



2022 ICAT Partner Forum: Summary Report

29 - 31 March

14:00 - 17:00 CEST

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Introduction

Building on the experience of the previous ICAT Partner Forum in 2021, the 2022 ICAT Partner Forum was organized on 29-31 March 2022, welcoming over 130 representatives from ICAT's 50+ partner countries, implementing, supporting and regional partners, the ICAT governance bodies, such as the Advisory Committee (AC) and the Donor Steering Committee (DSC), and representatives of other transparency and capacity building initiatives. Delivered over three days, in 3-hour sessions, the ICAT Partner Forum provided a space for interactive engagement, allowing ICAT's partners to share practical experience based on insights and learnings.

As the focus of partner countries has moved from NDC design/update to NDC implementation with the submission of NDC updates in the lead-up to Glasgow, so did the focus of the ICAT Partner Forum. To reflect the focus of the global climate change process, the 2022 Forum concentrated on "Improving NDC implementation through transparency", encompassing all aspects of NDC implementation (planning, tracking and evaluating, engaging stakeholders and mobilising finance), covering topics ranging from how to prepare NDC implementation plans and roadmaps to working through a just transitions lens and developing M&E systems for adaptation.

The ICAT Secretariat would like to thank those partners involved in the organisation and delivery of the Partner Forum. Special appreciation goes to Ms. Khetsiwe Khumalo and Mr. Guilherme Lima for their excellent moderation, and particular acknowledgement also goes to those who generously committed their time and energy as speakers (both plenary and breakout), breakout session moderators, and rapporteurs.

Based on the positive experience from this and last year's Partner Forum, the event will return in 2023. In the meantime, following the relaxing of the COVID-19 related restrictions, and responding to demand from ICAT's partners for an in-person knowledge sharing event, ICAT is exploring options to organize an additional partner get-together event, possibly in early September 2022.

Main take-aways

The 2022 ICAT Partner Forum brought out important messages concerning transparency in NDC implementation and allowed valuable knowledge and experiences to be shared across ICAT's partners. The countries represented noted many common challenges and shared lessons learned and innovative approaches and solutions. The knowledge gained from this activity can help countries be inspired and learn from each other's success stories and solutions to obstacles, as well as to establish connections and networks for further peer-to-peer collaboration.

Keeping in mind the importance of the ETF for the Paris Agreement, and the long-term planning and work necessary to submit the first BTRs by 2024 and meet

other international reporting requirements, developing countries across the world are also increasingly recognizing the domestic benefits of building strong transparency frameworks and the opportunities this creates for evidence-based policymaking to achieve their climate and development targets. Going beyond GHG impacts, MRV allows for the assessment of policies' impacts on sustainable development and their transformational change potential, and it helps to mobilize finance.

Transparency is essential in all aspects of NDC implementation, from planning, to tracking and evaluation and finance mobilisation. Planning well for work on MRV and transparency is crucial to manage NDC implementation, and should encompass all relevant aspects, such as the stakeholders that need to be engaged, the tools that need to be used, and the resources that need to be secured and mobilized, in an integrated approach. Tracking and evaluating NDC implementation, including tracking climate finance, based on sound data, allows countries to measure progress, assess risks and benefits and successfully manage and achieve their climate goals.

Multiple different offers of international support are available. It is crucial to adapt and tailor them to a country's specific needs and context, as no one solution fits all. With the move to NDC implementation, the question of building and sustaining capacity at the national level becomes more crucial than ever. So does ensuring national ownership, passing through the necessary institutional arrangements and stakeholder engagement. Mobilizing and tracking climate finance is an additional essential, yet challenging aspect. Transparency can be used both to assess and evaluate financial needs and resources available and accessible, but also as a lever for resource mobilization.

ICAT Partner Forum 2022 - Main take-aways

- **Data and Transparency Systems:**
 - Beyond meeting international reporting requirements, countries can draw a multitude of domestic benefits from transparency.
 - Much has been achieved in setting up transparency systems, but passing from theory to practice remains a challenge where support is still needed.
 - Data availability, data collection, QA/QC and preparation for input in inventories, reports, reporting software and integration in different tools all remain a significant challenge.
 - Transparency and MRV systems are essential for properly implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and drawing all the relevant benefits.
- **Tools, methodologies and guidance:**
 - Several tools are available to assist with NDC implementation.

