

# **2025 ICAT Partner Forum: Summary Report**

**25 - 27 March  
14:00 - 17:00 CET**

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## Introduction

Building on the success of previous ICAT Partner Forums held in 2021, 2022 and 2023, as well as the in-person Community Meetings in 2022 and 2024, the 2025 ICAT Partner Forum took place from 25-27 March 2025. The Forum served as a dynamic platform for open exchange on key topics in climate action transparency. This year's event brought together nearly 300 participants, including representatives from over 50 ICAT partner countries, implementing and supporting partners, regional collaborators, members of ICAT's Advisory Committee (AC), and the Donor Steering Committee (DSC), as well as stakeholders from other transparency support providers and capacity building initiatives.

Held virtually over three days in engaging 3-hour sessions, the Forum created an inclusive space for interactive knowledge exchange, enabling participants to share practical insights, experiences and lessons learned.

Given the 2025 deadline for submitting the third round of updates to the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0), this year's theme ***"Strengthening NDC 3.0 through Transparency"*** focused on timely priorities. The Forum explored three core areas: using transparency data and evaluations to enhance NDCs; developing robust frameworks for climate finance transparency; and integrating sustainable development and just transition principles into national climate strategies.

To enable broad accessibility and reflect the diversity of participants, the Forum offered interpretations in French and Spanish, and included dedicated sessions conducted entirely in these languages. This inclusive approach helped remove language barriers and fostered more open and meaningful dialogue.

The ICAT Secretariat extends its heartfelt gratitude to all partners who contributed to the success of the Forum. Special recognition goes to Mr. Fredrick Ochieng Ouma, current Chair of the ICAT Advisory Committee and National Project Manager for the ETF Reporting Project at the Climate Change Directorate, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry in Kenya for his outstanding moderation, and to all speakers, breakout session moderators, rapporteurs and implementing partners for their valuable contributions. Special thanks also to Ms. Ursula Fuentes Hutfilter, Head of Division – Climate Diplomacy, International Climate Policy, UNFCCC at the German Federal Foreign Office and Chair of the DSC, for her inspiring remarks at the closing of the Forum.

## Main takeaways from the 2025 Partner Forum

- **Progress on transparency in ICAT-supported countries:** 66 per cent of all BTR submissions made by the end of December 2024 from developing countries came from ICAT-supported countries. While progress is evident, there is a need to better link the BTR and NDC update processes to enhance

coherence and impact and support a robust transparency framework to move towards a continuous basis for reporting.

- **Shift from data collection to data system development:** Countries are increasingly establishing national platforms for data analysis and management, leading to a growing demand for peer exchange on how to design, manage, and sustain these systems. It is encouraging to see that they are starting to have a nice challenge to address: an increasing amount of data that needs to be managed and organized.
- **Evaluation is essential, not optional:** Evaluating NDCs is a strategic tool to assess policy effectiveness and optimise resource use. Countries are encouraged to embed evaluation processes to ensure their climate policies and targets are on track and adapt to changing circumstances. Evaluating experience with NDC implementation is the basis for learning and strengthening NDCs going forward.
- **Data remains a central enabler of NDCs enhancement:** While data gaps persist, many countries see opportunities to better leverage existing data. Meanwhile, a more systematic approach to data use can help improve NDC quality and implementation.
- **Stronger engagement with financial institutions is critical:** Ministries of Finance and financial institutions should be part of the climate action process to mobilize domestic and international funding resources to support climate action. Climate finance transparency frameworks build the basis for this engagement and should be integrated into national budgets, development planning and long-term climate strategies.
- **Transparency supports inclusive stakeholder engagement:** Transparency will help initiate cross-sector collaboration with key ministries and stakeholder groups. Therefore, creating an enabling environment for participation – including for marginalized groups – is essential for just, inclusive climate action. In addition, inclusive processes help ensure the distribution of benefits and minimize potential negative impacts of climate policies.

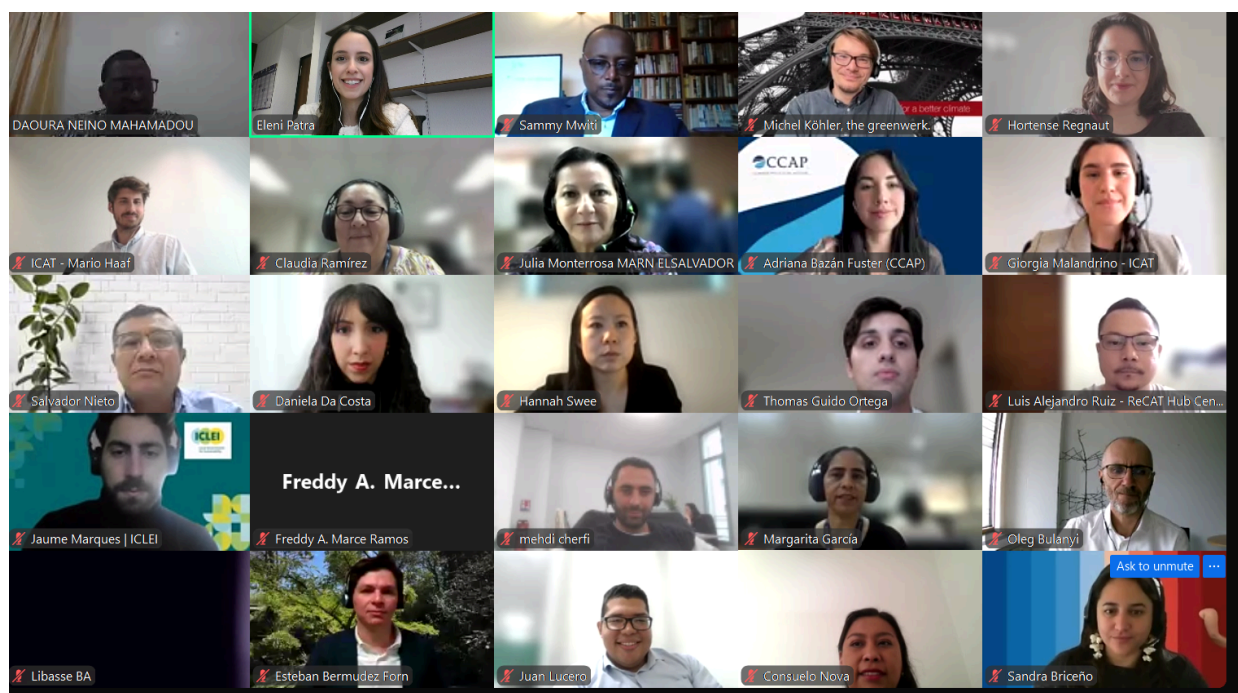


Image 1: Partial group photo from Day 2

Detailed highlights and key takeaways from each session are outlined below.

## Day 1: Enhancing NDCs based on transparency data and analysis

Welcoming partners to day one, **Dr. Henning Wuester**, Director of ICAT, emphasized that transparency remains the backbone of the Paris Agreement. It builds trust, mobilizes the resources needed, creates accountability and enables countries to evaluate progress to strengthen NDCs over time. With the first Global Stocktake showing that the world is not on track to meet the Paris Agreement goals, transparency offers a path to a course correction. In 2024, countries made significant strides by submitting the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR). Strong transparency frameworks developed for these reports now play a crucial role in enabling countries to enhance their NDCs. These frameworks allow countries to identify what is working, address gaps in their NDCs and identify sector-specific targets grounded in data and analysis. They help assess the effectiveness of policies and measures needed to ensure implementation. They also lay the foundation for mobilizing climate finance by informing credible investment plans and ensuring that climate action aligns with broader development priorities.

Dr Wuester expressed his gratitude to all participants and officially opened the ICAT Partner Forum 2025.

Following the opening, an interactive mentimeter session offered an overview of the Forum's global reach highlighting participation from across all continents. The

day continued with a plenary session on “*Enhancing NDCs based on Transparency Data and Analysis*”, before the participants joined breakout groups for more in-depth discussions.



Figure 1: Mentimeter poll from where are you joining us

## Plenary Session: **Enhancing NDCs based on transparency data and analysis**

This interactive plenary session offered an in-depth overview of the NDC 3.0 update, emphasizing the critical linkages between the BTR and NDCs. It also highlighted the importance of using evaluations strategically to inform and guide NDC updates.

**Vintura Silva**, from the UNFCCC secretariat’s NDC Technical Support Unit opened the session by outlining the NDCs cycle under the Paris Agreement. He positioned the NDC process within the context of the Global Stocktake and in alignment with IPCC scenario pathways setting the stage for a comprehensive discussion.

**Celeste Gonzalez**, Programme Management Officer at the ICAT Secretariat elaborated on the connections between BTRs and NDCs. She highlighted ICAT’s tools, guides and technical support available to countries for evaluating NDC implementation, and for assessing the impact of policies and measures on greenhouse gas assessment and adaptation outcomes.

