

Global Transparency Community Meetings

14-16 April 2026
Naivasha, Kenya

Transparency to
Drive Effective
Implementation of
NDC 3.0



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Foreword

By Dr. Henning Wuester, ICAT Director

In 2026, ten years after the Paris Agreement was signed and the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) was established, we organized the “Global Transparency Community Meetings” in Naivasha, Kenya. Under the theme ***Transparency to drive effective implementation of NDC 3.0***, the event convened more than 100 country representatives and experts from some 70 countries.

The depth of the conversations and the level of knowledge and technical understanding demonstrated throughout the event were truly inspiring. Synthesizing the key insights and lessons learned from the three days of the Global Transparency Community Meetings is therefore no small task. Many common areas for improvement and shared challenges emerged, yet countries are progressing at different rates and often demonstrate distinct strengths and weaknesses.

I trust that the **key insights** emerging from the Global Transparency Community Meetings, as presented in this summary, are **highly relevant to advancing the goals of the Paris Agreement**. As needs evolve, these insights can inform and guide support to developing countries, while enhancing peer learning and the dissemination of good practices.

I would like to highlight two personal takeaways from these meetings:

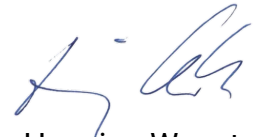
My first takeaway is that national transparency is successfully transitioning from being seen as a mere reporting mechanism to becoming a strategic tool to actively support effective national climate action. The meetings highlighted examples of countries leveraging data from their Transparency frameworks to shape sectoral policies, design mitigation and adaptation plans, and advance their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), including implementation and financing. This shift is critical, as it demonstrates that transparency is strongest as an enabler of concrete, evidence-based action, thereby building the foundations for solid reporting and supporting the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. It is highly encouraging to see the global transparency community embrace this perspective.

Secondly, there is a profound sense of connection within the global transparency community. The event reinforced that transparency focal points and experts operate and successfully cooperate as a unified community. With varying degrees of expertise and technical capacity established in the past years, peer learning and knowledge sharing have emerged as highly relevant tools. I was pleased to see participants'

eagerness to share their experiences, learn from others, and enable others to learn from them.

On the support-providers' side, this was demonstrated by the seamless collaboration between the event's co-organizers, the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency–Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and our technical partners, including the UN Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA). I extend my deepest appreciation to all partners involved for the open and constructive cooperation.

I extend my gratitude to the entire transparency community for your active participation, dedication, and willingness to contribute to collective progress and to all colleagues who worked hard to make this event a success.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Wuester', is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. Henning Wuester

Introduction

More than 100 government representatives and experts gathered in Naivasha, Kenya, on 14-16 April 2026 for the 2026 Global Transparency Community Meetings. In the peaceful setting of Kenya's natural landscape, under the theme of ***Transparency to drive effective implementation of NDC 3.0***, the meetings offered a platform for in-depth knowledge sharing and learning.

The immersive, participatory, distraction-free setting enabled participants to engage deeply in dialogue, collective problem-solving, and peer learning.

Organized as a collaborative effort by international transparency support providers and with the participation of representatives from some 70 countries, the Global Transparency Community Meetings generated a solid knowledge base and tangible momentum for how to use all aspects of transparency to advance NDC 3.0 implementation.

The 2026 Global Transparency Community Meetings were co-organized by the [Initiative for Climate Action Transparency \(ICAT\)](#), the [Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency–Global Support Programme \(CBIT-GSP\)](#), the [United Nations Environment Programme \(UNEP\)](#), and the [United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#) with technical support from other partners, including the [UN Climate Change Secretariat \(UNFCCC\)](#), the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\)](#), and the [Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement \(PATPA\)](#).

This summary report was produced by the ICAT Secretariat on behalf of all partners. The methodology for compiling this post-workshop report relied on an approach designed to ensure both non-attribution and comprehensive data gathering. To encourage open, candid dialogue among participants, all discussions and breakout sessions were conducted under the Chatham House Rule.

To capture the depth of these conversations without losing crucial nuances, representatives of different groups were assigned to summarize the core debates and ideas from each breakout group. Furthermore, “country ambassadors” voluntarily stepped forward to synthesize and present the session takeaways. Finally, Session 6 of the event served as a dedicated wrap-up session to consolidate these various streams of feedback into a cohesive narrative.