- Tools are helpful but rely on the availability, quality and formatting of input data.
- Adapting the tools to a country's context and needs is very important and support can be provided to that end.
- Examples of tools that can be beneficial for NDC implementation: GACMO (UNEP-CCC, ICAT), Transport Data Tool (ICAT), Guidance for Accounting for NDCs (PATPA, Oeko Institut), Transport sector climate action co-benefit evaluation tool, TRACE (NCI, ICAT), open data platforms for forestry and land-use (FAO), CCAC/ICAT ETF Guide to integrate air pollution into climate MRV (forthcoming).
- **Institutional Arrangements:**
 - Institutional arrangements are essential for all aspects of NDC implementation (including planning, tracking and evaluation, mobilizing and tracking finance). Existing schemes can be utilized and further advanced and strengthened to define clear roles and responsibilities for the stakeholders involved.
 - Establishing formal/legal arrangements, such as laws, decrees or MoUs that describe the responsibilities of each stakeholder, the parameters and frequency of data collection, are important to ensure continuous engagement in data and MRV.
 - Engaging and consulting all relevant stakeholders in the different stages of transparency processes, including the private sector, civil society, communities and subnational governments, is crucial for strengthening NDC implementation and building national ownership.
- **Capacity Building:**
 - Building and retaining capacity on the national levels and within the relevant institutions is of utmost importance but remains a challenge.
 - Regional cooperation with experts from other countries as well as other peer-to-peer exchanges between countries are excellent opportunities.
 - The ICAT Regional Climate Action Transparency Hubs in Central Africa and in Central Asia provide an opportunity for such regional exchange.
 - Building long-term expertise can be a big challenge, requiring continuous and sustainable efforts.
- **Climate Finance:**
 - Transparency can be used both to assess and evaluate financial needs and resources available and accessible for NDC implementation and track financial flows.
 - Defining the applicable climate finance taxonomy is essential. Taxonomies already developed by other countries and organizations can be very useful.
 - Transparency and sound data can also be a leverage to approach financial institutions and help secure the large financial support

needed for NDC implementation.



Image 1: Group photo from Day 3

The main discussion focus and key take-aways for each breakout session are featured below in more detail.

Day 1: Planning for NDC Implementation

Welcoming partners to Day 1, Dr. Henning Wuester, Director of ICAT, highlighted the shifted focus of the Forum from NDC design/update in 2021 to NDC implementation in 2022. Transparency has an important role to play in both of these elements; the ETF requirements under the Paris Agreement provide an opportunity to use sound data and transparency for evidence-based decision making. This starts with building national ownership, ensuring national accountability, linking climate action with sustainable development impacts, and using that foundation to enable the transformational change required.

The Partner Forum provides a platform to explore these linkages - between transparency and NDC implementation - beginning with an ex-ante planning perspective, moving into tracking and the engagement of stakeholders during implementation and then finally an ex-post perspective focussed on evaluation to be able to further strengthen the NDCs through future updates.

Where in the world are you connecting from?

Mentimeter



Figure 1: Mentimeter map - Day 1

Day 1 brought 3 key messages to the fore - (i) that planning for NDC implementation starts with planning for transparency frameworks; (ii) that the quality of data is critical as are the relationships with data providers; and finally, (iii) that climate action requires a long-term perspective.

Breakout Sessions

Session 1: Preparation of NDC Implementation Plans and Roadmaps

Moderator: Julien Vincent (CITEPA)

Rapporteur: Etienne Mathias (CITEPA)

Presentations:

- **CITEPA:** Mr. Julien Vincent, Head of Mitigation & Adaptation Department
- **Chad:** Mr. Mahamat Abdoulaye Issa, UNFCCC Focal Point, Ministry of Environment, Water and Fisheries
- **Nigeria:** Dr. Iniobong Abiola-Awe, Director, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment
- **FOKABS:** Prof. Kalame Fobissie, CEO

Key take-aways:

- Developing NDC implementation plans and roadmaps, to go from theory to practice, is essential, yet challenging.

- Work can build on institutional schemes and arrangements already established, such as the example in Chad where the country mandated a national agency with MRV work.
 - Involving all relevant sectors and engaging and consulting stakeholders is very important and beneficial, as highlighted by the Nigerian example.
 - Making these systems sustainable is equally important. Increased capacity building efforts, expertise and interest in climate matters can support this.
 - The ICAT Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub in Central Africa provides an example of a regional arrangement that can promote collaboration and peer-to-peer learning.
 - Mobilising the large funds required to implement unconditional and conditional goals of NDCs can be a big challenge.
 - Building long-term expertise can also be a challenge as currently mostly short-term capacity building support is offered.
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Session 2: Transition to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines

Moderator: Ivana Audia (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Ricardo Fernandez (European Environment Agency)

Presentations:

- **[Argentina](#)**: Mr. Sebastian Galbusera and Ms. Laura Ortiz de Zarate, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, National Directorate of Climate Change
- **[China](#)**: Ms. Tian Wang, National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation (NCSC)
- **[Peru](#)**: Ms. Margoth Cipriano, GHG Mitigation Directorate, Ministry of Environment
- **[ISPRA](#)**: Ms. Marina Vitullo, Researcher

Key take-aways:

- The transition should be easier for countries familiar with the Good Practice Guidance, but challenging for developing countries that have not used the Guidelines before, particularly in the estimation of categories that are new or where the new methods will require the collection of additional activity data.
- Other challenges relate to the use of the reporting software, and the preparation of the data used in the estimation of emissions and removals within different national systems, so that it can be read by the new reporting software (to be developed) based on the new reporting tables agreed at the COP in Glasgow.
- Data availability, data collection and data sharing within the country are important issues to address for the preparation of a GHG inventory that

fulfils the reporting requirements of the MPGs, including the use of the 2006 IPCC GL.

