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Project Identification Form (PIF) entry – Full Sized Project – GEF - 7

## Capacity-building for establishing an Integrated and Enhanced Transparency Framework for Climate actions and support measures

### Part I: Project Information

**GEF ID**

10194

**Project Type**

FSP

**Type of Trust Fund**

GET

**CBIT**

No

**Project Title**

Capacity-building for establishing an Integrated and Enhanced Transparency Framework for Climate actions and support measures

**Countries**

India

**Agency(ies)**

UNDP

**Other Executing Partner(s)**

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

**Executing Partner Type**

Government

**GEF Focal Area**

Climate Change

**Taxonomy**

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Information Dissemination, Type of Engagement, Stakeholders, Partnership, Beneficiaries, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Awareness Raising, Communications, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Equality, Gender-sensitive indicators, Knowledge Generation, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, Enabling Activities, Capacity Development, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, Paris Agreement, Nationally Determined Contribution

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 2

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 1

**Duration**

48 In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

361,000

**Submission Date**

4/5/2019

## A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

| Programming Directions | Trust Fund                     | GEF Amount(\$)   | Co-Fin Amount(\$) |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| CCM-3-8                | GET                            | 3,800,000        | 1,000,000         |
|                        | <b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b> | <b>3,800,000</b> | <b>1,000,000</b>  |

**B. Indicative Project description summary****Project Objective**

To enable domestic policy planners following the enhanced transparency framework guidelines prescribed by the Paris agreement through an efficient coordination mechanism between relevant stakeholders

| <b>Project Component</b>  | <b>Financing Type</b> | <b>Project Outcomes</b>  | <b>Project Outputs</b>   | <b>Trust Fund</b> | <b>GEF Amount(\$)</b> | <b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b> |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Creating an enabling environment for enhanced transparency across all the levels of governance | Technical Assistance  | 1.1 The nodal ministry (MoEFCC) would be better equipped to lead, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate policies, strategies, and programmes to enhance transparency, including communications with states and expert agencies in an effective manner. | 1.1.1 Strengthened national mandate and strategies to collect, compile, verify, and report relevant information adhering to the principles of TACCC (Transparency, Accuracy, Completeness, Comparability, Consistency) | GET               | 220,000               | 100,000                  |
| 1. Creating an enabling environment for enhanced transparency across all the levels of governance | Technical Assistance  | 1.1 The nodal ministry (MoEFCC) would be better equipped to lead, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate policies, strategies, and programmes to enhance transparency, including communications with states and expert agencies in an effective manner. | 1.1.2 Developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and assigning trained focal point among institutions covering each sector and state/union territory (UT).  | GET               | 75,000                | 30,000                   |

|  |                      |  |   |     |         |         |
|--|----------------------|--|---|-----|---------|---------|
| 1. Creating an enabling environment for enhanced transparency across all the levels of governance                  | Technical Assistance | 1.2 Bringing all stakeholder together through a web-based <b>National Institutional Coordination System (NICS)</b> to enhance efficiency and transparency with climate reporting | 1.2.1. Efficient recordkeeping of activity data, socio-economic indicators, emission factors, methodology and assumptions, etc. | GET | 100,000 | 140,000 |
| 2. Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable)                                    | 2.1.1 Tools, templates, and training for agencies/experts involved in the inventory process.                                    | GET | 50,000  |         |
| 2. Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable)                                    | 2.1.2 Coverage of NF3 gas-based emissions   | GET | 100,000 | 150,000 |

|   |                      |   |   |     |         |        |
|---|----------------------|---|---|-----|---------|--------|
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable) | 2.1.3 Improvement in the <b>energy sector</b> : Achieving granularity with activity data (example: grade wise coal consumption) and bringing clarity on the unorganised sector operations | GET | 200,000 | 50,000 |
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable) | 2.1.4 Improvement in <b>Agriculture sector</b> : State-level validation of activity data (example: dung produced per animal, feeding patterns)  | GET | 150,000 | 50,000 |
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable) | 2.1.5 Improvement in the <b>LULUCF sector</b> : Establishing modelling capacity at the state or institutional level through trained experts and civil-society assistance                  | GET | 152,000 | 50,000 |

|   |                      |  |   |     |         |        |
|---|----------------------|--|---|-----|---------|--------|
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable)              | 2.1.6 Improvement in the <b>IPPU sector</b> for transparent and accurate coverage   | GET | 200,000 | 50,000 |
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.1 Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable)              | 2.1.7 Improvement in the <b>waste sector</b> : Establishing a system to collect activity data aggregated at centralised level. (example: treatment pathway, emission characteristics, etc.)   | GET | 200,000 | 50,000 |
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.2 Information to facilitate Clarity, Transparency, and Understanding (ICTU) of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) associated with climate actions | 2.2.1 Developing capacity of national experts with equitable participation of men and women nominated from academia, research institutes, civil society and public agencies. Implementing the concept of 'train the trainers' to sustain capacities within institutions | GET | 60,000  | 10,000 |

|   |                         |  |   |     |         |        |
|---|-------------------------|--|---|-----|---------|--------|
| 2.<br>Strengthening<br>institutional<br>capacities for<br>Measurement,<br>Reporting and<br>Verification<br>(MRV) of<br>climate<br>information | Technical<br>Assistance | 2.2 Information to facilitate<br>Clarity, Transparency, and<br>Understanding (ICTU) of<br>Nationally Determined<br>Contributions (NDC)<br>associated with climate<br>actions | 2.2.2 Peer-exchange<br>programmes and co-learning<br>activities among states to<br>promote scalability and<br>replication of initiatives in a<br>cost-effective manner. | GET | 65,000  | 20,000 |
| 2.<br>Strengthening<br>institutional<br>capacities for<br>Measurement,<br>Reporting and<br>Verification<br>(MRV) of<br>climate<br>information | Technical<br>Assistance | 2.2 Information to facilitate<br>Clarity, Transparency, and<br>Understanding (ICTU) of<br>Nationally Determined<br>Contributions (NDC)<br>associated with climate<br>actions | 2.2.3 Tools, templates, and<br>training towards tracking<br>progress of NDC with<br>mitigation and adaptation<br>goals  | GET | 100,000 |        |
| 2.<br>Strengthening<br>institutional<br>capacities for<br>Measurement,<br>Reporting and<br>Verification<br>(MRV) of<br>climate<br>information | Technical<br>Assistance | 2.3 State focal points<br>submitting information through<br>NICS   | 2.3.1 An IT-enabled system<br>coupled with the mandated<br>process of reporting<br>information on standardised<br>templates.  | GET | 300,000 | 50,000 |

|   |                      |  |  |     |         |         |
|---|----------------------|--|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.4 Developing Capacity retention mechanisms | 2.4.1 Establishing baseline of current capacity gaps against best practices recommended by Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and relevant agencies, design a strategy to address these gaps. | GET | 140,000 | 100,000 |
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.4 Developing Capacity retention mechanisms | 2.4.2 Ensuring each capacity-building element incorporates long term sustainability features in a gender-neutral manner and at all the levels of governance                                    | GET | 100,000 |         |
| 2.<br>Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information | Technical Assistance | 2.4 Developing Capacity retention mechanisms | 2.4.3 Study of the best practices of select countries and knowledge exchange   | GET | 20,000  |         |

|  |                      |   |   |     |         |        |
|--|----------------------|---|---|-----|---------|--------|
| 3. Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner | Technical Assistance | 3.1 Dissemination of relevant information on GHG inventories and NDC progress through NCR | 3.1.1 Integrating NICS with National Inventory Management System (NIMS) and other online tracking tools to create a centralised registry for disseminating information in the public domain | GET | 238,000 | 40,000 |
| 3. Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner | Technical Assistance | 3.1 Dissemination of relevant information on GHG inventories and NDC progress through NCR | 3.1.2 A progress tracker for NDCs, covering inputs from each state and sector towards progress made on mitigation targets and adaptation goals.   | GET | 200,000 |        |
| 3. Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner | Technical Assistance | 3.2 Enhanced capacity to mobilise climate finance   | 3.2.1 Evaluation of support activities and capacity development of relevant institutions to mobilise climate finance  | GET | 100,000 |        |
| 3. Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner | Technical Assistance | 3.2 Enhanced capacity to mobilise climate finance   | 3.2.2 National classification system of climate finance to be developed and integrated with all policies and schemes across the country   | GET | 190,000 |        |

|  |                      |  |   |     |                  |                  |
|--|----------------------|--|---|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 3. Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner | Technical Assistance | 3.2 Enhanced capacity to mobilise climate finance  | 3.2.3 Sectoral/sub-national assessment of financial resource needed to implement the NDCs. Also highlighting specific barriers related to technology needs or any other capacity-building support | GET | 230,000          |                  |
| 3. Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner | Technical Assistance | 3.3 Knowledge management and project-related learnings   | 3.3.1 Showcasing case studies and featuring them through GEF global coordination platform.  | GET | 50,000           |                  |
| 1. Creating an enabling environment for enhanced transparency across all the levels of governance    | Technical Assistance | 1.2 Bringing all stakeholder together through a web-based <b>National Institutional Coordination System (NICS)</b> to enhance efficiency and transparency with climate reporting | 1.2.2 Archiving systems for future referencing and performing recalculations  | GET | 120,000          | 50,000           |
| 1. Creating an enabling environment for enhanced transparency across all the levels of governance    | Technical Assistance | 1.2 Bringing all stakeholder together through a web-based <b>National Institutional Coordination System (NICS)</b> to enhance efficiency and transparency with climate reporting | 1.2.3 Aggregation and exchange of relevant information through NICS   | GET | 260,000          | 60,000           |
| <b>Sub Total (\$)</b>  |                      |  |   |     | <b>3,620,000</b> | <b>1,000,000</b> |