While this document highlights the main themes and key takeaways, it reflects a diversity of perspectives rather than a single consensus. Many valuable individual contributions are not captured in these pages, but they enriched the discussions and advanced our shared understanding.

The ICAT Secretariat, on behalf of all the organizers, extends its sincere appreciation to the partners who contributed to the successful delivery of the event. Special thanks are extended to the moderators, speakers, panelists, and rapporteurs, whose expertise, dedication, and willingness to share their experiences were instrumental in the success of the meetings and in advancing the global transparency agenda.



Programme

Over three intensive days of discussions and interactive exercises, participants explored topics from building national transparency frameworks to support the implementation of countries' NDC 3.0 to assessing the impact of policies and measures and the role of transparency in informing NDC 3.0 financing strategies.

Global Transparency Community Meetings	
Day 1 (14 April)	
Opening plenary	
Session 1: Strengthening national transparency frameworks – stocktaking	
Hands-on mission 1	
Session 2: National transparency frameworks to support NDC 3.0 implementation –	

successful approaches and tools
Marketplace & targeted training sessions
Day 2 (15 April)
Session 3: Assessing the impact of policies and measures – An essential element for driving effective NDC implementation
Hands-on mission 2
Session 4: Transparency to support NDC 3.0 financing strategies
Hands-on mission 3
Day 3 (16 April)
Session 5: Tracking the path: Linking transparency to NDC 3.0 progress
Hands-on mission 5
Session 6. Transparency as the launchpad: Key drivers for NDC 3.0 implementation
Closing plenary

Approach

The Global Transparency Community Meetings’ programme was designed as a highly interactive forum, where country participants and their experiences were the centerpiece. To foster this interaction, the different sessions were organized in table discussions and breakout sessions according to different sectors, thematics, and language preferences. Short panel discussions focused on country experiences were also included throughout the sessions.

Four “Hands-on” sessions were strategically introduced to complement the discussions with a more practical and in-depth approach. This structure allowed plenty of interaction among country participants and allowed them to reflect on challenges and share how each topic plays out in their own national context. The mission was centered around providing expert advice on how the fictional country of Ruritania can build and leverage various transparency elements to drive the effective implementation of its NDC 3.0.



Key Takeaways

- **Transparency as a strategic tool:** National transparency frameworks - through the knowledge base, tools, and processes they encompass - can strategically inform climate action. Country experiences shared during the meetings demonstrated that transparency frameworks are already being used to guide evidence-based climate policies, engage stakeholders to support NDC implementation, and drive resource mobilization.
- **Substantial progress achieved:** Countries have made significant strides in building institutional capacity and improving the quality of the data and tools used. The accuracy and completeness of climate data have improved markedly over the past decade. While important data gaps remain and progress has been uneven, the advances achieved over the last ten years deserve greater recognition.
- **BTRs as a diagnostic tool for effective climate action:** The structure of the BTR and its reporting tables help clearly identify data gaps and information needs relevant to climate policy. Beyond meeting reporting requirements, the BTR serves as a valuable diagnostic tool, providing a basis for assessing progress in NDC implementation and informing data-driven policy and investment decisions. Using national transparency frameworks as a basis for the NDC process is essential to ensuring the quality of progress updates in countries' BTRs.
- **Tailored dissemination of BTR insights:** Further efforts are required to disseminate BTR findings at the national level. Climate data should be translated into targeted messaging for different audiences, including political, sectoral, and technical stakeholders, to ensure key insights are integrated into policy and operational decisions. Developing concise policy briefs for line ministries and sectoral stakeholders is a practical step toward mainstreaming this information and ensuring that transparency becomes a two-way communication.
- **Evolution of institutional arrangements:** Strong institutional arrangements were recognized as the foundation of national transparency frameworks. While formal arrangements established through legal decrees are highly desirable, country experiences show that simple, informal structures can be effective starting points. By balancing short-term operational needs with long-term capacity goals, these governance arrangements can gradually strengthen over time.
- **Adapting to national political contexts:** To effectively support NDC implementation, transparency frameworks must go beyond technical

considerations and align with national political and governance contexts. There is no single blueprint; they must be tailored to national realities.