- Strengthening collaboration within ministries and establishing MRV systems to define roles and responsibilities are essential to facilitate the transition to the ETF under the Paris Agreement.
 - Regional cooperation with other country experts can also be very useful to improve the country's own GHG inventory, particularly with experts from countries with similar national circumstances.
 - Improving capacity (e.g. methods in the 2006 IPCC GL) and retaining capacity (internalising the knowledge) are important elements of sustainable reporting and quality improvements in national GHG inventories, as well as for defining national policies towards climate neutrality.
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Session 3: Data sources and processes for NDC implementation

Moderator: Michael Gillenwater (GHGMI)

Rapporteur: Ruta Bubniene (UNFCCC Secretariat)

Presentations:

- [Eswatini](#): Mr. Saneliso Makhanya, Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs
- [FAO](#): Ms. Rocio Condor, Forestry Officer
- [ClimateSI](#): Mr. Buddika Hemashantha

Key take-aways:

- Reliable and accurate data is necessary to ensure trustworthy information in tracking NDC implementation, the collection of which relies on establishing relevant institutional arrangements and MRV systems.
- A main challenge relates to the availability and collection of reliable/accurate input data (i.e. for GHG inventory, it is helpful to use Tier 1 more aggregated data).
- To ensure the continuity of data collection, it is helpful to establish a formal Memorandum of Understanding that describes the parameters and frequency of data collection.
- To ensure sustainability of the institutional arrangements, it is critical to involve all stakeholders and institutions from the beginning of the process. Collaboration and information sharing among the stakeholders could be facilitated through informal gatherings (as *Friday morning coffee*, in the ICAT project in Eswatini).
- For forestry and land-use, open data platforms provide additional resources for data collection. The resources provided by FAO include virtual knowledge sharing such as an e-learning course, case studies and a national forest

monitoring tool.

- For transport sector analysis, an ICAT assessment tool provides support for assessment of GHG emission reduction, impact assessment of mitigation action and tracking of climate action impacts.
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Session 4: Article 6 and transparency

Moderator: Karen Holm Olsen (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Machtelt Oudeney (SQ Consult)

Presentations:

- **CAREC**: Mr. Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director
- **GHGMI**: Mr. Matej Gasperic, Senior Project Manager

Key take-aways:

- When implementing Article 6.2, 6.4 and 6.8 of the Paris Agreement and integrating reporting under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement into reporting under the ETF, it is important to:
 - Identify sectors that would fall under Article 6 mechanisms;
 - Establish a good MRV framework and infrastructure, including making use of any CDM or other frameworks in place;
 - Ensure environmental integrity;
 - Avoid duplication and double counting;
 - Apply strategic thinking early on about how to use cooperative approaches and build the links between Article 6 PA implementation and NDC reporting.
- It is important that ITMOs are not oversold, to the point that NDC commitments cannot be complied with. A good baseline needs to be implemented. The methodology for defining such a baseline has been developed but is rather conceptual and needs to be put in practice. In Vietnam a baseline is currently being developed for the energy sector, which can be useful for other countries as well.
- Countries do not have specific ideas on the opportunities that Article 6 Paris Agreement provides. So it is important to raise awareness on the application of Article 6 and on how to build up the MRV infrastructure.
- Capacity building is needed not only in terms of resources but also in terms of building knowledge on the aspects mentioned and should cover both market-based and non-market based mechanisms.
- Lessons learnt can be shared and information exchanged either in national or regional dialogues. CAREC's initiative example of establishing national and regional dialogues on Article 6 implementation and reporting is a great example.
- IT can help facilitate implementation of MRV and reporting under Article 6

Paris Agreement, through the development of digital solutions and automated systems.

Day 2: Tracking & evaluating NDC Implementation

Ruta Bubniene, Team Lead, Biennial Reports and National Communication Unit, Transparency Division, UNFCCC Secretariat, and Chair of the ICAT Advisory Committee, opened Day 2 by [highlighting](#) the need for both increased ambition of NDCs and NDC implementation, the role of the Enhanced Transparency Framework in tracking progress towards achieving and implementing the Paris Agreement goals and the importance of institutional arrangements in sustaining capacity for transparency.