**Project Management Cost (PMC)**

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|  |                               |                  |                  |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|  | GET                           | 180,000          |                  |
|  | <b>Sub Total(\$)</b>          | <b>180,000</b>   | <b>0</b>         |
|  | <b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b> | <b>3,800,000</b> | <b>1,000,000</b> |

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## C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

| Sources of Co-financing | Name of Co-financier   | Type of Co-financing | Investment Mobilized          | Amount(\$)       |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Government              | Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Government of India | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures        | 1,000,000        |
|                         |  |                      | <b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b> | <b>1,000,000</b> |

## Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

N/A

## D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

| Agency                         | Trust Fund | Country | Focal Area     | Programming of Funds | Amount(\$)       | Fee(\$)        | Total(\$)        |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------|----------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| UNDP                           | GET        | India   | Climate Change | CBIT Set-Aside       | 3,800,000        | 361,000        | 4,161,000        |
| <b>Total GEF Resources(\$)</b> |            |         |                |                      | <b>3,800,000</b> | <b>361,000</b> | <b>4,161,000</b> |

## E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Amount (\$)

100,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

9,500

| Agency                         | Trust Fund | Country | Focal Area     | Programming of Funds | Amount(\$)     | Fee(\$)      | Total(\$)      |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| UNDP                           | GET        | India   | Climate Change | CBIT Set-Aside       | 100,000        | 9,500        | <b>109,500</b> |
| <b>Total Project Costs(\$)</b> |            |         |                |                      | <b>100,000</b> | <b>9,500</b> | <b>109,500</b> |

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

|              | Number (Expected at PIF) | Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Number (Achieved at MTR) | Number (Achieved at TE) |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Female       | 750                      |                                      |                          |                         |
| Male         | 750                      |                                      |                          |                         |
| <b>Total</b> | 1500                     | 0                                    | 0                        | 0                       |

## Part II. Project Justification

### 1a. Project Description

#### 1. The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Climate change – as it has been widely recognised as the biggest threat to the global economy according to the World Economic Forum’s risk reports – needs immediate and collective action to address vulnerabilities and prevent further damage through mitigation efforts. It impacts poorest of countries, poses unpredicted risk and vulnerabilities through extreme events of flood and draughts. India is one among many vulnerable economies. India supports world’s second largest population with a Human Development Index (HDI) score of just 0.586 ranking it at 135<sup>th</sup> position in terms of development. This showcase the aspirational gap amidst apparent threats of climate change.

In 2015, India submitted its first Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) document (now, NDC). India followed a very balanced and comprehensive approach towards climate change goals. India’s mitigation targets are very well placed, much above even many developed countries in terms of being ambitious and compliant with 2-degree scenario. On the other side, adaptation and vulnerability gaps poses a grim and challenging picture to its development prospects. Regardless of such challenges, India has always been sensitive and proactive when it comes to sharing the burden of climate leadership. India’s advance progress with its pre-2020 voluntary commitments validates its role at global forum.

An early ratification of Paris agreement was cheered globally as it brought consensus among the majority of the world (especially the biggest emitters) to shoulder the common goal of lowering the rise in temperature in a differentiated and equitable manner. The underlying principle of mutual trust and enhanced transparency were seen as biggest drivers behind a country-driven approach to deal with climate change. Article 13 of the agreement elaborated the broader outline of the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) to be followed by all countries, while leaving flexibility for the countries as per their respective capacities. COP 24 (at Katowice) was another landmark year as it brought a broad consensus on modalities, procedure, and guidelines (MPGs) of the ETF through a draft decision CMA.1. As much as these MPGs are extensive and very detailed, India along with many other countries lack commensurate capacity to follow them in entirety. Realising this, the convention formulated the Paris Committee on Capacity building (PCCB), whereas Global Environment Facility (GEF) introduced a dedicated finance measure (CBIT), to support capacity-building of developed countries.

Since 1992, India has significantly gained from the experience of its national reporting to the convention; especially with Initial National Communication (NC) of 2004, Second NC in 2012, first Biennial Update Report (BUR) in 2015 followed by a slightly delayed second BUR in 2018. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has continuously supported India in sustaining, mainstreaming, replicating, scaling-up and transforming markets towards achieving developmental priorities. Moreover, a cumulative grant of USD 516.6 million over six cycles has leveraged almost USD three billion as co-funding to prioritise sustainable conservation practices primarily around climate change actions. Each support programme has played a significant role in creating an enabling environment within the country. India’s second BUR updates country-specific emission factors for key categories, hence

substantiating capacity-building and continuous improvement over time. As per current status highlighted in second BUR, MRV mechanism is still evolving at the country level. Some of the major policies and programmes having their independent MRV process reflects a good start to further scale up across all the sectors.

This proposal seeks a capacity-building assistance from GEF through CBIT support mechanism to establish enhanced transparency through tapping full potential of existing institutions, policies and trained manpower.

In general, lack of stable and permanent institutional arrangements at the national level is one of the biggest barriers towards defining regulatory and technical frameworks for a progressive reporting. (UNFCCC (2016) "Third Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Framework for Capacity-building in Developing Countries," technical paper by the Secretariat, FCCC/TP/2016/1, 13 May 2016, Pp. 12) In India, the MoEFCC is the nodal ministry responsible for domestic strategy for addressing climate change. The MoEFCC has commissioned several studies in the last few years with a clear objective of strengthening the scientific and analytical capacity towards climate reporting. Some of the initiatives are: climate change action programme (CCAP); National Carbonaceous Aerosols Programme (NCAP); long-term GHG modelling studies on GHG emissions and emission intensity of Indian economy, etc. MoEFCC is also coordinating on the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) approved by the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change (PMCCC). An executive committee on climate change (ECCC) under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister had been set up to oversee NDC implementation and to closely monitor progress with eight national missions under NAPCC. This political and legal architecture supports a wider network of institutions, public agencies, sectoral and state departments to collect and provide information for climate reporting. Despite all the above listed efforts, capacity and mandate to track mitigation and other objectives is still ill defined and limited in many ways. A unified and integrated MRV/transparency system is still evolving and is very much a work-in-progress.

A robust and accurate GHG inventory is the entry point for a well-designed policy planning system. India's second BUR highlights data (collection, validation, coherence) as big constraint across all the sectors. In addition, the absence of institutional capacities to develop country-specific emission factors for liquid and gaseous fuels and to perform uncertainty assessments are big roadblocks towards achieving TACCC. A thriving unorganised/informal sector in India poses uncertainties and accounting challenges to Indian policy makers. Notably, as second BUR highlights, most of India's capacity building needs listed in the first NC are still active and very much pertinent in today's time!

If India has to even map its baseline capacity, a coordinated approach between sectors and state is needed to assess finer details around current capacity. At present, there is little or no coordination among public agencies as evident from the SAPCC submitted by 32 states/UTs. Implementation of Third NC activities is expected to enhanced coordination among states, but in a very crude manner. A real-time web-based communication system would be very helpful to speed-up the coordination among relevant agencies, thereby minimising delays and keeping a record of exchanged information.

The draft decision on MPGs of ETF discussed at COP24 brings more clarity to the capacity-building efforts required for further reporting. CBIT support to the developing countries would play a catalytic role to ramp up reporting capacities and become compliant to best practices prescribed by the convention.

Katowice guidelines recommends a detailed description of methodology, assumption and accounting process in the biennial transparency reporting. Practically, it is much easier to track and report the progress made on mitigation goals as they are measurable in terms of intensity reduction targets (33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level); share of non-fossil electricity (40% cumulative installed capacity by 2030); adding carbon sinks (2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent). However, adaptation and vulnerability related communicated poses quantification barrier as targets are not very well-defined. Adaptation goals in India's NDC talks about – mobilising domestic and new additional funds; enhancing investments in development programme in sectors vulnerable to climate change, particularly agriculture, water resources, Himalayan region, coastal region, health and disaster management. These finds overlap with five of the eight missions described under the national action plan on climate change (NAPCC). "Adaptation communication shall provide information necessary to track the progress of the implementation and achievement of the domestic policies and measures implemented to address the social and economic consequences of response measures," as directed by COP24 guidelines. Developing performance indicators around the NAPCC missions should make such task easier.

The proposed CBIT project builds upon existing capacities and ongoing initiatives to further MRV process in an integrated manner. In addition, it takes note of recent developments across the developing countries towards capacity-building for enhanced transparency. Subsequently, it envisions an IT-enabled system (NICS) to govern interaction between relevant stakeholders in a coordinated and timely manner. These stakeholders involves state and sectoral focal points, national experts, public agencies, verification bodies, etc. NICS will find appropriate integration with the National Inventory Management System (NIMS) proposed under the third NC to streamline GHG inventory reporting. Thus, any odd chance with duplicity of efforts shall be carefully minimised. This project will adhere to the principles of TACCC through standardised reporting templates; promoting relevant tools to measure and report information; and providing suitable training, etc. to identified stakeholders. A standard system to report and maintain information would be one of the key features of this project.

Another big barrier in the process of achieving inclusive climate reporting is the integration of gender issues and participation of women in the climate change decision-making process. In developing countries (including India) – women face relatively high vulnerability, unequal access to resources, and limited mobility. Involvement of women in climate change decision-making process helps in gender-balanced reporting of mitigation and adaptation measures, reflecting a better understanding of socio-economic realities.

