by Filippo Berardi, Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat. Presentation by Esteban Bermudez Forn, Climate Change Specialist, GEF Secretariat
	The GEF will provide an overview of its support to countries under the ETF. The GEF will also present the results of an analysis of the cost estimates of reporting systems from approved CBIT projects with data provided by relevant Agencies. After the presentation, the Moderator will open the floor for discussion among participants.
9:15–10:15	Perspectives on the establishment and enhancement of reporting systems • Moderated by Filippo Berardi, Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat
	 Presentation by Dr. Amr Abdel-Aziz, Transparency Lead, COP27 Presidency – on behalf of Egypt and the COP27 Presidency Presentation by Ms. Dolgorsuren Sanjjav, CBIT Mongolia National Project Manager, FAO –on behalf of Mongolia Presentation by Mr. Emmanuel Kouakou, Deputy Coordinator of the NDC revision process; Deputy Coordinator of the National Climate Change Programme and Interim coordinator of the CBIT project –on behalf of Cote D'Ivoire Presentation by Mr. Richard Martínez Caro, Coordinator, National System of GHG Inventories, Ministry of Environment –on behalf of Chile Presentation by Mr. Daniel Tutu Benefoh, Deputy Director, Climate Change Unit, Environmental Protection Agency – on behalf of Ghana
	Country representatives will share their perspectives, experiences, and lessons learned related to establishing and enhancing reporting systems. After the presentation, the Moderator will open the floor for discussion among participants.
10:15–10:30	Closing: outcomes and next steps • Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO and Chairperson, GEF