Training on the Requirements of Adaptation Reporting in the Health and Water Sectors in Eswatini

Training Workshop Report

ICAT Initiative for Climate Action Transparency

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency - ICAT

Deliverable title: **Training on the Requirements of Adaptation Reporting in the Health and Water Sectors in Eswatini – Training Workshop Report**

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Introduction & background

The Government of Eswatini (GoE) through the Ministry of Tourism & Environmental Affairs (MTEA) has received support from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) with the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) supporting the implementation and advancement of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) agreements in the country. The project was officially launched on the 19th of October 2023 at Hilton Garden Inn.

In 2021-2022, a first phase was implemented in Eswatini, with 5 elements including adaptation in the health and water sector and gauging the potential impact of biomass electricity in Eswatini and other activities in the AFOLU sector. In phase I, the health and water sectors conducted an adaptation scoping and gap analysis which was successfully done and an adaptation roadmap for both sectors was developed. In the biomass electricity part, the main objective was modelling to determine the mitigation impact of biomass electricity. These two elements of Phase-I were identified for follow-up activities in a Phase-II ICAT project.

The Eswatini ICAT phase-II project seeks to advance and deliver set priorities from the first phase by focusing on building capacities of technicians in the MTEA, line departments and national experts and institutions, as well as other stakeholders, to develop a robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) framework for the health and water sectors. The work will assist in developing a framework for preparing Eswatini's first BTR. Furthermore, the project aims to assist with the setting up of a Bioenergy Task Force (BTF) to develop a Draft Bioenergy Policy which shall provide clear direction to Eswatini's biomass energy sector and create an enabling environment to enhance biomass renewable energy development and investment in this sector.

The specific objectives of the ICAT Phase II project are to:

1. Develop a MRV framework (including data collection templates, guidance documents, roles and responsibilities, links to the national MRV online system) for tracking adaptation actions in the health and water sectors which can provide information necessary to compile the Adaptation section of the biennial transparency report;
2. Build capacity within Eswatini to conduct policy impact assessments (particularly Sustainable Development impacts) and understand the adaptation reporting requirements for the Biennial Transparency Report;
3. Assist with designing a draft national Bioenergy Policy, through the establishment of a Bioenergy Task Force, which will provide an enabling environment for enhancing the renewable biomass electricity contribution in the country and reduce energy sector emissions;
4. Support the implementation of Eswatini's NDC.

Objectives of the training

The specific objectives of the training workshop were to:

1. Build capacity on the requirements for Adaptation Reporting; and,
2. Provide information and training on the adaptation report for the BTR.

Workshop proceedings

The training was a half-day workshop conducted virtually with 22 participants. Participants were stakeholders from both the health and water sectors, particularly those involved in the M&E activities in both health and water sectors in Eswatini, as well as the consultancy team from the Centre for Sustainability and Energy Research (CSER), University of Eswatini. Annex 1 is the programme for the training workshop, whilst Annex 2 is the list of the participants.

Mr Kuhle Hlophe opened the training workshop and briefly explained the purpose of the training workshop. He then allowed the CSER and GHGMI Team to introduce themselves before handing over to Dr Luanne Stevens (GHGMI), the Trainer for the day.

Introduction to Eswatini ICAT Phase II adaptation project and objectives of training

Dr Stevens began by introducing herself and to begin her presentation, she introduced the ICAT project phase I to bring everybody on board and further provided linkages between phase I and phase II of the ICAT Project in Eswatini, highlighting the planned activities and the outcomes of phase II. The training was the first activity to be completed under the adaptation component of the project which pertains to the development of a MRV framework for adaptation in the Health and Water sectors. The objectives of the training were specifically to:

- Provide some context for adaptation reporting;
- Introduce the ICAT guidance document "Reporting adaptation through the BTR: An explanation of the guidance"; and,
- Provide a step-by-step guidance for the requirements of the Adaptation-Biennial Transparency Report (A-BTR).

The training was meant to provide details on the type of information that is required for the Adaptation-BTR. It also highlighted the needs for reporting so that Eswatini can start preparing and ensuring appropriate information is collected for incorporation into these international reports. The training also provided a short introduction to the ICAT guide on how to integrate subnational and non-state actors into monitoring and evaluation systems for adaptation.

Introduction to Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and Biennial Transparency Reporting (BTR)

Dr Stevens gave an overview of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and Biennial Transparency Reporting (BTR) as per the Paris Agreement and how these are designed to ensure transparency for the Parties in reporting their adaptation and mitigation actions towards achieving the common goal of the Paris Agreement. She went over the required reporting timelines and the different reports countries need to prepare and submit to the UNFCCC.