## 2. The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

India ratified the UNFCCC in 1993, soon after its adoption in 1992. Since ratification, India has taken up several policy initiatives towards climate mitigation. This includes a voluntary commitment of reducing the emission intensity of its GDP by 20-20% from 2005 levels by 2020. Afterwards, India ratified Kyoto Protocol in 2002 followed by ratifying the Doha amendment in 2017; thereby, reaffirming its continued commitments towards climate actions. Some of the initial efforts taken up by India shall be discussed as follows:(MOEFCC (2010) – India: Taking on Climate Change Source; Available on [http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/24\\_Recent\\_Initiatives\\_CC.pdf](http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/24_Recent_Initiatives_CC.pdf); Accessed 23 Janu ary 2019)

### *Science and Research:*

- **Indian Network for Climate Change Assessment (INCCA)**, involving over 120 institutions and 250 scientists was launched in 2010
- Himalayan glaciers monitoring programme was commissioned

- Launching satellites to study a wide range of environmental parameters, including aerosols and greenhouse gas emissions
- Developing scenarios towards medium term (2030) and mid-century (2050) pathways

Since the preparation of its first NC, the process of development of NCs has triggered large scale networking, capacity building and involvement of research organizations and various government departments. The preparation of previous two NCs has led to the development of expert teams for preparation of GHG inventories as well as an assessment of impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation. This demonstrates that India has greatly benefitted from the domestic and international support, primarily from capacity-building provided for preparing NCs and BURs. However, the absence of a formal charter and defined responsibilities also indicates a lack of retention mechanisms with capacity-building efforts due to support constraints. For instance, as [India's project document featuring preparation of its third NC](#) highlights – the focus of INCCA was limited to the one-time vulnerability assessment and preparation of only 2007 inventories. (UNDP: Project document, "Preparation of Third National Communication and other new information to the UNFCCC," available at: <https://www.undp.org/content/dam/india/docs/TNC-ProDoc.pdf> (Page 19) Moreover, since 2010, INCCA has not been able to generate any new study/report to establish continued support to the reporting process.

#### ***Policy initiatives:***

- Expert group on low carbon economy for strategic planning and feeding into the 12th five-year plan
- Formulating Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change coordinating national actions for assessment, adaptation and mitigation measures
- SAPCC formulation in 2009, and now subsequent revision initiated in 2018-19
- National Missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) covering eight ambitious goals around enhanced energy efficiency, renewable targets (solar and wind), water resource management, sustaining the Himalayan ecosystem, improving forest cover, sustainable agriculture and building climate change knowledge systems.
- Activity and service level policies and measures across energy-intensive sectors. For example – fuel efficiency norms, energy efficiency standards for appliances, replacing bulbs/CFL with energy efficiency lighting, etc.
- Forest management through afforestation, reforestation, CAMPA fund for conservation, etc.

The above-listed policy initiatives illustrate some of the major steps taken towards mitigation and associated policy planning. It is not a comprehensive list; several measures often get taken up by the state agencies or are embedded in sector-specific development goals. Mitigation policies and programmes vary in their scope and the administrative level at which implementation is managed (state, regional, national, sectoral, and voluntary at individual unit level). This also poses a challenge of tracking the cumulative impact of all the measure, as prescribed by the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris agreement. As recognised by India's first BUR submission, for many sectors and schemes, India has well-established performance and financial monitoring systems. However, this monitoring and review is confined only at the project level and is limited to few parameters only. Table 1 provides a brief summary of sector-level MRV that exists in India.

Table 1: Summary of sector-wise MRV status in India

| Sector           | Schemes and Processes   | M-R-V status     | Agencies Involved |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Power Generation | User baseline study     | M & R Identified | CEA               |
|                  | Clean coal technologies | Inbuilt MRV      | CEA, CERC, SERC   |

|                |  |                  |  |
|----------------|--|------------------|--|
| Renewables     | Renewable Purchasing Obligation  | Inbuilt MRV      | SERC, DISCOMs, POSOCO, CAG   |
| Buildings      | Buildings Star Rating System, GRIHA, LEEDs                                       | Inbuilt MRV      | BEE, IGBC, GRIHA   |
|                | Domestic Efficient Lighting Program  | Inbuilt MRV      | EESL, DISCOMs  |
|                | Street Lighting National Program   | Inbuilt MRV      | EESL, DISCOMs  |
| Industry       | Perform Achieve and Trade – I,II III   | Inbuilt MRV      | BEE, Designated Consumers (Industries), Empaneled energy Auditor   |
|                | Zero Defect Zero Effect  | MRV identified   | Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, MSME, QCI   |
| Transportation | Electrification of Railways  | M & R Identified | Indian Railways  |
|                | Dedicated Freight Corridors of Indian Railways                                   | M & R Identified | Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India, CPCB, SPCB  |
|                | Blending   | M & R Identified | Oil marketing companies, MNRE  |
|                | Aviation   | M & R Identified | Directorate General of Civil Aviation  |
| Forestry       | Afforestation  | MRV identified   | FSI, CAMPA, CAG  |
|                | Twenty Point Programme   | MRV identified   | Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation  |
| Agriculture    | System of Rice Intensification (SRI), Crop Diversification, Cool Farm Tool model | MRV identified   | Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries<br>Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare<br>Department of Agricultural Research and Education |
| Waste          | Solid Waste Management Programmes, Waste Water Recycling and Waste to Energy     | MRV identified   | CPCB, SPCB   |

Source: A compilation by Council on Energy, Environment and Water

There is no comprehensive mechanism that exists in India to report the overall impact in terms of GHG emission reduction and other benefits. India is in process of developing an integrated MRV system to track such policy impacts in an aggregated manner. At present, the data provider agencies collect information primarily to track the performance of developmental targets and not necessarily climate mitigation impact arising from the programmes and policies, unless defined purposefully. The ongoing efforts with the NIMS have noted such gaps and aim to establish procedures around data management, uncertainty analysis, and QA/QC arrangement for inventories. It is designed as a long-term system which shall be integrated with the domestic MRV/transparency framework, as specified in the second BUR. An extension of such a system towards tracking of policy level mitigation and adaptation impact will complement the transparency efforts in a huge manner.

The MoEFCC has established a Project Management Cell (PMC) through support from GEF (funding agency) and UNDP (implementing agency) to enable activities for the preparation of India's third NC and other new information required to be submitted to the UNFCCC. The current capacity of PMC is limited to a team of six people (project associates, programme officer, national project advisor) with a temporary service contract, supervised under one permanent position of National Project Director. The current arrangement will be requiring significant capacity-addition in terms of human resource and technical training to coordinate and facilitate the information exchange between data providers (public and private agencies) in a streamlined manner. The temporary arrangement due to lack of sustained financial support also poses a challenge of retaining such capacity alongside creating a sustained institutional memory for the future.

The ongoing activities under the third NC recognise many of such gaps, as it suggests to act upon following: (i) improvement in the National GHG inventory estimates and reduced uncertainty by shifting to higher tier methodologies for main sources, while adopting the relevant scientific elements of IPCC GHG Inventory Guidelines of 2006 (ii) reliable climate projections at regional level using multiple climate models (iii) reliable assessment of climate change impacts using multiple GCM scenarios and multiple impact assessment models at sub-regional level; different cropping systems, forest types, watersheds, coastal settlements, etc. (iv) spatial vulnerability indices and profiles for different sectors and regions and at decentralized levels, (v) development of adaptation frameworks, practices to enable mainstreaming of adaptation into developmental programmes, estimate the costs and benefits of adaptation and mitigation programmes (vi) development of sustained institutional and technical capacities for continued preparation of NCs, and other new information required under the aegis of the Convention. **In this bid, technical advisory committee has consulted national experts from renowned public/private institutions to bring innovative ideas such as: Estimation of carbon stock in mangrove ecosystem; deriving/upgrading country specific emission factors for improved GHG inventories; waste to energy pilot projects; developing climate vulnerability index; etc.**

Coordination with state and sectoral stakeholder has been identified as a big barrier with the preparation of third NC. States also find difficulty with the exchange of information and updating themselves with the time while establishing basic facilities and/or coordination committees at their respective level. Lessons from INCCA also suggests a requirement of centralised IT-enabled system to bridge the communication gap and bring timely information with more precision and bottom-up capacity-building. Given the size of the country and diversity of complex socio-economic and natural systems, the proposed NICS will integrate a lot of tasks together and enable easy replication and scaling-up of best practices in a cost-effective manner. In addition, NCR will ensure enhanced visibility and transparency of the efforts alongside of encouraging research and analytics by publicising information on mitigation and adaptation in digital formats.

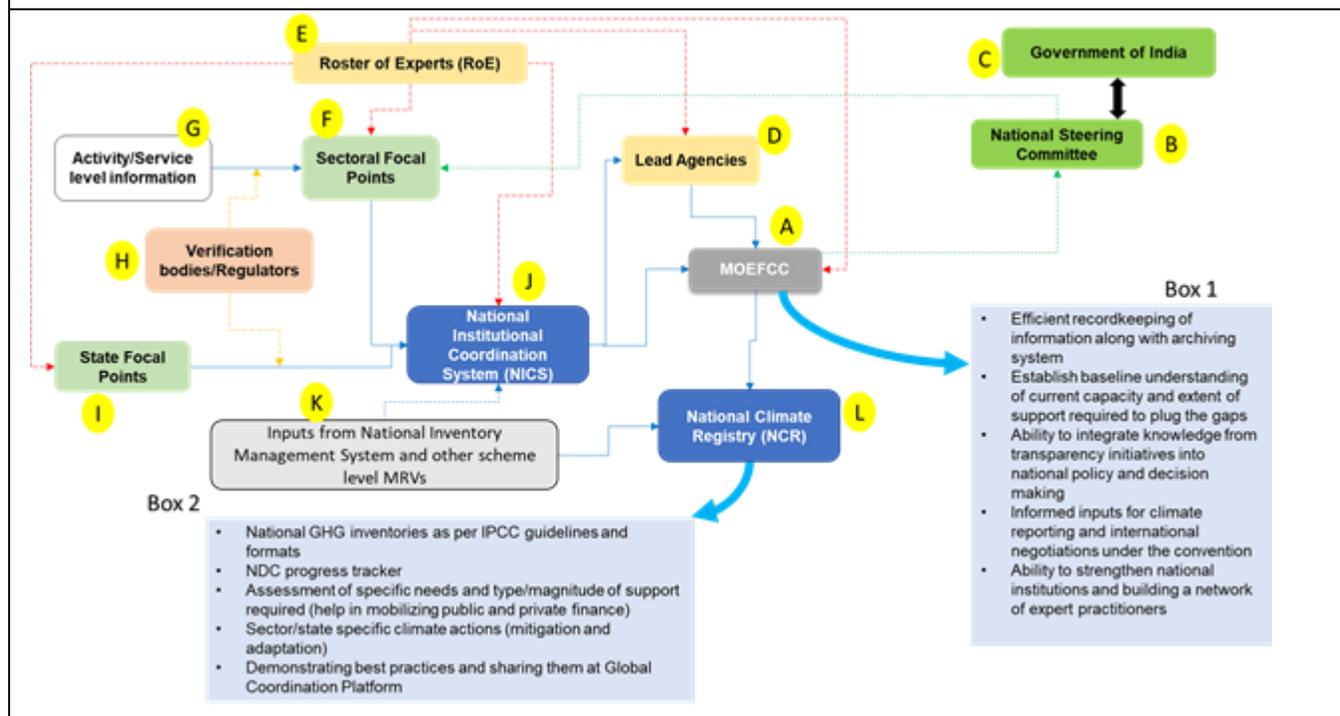
### 3. The proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