**Ian Goldman**, President of the International Evaluation Academy and Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor to the South Africa’s JET-IP Programme Management Unit of the Presidency of South Africa, provided compelling insights into the role of evaluation in addressing the polycrisis. He emphasized the necessity of integrating



evaluation through the policy cycle to inform transformative action. He challenged participants to take a systems approach to mitigate the climate breakdown.

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*"The question should not be if countries should conduct an evaluation of their NDCs, but if they can afford not to do it" - Ian Goldman, President, International Evaluation Academy; Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor.*

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Following the presentations, a mentimeter poll captured participants' experiences with integrating BTRs and NDC updates. Of 50 participants, 22 responded engaging directly with both processes with an additional 16 engaged to some extent. These responses offer valuable insights into current practices and opportunities for follow up and support in the ongoing BTR and NDC 3.0 processes.

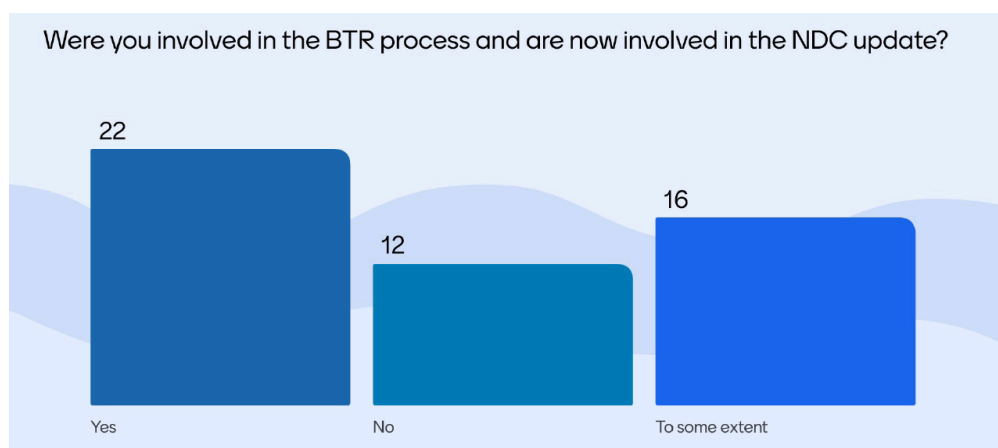


Figure 2: Mentimeter poll BTR process and NDC update involvement

## Breakout Session 1: Evaluation of implementation of current NDCs

The session examined how countries can leverage data frameworks to effectively evaluate the implementation of their NDCs. Through such evaluations, countries can identify gaps and challenges in NDC implementation, while also uncovering opportunities for improvement. These insights are instrumental in strengthening future NDC updates, enhancing national policy development, and improving overall implementation efforts. The session highlighted key experiences and lessons learned from ICAT projects in Mauritius and Costa Rica.

**Moderator:** Sina Wartmann, Climate Transparency and MRV Expert, RICARDO

**Rapporteur:** Sammy Mwiti, Senior Adviser, Climate Transparency and Communications, ICAT Secretariat

**Speakers:**

- **RICARDO:** Sina Wartmann, Climate Transparency and MRV Expert; Charis

Evans, NDC Tracking Adaptation and Resilience Expert

- **Panama:** Melani Paulette Acosta Chin, Head of Climate Action, Ministry of Environment Panama
- **Chile:** Camila Margarita Labarka Wyneken, Head of Mitigation and Transparency Department, Division of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment (MINAM)

### **Key takeaways**

- NDC submission progress remains low. Only 19 countries have so far submitted NDCs, while 178 countries accounting for 79% of emissions are still pending. Action is needed to accelerate submissions and drive meaningful progress.
- Consistent tracking and evaluation of NDC progress is vital for ensuring accountability, enabling course corrections, assessing outcomes, and effectively allocating resources. This requires availability of data, clear goals and policy coherence and the need for cross-sectoral coordination to avoid duplication.
- A theory of change is crucial for NDC evaluation. Regular data collection at all levels of implementation is necessary, alongside a nuanced understanding of external factors such as technological advancements, political dynamics and economic trends, which can impact climate action.

### **Lessons Learned**

- It was noted that despite clear deadlines, a significant majority of countries are missing NDC submission timelines, signalling a lack of institutional capacity and sufficient resource allocation. Early engagement, capacity building, and clear accountability mechanisms should be prioritized to ensure timely and high-quality submissions. A proactive approach – rather than reactive – should become the norm.
- Effective NDC implementation depends on consistent, high-quality data at all governance levels. A strong emphasis must be placed on strengthening national statistical systems, supporting local data collection and ownership, and ensuring interoperability and accessibility of climate data. Investing in these areas supports countries to track progress, refine strategies, and demonstrate impact.
- Evaluation is not an afterthought, it is foundational to achieving climate goals. Establishing reliable tracking mechanisms, allows countries to track if they are on the right path.



## Breakout Session 2: Enhancing NDCs through sectoral targets

This session focused on the development of sectoral targets within NDCs, offering participants a comprehensive overview of various target-setting approaches. It emphasized key considerations for selecting methodologies that align with each country's specific context. The session featured examples from the Energy and Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use (AFOLU) sectors, demonstrating practical applications of sectoral target-setting. These case studies served as a foundation for a dynamic facilitated discussion. Participants engaged actively with the panel, posing questions and sharing their own national contexts. The panel comprised experts from Guatemala and the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub, representing Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis, who shared insights into their respective approaches, challenges and lessons learned in setting sectoral NDC targets.

**Moderator:** Matej Gasperic, Senior Project Manager, Greenhouse Gas Management Institute

**Rapporteur:** Lauren Tropeano, Project Management Support, ICAT Secretariat

### Speakers:

- **Guatemala:** Juan Pablo Reyes, Climate Change Science and Metrics advisor of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- **Antigua & Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis:** Benise Joseph, Senior Programme Associate at the Caribbean Cooperative Measurement, Reporting and Verification Hub

### Key takeaways

- Sectoral targets are essential for translating national climate goals into concrete, actionable steps within specific sectors. They support robust measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems by establishing clear specific benchmarks. This enables countries to monitor progress effectively, report accurately and adjust strategies as needed.
- By aligning climate action with national development plans and sector strategies, the sectoral targets foster greater policy coherence and integration. They also enhance stakeholder engagement – especially when targets align with institutional mandates – and help attract climate finance by providing clarity for investment planning and funding proposals.
- Countries began using their greenhouse gas inventories as a foundation for identifying emission sources and prioritising sectors. They assessed available resources and employed modelling tools to develop mitigation scenarios, identify relevant policies and set realistic targets. Capacity building efforts within ministries were strategically implemented to support this process.

- Target setting activities were carried out through inclusive, multi-stakeholder consultations and in coordination with relevant national institutions, such as climate change councils, ensuring institutional ownership and alignment with national priorities.

### **Lessons learned**

- Institutional mapping is crucial. It is essential for countries to understand the role of institutions responsible for reporting information across specific sectors.
- Progress indicators should be defined early in the process and aligned with the new transparency provisions.
- NDCs and the national transparency frameworks need to be aligned. This will ensure consistency with the provisions of the Enhanced Transparency Framework.
- Ongoing stakeholder engagement is crucial for refining policies and setting realistic, achievable targets.
- Conducting a thorough assessment of available tools is key to securing stakeholder buy-in and ensuring the suitability of tools within the regional context.
- Evaluating sector-specific NDC targets can significantly enhance implementation but requires long-term planning and sustained institutional capacity.

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## **Breakout Session 3: Tools for NDC tracking and greenhouse gas projections**

This session focused on tools that support countries in tracking their NDCs and conduct greenhouse gas (GHG) projections to assess mitigation scenarios. Participants explored a range of tool options, with in-depth demonstrations of two key tools from the ICAT toolbox: the [Greenhouse Gas Abatement Cost Model \(GACMO\)](#), and the [Transport Climate Action Data \(TraCAD\) tool](#). Experts presented the main features and functionalities of each tool, sharing technical insights and practical considerations. This session also included country experiences and lessons learned from applying these tools as well as the development of national platforms to support the preparation of a BTR or NDC.

**Moderators:** Denis Desgain, Head of Mitigation Analysis and Data Management Section UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, and Buddika Hemashantha, Chief Executive Officer, Climate S.I.