Requirements of Adaptation BTR reporting

Dr Stevens went through the steps of the requirements for the A-BTR, which forms section 3 of the ICAT guidance document. This section is divided into Section A to I. Dr Stevens delved into the requirements for each section and these are summarised below:

Section A – starting point for adaption in the country

- Country specific circumstances; and,
- Legal and instructional arrangements.

Section B – present and future climate impacts

- Past and future changes in climate;
- Climate change impacts; and,
- Methodologies and tools.

Section C – priority areas for adaptation

- How priority areas are selected;
- Why priority areas are selected; and,
- Describe identified barriers that may inhibit adaptation progress (Barrier analysis).

Section D – what adaptation actions have been planned by the country?

- How do these actions contribute to the overall adaptation goal?
- How and to what extent have stakeholders been engaged in the planning process?
- How are the adaptation actions linked to development priorities?

Section E – Implementation status on the adaptation actions that are planned by the country:

- Implementation status on the adaptation actions; and,
- Progress of actions using international support.

Section F - outcomes and impacts of the adaptation actions implemented by the country:

- Outcomes and impact of adaptation actions;

- Effectiveness of adaptation actions and the sustainability of their results and replicability; and,

- Description about the monitoring and evaluation system.

Section G – Loss and damages incurred or anticipated by the country as a result of climate change:

- Observed and potential climate change impacts on loss and damage;

- Activities related to managing loss and damage; and,

- Institutional arrangements to manage loss and damage.

Section H – Activities undertaken or participated in that support domestic or international adaptation processes:

- Activities and actions that support the adaptation process;

- Activities that involve collaboration or sharing of experiences; and,

- Activities that increase the country's knowledge and understanding.

Section I – Any other information related to climate change impacts and adaptation;

- How do these actions contribute to the overall adaptation goal?

- How and to what extent have stakeholders been engaged in the planning process?

- How are the adaptation action linked to development priorities?

Monitoring and evaluation systems and processes

Dr Steven presented on the adaptation monitoring and evaluation process where she emphasised that there is a need to identify the scope, drivers and purpose of the M&E system; decide who to involve in the process of developing the M&E system; define and construct indicators (use the mixed method approach and as much as possible, use existing indicators that are already being reported on). The indicators must be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely). She also emphasised that the M&E system must interpret and communicate results to a range of decision makers and enhance transparency. The M&E system must provide data for the A-BTR.

Introduction to other ICAT adaptation tools

Dr Stevens highlighted three ICAT tools that could be important for adaptation, planning and monitoring and these are:

- Fostering successful adaptation projects: Assessment Tool and Guide – excel based tool and guide for user;

- Guide for assessing climate change-driven losses and damages; and,

- Tracking progress on the ground: Guidance and good practices for integrating subnation and non-state actors into the M&E systems for national climate change adaptation policies.

After a summary of the additional tools, she invited participants to engage and submit comments/thoughts/questions on what has been presented and the additional tools. She further invited participants to complete the survey on the training. The participants thanked Dr Stevens for providing the training and requested her to provide the training slides so they can independently go through them and were also interested in in-depth training on how to integrate subnational and non-state actors in adaptation projects. It was proposed that a training on this subject could be organised at a later stage.

The training was officially closed by Ms. Smangele Mahlindza, MTEA who forwarded appreciation to GHGMI, CSER and the Stakeholders for attending the training.

Annex 1: Training Workshop Agenda

TRAINING WORKSHOP AGENDA

Time	Activity	Responsibility
9:00 – 9:10	Registration and introductions	All
9:10 – 9:20	Introduction to Eswatini ICAT Phase II adaptation project and objectives of training	Luanne Stevens (GHGMI)
9:20 – 9:30	Introduction to Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and Biennial Transparency Reporting (BTR)	Luanne Stevens (GHGMI)
9:30 – 10:30	Requirements of Adaptation BTR reporting	Luanne Stevens (GHGMI)
10:30 – 10:40	Break	
10:40 – 11:10	Requirements of Adaptation BTR reporting continued	Luanne Stevens (GHGMI)
11:10 – 11:30	Monitoring and evaluation systems and processes	Luanne Stevens (GHGMI)
11:30 – 11:50	Introduction to other ICAT adaptation tools	Luanne Stevens (GHGMI)
11:50 – 12:00	Survey and feedback from participants	All
12:00	Close of workshop	Kuhle Hlophe