There are acknowledged challenges in tracking progress, including: (1) the collection of data; (2) the novelty of concepts used; (3) methodologies for accounting; and (4) reporting of ITMOs and implementation of Article 6. What can help overcome these challenges are domestic institutional arrangements for transparency, not just designed to fit international reporting obligations, but built to ensure sustained capacity.

Jeremy Schlickenrieder, International Climate Policy Advisor, German Federal Foreign Office, on behalf of Luisa Rölke, Head of International Climate Protection and member of the ICAT Donor Steering Committee, rounded out the day by stressing the importance of working together, learning together, breaking down existing silos and discussing how challenges can be overcome.

Breakout Sessions

Session 5: Using tools to track NDC implementation

Moderator: Fernando Farias (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Yasna Rojas (Instituto Forestal, Chile)

Presentations:

- **Ghana:** Ms. Juliana Bempah, Principal Programme Officer, Environmental Protection Agency
- **PATPA:** Mr. Ralph Harthan, Oeko Institut, on behalf of Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA)
- **UNEP-CCC:** Mr. Denis Desgain, Head of Section, Mitigation Analysis and Data Management

Key take-aways:

- Tools with free access are available to help track NDC implementation. The tools can be used to simplify tracking NDC implementations that can be adapted to each country's national context.
 - [PATPA's Guidance for Accounting for NDCs](#) (updated version, 2022) provides support with GHGs emission targets, as well as a structure for NDC accounting, including examples.
 - PATPA is also working on an excel-based accounting tool to track NDC, with a focus on GHG emissions, which is useful to evaluate progress in implementing the NDC.
 - Ghana provided a successful example of tracking NDC progress, investments, GHG emissions and adaptation actions, through establishing the necessary institutional arrangements, developing indicators for mitigation and adaptation, and developing a country-specific tool based on the [GACMO modelling tool](#).
 - GACMO is a simple, excel-based tool, easily adaptable to a specific national context (as highlighted by the Ghana example), used to analyse mitigation options and their effects in terms of GHG emissions reduction in the context of NDCs.
 - Challenges are posed by the volume of information that countries need to integrate to track the NDC's (Baseline, GHG, target reduction), as well as needs in non-financial support (awareness raising, capacity-building, technology transfer, partnerships).
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Session 6: Developing MRV systems for NDC implementation

[Moderator](#): Mike Bess (GHGMI)

Rapporteur: Ricardo Fernandez (European Environment Agency)

Presentations:

- **Nigeria**: Dr. Iniobong Abiola-Awe, Director, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment
- **Mozambique**: Ms. Telma Manjate, National Climate Change Directorate, Ministry for Land and Environment
- **Botswana**: Mr. Dorcas Masisi, Principal Meteorologist, Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism

Key take-aways:

- MRV systems remain a challenge, or are at an infancy state in many countries, but substantial efforts are currently being taken to formalise institutional arrangements to make reporting and quality improvements sustainable.
- One of the key challenges for MRV systems moving forward is that it is not the responsibility of a single ministry to deal with all issues related to climate

change and that this requires establishing adequate institutional arrangements so that there are clear roles and responsibilities for each of the different institutions involved in the preparation of different reports. In other words, this means bringing sectors and ministries out of their silos to work in a coordinated and collaborative manner.

- Another key challenge is the lack of capacity within the institutions involved in the preparation of the different national climate change reports. This includes the collection of data in the format that is required for reporting, and also the QA/QC of this data, for example for GHG inventories. This suggests that internalising the knowledge received (via capacity building) and further improving capacities can be very important in a robust MRV system that can deliver improvements in reporting over time. This can also include motivating people and institutions about the added value of work on MRV and their role in it.
 - Institutional arrangements in some countries are currently based on voluntary arrangements but the objective is to make these arrangements more sustainable in the future, including via MoUs and other legal means.
 - MRV systems should not only be designed to deliver on reporting requirements to the UNFCCC or other international conventions but with awareness that are also essential for domestic policy making and other national priorities.
 - The involvement of the private sector and civil society is very relevant in the design of MRV systems and should be part of the process.
 - There is broad agreement to the added value of 'regional or international cooperation' and of learning from neighbouring countries, which often have similar national circumstances and levels of statistical data. In some cases, it is more common or convenient to share experiences with countries having the same language.
 - It was highlighted that ICAT's support can be very useful thanks to targeted advice for different sectors (such as transport), and also for designing institutional arrangements so that stakeholders in the country know how to contribute to the different national and international reports in a timely manner.
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Session 7: Developing M&E systems for adaptation

Moderator: Henry Neufeld (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Oleg Bulanyi (ICAT Secretariat)