**Rapporteur:** Hannah Swee, Climate Change Expert, ICAT Secretariat

## Speakers

- **UNEP-CCC:** Aiyimgul Kerimray, Scientist - Energy
- **Climate SI:** Buddika Hemashantha, Chief Executive Officer
- **St Kitts and Nevis:** Kalifa Phillip, Programme Associate with the Caribbean Cooperative Measurement, Reporting and Verification Hub
- **Costa Rica:** Rolando Fernández, Coordinator of Costa Rica's First BTR, National Meteorological Institute,
- **Mauritius:** Sarita Meeheelaul, Director, Department of Climate Change Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change

## Key takeaways

- The *Transport Climate Action Data (TraCAD) tool* simplifies data collection and enhances the assessment of climate actions, making it easier to track progress on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- The updated *GACMO tool* now directly links outputs to Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and generates Common Tabular Format (CTF) tables automatically. It supports users in estimating emission reductions from mitigation measures, aiding both the development and revision of NDCs.
- Tailored implementation of TraCAD in **St Kitts and Nevis** and **Antigua and Barbuda** demonstrates the importance of customizing tools and training to meet local needs, enhancing relevance and usability.
- **Mauritius' MauNDC platform** showcases how strong institutional arrangements are key to efficient data collection and climate reporting. Their experience highlights challenges and solutions in operationalizing digital climate platforms.
- **Costa Rica's SINAMECC platform** exemplifies how a centralized system can support comprehensive climate reporting. By aligning with the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), it enables consistent tracking of both mitigation and adaptation efforts, while serving as a foundation for NDC updates and BTR submissions.

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## Breakout Session 4: Adaptation and loss and damage in NDCs, including integration measures

This session explored how enhanced transparency can strengthen the integration of adaptation, and loss and damage components within countries' NDCs. Drawing on experience from various countries, and showcasing relevant tools from the ICAT toolbox, the session demonstrated how data-driven approaches can support effective adaptation planning within NDC frameworks as well as the inclusion of the loss and damage. Participants shared diverse national experiences and approaches to monitoring and evaluation for adaptation, including the development of integration measures and indicators for tracking progress and

assessing impact.

**Moderators:** Fatemeh Bakhtiari, Senior Advisor - Climate Policy, Loss and Damage, UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, and Rocio Besoain, Coordinator of Climate Change, Tepual Conservación

**Rapporteur:** Luis Alejandro Ruiz, Technical Assistant, Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub in Central America and Dominican Republic

### Speakers

- **UNEP-CCC:** Fatemeh Bakhtiari, Senior Advisor - Climate Policy, Loss and Damage
- **Tepual Conservación:** Dafna Bitrán, Economics and Climate Change Specialist
- **Panama:** Jorlenis Vargas Batista, Climate Change Analyst at the Ministry of Environment
- **Chile:** Maritza Jadrijevic, Head of the Adaptation Department, Division of Climate Change, Ministry of the Environment.

### Key takeaways

- Countries are increasingly developing legal frameworks and management instruments, such as national and sectoral adaptation plans. While Loss and Damage (L&D) can be economic or non-economic it is often underrepresented in NDCs. However, integrating L&D with adaptation efforts offers a more comprehensive understanding of climate risk.
- Although over 70% of NDCs reference adaptation, significantly fewer address L&D. Nonetheless, countries like **St. Lucia** and **Bangladesh** are applying diverse approaches to incorporate L&D into their climate strategies.
- Many countries are already working on L&D related efforts, but a lack of clear, universally accepted definitions remains a barrier. Strengthening integration with adaptation frameworks could address this gap. However limitations in data, capacity, and guidance still hinder comprehensive L&D reporting.
- **Chile** is embedding integration approaches into its climate change management instruments across governance at levels. Its 2022 NDC includes an Integration component, and a 2022 law mandates its incorporation. Still, specific implementation guidelines are needed.
- **Panama** launched its M&E system for Adaptation and L&D in 2021, followed by the introduction of 16 L&D indicators in 2022. The system covers categories such as climate risk management, economic and non-economic loss, and other relevant indicators.

## Challenges

- Key challenges include the difficulty in measuring and ensuring transparency around L&D, limited data availability, and the challenge of distinguishing between adaptation and L&D.
- Other common obstacles include insufficient technical capacity, weak coordination mechanisms and gaps in information.
- **Panama** and **Chile** highlighted the importance of aligning national efforts with the adaptation goals, underscoring the need for coherence between L&D tracking and broader adaptation frameworks.
- Effective monitoring of L&D requires robust data collection systems and comprehensive tracking frameworks. Strengthened institutional coordination and governance is essential for enhancing transparency, facilitating access to climate finance, and developing indicators in collaboration with key stakeholders.
- In particular, reporting non-economic losses presents methodological and capacity-related challenges, highlighting the urgent need for improved tools and targeted capacity-building support.

## Lessons learned

- Setting clear objectives for integration is essential, along with ensuring that frameworks remain flexible and adaptable to local context and evolving needs.
- Integrating adaptation and mitigation measures within climate policies is key to promoting policy coherence and maximizing synergies and co-benefits across sectors.
- Meaningful stakeholder engagement is critical – particularly in the validation of indicators, the optimization of data and reporting platforms, and the establishment of effective institutional arrangements to support long-term implementation and coordination.

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## Breakout Session 5: Using cooperation under Article 6 to support NDCs

This breakout session examined how transparency can support countries in ensuring that Article 6 of the Paris Agreement contributes meaningfully to the implementation and enhancement of their NDCs. International cooperation through Article 6 mechanisms offers opportunities to achieve NDC targets more cost-effectively and to raise overall ambition. However, to safeguard environmental integrity, it is essential that monitoring and reporting of Article 6 activities are fully integrated into national transparency frameworks. This integration also enables the early identification of major risks that could undermine mitigation outcomes. The session featured expert insights, shared

country experiences, and a presentation of [ICAT's guide for Article 6 and transparency](#).

**Moderator:** Ana Him Hun, Policy Associate, Center for Clean Air Policy

**Rapporteur:** Ana Him Hun, Policy Associate, Center for Clean Air Policy

### Speakers

- **Vietnam:** Dr. Nguyen Phuong Nam, CEO & Climate Advisor, Climate Innovation Consulting & Services JSC, KLINOVA
- **Ghana:** Juliana Bempah, Program Officer, Environmental Protection Agency
- **Dominican Republic:** Janibel Muñoz Torres, Carbon Markets and Article 6 Consultant, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- **Chile:** Cristina Figueroa Vargas, Carbon Pricing and Carbon Markets Coordinator, Ministry of Environment
- **A6IP Center:** Hayato Nakamura, Programme Manager
- **ICAT Secretariat:** Oleg Bulanyi, Senior Programme Manager

### Key take-aways

- According to the Article 6 Implementation Status Report (A6ISR) 78% of Parties have indicated their intent to engage in a voluntary cooperation under Article 6 in their NDCs. The report also highlights that 2025 will be a critical year for leveraging Article 6 to enhance NDC ambition.
- Key national documents including the NDCs, National Inventory Reports and the BTRs, as well as the Long-term Strategy and Mitigation Sectoral Plans, form the foundation for identifying opportunities to leverage Article 6 mechanisms. For instance, the **Dominican Republic** is exploring Article 6 engagement in its forthcoming NDC 3.0, informed by insights from the first BTR and updated National Inventory. **Chile's** Climate Change Framework Law provides the legal basis implementing Article 6 through established climate management instruments.
- Establishing robust institutional arrangements and operational procedures is essential for building market confidence. In **Ghana** the approach is grounded in the Environmental Protection Agency Act, which includes the creation of a national carbon market framework, the Ghana Carbon Registry, and a carbon market committee.
- The private sector is a key player in the successful implementation of Article 6 implementation and in raising NDC ambition. Early involvement is vital to ensure sustained participation and market viability. In **Vietnam** the private sector's role is particularly important in capital mobilization, emission mitigation through technology upgrades, and in the trading of carbon credits.

## **Challenges**

- Countries face limitations in institutional capacity, which can hinder the effective and sustained implementation of Article 6 cooperative approaches. Strengthening local expertise and institutional frameworks is critical to address this gap.
- Establishing the necessary infrastructure to track mitigation outcomes, prevent double counting, and ensure consistency and accuracy in MRV processes remains a key challenge for many countries.

## **Lessons Learned**

- Developing clear institutional arrangements and operational procedures, such as a national carbon market framework is essential for building confidence and ensuring stability in the implementation of Article 6 mechanisms.
- Conducting a comprehensive analysis of NDCs, National Inventory Reports, BTRs, and national sectoral plans provides a strong foundation for effectively leveraging Article 6 mechanisms. This analysis can support the development of a national carbon budget and help identify priority eligible for generating mitigation outcomes under market-based approaches.

## **Day 2: NDC implementation, investment plans and climate finance transparency**

The second day of the ICAT Partner Forum centred on the implementation of NDCs and the critical role of developing robust climate finance transparency frameworks. These frameworks serve as a foundation for creating effective investment plans and mobilizing resources to support national climate ambitions. During the opening plenary, speakers provided an overview of the current climate finance landscape and emphasized the importance of aligning NDC targets with broader national development goals. A key takeaway was to actively engage the national finance ministry as strategic stakeholders to ensure alignment with budgetary processes and support in resource mobilization and allocation. Following the plenary, participants joined the interactive breakout session of their choice, where they explored in greater depth how climate finance transparency frameworks can be used to attract and channel resources toward NDP implementation.