This project is guided by the principles of Article 13 of the Paris agreement and subsequent decision adopted at COP24 (Katowice) on enhanced transparency. It aims to strengthen the existing institutional capacity and enable them to monitor, verify, and report relevant information pertaining to climate reporting, viz: GHG emissions; progress with climate actions as appropriated under NDCs; capacity-needs, gaps, constraints; and corresponding support received and required. Hence, it finds an efficient and cost-effective way of optimising the present and ongoing process. In addition, it requires to build capacity around technical expertise, data management, analytics and modelling, etc. Needless to say, securing adequate mandates to facilitate exchange of information is very crucial and one of the prime outputs from this project.

The proposed framework acknowledges the gaps identified by the International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) process for the first BUR as reiterated in the second BUR as well. It duly considers the needs and objectives targeted under the third NC reporting. As it involves states and sectoral representatives in a democratic manner, we believe it to be robust and comprehensive in nature to address emerging needs under the convention.

Figure 1 illustrates the proposed framework capturing three major capacity-building elements towards enhanced transparency:

Figure 1: An Illustrative of Project Framework for Enhanced Transparency in India



**Box 1:** MOEFCC's ability to lead, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate policies, strategies, and programs to enhance transparency

**Box 2:** Outputs from the National Climate Registry

: Tools, templates, and training to be provided by trained experts appointed/nominated by the MoEFCC

: National Steering Committee (comprised of representation from relevant ministries and government agencies) coordinating with nodal ministries and the MOEFCC for bringing necessary mandates on information management and institutional coordination

: Flow of information from one agency to another. States focal points mainly provide information on progress with SAPCC; Sector focal points provide information related to inventories and implementation of national climate action plans. Collectively, entire information helps in tracking of NDC progress

*Source:* Council on Energy, Environment and Water

**Component 1: Creating an enabling environment through supporting mandates and a web-based National Institutional Coordination System (NICS) for enhanced transparency**

The current reporting process adopted by India for its NCs and BUR demonstrates an extensive and participatory approach. It involves a wide range of stakeholders, broadly categorized as:

- **Resource institutions** representing key ministries, public departments and agencies, research institutes, academic universities, industrial unit and associations, local communities, and any other department/stakeholder involved in generating and compiling data;
- **Expert institutions** represent a network of institutions (public, private, civil society, industry association) who assist the MoEFCC in compiling GHG inventories, mitigation actions, capacity gaps, the progress of MRV, etc. Typically, one coordination institution is appointed as the lead for each reporting sector.
- **Subject experts** come from various organisations who review the final reporting independently and provide technical advice on further betterment of the reporting
- **Nodal Ministry** as **the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC), who** coordinates and supervises the entire process. They provide administrative directions to direct coordination among the participating institutions and experts.
- **State Level climate change coordinating committees** are formed under the provision of SAPCC. As the name suggests, they coordinate between state agencies and the centre during the preparation and/or revision of SAPCC.
- **National Steering Committee (NSC)** is an inter-ministerial body chaired by the Secretary, MOEFCC and finds representation from all relevant ministries and department. They supervise the entire process and review the final findings. In addition, they enjoy the power of directing line ministries to follow a certain process or making amendments in the ongoing approaches.

The existing arrangement of institutions proves to be challenging as it lacks timely and efficient coordination among involved agencies. Besides, access to relevant information could be difficult due to either lack of mandates to publish/share or because of structure of raw information. In India, representation of states (sub-national level) in the climate policy planning is still in its early stage. Each state has its own development priorities which may or may not align well with climate policies. Hence, integration of climate narrative across all the state and sectoral policies in a challenging task without featuring a common value proposition. Certain policies and programmes at the national or state level find a very strong MRV process with them, whereas it becomes difficult to replicate or scale-up such processes for other schemes due to lack of common understanding. The MPGs of ETF expects a comprehensive reporting on mitigation achievements at each policy level, which would be a burdensome task without establishing a swift communication channel.

This component lays a strong foundation for the enhanced transparency arrangement in India by supplementing the enabling environment across the levels of governance. It aims to introduce a web-based **National Institutional Coordination System (NICS)** which would assimilate the existing and emerging processes through an IT-enabled system. For instance – GHG inventory inputs through NIMS; policy and programme level MRVs to register their impact, etc. In addition, it will bind together all the reporting nodes (at the state and the centre) to identify the aggregated impact of NDC measures at the sectoral, state and the economy level. The existing climate reporting process suggests that India has a wide network of institutions and experts, formally recognised as INCCA. However, a binding system to streamline coordination among them using standard templates, tools and training is evidently missing. In addition to the NICS, this component also intends to strengthen the process of data management (collection, compilation, verification, and reporting) through the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) and guidance document to data providers across state and sectoral nodal agencies. This shall be achieved through the help of **experts'** nominated by the MoEFCC and are trained in UNFCCC process through a formal training process developed by the convention.

The key outcomes to be delivered under this component are:

**Outcome 1.1: The nodal ministry (MoEFCC) would be better equipped to lead, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate policies, strategies, and programmes to enhance transparency, including communications with states and expert agencies in an effective manner**

One of the cross-cutting outcomes from this component is improved capacity of the MoEFCC to lead, plan, coordinate, implement and evaluate policies, strategies and programmes towards transparency. MoEFCC will find greater control over the process and mandates across states and sectors to establish transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency with the reported information.

Under **output 1.1.1** MOEFCC will work upon strengthening necessary mandates to facilitate uninterrupted sharing of information between data providers and the assigned lead agencies. Lack of formal authorisation to the national agencies to generate, collect, compile, verify and report desired information is an unnoticed yet big deterrent to the information management systems. This is the first and foremost barrier to overcome before establishing appropriate systems to streamline exchange of information. Hence, this output will naturally complement the rest of the activities planned under the proposal.

**Output 1.1.2** brings another cross-cutting structured reform to the proposed transparency framework by identifying dedicated focal point(s) for each state and sectoral activities. These focal points will be represented by key institutions responsible for collecting information in their respective domains. To streamline the entire process, training on standard operating procedures (SOPs) will be provided to the lead representation from each focal point. The said SOPs will adhere to the best practices prescribed by the UNFCCC through Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) guidelines, IPCC guidelines, and other relevant provisions. UNFCCC seeks nomination from each country for the experts who could assist in review and reporting process adopted under the convention. This output will be a result of proactive participation of India in such process, where a set of experts (in a gender balanced manner) finds nomination from the country focal point; each of them get trained in the UNFCCC processes and thereupon mentor the lead agencies, state focal points, sectoral ministries, etc. (refer output 2.2.1 for more details).

**Outcome 1.2: Bringing all stakeholder together through a web-based National Institutional Coordination System (NICS) to enhance efficiency and transparency with climate reporting**

Recommendations from COP 24 held in Katowice through the draft decision CMA.1 on modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs) for the transparency framework for action and support clearly indicate a stringent process of reporting emissions and reductions. India plans to cultivate enhanced capacities through leveraging existing institutional strength and IT-enabled systems. In this bid, we propose a web-based NICS which largely consolidate and scale-up the existing systems into a well-coordinated and standardised process of reporting. This involves all the key stakeholders illustrated in Figure 1, each having a specific role. MoEFCC plays a principal role in administering the entire coordination process and bringing suitable mandates to state agencies and sectoral data providers. Lead agencies bring an expert team, each having a sectoral command to bring meaningful information out of raw information. They also coordinate with the experts to finalise SOPs, templates, training, etc. Each sector and state department will nominate a focal point who will assume the responsibility of getting trained in the reporting process, which shall be further imparted to state and sectoral functionaries. This will further expand the cadre of trained-experts at the grassroots level. Advance training programmes (at all levels) will ensure a healthy gender-ratio to assure equal participation of women in the decision-making process. Data providers (sectoral and state level) will follow the prescribed reporting process and submit their information to the respective focal points. NICS will provide a login-based closed system of registering data. The design and structure will find integration with NIMS to assimilate GHG inventory reporting without duplicity of efforts at the state/sectoral level. Such a structure will offer a bottom-up aggregation of information on a standardised template, which would be easier to compare and frame a trend over time.

**Output 1.2.1** would result in efficient recordkeeping of baseline information (activity data, emission factors, socio-economic indicators, etc.) necessarily required for the preparation of GHG inventories, mitigation impact assessment and measure the performance of adaptation measures. Each layer of relevant information will be maintained on a time-series basis with appropriate disclosure on methodology, gaps and assumptions for further improvements and expansion.