Presentations:

- **Kenya:** Ms. Veronica Ndetu, Head of Climate Change Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives
- **TERI:** Ms. Suruchi Bhadwa, Director, Earth Science and Climate Change

- **Panama:** Ms. Nicole Francisco, Climate Change Analyst, Ministry of Environment
- **South Africa:** Dr. Brian Mantlana, Presidential Climate Commission and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Key take-aways:

- Performing a stakeholder mapping exercise and defining stakeholder responsibilities is essential. However, stakeholder engagement is time consuming, noting the different priorities and interests.
- No single metric exists for adaptation actions, therefore selecting meaningful and cost effective indicators, is a major challenge.
- In addition, indicators are not sector specific and impacts vary from one region to another for some countries. Risk assessment is a key element.
- Climate change statistics are needed, as well as staff to monitor the indicators.
- NAPs and any other national strategies are necessary to steer the process. The lack of a NAP can be a major challenge. No incentives for reporting can be an additional challenge.
- Using tools (such as an online tool in Kenya) or existing methodologies (such as environmental indicators of ECLAC) can be useful.

Session 8: Guides and methodologies to support NDC implementation (Air pollution integration into climate MRV)

Moderator: Richard Claxton (Aether)

Rapporteur: Machtelt Oudenes (SQ Consult)

Presentations:

- **Ghana:** Mr. Isaac Kwabena Danso, Assistant Program Officer at Climate Change Department of Environmental Protection Agency
- **South Africa:** Dr. Tirusha Thambiran, Principal Researcher, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- **SEI:** Dr. Chris Malley, Senior Research Fellow

Key take-aways:

- It is important to have concrete and timely planning on how to implement policies for NDC reporting, how to build institutional arrangements and identify capacity needs.
- There are often barriers in involving technologies in NDC reporting and these need to be removed when defining policies.
- Stakeholder engagement and involvement in the NDC implementation process is essential and can be achieved not only through mandatory requirements in national law but also soft measures can support the

- organisation of stakeholder engagement.
- Good institutional arrangements are key, defining the clear roles and responsibilities of the different institutions, a clear coordinating role between institutions and the involvement of local needs.
- Knowledge can disappear if people leave the organisation so it is important to maintain that knowledge within the institution.
- It is important to raise awareness on the benefits of integrating air pollution into climate change policies and GHG emission reporting and to build knowledge on NDC implementation, including health impacts in NDC reporting. The media can play an important role in raising awareness on the benefits of integrating air pollution into climate change policies and GHG emission reporting.
- The MRV of air pollution and GHG emissions is based on similar data so it makes sense to use existing systems, legal frameworks and resources. That can facilitate and advance implementation.
- Although there is overlap between GHG emission and air pollution MRV and reporting there are also differences and nuances that need to be taken into account (e.g. information on what technologies to use and which standards to meet is crucial to estimate air pollutants).
- Countries have different characteristics and priorities so it is not easy to draft a guide that covers all circumstances. There can be different ways of integrating air pollution policies into NDC reporting and climate change plans. The integration approach needs to be tailored to the specific conditions of a country.
- The new ICAT guide on integrating air pollutants provides different tiers of approaches that can be of use.

Session 9: NDC Implementation in the Transport Sector: Tools, Approaches and Lessons Learned

Moderator: Matej Gasperic (GHGMI)

Rapporteur: Olga Lyandres (GHGMI)

Presentations:

- **Nigeria:** Mr. James O. Ogunleye, ICAT Nigeria Project Lead Consultant, Oil and Gas
- **Antigua and Barbuda:** Mr. Oraine Nurse, Department of Environment
- **Cambodia:** Mr. Sum Cheat, ICAT coordinator for the transport sector
- **ClimateSI:** Mr. Buddhika Hemashantha, CEO

Key take-aways:

- Public Transit Systems are key interventions in large countries, however adequate financing is difficult.

- Tools are helpful, but this depends on availability of input data.
- There is interest in linking interventions to sustainable development policies and analysing the co-benefits, since transport contributes to air pollution and economic losses from congestion.
- The TRACE tool was successfully used in Nigeria, where there is also interest in piloting the new transport mitigation option tool developed by ClimateSI.
- Big challenges include lack of sufficient financial resources, lack of capacity, as well as lack of institutional arrangements, which hinders coordinated data collection, and data availability.
- MRV frameworks are key to ensuring data availability, institutional arrangements and coordination to have the high quality data needed to use tools.
- Linkages should be made with the energy sector in terms of electricity production/consumption.
- It is important to integrate policies for workforce development as transport moves away from fossil fuels.
- Mitigation actions within the transport sector have significant co-benefits (economic and health outcomes).