## **Plenary Session: NDC implementation, investment plans and climate finance transparency**

The plenary session featured three dynamic and insightful speakers who provided a comprehensive overview of the current state of global climate finance and transparency frameworks.

**Ms. Chavi Meattle**, Climate Finance Specialist at the Climate Policy Initiative



presented an overview of current global climate financing flows and investment gaps, showcasing existing tools for tracking progress to enhance transparency and inform policy decisions. Chavi highlighted that while global climate finance flows nearly doubled between 2018 and 2022, a fivefold increase is needed by 2030 to meet global goals. Chavi emphasized the urgency of immediate action, noting that delays will only lead to higher costs and greater financing needs. She also pointed out significant underfunding in high potential sectors, such as the energy, industry, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU), waste sectors and adaptation, which are currently at just one-third of the required volume.

Chavi encouraged countries to leverage CPI tools to enhance transparency and inform climate finance decision-making:

- [Net Zero Finance Tracker](#) assesses the alignment of private financial institutions with the Paris Agreement goals.
- [Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa](#) provides interactive data tools on regional climate finance flows.
- [Climate Finance Reform Compass](#) is an action-oriented tool to identify financial sector reforms needed to scale up climate finance.

**Mr. Marcio Alvarenga**, Climate Change Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank addressed the theme of "unlocking financial resources for transformative climate action". He stressed that current climate finance falls far short of the level of funding needed to meet the global climate action goals. In the context of Latin America, Marcio outlined key barriers including limited fiscal space, high costs of accessing finance and a lack of appropriate financial and regulatory frameworks. He emphasized the need to bridge climate planning with the national budgetary processes and align climate policy instruments, such as the NDC and Long Term Strategies (LTS), with national development plans.

**Mr. Oleg Bulanyi**, Senior Programme Manager at the ICAT Secretariat underscored the importance of establishing climate finance frameworks for transparency as a foundation for tracking finance flows from different funding sources and informing the mobilization strategy. He noted that transparency brings both domestic and international benefits. It helps identify climate finance gaps, supports more efficient public resource management, contributes to global consistency in methodologies – thereby advancing the goals of Article 2.1(c) of the Paris Agreement. Oleg presented the five key phases of establishing a robust climate finance transparency framework, designed to support countries in transparency to drive stronger climate action.

An interactive mentimeter session engaged participants further, providing insights in the current state of climate finance and NDC planning processes across different countries.

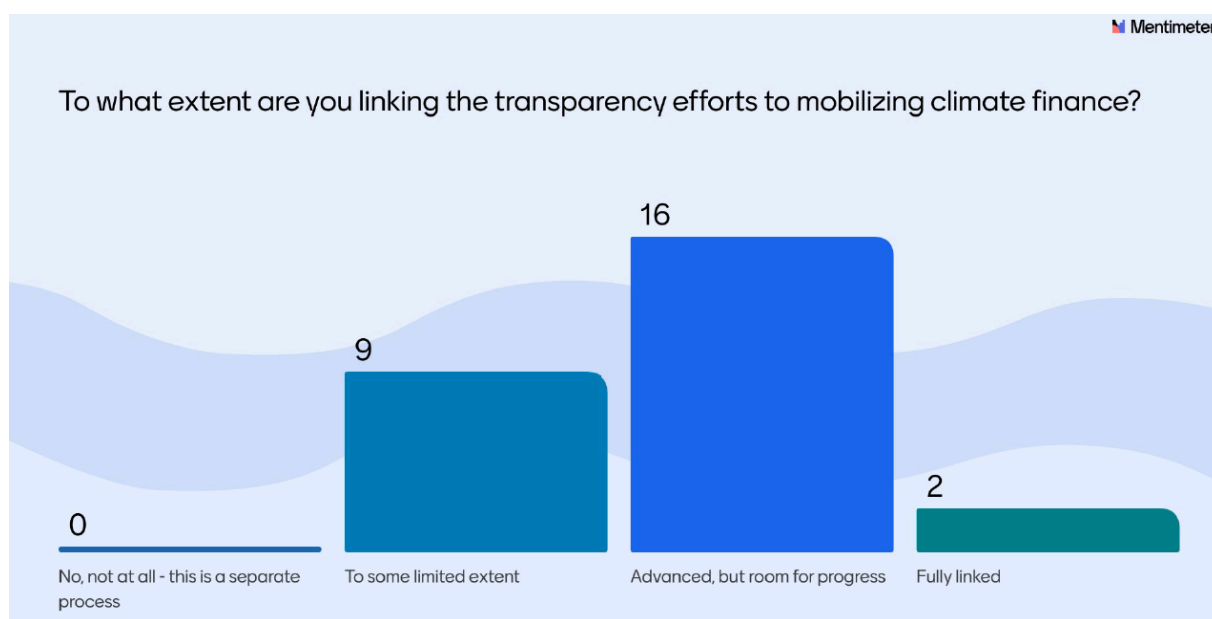


Figure 3: Mentimeter poll on linking transparency efforts to mobilize climate finance

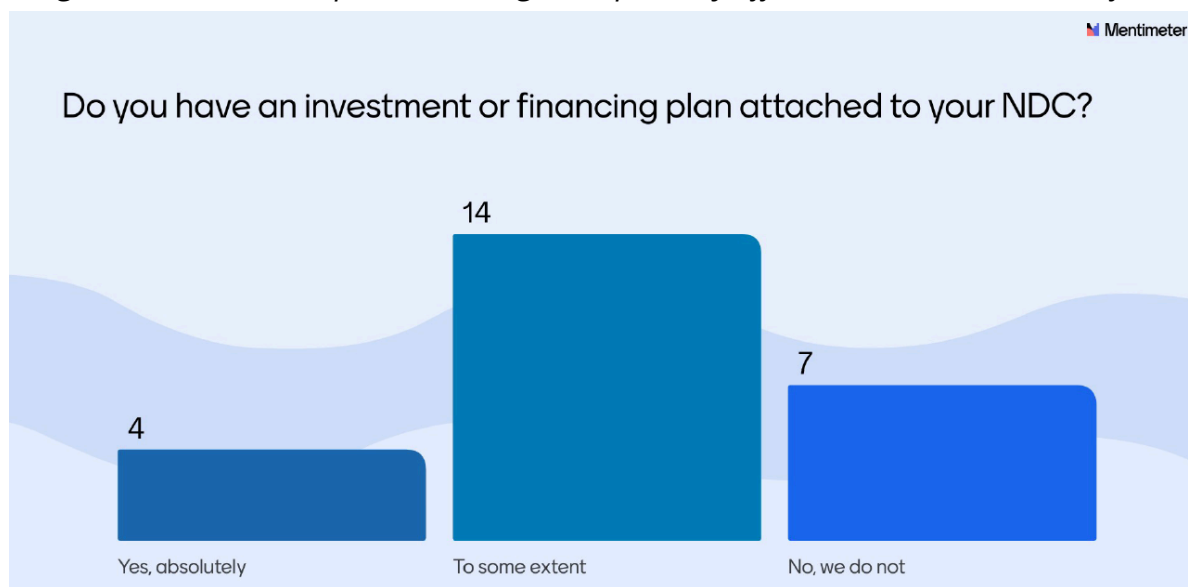


Figure 4: Mentimeter poll on attachment of investment of financing plan to the NDC

Most respondents indicated that transparency efforts are being linked to climate finance mobilisation though there is still significant room for progress. Only two participants reported that their processes are fully aligned. This highlights an opportunity to further explore perspectives on fully integrating transparency with resource mobilization and to document best practice case studies.

Regarding the integration of investment or financing plans with NDCs, four respondents confirmed having attached such a plan to their NDC. However, the majority noted that this integration is only partial, and seven participants indicated that no plan has been attached. This reveals a clear opportunity to engage with countries to understand current challenges and provide targeted support to strengthen the development and integration of investment or financing plans

within the NDC frameworks.

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## Breakout Session 6: Using transparency to mobilize climate finance and engage stakeholders

This session examined the pivotal role of transparency in mobilizing climate finance and fostering stakeholder engagement to support the implementation of NDCs and the development of investment plans. Experts shared best practices, tools, and key insights drawn from the ICAT [Climate Finance Transparency Guide](#). Through a series of case studies, speakers showcased how their countries have built transparency frameworks to attract funding and catalyze climate action. The session concluded with an interactive exercise that encouraged participants to exchange perspectives and explore practical approaches for enhancing climate finance transparency within their own national contexts.