**Output 1.2.2** equate well with one of the TNC outputs on developing archiving procedure. This output will complement the ongoing efforts with information management process. NICS information templates will also administer the methodology and assumption behind information generation, which will further enable the lead agencies to bring meaningful policy insights and perform recalculations (whenever needed). Such a system would be extremely helpful in tracking mitigation and adaptation improvements over time.

**Output 1.2.3** will tremendously assist in performing quality control, quality assurance, and uncertainty assessments that arise from activity data and methodological assumptions associated with climate reporting. Availability of underlying information around GHG inventories, mitigation and adaptation indicators in a comprehensive manner would ensure consistency, completeness, integrity and reliability of reported information with appropriate disclaimers. This would immensely support the transparency and help in the technical expert review of the biennial transparency report (BTR) from 2024 onwards. Such a system will also minimise the administrative burden of the MOEFCC as information will always remain available in a ready-to-use format.

## **Component 2: Strengthening institutional capacities for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of climate information**

India has the advantage of having a massive network of institutions formally recognised as the 'Indian Network of Climate Change Assessment (INCCA).' In addition, expert institutions and coalitions are emerging from civil society organisations to support the government's efforts towards transparency, such as GHG Platform India. However, with the evolving process of climate reporting, the limited capacity of each institution needs to be strengthened and sustained on a continuous basis. This component of India's proposal introduces the expansion of existing 'roster of experts' under the provision created by the UNFCCC and leveraging their proficiency and expertise to further build a cadre of trained experts at the subnational and sectoral level. As partly discussed under component 1, the experts shall find nominations of subject experts from existing INCCA network, civil society organisations, lead agencies, etc. They will find a relevant upgrade through the UNFCCC training and review mechanism. In return, they are expected to strengthen state and sectoral agencies through periodic training, devising SOPs, guidelines, templates, etc. Their function would be very critical to building capacities of each institution towards generating information necessary to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) of climate actions, specifically tracking the progress of NDCs alongside a robust inventory management system. As an outcome, this will also enable state focal points to follow a standardised process and enable information exchange through the proposed NICS (as discussed in component 1).

Such an arrangement would be a stepping stone towards creating sustained capacities within national agencies and institutions. Capacity retention has always been challenging in India, as can be seen from INCCA, where the mandate suggests only one-time preparation of inventory and vulnerability assessment. It has failed to publish any publication since 2010 due to lack of sufficient mandate, training, resources and funding. In such scenarios, it becomes challenging to deal with new provisions and/or high turnover of trained individuals within empanelled institutions. However, a continuous interface between the experts and state/sectoral focal points would ensure sustained capacity and retention mechanism to a larger extent.

It also underscores the importance of establishing baseline of present capacity against best practices prescribed by CGE guidelines and other applicable reporting provisions. India conducted a GEF supported comprehensive 'National Capacity Self-assessment (NCSA)' almost a decade ago. An update of similar exercise would be useful in view of applicable modalities, procedures and guidelines proposed through the Paris Agreement rule book.

**Outcome 2.1: Ability to report GHG emission inventories as per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines (or latest applicable).**

The proposed CBIT project will strengthen the process of monitoring, verifying, and reporting of GHG inventories as per the IPCC 2006 (or latest applicable) guidelines for India. It will competently prepare the resource institutions, expert institutions, sectoral and state level focal points through necessary tools, training, and templates for reporting. Integration of NIMS with the proposed CBIT project will minimise the effort and enormously improve the inventory preparation process. India's second BUR already identifies areas of improvement with the GHG inventory process.

**Output 2.1.1** will ensure design and availability of customised templates for various agencies to collect, compile, review and analyse information pertinent to GHG inventories. It will adopt the tool provided by the IPCC 2006 guidelines to ensure adherence with the TACCC principles.

**Output 2.1.2** will entrench the completeness element with GHG inventory reporting through coverage of all the gases prescribed by the IPCC 2006 guidelines. Presently India reports on six major gases out of seven prescribed by the guidelines. **Precursor and NF3** gas-based emissions reporting requires additional capacity in terms of monitoring and reporting process. **An inventory of precursors typically includes oxides of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, non-methane volatile organic compounds, and emissions of sulphur compounds.** NF3 emissions are currently insignificant in India due to the absence of source activities around electronics manufacturing (semiconductors, solar panels, LCD screens, chemical lasers). However, owing to India's ambitious renewable targets and domestic push towards local manufacturing, capacity to report on any such future emissions is imminent.

**Output 2.1.3** gives extensive focus on the energy sector in India, which occupies a major share in the overall emissions pie. It will encourage data providers and lead agencies to follow detailed and granular data reporting (example: grade wise coal) for at least crucial and complex sectors. As discussed earlier, informal/unorganised sector poses significant challenges towards transparency of reporting. However, systematic reporting from the regulated/formal sector will naturally bring clarity with the rest of the sectoral operations.

**Output 2.1.4** focuses on agriculture sector primarily in view of validation of relevant activity data (example: dung produced by animals, feeding pattern, etc.) at the subnational level due to different practices and uncertainties associated with the same. Calculating country-specific emission factor for enteric methane.

**Output 2.1.5** brings clarity on the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector emissions. India has competent institutions and technical capacity for tier 3 reporting. However, it lacks modelling capacity (FullCAM, CBM-CFS3, CENTURY, ROTH-3) to bring more accuracy with estimates on these activities.

**Output 2.1.6** promotes improvement in the waste sector inventory estimates. It focuses on establishing a system to *collect activity data and other information such as treatment pathway, emission factors, wastewater characteristics, etc.* *Aggregation of such data into a centralised database would be very useful.*

These priorities and gaps require necessary tools (modelling), templates (data management), and training (know-how) to upgrade the existing inventory process. Hence success with outcome 2.1 is very vital.

**Outcome 2.2: Information to facilitate Clarity, Transparency, and Understanding (ICTU) of NDC associated with climate actions.**

The NDC submissions from all countries, being a country-driven process, often varies in targets and qualifying criterions. India has primarily indicated an emission-intensity reduction-based target, which is supplemented by other targets around creating sinks, an increase in the share of non-fossil fuel energy, and adaptation priorities. The draft CMA.1 document that emerged from COP24 deliberations at Katowice provides better understanding on the reporting information towards clarity, transparency and understanding of NDC contributions. Taking into account results from outcome 2.1 and the enabling environment developed through component 1, activities under each output listed below would substantiate ICTU of mitigation and adaptation achievements under India's NDC.

**Output 2.2.1** eliminates the barrier of understanding international guidelines and associated procedures with each and every agency involved in domestic information flow management. As discussed earlier, an expanded *List of Experts* (LoE) shall be nominated by the MOEFCC to bring the international expertise and create a cadre of domestic experts within the country in a sustained manner. Such experts shall be nominated from the pool of INCCA, and/or through an expression of interest from public agencies and civil society representation. Currently, India has nominated only two active members to this roster, which should further be expanded to accommodate more and more active members. Ideally, this should be at least 8-10 times higher than present as it can be seen from the experts nominated by other countries such as the United States of America (104), Australia (38), China (33), South Africa (26), etc. This practice would encourage the concept of 'train the trainers,' in the country. The RoE are also expected to develop standard operating procedures (SOPs), design templates and establish country-specific reporting guidelines towards existing and emerging reporting provisions under the convention. Linkage with the UNFCCC system will ensure that they remain updated with the followed processes over time.

**Output 2.2.2** Tracking progress with NDC would require policy and action level mapping, which certainly demands close coordination with implementation agencies at the sectoral and state level to avoid any overlaps. Training of officials and implementation agencies would be a humongous task, and hence cross-learning arrangement in the form of peer-to-peer learning would be promoted among state and sectoral experts to develop individual capacities and create a cadre of country experts in NDC tracking. Results from Output 2.2.1 will support and sustain this output.

**Output 2.2.3** Tracking of NDC goals in a transparent and reportable manner is challenging in many ways due to additional capacity required to comply with Draft CMA.1 provision, as highlighted below:

- Paragraph 61: Institutional arrangement responsible for tracking progress made in implementing and achieving NDC (under Article 4), including those used for tracking internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs), as applicable.
- Paragraph 62: Legal, institutional, administrative and procedural arrangement for domestic implementation, monitoring, reporting, archiving of information and stakeholder engagement related to the implementation and achievement of its NDC
- Description of NDCs (Para 64) and information necessary to track the progress made in the implementation and achieving NDCs, such as:
- identifying relevant indicators (example: emission intensity) and associated information for the reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s), etc. in a tabular format (Para 65-67, 78)

- clearly indicate the accounting approach and description of methodology and assumption with each reduction activity to understand the NDCs. This shall be accompanied by key parameters, definitions, data sources, detailed annexures, and models used (Para 68-74).
- Information on climate change impacts and adaptation actions resulting in mitigation co-benefits
- Paragraph 78: NDC having adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits shall provide information necessary to track progress on the implementation and achievement of the domestic policies and measures implemented to address the social and economic consequences of response measures, including:
  - Sectors and activities associated with response measures;
  - Social and economic consequences from the response measures action;
  - Challenges and barriers to address the consequences;
  - Actions to address the consequences.

The above-listed activities along with other requirements towards facilitating clarity, transparency and understanding of NDCs shall only be achieved with the help of suitable tools, templates, and training at the institutional level. Mandates to do so (output 1.1.1) definitely supports such measures. Mitigation activities are relatively easier to quantify into some performance metrics, but adaptation goals without any measurable targets poses clear challenges with tracking progress. Carefully designed tools, templates and trainings, customised to the needs and priorities of the state authorities would prove to be a very useful exercise under this output.

### **Outcome 2.3: State focal points submitting information through NICS**

Presently, coordination at the state level is channelled through their respective SAPCC coordination committees. However, due to the limited scope of SAPCC and lack of integral and binding structure with NDC reporting and GHG inventory preparation, state agencies are often disconnected with necessary protocols and regulatory mandates. The absence of IT platforms also causes communication delays. Component 1 would be able to plug that coordination gap, whereas this outcome will equip state agencies to prepare and submit information on standardised templates. Adequate training to the focal points through the proposed list of experts would further foster this capacity-building element.