Day 3: Engaging Stakeholders & Mobilizing Finance

Nobert Nyandire, National Coordinator at Sustainable Environmental Development Watch (Suswatch), Kenya, [highlighted](#) on the Forum's final day in his presentation the importance of stakeholder engagement and the processes of climate change mainstreaming into national and sectoral plans and budgets, the identification of domestic, international and private finance and the alignment of the global climate agenda, national development agendas and the SDGs. Engaging non-state actors in particular is imperative as they can offer independent and complementary insights and strengthen buy-in and public ownership. Understanding how to access funding from a diverse range of multilateral, bilateral, public and private sources is a complex and dynamic challenge and inadequate access to finance remains a chief constraint to achieving Paris Agreement Goals.

What 1 word would you use to describe the biggest challenge of NDC implementation?

Mentimeter



Figure 2: Mentimeter Word Cloud Day 3

To wrap up the third day, Ms. Alessandra Fidanza, Senior Advisor at the Italian Ministry for Ecological Transition and member of the ICAT Donor Steering Committee, shared her key takeaways. She highlighted the need to integrate national resources and international funds, the importance of the EU taxonomy as a reference for building national taxonomies, and the benefit of mixing regulatory approaches with voluntary approaches. Ms. Fidanza also stressed the message that climate finance is more than just climate or SDGs, it is about addressing a diverse range of sectors and is ultimately a matter of trust. If countries can demonstrate how they are using funding received, they contribute to building the trust that is necessary to advance and attract additional funding.

Dr. Henning Wuester, Director of ICAT, brought the forum to a close by reiterating the necessity of planning well for MRV and transparency work, which involves applying a long-term lens to stakeholder engagement, data tool selection and usage and resource mobilization. The diverse range of tools in the ICAT toolbox can assist in these processes. Dr. Wuester encouraged partners to share with ICAT opportunities for further peer to peer knowledge sharing.

How do you feel now that the ICAT Partner Forum has come to a close?

Mentimeter



Figure 3: Mentimeter Word Cloud Day 3

Breakout Sessions

Session 10: Engaging and integrating subnational and non-state actions in NDC implementation

Moderator: Juan Luis Martin Ortega (Gauss)

Rapporteur: Yasna Rojas (Instituto Forestal, Chile)

Presentations:

- **Chile**: Mr. Sebastian Figueroa, HuellaChile Programme Coordinator, Ministry of Environment
- **Brazil**: Mr. Guilherme Lima, Project Manager, Brazilian Climate Center
- **WWF Colombia**: Ms. Paula Rodriguez, Sustainable Cities Specialist

Key take-aways:

- It is important to develop MRV indicators to monitor the implementation of the NDC at the subnational (state) and sectoral levels. However, there is a lack of data at the state level.
- A challenge is posed by the large number of stakeholders that needs to be reached (local government and private sector) .
- It is important to include the different country stakeholders involved in mitigation actions through capacity building and workshops, noting that there is a poor knowledge of the methodologies among these stakeholders.
- The strategies to achieve mitigation targets should include local governments and the private sector.
- The case of Chile shows a very good approach with a system of certification in different levels, an online platform and calculator, as well as learning courses for local government and private sector.
- There can be big potential for emissions reduction on the subnational and non-state actor level, however, it is important to establish a mechanism to

include these mitigation actions in NDC targets. ICAT can provide support in this, however, a big level of effort is needed, noting that the mitigation actions of the private sector are very important.

- Lack of capacity in the private sector and accountability of GHG emissions can be an important challenge.

Session 11: Tracking Climate Finance

Moderator: Pepa Lopez (Gauss)

Rapporteur: Machtelt Oudenes (SQ Consult)

Presentations:

- **Bangladesh**: Dr. Md. Golam Rabbani, Head of Climate Bridge Fund Secretariat, BRAC Centre
- **Costa Rica**: Ms. Ana Lucía Moya Mora, Advisor, Climate Change Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Energy
- **Peru**: Mr. Roberto Miguel Piselli Alvarado, Ministry of Environment
- **ICAT**: Ms. Debbie Stowell and Mr. Scott Willis, ICAT Consultants

Key take-aways:

- There is no standard methodology on how to track climate finance. Methodologies need to be developed and adjusted to the national context and priorities.
- The mapping of data flow between institutions (e.g. through a tracking platform) is important. The necessary institutional arrangements need to be developed and awareness-raising and capacity-building for tracking climate finance need to take place.
- It is important to integrate MRV systems and establish links between information systems. Costa Rica's SINAMECC tool is a great example of centralising reporting.
- MRV systems should be designed in such a way that it can evolve over time, not only looking backward to climate finance information but also include forward looking information.
- Data quality and completeness of climate finance information is essential to track climate finance but there are challenges in obtaining accurate and complete information, including difficulties in:
 - defining climate finance and identifying which activities are related to climate change and which are not;
 - defining national markers and criteria for tracking climate finance;
 - how to consider loans and non-monetary support;
 - how to address the confidentiality and sensitiveness of climate finance information.
- A key element is defining the climate finance taxonomy. A government and regulatory process can facilitate the development of that taxonomy to

ensure completeness and have reliable and standardised information. At the same time, it is challenging to address different types of climate finance and to establish the taxonomy in a way that is easy to implement. Taxonomies developed by other countries and organisations, such as the taxonomy developed by the European Commission, can be of help.