**Moderators:** Daniela da Costa, Principal Consultant, Gauss International, Thomas Ortega, Consultant, Gauss International, Natalia Gonzalez, Consultant, Gauss International

**Rapporteur:** Luis Ruiz Alejandro, Technical Assistant, Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub in Central America and Dominican Republic

### Speakers

- **Senegal:** [placeholder], Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- **Côte d'Ivoire:** Mariane Dominique Don, Head of Studies, Directorate of Public Investment Planning

### Key takeaways

- Climate finance tracking plays a vital role in ensuring compliance, supporting NDC implementation, and enhancing transparency. It enables informed decision-making, optimizes use of available funds, and allows for continuous improvement by monitoring both planned and actual financial flows.
- Tools and resources, such as Management Abatement Cost (MAC) Curves and the GACMO model, identify cost-effective options and opportunities, while resources like the ICAT Climate Finance Transparency Guide engenders trust and open new pathways for climate finance access.
- Many international funds require an MRV framework. Processes, such as green taxonomy, climate budget tagging, and/or Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR), are looking at linkages across policy, institutional analysis and climate public expenditures.
- Transparency acts as a key enabler for NDC planning by bridging the gap between commitments and action. It facilitates access to new finance

opportunities, supports trust-building, identifies funding gaps, ensures reporting compliance, and strengthens climate finance frameworks.

- Effective implementation requires early stakeholder engagement, high-level political support, ongoing capacity building, and the establishment of simple yet sustainable systems that are tailored to each country's specific context. Importantly, there is no "one-size-fits all" approach.
- Countries are actively seeking access to green climate finance, which demands robust MRV platforms. For example, **Senegal** is developing a platform to track both domestic and international funding flows aiming to enhance data collection, completeness and traceability.

### Challenges

- Difficulties in preparing bankable projects and aligning them with NDC targets.
- Fragmented climate finance information, and limited institutional capacity for tracking and reporting finance flows.
- Lack of coordination among national institutions, including the need to engage finance ministries in budget planning processes.

### Lessons Learned

- Collecting data to support reliable climate-sensitive budgeting is essential. Senegal's study on national budgeting practices demonstrated the value of tracking both domestic and international climate finance.
- Conducting a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and ensuring meaningful engagement throughout the process strengthens climate finance transparency and ownership.
- A strong institutional framework is necessary to operationalize the MRV system and support the effective mobilization and tracking of climate investments.

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## Breakout Session 7: Establishing climate finance transparency frameworks as a basis for NDC investment plans

By providing clear and reliable data, climate finance transparency frameworks play a critical role in supporting the development of credible and effective NDC investment plans. These frameworks enable governments to track both domestic and international climate finance flows, identifying funding gaps, and areas that are underfunded. This helps prioritize sectors and projects based on real financial needs and strengthens the case for attracting investment. The session featured in-depth discussions informed by country experiences and international expertise highlighting practical approaches to establishing and operationalizing these

frameworks.

**Moderators:** Lena Dovidat, Climate Finance Advisor, the greenwerk; Michel Koehler, Founding Partner, the greenwerk

**Rapporteur:** Michel Koehler, Founding Partner, the greenwerk

### **Speakers**

- **Belize:** Edalmi Pinelo, Chief Climate Officer for the National Climate Change Office within the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Solid Waste Management

### **Key takeaways**

- There are strong interlinkage between NDC investment planning and climate finance transparency. The recently published ICAT Climate Finance Transparency guide is a viable resource to support countries in this area.
- Broad sectoral stakeholder engagement and alignment with NDC enhancement processes are essential for effective NDC investment planning activities. The session illustrated this through practical examples from **Asia, Africa and the Caribbean**.
- Many countries are preparing to initiate or expand their NDC investment plans in the near future.
- **Belize** is advancing NDC investment planning by establishing a mechanism to track, report, and verify climate finance flows, both ex-ante and ex-post. A key success factor was collaboration with the existing climate finance unit within the Ministry of Finance, which enabled effective monitoring of funding flows within the Ministry of Finance, and initiated joint resource mobilization efforts. This approach has strengthened the country's ability to mobilize domestic resources and enhance its capacity to develop successful funding proposals for international climate funding.

### **Challenges**

- Countries face several barriers to effective climate finance transparency and NDC investment planning. These include limited technical and institutional capacity, inadequate legal and regulatory frameworks, and a lack of coordination due to siloed approaches among ministries and government institutions.

### **Lessons Learned**

- Establishing strong collaboration with the relevant unit within the Ministry of Finance is essential for effective joint resource planning and mobilization.
- Securing buy-in from different sectoral experts and institutions is critical to broad ownership and alignment.
- External support for capacity building such as through ICAT or the GEF Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) is key.

## Breakout Session 8: Établir des cadres nationaux pour la transparence du financement climatique

Les cadres de transparence en matière de finance climat fournissent des données claires et fiables qui aident les gouvernements à élaborer des plans d'investissement efficaces pour la mise en œuvre des NDC. Ils permettent de suivre les flux financiers nationaux et internationaux liés au climat, ce qui aide à prioriser effectivement les secteurs et les projets en fonction des besoins financiers réels maximiser l'impact climatique des investissements. La session tirerait parti de l'expérience des pays et de l'expertise internationale pour une discussion approfondie.

**Modérateur:** Ludivine Cozette, Ingénieure d'études Adaptation au Changement Climatique et Hortense Regnaut, Chargée d'Etude Adaptation au Changement climatique, Citepa

### Intervenants:

- **Niger:** Nieino Mahamadou Daoura, Cabinet du Premier Ministre, Conseil National de l'Environnement pour un Développement Durable

**Rapporteur:** Libasse Ba, Président du Comité National sur les Changements Climatiques du Sénégal et membre du Comité Consultatif de l'ICAT

### Points clés

- Le guide ICAT sur la transparence du financement climatique, offre une flexibilité et un soutien pour les pays souhaitant améliorer la transparence dans le financement climatique. La publication du guide en français a été accueillie favorablement par les participants, qui ont apprécié la méthodologie adaptable permettant une personnalisation en fonction du contexte de chaque pays.
- La Côte d'Ivoire a avancé l'application du guide avec des progrès importants. Pour le Niger, la première phase de mise en œuvre de l'ICAT a permis d'établir un cadre clair pour aborder les défis liés à la transparence du financement climatique, ouvrant la voie à des stratégies plus efficaces à l'avenir.

### Principaux défis

- Le manque de coordination entre les différents ministères impliqués dans le financement climatique a été identifié comme un obstacle majeur à surmonter pour garantir une mise en œuvre fluide des politiques.

- Un besoin urgent a été exprimé pour renforcer les capacités en matière de préparation de budgets verts afin d'améliorer l'allocation des ressources et la gestion des projets liés au climat.

### Leçons apprises

- Il est essentiel de mettre en place des mécanismes de suivi adéquats pour garantir un suivi efficace des activités liées au financement climatique. De plus, l'importance de créer des synergies autour de méthodologies unifiées a été soulignée pour renforcer la coordination et garantir des approches cohérentes à travers les pays.
  - L'implication des différentes parties prenantes et les interactions entre elles sont déterminantes pour développer une feuille de route claire, où chaque acteur a pu trouver sa place et contribuer au succès du projet.
- 

## Breakout Session 9: La Transparencia del Financiamiento Climático - Piedra Angular de la Acción Climática

La transparencia del financiamiento climático es fundamental para generar confianza y garantizar la asignación y movilización eficaz de recursos. Esta sesión exploró cómo los marcos de seguimiento y reporte de flujos financieros pueden ayudar a los países a fortalecer sus políticas, atraer inversiones y cumplir sus compromisos climáticos. Se presentó la [Guía para la Transparencia del Financiamiento Climático](#) del ICAT y se ofreció un espacio para que los representantes de los países y los expertos debatieran sobre los últimos avances, metodologías de seguimiento, retos, mejores prácticas y lecciones aprendidas en materia de transparencia del financiamiento climático.

**Moderadora:** Vanessa Caldas, Analista de Financiamiento Climático, CCAP y Adriana Bazán Fuster, Gerente del Programa de Financiamiento Climático, CCAP

**Rapporteur:** Luis Ruiz Alejandro, Technical Assistant, Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub in Central America and Dominican Republic

### Ponentes

- **Chile:** Sandra Carolina Briceño Pérez, Jefa del Departamento de Finanzas Climáticas y Medios de Implementación, División de Cambio Climático, Ministerio del Medio Ambiente
- **Panamá:** Juan Manuel Lucero Acosta, Coordinador de la Plataforma Nacional de Transparencia Climática
- **El Salvador:** Jessica Laguardia, Jefe de la Unidad Técnica de Despacho, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
- **México:** Diana Guzmán, Directora de Políticas de Mitigación y Adaptación, Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)



- **UNEP LAC:** Sebastián Carranza, Jefe de la Unidad de Cambio Climático, Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe
- **Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA):** Salvador Nieto, Gerente del Proyecto del Centro Regional de Transparencia para la Acción Climática

### **Puntos claves**

- La transparencia en la información de financiamiento climático fomenta la confianza y atrae recursos e inversiones para la acción climática, requiriendo una coordinación sólida entre entidades públicas.
- Es crucial costear y medir las brechas en instrumentos como las NDC y Estrategia Climática de Largo Plazo (LTS) para comprender la magnitud del esfuerzo necesario para transversalizar los recursos estatales, de cooperación internacional y del sector privado.
- Alinear los instrumentos de medición de brechas de financiamiento con los presupuestos disponibles es fundamental para priorizar esfuerzos y lograr un impacto exitoso en las políticas públicas.
- Medir el impacto del financiamiento climático con métricas estandarizadas y reportar la información de manera correcta y oportuna genera credibilidad y confianza entre los inversionistas y la población en general.
- El impacto del financiamiento climático no está en la cantidad de dinero movilizado, sino en el compromiso de rendir cuentas. Invertir en MRV es invertir en credibilidad.