**Output 2.3.1** would prove to be effective if aligned well with project outcome 1.2

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### **Outcome 2.4: Developing capacity-retention mechanisms**

In India, despite years of efforts towards capacity-building activities, gaps between the current and the desired level of reporting is significantly high due to lack of self-sustaining systems. This issue has been emphasised in the 'third comprehensive review report of the implementation of capacity building framework' for the developing countries and is very much relevant for India. Most of the capacity-needs reported by India in its second NC are still relevant as new needs continue to emerge and systems must evolve accordingly. In India, most of the existing systems are designed on a temporary basis due to a paucity of supporting resources, including the project management cell (PMC) for the NCs housed under the MoEFCC. This CBIT proposal not only strengthens the institutional capacities in view of emerging reporting requirements, it also provides a coordination mechanism to sustain capacities within these institutes considering limited resources and manpower.

**Output 2.4.1** establishes a baseline assessment of existing capacity and design a strategy to address capacity gaps., as it is critical step to optimise efforts and institutionalise capacity-retention elements. India conducted a comprehensive 'National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)' exercise almost a decade ago through cordial support from GEF. This proposal offers an extension of that exercise by comparing existing gaps with the CGE guidelines

and other applicable outcomes from the Paris agreement rule-book in order to design a capacity building strategy for institutions to adapt according to their priority and needs.

**Output 2.4.2** The results from output 2.4.1 would also promote cross-learning experience between the state using the NICS and 'experts' driven training programmes. In addition, commensurate participation of women shall be ensured to have a gender-neutral decision-making process at each level. Hence, this outcome will provide gender-performance indicators covering each element related to training and appointment of experts in the capacity-building process.

### **Component 3: Instituting National Climate Registry (NCR) to share relevant information in a transparent manner**

Open data and enlightened stakeholders are one of the key success indicators of a transparent system. A direct interface between public, civil society and the policy planners promotes accountability and trust. The purpose of NCR is to achieve overall transparency and bring meaningful information into the public domain. A Structured information on GHG emissions over time, and, progress against mitigation and adaptation strategies would further encourage research community to identify and explore more opportunities towards NDC enhancements. Enhanced transparency also aids in mobilising need based financial support from philanthropy and overseas assistance.

#### **Outcome 3.1: Dissemination of relevant information on GHG inventories and NDC progress through NCR**

- Dissemination of climate relevant information will be the principal feature of NCR. In addition, it will exhibit depth of information across the states and key economic activities, which would be very critical to measure the performance of NDC goals and identifying future opportunities.

**Output 3.1.1** represents a comprehensive and centralised information registry which would be a first of its kind of attempt made towards demonstrating transparency with climate reporting in India. It will integrate all the existing and planned information dissemination and tracking systems, such as: PAT, NIMS, etc. It will be the front-end interface of information collected, analysed and processed through the proposed NICS. It will be housed at the MOEFCC and will be maintained and supervised by an IT expert, guided by the 'experts.'

**Output 3.1.2** As highlighted in the outcome 2.2, NCR (output 3.1.1.) aims to process and provide information needed to comply with the achievement and implementation of India's NDC. It will showcase relevant indicators and associated information to track the impact at the policy level. It will also showcase GHG emission trends and intensities over time at the sectoral and state level, thereby illustrating the impact of targeted policy decisions year-on-year. Since, it is difficult to quantify the adaptation performance over time without specified targets in the NDCs, it will illustrate all the outcomes achieved from TNC activities in a structured and meaning manner for qualifying adaptation goals. Such information includes:

- Climate variability maps and models at sub-national level
- Climate and socio-economic scenarios through global and regional models
- Vulnerability profiles; ranking of most vulnerable ecosystems and associated reports
- Adaptation frameworks featuring action plans, implementation strategies and progress achieved
- Technology needs assessment for adaptation goals

The objective of such a system is to feature policy-relevant information in the public domain, thereby nudging policy-planners to arrive at meaningful conclusions for further improvements. It will also provide disclosure on methodology and assumptions to ensure that the shared information is transparent, reproducible and facilitates domestic and technical expert review.

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**Outcome 3.2: Enhanced capacity to Mobilise climate finance**

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 Transparency promotes more compliance and mobilise finance from existing and additional channels as it brings higher confidence with achievement of planned outputs. All the three outputs envisaged under this outcome aims to promote such prospects for India.

**Output 3.2.1:** The proposed NCR will disclose climate finance figures to highlight a further gap between needs and commensurate support required. It will also feature synthesis reports highlighting capacity built through domestic/international support and priority areas demanding further support to build and sustain such capacities to mobilize climate finance.

**Output 3.2.2:** According to estimates made by International Finance Corporation (IFC), India would be needing approx. USD 3.1 trillion worth of investment in key sectors to fully meets its NDCs. There is no formal definition of climate finance agreed upon internationally. Often this result in disagreements between countries and may pose a challenge during the first global stocktaking exercise under the Paris agreement. Many developing countries have realised this challenge and come up with their domestic classification system on what constitutes climate finance. This is an opportunity to learn from such good practices and implement a similar classification system in India to mark domestic and international finance going towards climate mitigation and adaptation activities.

**Output 3.2.3:** Finally, on the lines of Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) and Technology Action Plans (TAPs), NCR will feature business case and/or value proposition with mitigation and adaptation needs to attract interested agencies willing to offer adequate support. Such steps would promote mobilisation of climate finance and help in optimisation of available resources to maximise the gains.

**Outcome 3.3: Knowledge management and project-related learning**

**Output 3.3.1:** The proposed NCR will find integration with GEF global coordination platform to feature India specific case-studies and promote cross-learning opportunities between the countries. Such efforts would also be helpful at the regional and national level in terms of encouraging participatory approaches and collaboration among different geographies sharing similar challenges.

**4. Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program Strategies**

- The project is aligned with GEF focal area CCM-3-8, i.e. "Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency." Investment under this proposal will address the capacity related gaps with inventory improvements and tracking NDC performance (mitigation and adaptation actions) through efficient coordination between involved agencies. This project will enable and equip existing institutions with sounds understanding of the reporting process and further build their strength towards necessary training, tool, and techniques towards measurement, verification and reporting on climate actions. It will prepare India for Biennial

Transparency reporting provisions as discussed and detailed out in draft CMA.1 decision in Katowice. As one of the priority areas of India's first and second BURs, It aims to achieve a complete shift to IPCC 2006 guidelines for inventory reporting. It will give an extensive focus to the adaptation reporting planned under TNC and proposed by draft CMA.1. Through NCR, it will extensively publicise India's needs, gaps and support required to fulfill the commitments made under NDC.

#### **5. Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and co-financing**

India has always endorsed the idea of transparency of actions and support for sustainable development. The Government of India is also of the view that the new MPGs must build upon the existing MRV provisions and not reinvent a new process. At present domestic MRV system exist in India mostly with major policies and schemes introduced to improve energy or emission intensity of the economic activities. Table 1 features the baseline. This proposal leverages current capacity with existing MRV systems and aims to integrate them together through a coordination system between centre and states.

Capacity building activities towards enhanced transparency largely complements the ongoing efforts of India towards establishing a robust, frequent and transparent reporting system. The first component provides a founding architecture through mandates and IT enabled information management system. In the absence of such activities, frequency of reporting will be severely impacted, especially the adaptation communication which gets reported infrequently through NCs only. The second component of CBIT will strengthen the existing capacity in view of latest guidelines and identified gaps through the ICA process of the first BUR. This directly improves TACCC with the inventory reporting, enable tracking of mitigation targets and adaptation goals in a quantified and qualified manner respectively. Experts and peer-learning arrangement will ensure sustained capacity, which is presently a big challenge due to paucity of funds and resources. Finally, the third component of the project gives visibility to the entire capacity-building initiative and would promote further capacity to raise ambition.

The CBIT proposal does not necessitate co-financing from the host country. However, India's commitments shall be captured through the ongoing capacity-building efforts which complement this system, and an additional domestic co-financing highlighted in the table for each expected outcome.

This proposal continues to improve the existing capacities and plug the gaps identified by the International Consultation and Analysis process with the first BUR. It promotes global best practices and accommodates takeaways from COP24 on modalities, procedure and guidelines for enhanced transparency framework. Effectively, this proposal aims for a future-ready transparency mechanism for India to build such capacities over time and sync with the timelines adopted under the Paris agreement for NDC revisions, global stocktaking and submitting biennial transparency reports. Moreover, one of its components highlights the dissemination of learnings and takeaways from the proposed system through the global coordination mechanism.

In the absence of GEF funding, India will certainly continue with the development of its existing MRV process which may pose challenges around overlapping information at an aggregated level. Moreover, it would be a time-taking and costly process with the duplicity of efforts and lack of enough coordination among agencies.

## 6. Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

The proposed NICS and the NCR system will promote dissemination of a plethora of insightful information beyond inventories, NDC tracking and progress mapping. As discussed earlier in component 3 of section 3, the NCR will exhibit trends and intensity comparison at the sectoral and sub-national level. This will benefit the technical review process as well as assist the domestic policymakers with (a) projections on potential mitigation at sector/state level; (b) comparing sector level intensities with global benchmarks, thereby making a case for further policy interventions; (c) mobilising climate finance by indicating areas of improvement and the scale of mitigation associated with those measures. This will ultimately enable Indian policymakers to estimate their full potential and suggest commensurate support needed to establish India's climate leadership at the global forum. In addition, availability of such information will help in exploring further opportunities to strengthen domestic capacity and augment NDC targets in subsequent revision cycle. Pursuit to achieve international benchmark with each economic activity would always make a case for achieving more through commensurate support.

