

Analysis of completeness and transparency assessment: experience of BR2 reviews

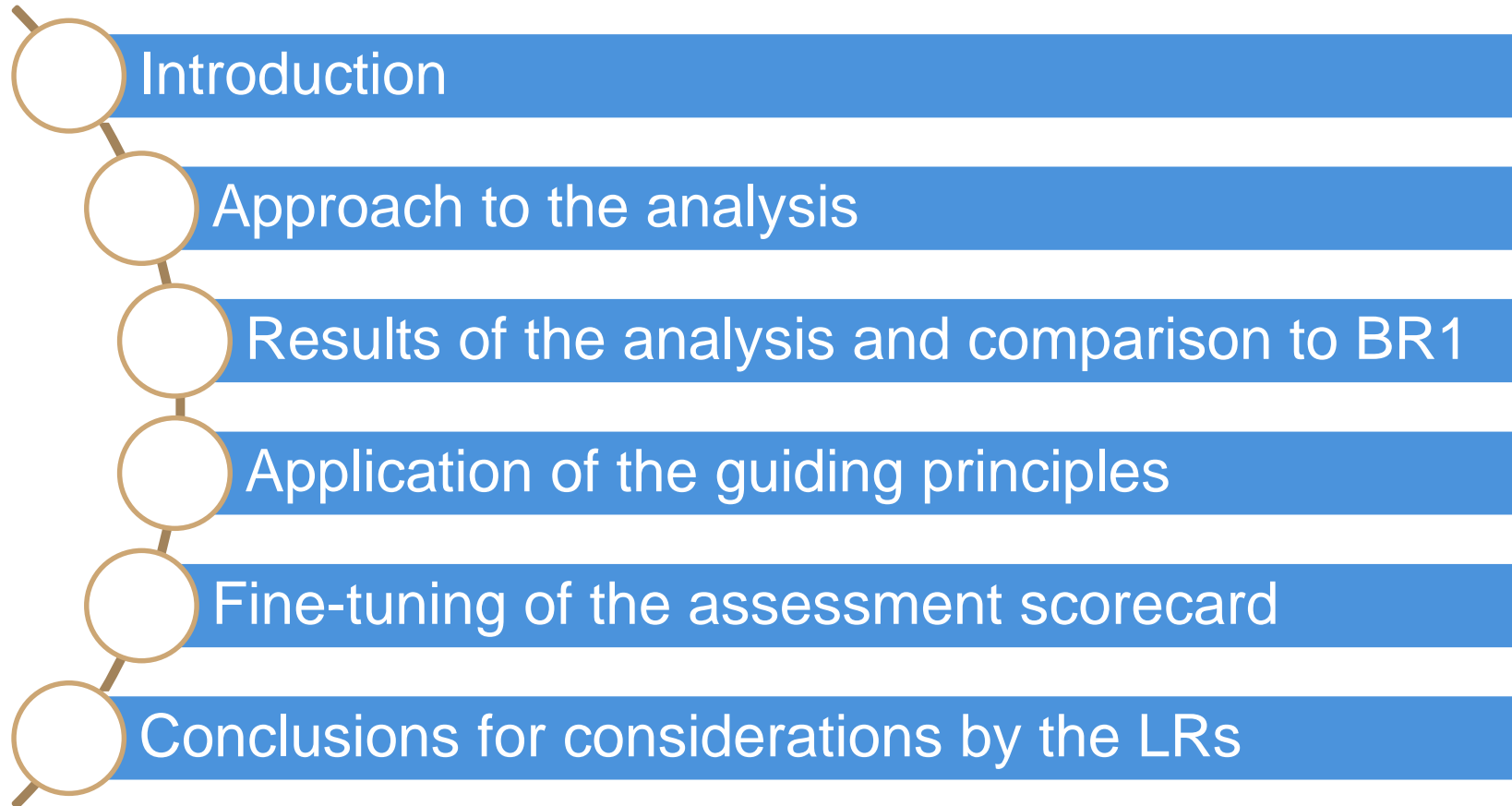
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Outline of the presentation



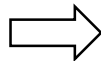
Request from the LRs to the secretariat:

Provide an update of the analysis carried out in the background paper (BP2016) based on the results of the technical review of the BR2s and present such analysis as an input for discussion during the 4th LRs' meeting in the context of the update of the RPG.

Scope of work:

1. Analyze practice applied by the ERTs for assessment of C/T during the technical reviews of the BR2s using the same approach and analytical tools as for BR1s;
2. Analysis of application of the guiding principles;
3. Fine-tuning of completeness and transparency assessment scoreboard;