- **Deepening sectoral ministry engagement:** Sustaining the data flows and information exchange required for a continuous transparency system depends on effective institutional coordination. Engagement with line ministries should go beyond routine reporting and directly engage them in NDC implementation. Multi-sectoral meetings or a centralized coordination body can help strengthen their participation and ensure they play an active role in the framework.
- **Fostering national and sectoral ownership:** Technical cooperation that builds long-term local capacity, rather than relying on temporary external expertise, delivers more sustainable results and strengthens country ownership. Clear legal frameworks for stakeholder engagement, along with formalized inter-ministerial coordination and defined mandates, further solidify this national ownership.
- **Policy assessments as a central transparency tool:** Policy assessments enable countries to measure and estimate policy impact using cohesive methodologies. They are an essential tool for turning NDC targets into change and for adjusting policies to meet intended results. When linked with cost information, these assessments support prioritization and strategic use of limited financial resources, from national and international sources, to maximize impacts on greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation and development priorities. Most importantly, assessed and well-documented impact is critical for mobilizing finance.
- **Climate action transparency as an integral part of national planning processes:** Countries highlighted the crucial link between national development planning and climate policy. Transparency can provide the evidence base that informs the identification, prioritization, and implementation of climate action in line with development priorities. Using existing development strategies and plans increases the likelihood of securing the political will and resources required for NDC implementation. It is critical for the engagement of economic actors.
- **The rise of climate finance transparency:** An increasing number of developing countries are planning or actively establishing national climate finance transparency frameworks to guide resource mobilization. By tracking domestic and international climate finance flows and solidifying data on climate finance needs, these frameworks build trust and credibility among investors and national stakeholders. Linking policies and costs directly to intended impacts strengthens the investment case and helps countries direct funding toward high-impact actions.



Summary of Sessions

Session 1: Strengthening National Transparency Frameworks - Stocktaking

Through a World Café format, participants reflected on progress, lessons learned, and remaining challenges. An introductory presentation set the scene by highlighting the link between BTRs and NDCs within the ETF architecture. Discussions focused on: (1) lessons learned from preparing the first BTR; (2) progress in NDC implementation as reflected in the BTR; (3) institutional arrangements for BTR preparation, greenhouse gas inventories, NDC tracking, and policy development; and (4) tools and challenges for assessing NDC progress. The session was led by ICAT and CBIT-GSP.

Main session takeaways:

- Countries have made significant progress in strengthening institutional capacity and improving the quality of data, tools, and reporting systems, as reflected in NDC 3.0 and BTR1 preparation.
- Despite this progress, data and information often remain fragmented, and the gap between data generation and its use in decision-making persists.
- Strengthening institutional arrangements and coordination with line ministries is essential, combining short- and long-term solutions and moving toward more permanent national systems.
- Legal and governance frameworks are important to define roles and responsibilities, better align coordination with NDC targets, and improve cross-sectoral collaboration.
- Ownership of climate policies remains a critical driver of NDC implementation. Transparency can serve as an enabler for cross-sectoral coordination, but must be better integrated into policy and decision-making processes rather than remaining reporting-focused.
- Key insights from BTRs and technical reviews should be systematically disseminated across relevant ministries, including through targeted policy briefs for sectoral stakeholders.
- Countries continue to face challenges in defining adaptation priorities and operationalizing related M&E frameworks. There is a need to integrate national systems, particularly for adaptation and climate finance, to ensure they effectively inform policy.



Session 2: National Transparency Frameworks to Support NDC 3.0 Implementation - Successful Approaches and Tools

In this session, countries shared different approaches and tools embedded in national transparency frameworks that have supported them in transitioning from high-level targets into actionable mitigation and adaptation policies. This session was led by PATPA and GHGMI.

Main session takeaways:

- Transparency is an important enabler of effective NDC implementation, providing the data and analysis needed to inform planning, decision-making, and the identification of priority sectors and actions.
- Effective institutional arrangements are essential. This includes establishing clear legal frameworks for stakeholder engagement, formalizing inter-ministerial coordination with defined roles and mandates, and linking technical teams with high-level decision-making bodies.
- Transparency frameworks can be used to strengthen collaboration across sectoral, sub-national, and national actors. Embedding transparency focal points in line ministries and building their capacity can improve coordination and sectoral ownership, thereby enhancing NDC implementation.