## 7. Innovation, sustainability, and potential for scaling up

### Innovation

The proposed project intends to build upon the existing institutions and capacity to further structure the transparency framework for India. Extensive use of Information technology (IT) enabled systems with NICS and NCR would be the most innovative feature of this project as it aims to set a sustained coordination between the stakeholders in an effortless manner. It also creates a fantastic opportunity for renowned experts as well as aspiring climate enthusiasts to get on board as experts and convey their learnings from the UNFCCC process to a larger group at state and sectoral level. This is an innovative measure to tackle the challenge with availability of skilled and trainer manpower, as it will create a cadre of experts across the states and sectors. Finally, the NCR will not only showcase inventories and compliance with NDC reporting, it will also feature country-specific priorities in the area of mitigation, adaptation, technology transfer, technical know-how and associated forms and magnitude of support. This will offer a comprehensive registry of climate related information in India.

### Sustainability

The concept of 'train the trainers' through a network of experts, lead agencies, and state/sectoral focal points would also bring sustainability to the information management process. In addition, NICS would provide necessary technical support in terms of collecting and archiving all the information in standard templates. A uniform system is easy to learn and maintain compared to an ad-hoc process of accounting.

### Scaling up

The collective arrangement proposed across the three components can easily be scaled-up to accommodate emerging requirements under the convention. The effort and time required to scale-up would be significantly lesser than any alternative approach. In addition, in the longer-run, with additional support, this function can be extended to link-up with tracking of sustainable development goals (SDG) in India.



**1b. Project Map and Coordinates**

**Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.**

Please see PIF Document

## 2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

**Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**

**Civil Society Organizations** Yes

**Private Sector Entities** Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

The stakeholders of the project are the Government of India and the Indian people whom it represents, the policymakers at central, state and district levels, the scientific community, industry, and all those who could be affected by climate change and actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

As discussed earlier, India has a wide network of stakeholder institutions and expert agencies formally recognised under INCCA. They periodically assist the MOEFCC and other ministries in various capacity building extending from data assessment, modelling, forecasting and impact evaluation of policies and schemes. In addition, India has a vibrant civil society network who indulge with the government in a constructive manner. For example: GHG Platform India is an initiative of renowned civil society organisations who bring together their subject expertise and work towards independent assessment and evaluation of India's GHG inventories.

The project identification phase is based on recommendations and needs that arises during several consultations made in the run up to second BUR, TNC, and expert-committee meetings on NDC and mid-century strategies. This has involved renowned experts from public institutions, academia, and civil society organisations. Some of the recent consultations held recently in the run-up to the second BUR are listed in table 2.

**Table 2 List of recent events/consultative meetings**

| S.No   | List of recent events/consultative meetings  |
|--|--|
| 1  | Consultative meeting of sectoral experts on GHG inventory (IPPU, LULUCF, Agriculture, Waste) on 27 January 2016, New Delhi.  |
| 2  | Meeting on Development of National GHG Inventory Management System (NIMS) on 13th June 2016, at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.   |
| 3  | Consultative meeting on India's National GHG Inventory for BURs and Third NC to UNFCCC on 1 August 2016 at Kaveri Hall, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.   |
| 4  | Energy Sector Expert Group for National GHG Inventory for Second BUR on 10 August 2016 at MoEFCC, New Delhi  |
| 5  | Meeting of the National Advisory Committee on Preparation of second BUR on 8th September 2017 at Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.   |
| 6  | A Review Meeting on Status of Preparedness for India's BUR-2 including Inventory, Mitigation, Technology Needs Assessment, and Domestic Measurement, Reporting and Verification on 12 October 2017 at WWF India office, New Delhi. |
| 7  | A Workshop to Share Experiences between India and Norway on GHG Emission Inventory on 26-27 October 2017 at TERI University, New Delhi.  |
| 8  | A quality check meeting for National GHG Inventory at MoEFCC, New Delhi on 12 January 2018.  |
| 9  | A Meeting to review the preparation of National GHG Inventory for BUR- 2 on 8th February 2018 at Narmada Hall, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, MoEFCC  |
| 10   | A National Validation Workshop on Technology Needs Assessment at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi on 9th March 2018   |
| 11   | A meeting to review national GHG inventory for BUR-2 on 12th September 2018 at MoEFCC, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.  |
| 12   | Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee to India's Third NC and BURs to the UNFCCC on 26th October 2018 at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi   |
| 13   | Meeting of the National Steering Committee to India's Third NC and BURs to the UNFCCC on 8th November 2018 at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.   |
| Source: Second Biennial Update report, India |  |

India's capacity-building activities towards enhanced transparency in climate reporting requires a concerted effort at the individual, institutional and systemic level. This requires administrative capacity, technical expertise, and institutional competence to ensure adequate implementation of a sustained MRV arrangement. The MoEFCC brings together relevant stakeholders under one system through an already established processes for BUR and NCs. The national steering committee is represented by the concerned ministries and departments who provides inputs to the national climate reporting. A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprised of government, academia and civil society represents the institutional network to guide the process of national reporting. Each of them, in addition to the new players proposed through this CBIT project would form the essential building blocks of India's transparency framework.

**In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.**

**Table 3: Key stakeholders of the proposed project**

| Stakeholder   | Key function   | Project engagement and specified roles  |
|---|--|---|
| Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC) | Nodal ministry under the Government of India for coordination and management of climate change related programmes, actions and reporting information pursuant to Article 4.1 of the Convention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MOEFCC will be better equipped to lead, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor, and evaluate the policies, strategies and programmes towards enhanced transparency</li> </ul>      |
| Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change (PMCCC)          | To coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodically monitor the progress of proposed activities</li> <li>Help in setting up coordination between agencies</li> <li>Providing assistance through relevant mandate</li> </ul> |
| State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) Focal Point     | To prepare state-level action plans by extending and complementing national action plans   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They will continue to act as a state level focal point.</li> </ul>   |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Local Points   | Local action plans on climate change. To report state priorities to the MOEFCC through SAPCC   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will provide relevant inputs to the MOEFCC through the proposed national coordination system</li> <li>· They will also report capacity related challenges, gaps and associated needs</li> </ul>  |
| Ministry of Coal (MoC)   | Provide official information on the production and supplies of coal across the end-use sectors primarily at the national level.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will continue data collection and support analysis on inventories, mitigation, NDCs on new templates suited to establishment of improved reporting.</li> </ul>   |
| Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG)  | Provide official information on the production and supplies of liquid and gaseous fuels across the end-use sectors primarily at the national level.  |  |
| Sectoral Focal Points comprised of subject specific ministry/public departments                          | Provide official information on the end-use consumption of energy and progress with sector specific mitigation/adaptation targets.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will support the implementation of mitigation and adaptation activities related to building capacity towards improved monitoring, reporting, and verification of information</li> </ul>  |
| Academic and Research centres; Laboratories of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) | Conduct scientific studies and assist in improvement of measuring and tracking emissions through various sources. Example: Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR), National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will strengthen institutional capacity towards monitoring, reporting, and verifying progress with NDCs and emission tracking.</li> <li>· Updating emission factors and other parameters on a periodic basis</li> <li>· Developing capacity to report at tier-3 level of GHG inventories</li> </ul> |
| National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)   | NITI Aayog India has been entrusted the nodal role of overseeing the implementation of the 2030 development agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will assist in evaluating cross-sectoral policies through the lens of sustainable development and climate change goals.</li> </ul>   |
| Quality Council of India (QCI)   | It plays the role of National Accreditation Body (NAB) which is ta   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will strengthen the verification and regulation system to boost transparen</li> </ul>  |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  | sked with creating a mechanism for third-party assessment of products, services and processes   | ncy  |
| National Informatics Centre (NIC)                      | It provides the network backbone and e-governance support to the government of India, state government, public agencies, etc.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will play a crucial role in setting up coordination among public agencies through NICS and NCR</li> </ul>  |
| Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs)                  | Conducting independent assessment of government policies and schemes and suggesting improvement measures  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will find representation through proposed <i>lead agencies</i> and <i>experts</i></li> <li>· Their independent establishment would provide more credibility to the transparency framework</li> <li>· Their capacity would further boost the climate reporting process</li> </ul> |
| Private sector (Industry and/or Industry associations) | They play a very crucial role in the overall economic, social and environmental ecosystem of the country. They are the ultimate point source of information and bringing innovative reforms towards deep decarbonisation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· They will find adequate coordination with the state focal point, sectoral focal points, lead agencies, the MoEFCC and other relevant stakeholders for information management and assessment of mitigation potential through technology and process reforms</li> </ul>                 |
| Local and indigenous Community                         | Represent rural and vulnerable population of India whose livelihood will be impacted due to adversities of climate change   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Their involvement and sensitisation would ensure smooth functioning and improvement with data collection</li> </ul>   |

### 3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

**Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).**

India has one of the lowest female labor force participation rates in the world despite women constituting 48% of country's total population base. India has been ranked 108<sup>th</sup> out of 149 countries evaluated by World Economic Forum's gender gap index 2018, which demonstrate poor performance across economic opportunity, political empowerment, educational attainment, health and survival of women. This reinforces the general understanding that women are more vulnerable than men in the adverse climate scenarios as they have lesser access to resources, limited mobility, and higher exposure towards vulnerabilities. Indian government has noticed this grave concern and has taken up several initiatives towards gender equity, such as: National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP), collectively these two programmes has mobilised ~57 million women from the weaker sections of the society into self-help groups and their higher-level federation. (The World Bank (2018) "Working for Women in India," available at <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/03/08/working-for-women-in-india>; accessed 14March2019) In addition, through the 'technical assistance grant for ESP and Gender,' India is making efforts towards increased participation of women at local level through skill development and job creation. However, women in India (as in any developing country) are more exposed towards the burden of climate vagaries owing to their hardship with household duties and association with traditional sectors such as paddy cultivation, fishing, tea plantation, etc. (Parikh (2007) "Gender and Climate Change Framework for Analysis, Policy & Action," IRADE: Pp12 )

Studies suggests that increased participation of women in the decision-making process always help in internalising gender aspects more rationally with the development policies. To achieve such objectives, State level action plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) shall be more inclusive by harmonising gender aspects in adaptation and vulnerability planning. India second BUR and TNC broadly speaks about gender issues in terms of promoting equity and equality among all. This project proposal does not directly aim to close the gender-gap within India and its development policies; however, it intends to bring gender-parity with each and every capacity-building effort. To that end, this CBIT proposal is designed to conform to 2018 guidance from the GEF on gender equality,(GEF (2018) "GEF Policy on Gender Equality") and it will meet the following requirements during the project preparation phase:

- A gender analysis will be conducted as recommended under GEF procedures.
- A gender action plan will be included in the CEO Endorsement Request in order to ensure that differences identified will be addressed.
- The project results framework will include gender-specific activities. The framework will also include targets for women's meaningful participation in project activities, and the project monitoring and evaluation budget will support the collection of gender-disaggregated data where relevant. Gender equality and women's empowerment will be addressed throughout the project cycle in the following ways:
- The project will take into account the *Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit* developed by the Global Support Programme through UNDP and in collaboration with UNEP and GEF.