Session 12: MRV of Just Transitions

Moderator: Neelam Singh, WRI

Rapporteur: Oleg Bulanyi (ICAT Secretariat)

Presentations:

- **Nigeria:** Dr. Yerima Peter Tarfa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment
- **South Africa:** Dr. Thuli N. Khumalo, Chief Operations Officer, Presidential Climate Commission
- **WRI:** Ms. Cynthia Elliott, Senior Associate, Climate Policy

Key take-aways:

- There is no single universal definition of just transitions. The goal is two-fold: achieving the benefits of transition to decarbonisation and addressing poverty and inequality, noting that there is a fundamental right to both a clean environment and decent jobs. It is therefore important to anticipate impacts and adjust policies.
- Just transitions (JT) seeks to maximise benefits and minimise negative impacts, all the while promoting dialogue among stakeholders.
- Just transitions have to be flexible, ensuring that costs are not transferred to victims
- MRV systems for just transitions can cover both policy impact assessment and/or tracking progress against a baseline.
- The objectives of the ICAT JT project in Nigeria are to
 - develop a Just transitions MRV, linked to the MRV run by the Ministry of Environment;
 - enable a tripartite approach (unions, government, labour);
 - support policymakers in setting up a JT roadmap.
- The expected outcome is that Nigeria has adequate capacity to apply an MRV JT, covering two sectors (oil and gas and AFOLU) and that policy makers are able to set up a road map and monitor the progress.
- In South Africa, the President's Climate Committee includes a mechanism for JT finance. It is important to integrate JT into climate resilient development, with goals including decent jobs, social inclusion and eradication of poverty. There are three elements to the approach (procedural, distributive, restorative) and the following theory of change: *Vision - pathway - jobs - technology - finance - M&E*.

- In terms of M&E, the focus is on evaluation, covering all facets: justice, impact, effects by demographic, boundaries (national, regional).
 - Sharing experience is important both for South Africa and for Nigeria
 - Challenges can range, from identifying all critical stakeholders and making them owners of the process, overcoming bureaucracy (Nigeria) to ensuring community consultations to develop indicators
 - Other challenges relate to aligning the data to that of other climate related MRV arrangements and having different bodies responsible compared to mitigation actions (such as the Ministry of Labour in Nigeria and the PCC in South Africa).
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Session 13: Linking and aligning NDC Implementation to SD impacts

Moderator: Nobert Nyandire (Sustainable Environmental Development Watch, Kenya)

Rapporteur: Randa Ahmed (ICAT Secretariat)

Presentations:

- **Cambodia**: Mr. Buddika Hemashantha, ClimateSI, ICAT Consultant for Cambodia
- **Liberia**: Mr. John F. Kannah, NDC Coordinator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- **Costa Rica**: Mr. Felipe de León, Climate Change Directorate of the Ministry of Environment and Energy

Key take-aways:

- Tools can facilitate the assessment of relevant NDC mitigation actions and the impact on key SDGs; it is important to include these SDGs early on in an assessment of SD impacts.
- The ICAT SD methodology provides a good tool to map out mitigation actions in the transport sector and assess them according to economic, social and environmental impacts.
- The NDC should not just be linked with the process itself but also with the core SDG framework which informs the entire policy process. Importance of having a participatory, diverse and inclusive process when linking NDC with SDGs.
- It is recommended to include an analysis of SDGs in an NDC revision process to align them with climate ambition. Regular updates and revision processes help to revise goals and raise ambition, but also to develop a better understanding of data needs and capacity building.
- In addition, the NDC revision processes should also go hand in hand with the development of an NDC implementation plan and NDC financing strategy to

- mobilise resources for the implementation of NDC actions
- The complexity of such a process can be tackled by including more and more relevant stakeholders and parts of society. Stakeholder consultations and the mapping of stakeholders are instrumental activities to enhance accuracy of (qualitative) results and improve NDC revision process (stakeholders to be included: non-state/subnational actors, private sector, but also reflect issues of gender (e.g. Ganta gender declaration prepared at an awareness raising workshop in Ganta, Liberia); comprehensive stakeholder consultations also help to mobilize finance.
- National plans are good, but the issue is about how to implement and achieve them (National Decarbonization Plan such as in Costa Rica as a possible solution).
- In Liberia, an NDC implementation unit (to be established) and 9 NDC hubs take responsibility for tracking and monitoring NDC and mobilising resources.
- Collaboration with financial institutions such as national banks can be sought to include relevant stakeholders for mobilising finance.
- In terms of instruments, Costa Rica's National Decarbonization plan is a framing element which lays out clearly and detailed what needs to be done, including key milestones to help with tracking. SINAMECC, Costa Rica's National Climate Change Metrics System, provides a comprehensive data management system (incl.GHG inventory calculations and data storage, a mitigation and adaptation action registry, sustainable development impact analysis).