- Practical and agile coordination mechanisms can be more effective than complex institutional structures. Political commitment, country ownership and the use of existing development planning instruments can support the use of transparency as a driver of NDC implementation.
- NDC implementation plans should include clear goals and actions to ensure accountability and the achievement of results on the ground.
- Reducing reliance on external consultants and investing in long-term national technical capacity, including through multilateral funding, is essential for sustaining transparency systems. Challenges in data collection, tools, and technical capacity remain.
- Greater attention is needed to adaptation transparency, including strengthening adaptation M&E. Countries can build on synergies across the indicators of the Rio conventions, while recognizing that qualitative indicators play an important role in tracking progress.



Session 3: Assessing the Impact of Policies and Measures - An Essential Element for Driving Effective NDC Implementation

Through an interactive panel discussion, countries shared experiences on how they assessed their climate policies and measures for climate impacts, while considering in parallel sustainable development impacts as a driver for implementation. Countries also

shared specific experiences with tools and methodologies used for identifying and developing policies and measures. This session was led by UNDP and GHGMI.

Main session takeaways:

- Policies and measures (PaMs) are at the core of NDC implementation and can only be advanced in close collaboration with the relevant sectors. Securing sectoral ownership is essential to advance NDC targets.
- Effective PaMs must include the policy instruments needed to drive change, including regulatory, normative, financial, and other instruments. Aligning PaMs with national development priorities is fundamental.
- Assessing the impact of PaMs is essential for implementation and financing. It provides practical evidence on what is working, what is not, and where improvements are needed.
- Assessments should consider both greenhouse gas and development impacts, reflecting national priorities, co-benefits, and broader sustainable development considerations. Robust data analysis is fundamental to this process.
- Effective assessment of PaMs depends on strong institutional arrangements, clear roles and responsibilities, and collaboration across line ministries.



Session 4: Transparency to Support NDC 3.0 Financing Strategies

In this session, countries shared their experiences in using their national transparency frameworks to support NDC financing strategies, including costing of policies and measures. The discussion highlighted critical success factors that help to mobilize national and international finance. Participants also explored links to other climate finance transparency aspects, including budget tagging, private sector engagement, and carbon markets. This session was led by UNDP and the greenwerk.

Main session takeaways:

- Effective NDC financing strategies are built on assessing financial needs and policy impacts to prioritize actions, determine financing sources, and design appropriate financial instruments. This requires collaboration with ministries of finance and planning, as well as central banks.
- Financing for NDC implementation comes from a mix of sources, including national budgets, international support, and private finance. Regardless of the source, many countries emphasized the need for financial support to establish enabling conditions for climate action.
- Assessing the costs and impacts of policies and measures is essential for prioritizing actions and ensuring credible NDC implementation, setting the basis for engaging financial institutions.
- Climate finance transparency frameworks help assess finance needs and track domestic and international climate finance flows. The development of these frameworks begins by defining climate finance at the national level and mapping key stakeholders.
- Tools such as budget tagging and green or climate finance taxonomies have shown positive results, while strengthening the capacity of government and civil society stakeholders is important for prioritizing climate action and informing budget allocation decisions.