- Gender-sensitive targets and activities will be monitored in project reporting, both in annual reports and PIRs and in the mid-term evaluation and the terminal evaluation

The CBIT project components will ensure an adequate participation of women across major activities by integrating gender elements within the design and reporting of the outcomes. Following aspects will be considered across the project components (as applicable):

- Experts will be required to list gender policy specialists in addition to other subject experts, and it will list at least one woman in that area.
- Women's participation as sectoral and state level focal points will be encouraged and promoted. M&E of the project will consider adequate representation of women as one of performance metric
- Lack of gender-aggregated data leads to poor consideration of gender equity in development policies. Data templates to be designed under Component 2 will integrate suitable measures to collect gender linked information.
- The National Climate Registry (NCR) proposed under Component 3 will also feature gender issues related to climate change to further share India's specific experience with the global community.
- Gender based sensitisation programmes will be introduced at the subnational level to promote gender aspects within SAPCCs.

**Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes**

**closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;**

**improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or Yes**

**generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.**

**Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?**

Yes

#### 4. Private sector engagement

**Will there be private sector engagement in the project?**

Yes

**Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.**

The private sector plays an important role, especially with the data generation and sharing process. Industry and their associations are relevant stakeholders as they have to understand the data reporting systems and provide adequate information in a timely manner. For example: Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), Cement Manufacturers Association (CMA), etc.

Similarly, civil society organisations play a very crucial role in terms of sensitising the community and evaluating the progress through an independent approach. India has already recognised such kind of engagements during the BUR preparation, as they highlighted the role of GHG Inform India (an independent civil society initiative) in informing the process of inventory preparation and independently reviewing the official estimates. Such kind of independent information channels are always welcome from the perspective of quality assurance and quality checks.

Involvement of private sector during the consultation and design phase would be extremely helpful to understand the on-ground challenges with collection and collation of information.

## 5. Risks

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Project design (table format acceptable)

**Table 4: Anticipated project risks and proposed measures to mitigate the risks**

| Type of Risk                | Description  | Likelihood | Prevention and/or Mitigation Strategy  |
|-----------------------------|--|------------|--|
| Data/Information management | Unavailability of desired data/information at state and sectoral level(s).                             | High       | The proposed CBIT project will provide necessary tools, templates, training and know-how around collection, compilation, assessment, verification and reporting of information through a coordinated approach between sectoral/state focal points, lead agencies, and experts.   |
|                             | Lack of mandate to allow sharing of data for certain sectors   | Medium     | The MoEFCC will establish a sound linkage between the data providers, data evaluators and the governing body (including ministries) through the proposed NICS  |
|                             | Proprietorship of desired information and challenges with disclosure of business sensitive information | Medium     | This risk is mainly associated with certain type of industry facing market competition related challenges with disclosure of business/profit related information. In such cases, government will establish suitable data sharing protocols to maintain a balance between their concerns and country's climate commitments.   |
|                             | Poor quality of reported information   | Low        | Proposed system of information exchange within NICS will ensure data validation and data verification. In addition, triangulation of information will enhance quality control and quality assurance process  |
|                             | Timeliness   | High       | In India, typical delay with reporting of energy and waste sector information is considerably high (3-4 years in certain cases). Digitization of information and streamlined process of sharing would promote a swift and timely exchange of information. System will improvise wherever data frequency become a challenge. NITI Aayog of India has already taken up an inter-ministerial task of 'energy data management' across all sectors. |
|                             | Staff turnover   | High       | In India, most of the reporting system at the center and state level relies on temporary/ad-hoc consultants. The proposed project activities will create a cadre of experts through adequate training and capacity building activities.  |

|               |   |      |   |
|---------------|---|------|---|
| Institutional |   |      | aining or trainers and knowledge-sharing protocols at the state and sectoral level through respective focal points. This will certainly minimise such risks   |
|               | Lack of coordination among stakeholders leading to duplicity of efforts or accounting   | Low  | The key feature of proposed CBIT project is establishment of a robust coordination among various actors. NICS would address this concern very well.   |
| Financial     | Some of the information management related activities might require additional funds to support necessary infrastructure and manpower | High | India will leverage the existing support channels open through UNDP, GEF, and various bi/multilateral collaborations to support such requirements. TNC will also complement any such needs that may arise |

## 6. Coordination

**Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.**

At the institutional level, the project will strengthen the coordination mechanisms, identify the manpower requirements, and build capacities through targeted training programmes. At the national, regional and state level, thrust will be on building institutional capacities so that the focal Ministry can effectively fulfil its role and establish coordination mechanism(s) to engage all relevant stakeholders including national and sub-national government bodies, private sector including financial institutions, civil society, and academia on CBIT related roles. Consultation workshops, training programmes, seminars will be organised at national, regional and state level to sensitise stakeholders and to seek their inputs for building effective engagement with the fund. The project will be implemented by involving all the relevant ministries and a large network of national institutions spread across India.

Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC): MoEFCC will responsible for the overall supervision and management of the preparation and implementation of activities.

Central Ministries: The Ministries (Agriculture, forest, water, disaster, energy, urban development etc.) will be involved in the project preparation and provide required inputs to the project design. Consultations and coordination with these relevant ministries will provide inputs for planning, design and implementation of the project activities.

INCAA: All the research institutions involved in the Third NC process will also be involved in the various activities of the project.

**At the national level though there are limited initiatives on enhanced Transparency, the** proposed project will be designed and implemented in coordination with several GEF projects already approved or in the process of approval that would provide valuable information/**outputs** to the CBIT process in terms climate change actions more specifically with the project on preparation of the Third NC. The project will seek linkages to the extensive national climate change portfolio including the GCF projects in the region. The Project will complement with the Third NC process, the implementation of the NDC as well as the state level efforts of preparation and implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation programme (such as SAPCCs). **The project will build on the outcome of the study being done under the Third National Communication on MRV.**

A number of climate change initiatives are currently underway by various donor agencies in partnership with the national and state governments. In particular, GIZ, SDC, DFID, EU and UNDP are supporting national and state government to address national priorities on climate change. Donors like GIZ, SDC and DFID are working with states for longer-term implementation assistance. The proposed project will complement this support by providing longer-term assistance for the implementation of plans and investing in knowledge and cross-learning with other donors active in the region.

## 7. Consistency with National Priorities

**Is the Project consistent with the National Strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions**

Yes

**If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc**

The proposed project is consistent with the national priorities.

**Paris Agreement:** The project will support implementation of Paris Agreement on climate change which is based on an enhanced transparency framework for tracking and reporting the progress of existing and future country commitments to address climate change impacts.

**National Communications (NC) and Biennial update report under UNFCCC:** India has successfully prepared its First and the Second NCs and is in the process of preparing the third NC. India has also submitted two BURs. With enhanced transparency, the project will strengthen institutional and analytical capacities at decentralized level for the reporting to UNFCCC through NCs and BURs.

**Nationally Determined Contributions:** The project will help the Government to build trust and confidence among Parties; foster shared understandings by clarifying the information underlying Parties' NDC and improve efficacy of action through enhanced learning.

This project directly supports the ongoing efforts towards strengthening India's MRV/transparency with climate reporting. It complements India's NCs, BURs, and NIMS by integrating their outputs without duplicating the efforts. The design elements of this project duly consider the form and progress-tracking options with India's NDC. It has duly considered all the takeaways and applicable modalities highlighted at COP24 through the adopted decision text (CMA.1) on Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. NICS will strengthen the existing institutional architecture of India, whereas NCR will demonstrate high level transparency with sharing of information in a well-articulated manner.

## 8. Knowledge Management

**Outline the Knowledge management approach for the Project, including, if any, plans for the Project to learn from other relevant Projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.**

One of the core features of this proposal is improvement towards information management and institutional coordination systems at the sectoral and sub-national level. NICS would serve as a coordination medium between data providers, data aggregators, and the policy planners. It will also act as a back-end archiving system maintaining disaggregated wealth of country level information. Provision of training at the sectoral and state level will ensure that a cadre of trained experts will manage the knowledge sharing process and sustain this in the future as well. Lead experts will come up with meaningful insights from the shared information, including learnings from several initiatives and associated evaluation. NCR will demonstrate complete transparency by placing relevant information in the public domain for further scrutiny and use by civil society organisations. The entire process will be based on a consultative approach to minimise any oversights.

**Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)**

**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).**

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Position</b>                             | <b>Ministry</b>   | <b>Date</b> |
|------------------|---|---|-------------|
| Ms. Richa Sharma | Joint Secretary and Operational Focal Point | MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA | 5/3/2019    |

## ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place