### **Desafíos**

- Tener un lenguaje común para identificar aquellas acciones (actividades, activos e inversiones) que contribuyen con el financiamiento climático de diversas fuentes. La Taxonomía de Finanzas Verdes o Sostenibles es un elemento clave para que los países cuenten con este lenguaje común estandarizado y basado en ciencia, garantizado que se evite el lavado verde.
- Potenciar los recursos que se han construido en torno al financiamiento climático y sobre todo identificar los medios de implementación de movilizar recursos.

### **Lecciones aprendidas**

- La guía desarrollada por ICAT en el tema de transparencia en financiamiento climático constituye un insumo importante.
- Integración con otros instrumentos de política pública, generalmente de gobierno subnacional, de cada país que también incluyen acciones en adaptación y mitigación de las cuales el gobierno central no siempre está consciente.
- Integrar al sector privado, tanto para captar los recursos de este actor, como también reconocer sus esfuerzos en la acción climática.

- Establecer y utilizar estratégicamente sistemas de transparencia de financiamiento climático para generar confianza en inversionistas y población.

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## Day 3: Integrating sustainable development and just transition focus

The third day of the ICAT Partner Forum focused on the integration of sustainable development and just transition principles as countries work toward low-carbon and climate-resilient economies. Opening plenary speakers set the stage by outlining the current status of just transition within global climate policies that are inclusive, equitable and responsive to existing social, economic and environmental inequalities. The session also introduced key tools and guidelines available to support countries in pursuing just transition approaches that leave no one behind.

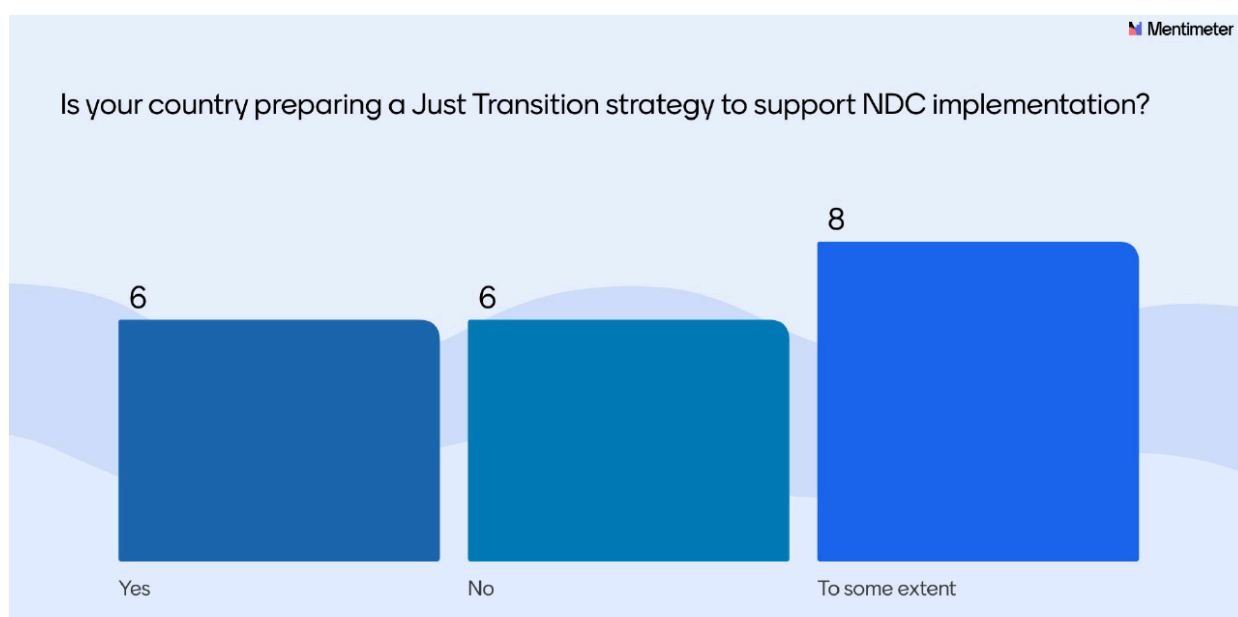
### Plenary Session: Integrating sustainable development and just transition

Following the opening by the moderator, **Mr. Oleg Bulanyi, Ms. Ana Belen Sanchez**, Head of Alinnea, the Climate Action Tank hosted by IE University, delivered a compelling presentation on the importance of implementing a just transition to support a fair inclusive and sustainable shift to a net-zero future. Emphasizing the principle of “leaving no one behind,” she underscored the need to embed just transition principles into both climate and sectoral policies, particularly to manage shifts across declining and growing sectors. **Ana Belen** also highlighted the importance of integrating just transition frameworks into existing green taxonomies and of engaging both the public and private finance sectors to support incorporation into public budgets and the mobilization of private capital. She also introduced the recently founded Institute for Global Decarbonization Progress (iGDP) – an international non-profit think tank dedicated to advancing green and low carbon development. iGDP is expected to play a pivotal role in supporting policies on just transition and in the development of a set of indicators to track progress.

**Ms. Hannah Swee**, Climate Change Specialist at the ICAT Secretariat, followed with a presentation on ICAT’s [Sustainable Development Methodology](#) which assesses the environmental, social and economic impacts of policies and actions. She also introduced the newly released ICAT [Just Transitions Monitoring Guide](#) designed to help countries monitor and evaluate progress as they shift toward a low-carbon, climate resilient economy. The guide offers a step by step approach for developing robust monitoring frameworks for just transition. Hannah noted that the guide was informed by practical experiences in countries such as **South Africa, Nigeria** and

**Brazil** where pilot applications took place alongside the guide's development. These case studies contributed to a flexible, user-driven tool that countries can adapt based on their own circumstances and needs.

To conclude the session, participants engaged in an interactive mentimeter exercise to assess how just transition is being integrated into climate action across countries. The results showed that while many countries are in the process of preparing transition strategies to support NDC implementation, only six participants reported having fully developed strategies in place. This indicates a clear need for follow up and tailored support, particularly to address the challenges counties face in operationalizing just transition frameworks.



*Figure 5: Mentimeter poll on attachment of investment of financing plan to the NDC*

Following the Mentimeter exercise participants joined a series of breakout sessions for Day 3, which focused on policy assessment for sustainable development impacts, integration of just transition and the participation of stakeholders for inclusive climate action. Due to the increased interest, two sessions “Evaluation of NDCs” and “Using Climate Finance Transparency Frameworks” were repeated to accommodate additional participants and facilitate broader engagement.

## **Session 10: Combined policy assessment for greenhouse gases and sustainable development impacts**

This session focused on country experiences in assessing the combined impacts of climate policies on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and sustainable development indicators. Panelists shared insights from diverse geographic and sectoral contexts, demonstrating how integrated policy assessments can inform climate planning and support the preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). Presentations

covered a range of approaches, including the evaluation of individual policies in the agriculture and energy sectors, the development of new policy frameworks, and the assessment of policy portfolios.

Highlights included:

- **Vanuatu's** assessment of agriculture policies and their impact on GHG emissions and sustainable development outcomes.
- **Eswatini's** experience in evaluating renewable energy policies and the formulation of a national bioenergy policy.
- **Tajikistan's** use of the GACMO tool to assess the mitigation potential of various policies in support of their upcoming BTR.

The session underscored the value of integrated assessments for identifying co-benefits, improving policy coherence, and aligning national climate action with sustainable development priorities

**Moderator:** Olga Lyandres, Senior Project Manager, Greenhouse Gas Management Institute

**Rapporteur:** Dr. Nguyen Phuong Nam, CEO & Climate Advisor, Climate Innovation Consulting & Services JSC, KLINOVA

### Speakers

- **Vanuatu:** Represented by the moderator, Olga Lyandres, speaking on behalf of Nelson Kalo, Acting Director, Department of Climate Change
- **Tajikistan:** Anna Sikharulidze, ICAT project consultant, Director and Founder, greenStream Consulting Georgia
- **Eswatini:** Nosiphiwo Zwane, lecturer in the Department of Physics at the University of Eswatini

### Key takeaways

- **Eswatini** is advancing its bioenergy sector by addressing key challenges and implementing targeted solutions. Priorities include strengthening energy security, improving access to affordable and sustainable energy, and creating a supportive environment for bioenergy investment.
- **Tajikistan** is enhancing its institutional and technical capacity in preparation for its first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1). Key focus areas include expanding renewable energy, modernizing the electric grid, promoting e-mobility, increasing afforestation/reforestation efforts, and improving greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and policy impact assessments.