Next Steps

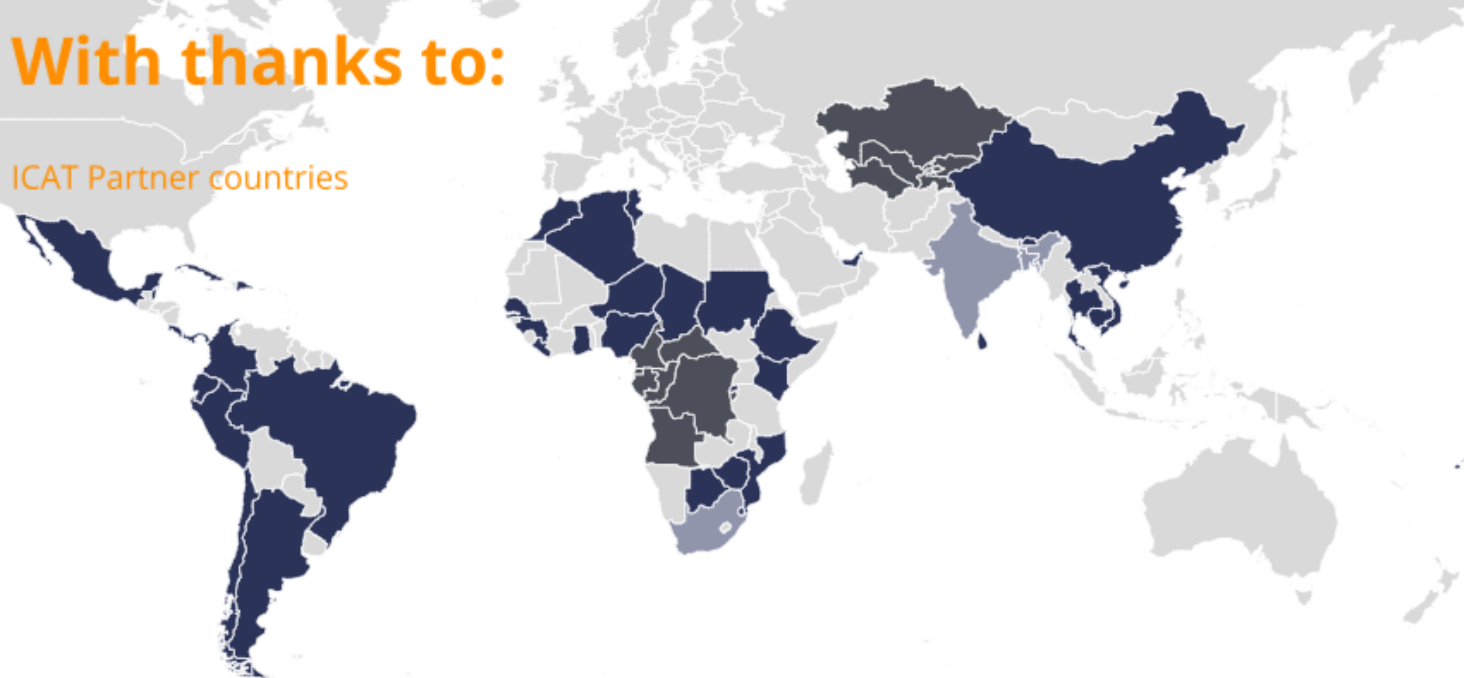
The 2022 ICAT Partner Forum achieved the objective of delivering a platform to enable robust knowledge sharing and discussion. ICAT plans to use the findings of this Forum to share the learnings with other countries, understand their priority needs and further explore new areas and ways to cover needs and expand ICAT's offer of support.

The ICAT Secretariat will also take into consideration the overall results of the Forum and the feedback provided by participants in order to further guide the concept development and delivery of subsequent knowledge sharing events gathering ICAT's partners. These can include the 2023 ICAT Partner Forum (in virtual, hybrid or fully in-person format), and additional knowledge sharing events, such as an in-person ICAT Community Meeting in September 2022 and/or an ICAT Partner Knowledge Roundtable at COP 27.

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