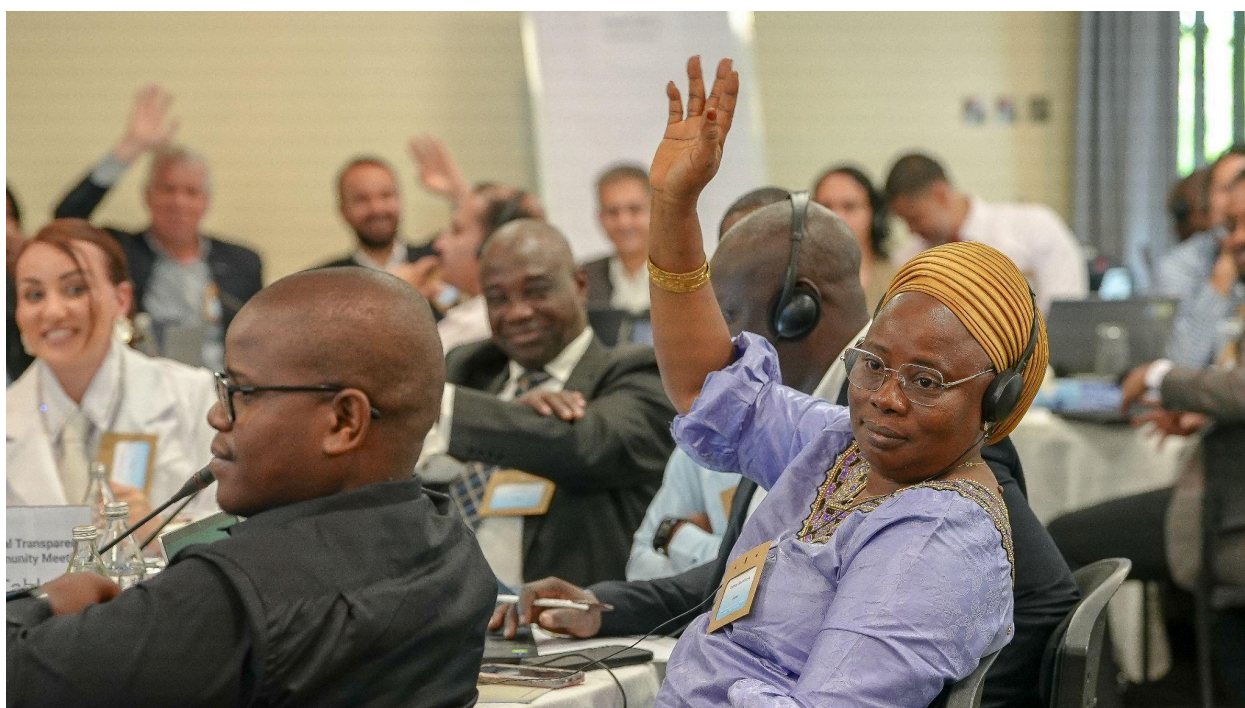
Session 5: Tracking the Path - Linking Transparency to NDC 3.0 Progress

This session examined how countries collect and use transparency data and establish institutional arrangements to track progress on their NDCs. Countries shared experiences and highlighted the importance of the ETF for strengthening national systems and supporting development. The discussion covered the key elements needed to track progress in NDC 3.0 implementation, their integration into BTR2 and the practical application of indicators, tools, and data systems. The session was led by FAO and PATPA.

Main session takeaways:

- Effective NDC tracking relies on well-coordinated national systems, with clear institutional roles, integrated data platforms, and strong alignment across sectors and levels of government. This includes close collaboration with planning and finance ministries, national statistical offices, and other key institutions to ensure coherent, accurate, and transparent reporting.
- Technical and financial assistance from international partners remains essential. The lack of continuous financial resources poses a challenge to sustaining the operation of transparency frameworks.

- Challenges persist in defining NDC tracking indicators, ensuring inter-institutional data collection, and addressing limited knowledge among sectoral and planning ministries on the MPGs and transparency framework.
- Challenges are often compounded by the absence of legal frameworks mandating data reporting, difficulties in inter-institutional coordination, and the need for long-term, institutionalized training to address staff turnover and the loss of institutional memory. However, simple coordination arrangements can provide an effective starting point for NDC tracking, with transparency strengthened over time through a continuous improvement approach.
- Robust national systems for data collection and processing enhance efficiency, consistency, and reliability of information.
- Economic and emissions analysis and modelling can help identify structural barriers in key sectors, map potential evidence-based interventions, and estimate investment needs.



Session 6: Transparency as the Launchpad - Key Drivers for NDC 3.0 Implementation

Building on the insights from the three days of discussion, this session focused on the transparency elements needed to move from NDC preparation to implementation. Key

topics included governance and coordination, stakeholder engagement, sectoral policies, and the integration of these actions into existing national transparency platforms. This session was led by ICAT.