### Challenges

- Lack of permanent MRV systems hinders the ability to consistently track goals and progress indicators for the policies and measures (PaM) across sectors, making it difficult to estimate both expected and achieved GHG

emissions reductions. Limited technical capacity to develop and apply methodologies.

- Challenges on assessment of the impact of PaMs.
- The GACMO tool offers the use of pre-defined mitigation options, which can be changed and complemented, and fixed methodologies. The tool, however, does not account for interactions between PaMs, models electricity on an annual time scale, and offers limited flexibility for scenario development.
- Difficulty engaging sectoral experts, resulting in gaps in the collection of tailored policy-specific information.
- Lack of technical capacity in both developing and implementing sector-specific methodologies and guidelines for assessing PaM impacts.

### **Lessons learned**

- The set up of a robust MRV system is essential for implementation tracking. This includes assigning responsible entities, developing clear progress indicators, and developing standardized data collection templates and methodologies aligned with GHG inventory requirements.
- Policy descriptions can be refined for additional stakeholder engagement as a basis for future assessments.
- Establishing a strong team with long-term capacity needs to be in place. This should include GHG accounting experts, modelers, policy makers and sectoral experts.
- Policies and measures should be developed with clearly identified multi-year goals.
- For adequate use of the GACMO tool, there is a need to implement the offered default values with country-specific data. Prioritize data collection for actions with existing methodologies in GACMO and input annual goals to better track progress over time (for multiple years).
- Consider sector-specific tools, such as FAO 's Ex-ACT, to provide more flexibility in developing scenarios and assessment of measures for agriculture.
- Explore the potential to assess combined effects of multiple mitigation actions and incorporate additional types of actions of national interest to enhance policy planning and impact evaluation.

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## **Session 11: Monitoring just transitions: establishing national frameworks**

Monitoring frameworks for just transition enable countries to use data-driven

approaches to ensure that the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies is just and inclusive. This session introduced the ICAT Just Transition Monitoring Guide, which provides guidance for monitoring and analyzing social, economic and environmental changes that may occur as countries implement climate policies. Participants also heard from countries that have worked on establishing national frameworks for monitoring just transitions.

**Moderator:** Chelsea Gómez, Climate Transparency Project Manager, World Resources Institute

**Rapporteur:** Guilherme Lima, Gerente de Projetos (Project Manager) Centro Brasil no Clima

### Speakers

- **Kenya:** Esther Wang'ombe, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
- **Brazil:** Guilherme Lima, Gerente de Projetos (Project Manager) Centro Brasil no Clima
- **South Africa:** Yuri Ramkissoo, Climate Impact Research Analyst at the Presidential Climate Commission

### Key takeaways

- Just transition goals and priorities need to be developed collaboratively with active involvement from affected and engaged stakeholders. A step-by-step approach is essential, starting with the identification of targets and indicators, followed by data coordination and collection, data analysis and the establishment of clear communication processes.
- People and communities must be at the center of the transition planning. Kenya's experience highlighted how strategies for transitioning the energy sector can incorporate job growth, nature-based solutions and gender considerations.
- Just transition presents an opportunity to reshape economies toward more inclusive, diversified and environmentally sustainable models. However, many economies continue to face challenges including heavy dependence on coal as well as high levels of poverty and inequality.
- The just transition component can be integrated into national climate strategies and NDCs taking into account each country's context. This includes identifying the implications in sectors such as LULUCF, industry, waste, agriculture and addressing the impacts on local communities.

### Challenges

- Lack of institutional arrangements and the need for changing existing institutional arrangements to address financial and capacity building needs.

- There is a need to promote sustainable development and the impact of just transition. Stakeholders understand what just transition is but not the technical terms attached to it.

### **Lessons Learned**

- Conduct a comprehensive stakeholder analysis and mapping across all the relevant sectors to identify the needs, priorities, and preconditions for a successful just transition.
- Recognize that just transition is a process, and not merely a goal. It requires continuous engagement and adaptation to deal with the impact of climate change on communities, livelihoods and ecosystems.

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## **Session 12: Stakeholder engagement for inclusive climate action**

The session explored the vital role of stakeholder engagement in enhancing transparency processes and approaches for fostering inclusive climate action. It showcased key resources from the ICAT toolbox, including the ICAT [Stakeholder Participation Guide](#) and the working paper [Good Practices for Integrating Gender into Climate Transparency Frameworks](#). Participants learned from country experiences on how inclusive engagement, particularly involving women and indigenous people, and marginalized communities, can contribute to effective climate policies and measures.

**Moderator:** Hannah Swee, Climate Change Expert, ICAT Secretariat

**Rapporteur:** Mario Haaf, Project Management Support Associate, ICAT Secretariat

### **Speakers**

- **ICAT Secretariat:** Hannah Swee, Climate Change Expert
- **UNEP-Copenhagen Climate Centre:** Khetsiwe Khumalo, Advisor - Climate Transparency
- **Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub in Central America:** Luis Alejandro, Technical Assistant
- **Bolivia:** Carlos Mauricio Fernandez Mavrich, Director del Mecanismo de Mitigación para el Vivir Bien, Autoridad Plurinacional de la Madre Tierra

### **Key takeaways**

- Climate policies must be designed to benefit the entire population, with a clear understanding of how different groups are impacted. Integrating this analysis into climate action helps ensure that no one is left behind or negatively impacted.



- When BTRs and NDCs are developed together, it offers an opportunity to strengthen the gender evidence base, leading to more inclusiveness and effectiveness in climate decision-making.
- **Bolivia** has made progress in advancing intersectional climate action plans, particularly in the the health and food security sectors, emphasizing harmony with the environment. The country prioritizes integration of women's and indigenous movements, aiming to combine traditional knowledge with scientific approaches.

### Challenges

- Limited interministerial coordination between ministries responsible for environmental, social, and gender-related issues particularly in areas such as data collection, analysis and the identification of shared targets, indicators and activities.
- Insufficient understanding of the priorities, needs, and perspectives of diverse groups.

### Lessons Learned

- Securing buy-in from key ministries is essential. Maintaining engagement requires clear, consistent communication that is responsive to the feedback and needs of different country contexts.
- There is a critical need to develop and reinforce inclusive MRV systems that incorporate gender-sensitive indicators and integrate indigenous knowledge and traditional ecological practices.
- Making information accessible and ensuring full and effective participation of marginalized groups in climate decision-making processes is key.
- An enabling environment must be fostered by addressing institutional, environmental and attitudinal barriers, creating space for meaningful engagement.

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## Session 13: Evaluation of implementation of current NDCs

The session explored how countries can leverage data frameworks to effectively evaluate the implementation of their NDCs. A robust evaluation process helps identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities for improvement, providing a foundation for more informed NDC updates and national policy development. The session highlighted how such evaluations can support enhanced implementation over time and featured practical insights and lessons learned from ICAT-supported projects in Chile, Brazil and Côte d'Ivoire.

**Moderator:** RICARDO, Sina Wartmann, Climate Transparency and MRV Expert;  
Charis Evans, NDC Tracking Adaptation and Resilience Expert

### Speakers

- **RICARDO:** Dominic Sheldon, Climate Transparency and MRV Experts, Charis Evans, NDC Tracking Adaptation and Resilience Expert, Matthew Davies, Climate Action Planning Support
- **Chile:** Camila Margarita Labarca Wyneken, Head of Mitigation and Transparency Department, Division of Climate Change
- **Brazil:** Ricardo Vieira Araujo, Coordenação-Geral de Ciência do Clima - CGCL
- **Côte d'Ivoire:** Mohamed Sanogo, Coordonnateur, Programme National Changements Climatiques

### Key takeaways

- The national GHG inventory serves as the primary instrument for tracking the impact of the NDC, while PaMs monitoring is essential for tracking implementation.
- Enhancing GHG inventories to align with NDC targets can sometimes pose challenges such as the need to include new sources which may increase reported total emissions and complicate tracking efforts.
- It is important to distinguish between tracking implementation and tracking impact, as they serve different but complementary purposes in evaluating NDC progress.

### Challenges

- Integrating the climate change MRV framework into national MRV/MEL frameworks;
- Limited or inaccessible data, and general lack of established MRV systems.

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## Session 14: Using transparency to mobilize climate finance and engage stakeholders

This session highlighted the critical role of transparency in both mobilizing climate finance and engaging stakeholders to advance NDC implementation and inform investment planning. Experts shared best practices, tools, and insights drawn from the ICAT [Climate Finance Transparency Guide](#) emphasizing how transparency frameworks are being applied on the ground to attract funding and drive climate action. The session concluded with an interactive exercise, encouraging participants to share experiences and explore practical strategies to strengthen climate finance transparency in their national contexts.