Main session takeaways:

- Institutional arrangements are the foundation needed for transparency in support of NDC implementation.
- It is important that line ministries recognize how transparency supports their mandate and helps them achieve sectoral goals.
- Transparency frameworks are built over time and there is no one-size-fits-all model. Through continuous reporting and assessments, gaps can be identified and addressed over time.
- Climate finance transparency frameworks help ministries manage and access finance. They provide the trust and credibility needed for investors and national planning, while also helping to strengthen the link between transparency, NDCs, and resource mobilization for implementing policies and measures.
- Strengthening collaboration with national statistical offices and enhancing sectoral engagement are critical. Reporting outputs need to be translated into clear key messages for sectoral stakeholders to support broader dissemination and uptake.
- Support is required for:
 - Improving the inclusion of a diverse set of stakeholders in the design and implementation of climate action;
 - Building capacity across line ministries and ministries of planning and finance to ensure ETF and NDC processes are widely understood;
 - Developing and improving technological platforms and software tools for data generation and management, and reporting on NDC progress;
 - Applying methodologies and tools for adaptation.
- Continued collaboration between transparency support providers and national governments is very valuable to build capacity, share lessons learned, and connect to a global community of practitioners. Peer-to-peer exchanges and sharing lessons learned with the global, regional, and national community are key to building capacity.



Ruritania Hands-On Mission

The four hands-on missions organized around supporting the fictional country of Ruritania to leverage transparency for driving the effective implementation of its NDC 3.0 were organized as follows:

Mission 1: Participants issued recommendations to the government of Ruritania for strengthening ambition and improving NDC implementation, based on Ruritania's BTR1 key findings.

Mission 2: Participants advised the government on the relevance of its sectoral policies in terms of greenhouse gas impacts, and the linkages with adaptation and sustainable development priorities. The starting point was the specific sectoral and policy context in Ruritania.

Mission 3: Participants analyzed the costs and funding sources of Ruritania's sectoral policies to provide government recommendations, including criteria for prioritizing limited national funds through unconditional financing.

Mission 4: Based on the challenges faced and lessons learned in their own countries, participants issued key recommendations to the Ruritania government for improving tracking and reporting of NDC progress and implementing the provisions of the MPGs.

The hands-on missions revealed that the collective knowledge and expertise developed through transparency milestones and national transparency frameworks is already

substantial. It also highlighted the value of further engagement with these topics, a valuable lesson for strengthening national capacities.

It also showed that effective climate transparency requires going beyond familiar boundaries and areas of expertise. This includes applying modelling approaches, navigating complex data management systems, conducting policy impact assessments, and addressing sector-specific challenges.



Conclusion and Next Steps

The Global Transparency Community Meetings provided a space for knowledge and experience sharing among transparency practitioners and experts, focused on an essential topic in the current phase of the Paris Agreement implementation. They demonstrated the value of in-person peer-to-peer exchange and the existence of many common needs and challenges.

Participants identified several critical technical areas requiring prioritized, targeted support to expand existing capacities and build national expertise:

- **Transparency in adaptation:** Enhancing data, tools, and methodologies for adaptation remains a top priority. Many countries continue to face challenges in defining adaptation priorities, highlighting the need for support to develop and operationalize effective M&E frameworks that track adaptation actions and their impacts.
- **Strengthening data systems:** Integrated data systems are essential for facilitating coordination, supporting institutional data flows, and strengthening collaboration at the national level. However, digital platforms are only as effective as the quality of the data and the institutional arrangements that support them and feed into them.
- **Advancing climate finance transparency:** There is growing demand for support to establish robust climate finance transparency frameworks, including climate finance taxonomies, budget tagging systems, and online platforms for tracking climate finance flows.

Moving forward, it will be important to sustain the strong sense of community fostered during the meetings, as it provides a valuable foundation for continued collaboration and coordination. It is valuable to strengthen this collaborative spirit both among countries and across international transparency support providers. Peer-to-peer exchange proved to be particularly valuable and should be systematically encouraged to promote collective learning and the sharing of good practices.

The meetings demonstrated that the global transparency community is well positioned to support the implementation of the ETF, support effective NDC implementation, and contribute to more effective climate action through continued collaboration and knowledge exchange.