**Moderators and Rapporteur:** Daniela da Costa, Principal Consultant, Gauss International

### Speakers

- **Panama:** Juan Manuel Lucero Acosta, Coordinador de la Plataforma Nacional de Transparencia Climática

- **Colombia:** Luis Alejandro Noguera Robayo – Lead Climate Finance Broker, National Planning Department, Ms. Yolima Paola Sánchez Vargas – Economist, National Planning Department

### Key takeaways

- The importance of climate finance transparency as a catalyst for just transition, and the need for synergistic action between sustainable development goals and climate mitigation and adaptation to maximise the efficient use of limited resources.
- Key tools and best practices for mainstreaming sustainable development and just transition considerations into climate finance transparency frameworks includes the use of just transition indicators alongside tracking financial resources needed, mobilized, and received.
- Tools such as COMPASS and the Transformational Change Toolkit are practical resources to apply a just transition lens in the economic analysis of climate options.
- **Colombia** has developed a comprehensive framework that maps NDC financing needs and gaps, enabling the development of a targeted finance mobilization strategy. This approach focuses on sending market signals to align public, private, domestic, and international finance with project implementation.
- **Panama** follows a multi-faceted approach to enabling a Just Transition, which includes increasing private financing, strengthening institutional capacity to integrate climate-related financial risks into economic planning. It also entails piloting a sustainable finance taxonomy, embedding environmental and social safeguards into financial decision-making promoting the issuance of private green bonds through the national stock exchange.

### Challenges

- A key barrier to integrating a just transition lens into climate finance is the fragmentation of information and the lack of coordination among ministries, private sector, and implementing partners involved in environmental, development, and financial processes.

### Lessons Learned

- Establishing a robust regulatory framework with clearly defined roles and responsibilities is essential. Effective coordination particularly between ministries of finance and environmental is critical for implementing mechanisms such as green taxonomies, as demonstrated by the example of **Côte d'Ivoire**.

- The development of a comprehensive MRV System is foundational to climate finance mobilization. A well structured system ensures transparent and monitoring of climate finance flows in the country.
- Updating of the financial sector regulations, such as those overseen by the Superintendency of Banks, Insurance and Securities Markets is a vital step. Reforms should include climate financial risk management, adoption of a sustainable finance taxonomy, tracking of carbon footprint, and implementation of social and environmental safeguards.

## Closing Session

The ICAT Partner Forum concluded with a high-level closing session, featuring Ms. **Ursula Fuentes Hutfilter**, Head of Division of Climate Diplomacy and International Climate Policy at the German Foreign Federal Office and DSC Chair. She underscored the strong alignment between the discussions at the ICAT Partner Forum and the **Petersberg Dialogue 2025**, which concluded on the same day. Both events emphasised a renewed global commitment to transparency, multilateralism and the need for an accelerated implementation of the Paris Agreement. She highlighted that the cost of inaction continues to rise, while effective NDC implementation can help avoid both short term and long-term losses from climate impacts.

Ursula Fuentes reaffirmed that transparency is the cornerstone of the Paris Agreement, particularly in this pivotal year for the operationalization of the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). She commended ICAT's contribution, noting that 66 per cent of the BTRs submitted by developing countries had received ICAT support. She stressed the importance of linking the outcomes of the ICAT Partner Forum to broader international climate dialogues, particularly in advancing the discourse on NDC 3.0, climate finance transparency, and just transition monitoring.

**Dr. Henning Wuester**, Director of ICAT, closed the Forum by recognizing the significant progress made by partner countries, particularly in establishing national transparency platforms. He emphasized the critical moment ahead for the NDC 3.0 update, and the role that data, monitoring and evaluation can play in strengthening NDCs and maximising the impact of climate investments.

Dr. Wuester also highlighted some of the main messages from the Forum, including the need to strengthen engagement with key national stakeholders such as ministries of finance, and integrate transparency efforts into existing national budgetary and development processes. Transparency, he noted, not only supports robust climate action but also provides a foundation for aligning this engagement for climate and development goals-ensuring inclusive, efficient and strategic implementation.

He concluded by thanking all participants for their contributions and encouraged

partner countries to continue their momentum toward NDC 3.0. Finally, he invited them to guide the work of support providers to ensure that capacity-building efforts respond effectively to countries' evolving needs.

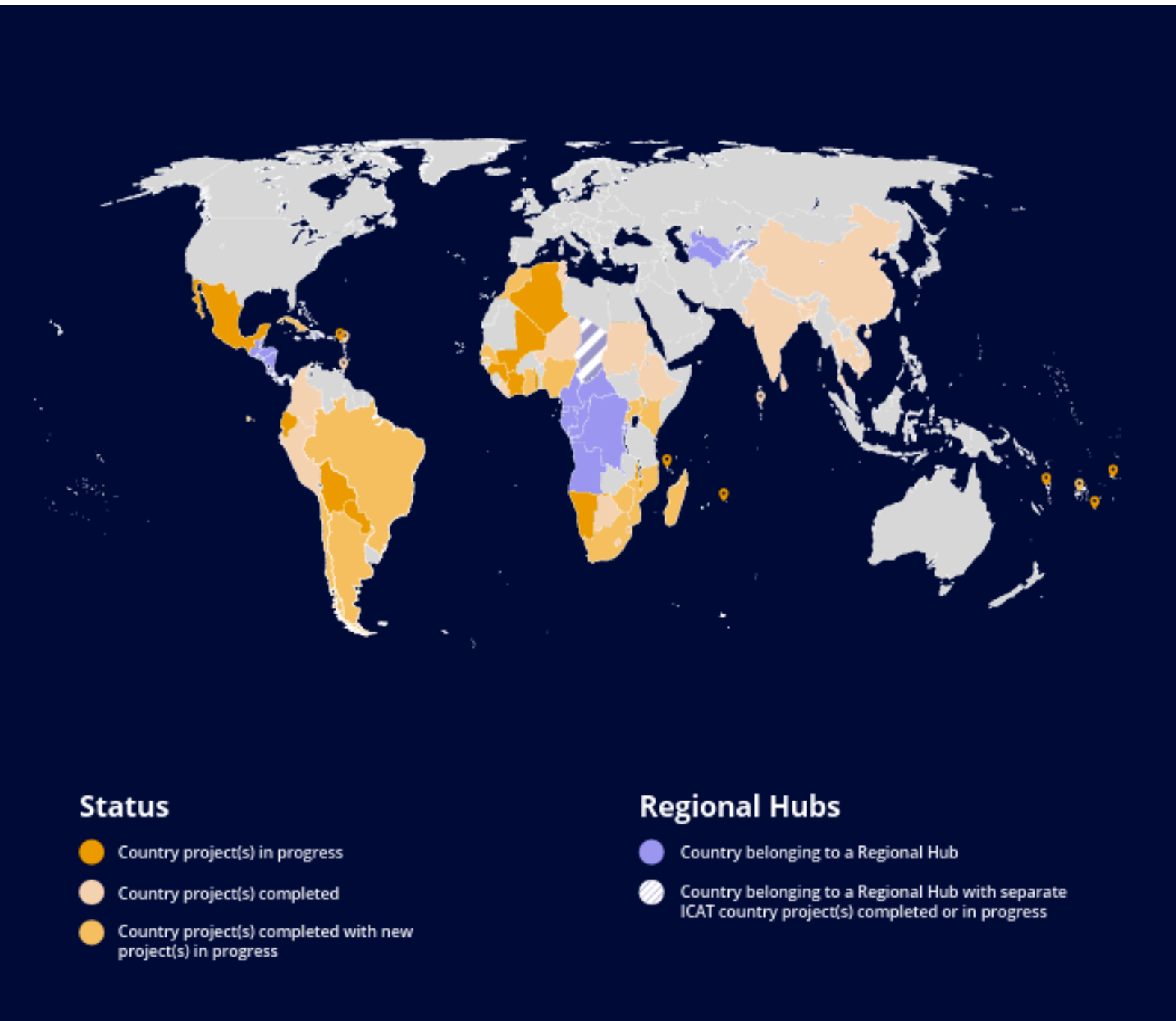
## Next Steps

The 2025 ICAT Partner Forum successfully brought together the ICAT community to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and discuss key priorities in climate transparency. Building on the momentum of the Forum, ICAT will use the insights and outcomes to inform its ongoing work, sharing the lessons learned with other countries and identifying new opportunities to address emerging needs. The ICAT Secretariat will also take into consideration the feedback from the Forum to shape the design and delivery of future knowledge-sharing events and strengthen collaboration across ICAT's global partner network.

Encouraged by the success of this year's event and the momentum from past Forums, ICAT looks forward to hosting the 2026 Partner Forum, with plans to return to an in-person format to further deepen collaboration and peer exchange.

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