Approach to analysis – step 1



BR2 - AUSTRALIA							Solved? Y/N	Follow up questions
1	16	16	16. The ERT noted that Australia has improved its reporting since the BR1 by including a wider range of mitigation actions in its BR2 and CTF table 3. The ERT commends Australia for implementing the recommendation made in the TRR/BR1 to provide comprehensive textual descriptions of a wider range of mitigation actions. However, in CTF table 3, only one of the listed mitigation actions was quantified. In response to a question raised by the ERT during the review, Australia stated that some of the mitigation actions have not been separately quantified owing to the complexity of the work required. In addition, Australia explained that future policies, such as the National Energy Productivity Plan (NEPP), will have significant impact on emission reductions and, after implementation, their impacts will be modelled in the future emission projections. To increase transparency, the ERT recommends that Australia either provide the mitigation impacts of its mitigation actions in CTF table 3, or provide an explanation as to why the mitigation impacts are not estimated in the next BR.					
7	30	30	30. In its BR2 and CTF table 6(a), Australia did not include emission projections for 2030. In response to a question raised by the ERT during the review, Australia indicated that the Department of the Environment is currently undertaking modelling projections for 2030, which will be available in 2016. To increase completeness, the ERT recommends that Australia include emission projections for 2030 in its next BR. In addition, based on the information contained in CTF table 6(a) and the BR2, the ERT could not assess the starting year of the emission projections. During the review, Australia clarified that the starting year for the emission projections was 2015. To increase transparency, the ERT encourages Australia to clearly report the starting year of the emission projections compared with historical emission years and include the emission projections for 2015 in its next BR. The ERT also suggests that Australia include emission projections for additional years other than 2020 and 2030, such as 2025, in its next BR.					
10	31	31	31. Australia did not report emission projections related to fuel sold to ships and aircraft engaged in international transport separately in its BR2. In response to a question raised by the ERT during the review, Australia provided information on these emission projections separate from the national GHG emissions total. To increase completeness, the ERT recommends that Australia include separate emission projections related to fuel sold to ships and aircraft engaged in international transport, not included in the national total, in its next BR.					

TRR.2s

Recommendations & Encouragements tool



Approach to analysis – step 2

Party 1	FC	MC	PC	NC	Rec.
GHG emissions and removals	•				0
Description of the target	•				0
Progress in achievement of targets	•				0
Projections	•				0
Provision of FTC support	•				0

Party 2	FC	MC	PC	NC	Rec.
GHG emissions and removals	•				0
Description of the target	•				0
Progress in achievement of targets		•			2
Projections	•				0
Provision of FTC support			•		3

Party n	FC	MC	PC	NC	Rec.
GHG emissions and removals	•				0
Description of the target	•				0
Progress in achievement of targets			•		2
Projections			•		3
Provision of FTC support			•		3

C/T assessment tables



Assessment	NC/NT						n	o
	PC/PT				q			
	MC/MT		y	z				
	FC/FT	x						
BR section		0	1	2	3	4	...	N
Number of recommendations								

Normal distribution

Assessment	NC/NT		out					
	PC/PT				n			
	MC/MT		x	y	z			
	FC/FT							out
BR section		0	1	2	3	4	...	N
Number of recommendations								

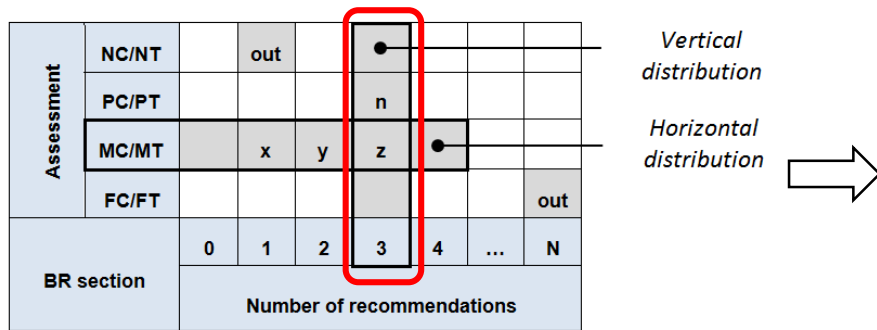
Vertical distribution

Horizontal distribution

Frequency distribution tables



Approach to analysis – step 3



Frequency distribution tables

BR section: Projections		
Assessment	Recommendation	Party
Partially complete	• The total effect of PaMs by gas (for 2020 and 2030);	Party 1
	• An updated 'with measures' projection for up to 2030;	Party 2
Mostly complete	• Emission projections for 2030;	Party 3
	• Projections for the year 2030 including in CTF tables 6;	Party 4
	• Information on emission projections for 2030;	Party 5
Number of recommendations in the BR section = 1		

C/T vertical distribution analysis

Results of the analysis – general observations

- Horizontal distribution of cases (consistent assessment), where the BR section was assessed as mostly or partially complete or transparent, occurs more frequently than vertical distribution (inconsistent assessment) in most of the BR sections.
- This demonstrates that in the majority of cases, the ERTs did not consider certain mandatory reporting requirements to be more important than others, which is in line with the principle that all mandatory reporting requirements are of equal importance.
- Horizontal distribution indicates that the ERTs, based on their expert judgment and the number of recommendations made under a particular section of the BR, decide whether the completeness and transparency of the information provided can be assessed as mostly or partially complete or transparent (empirical evidence could be used to establish quantitative thresholds – assessment scoreboard).



Results of the analysis - section specific

1. GHG emission and removals related to target

- Overall assessment follows the normal distribution pattern;
- Clear threshold can be established between mostly and partially;
- Most frequent issue(s): national inventory arrangements and its changes.

2. Description of target

- Overall assessment follows the normal distribution pattern;
- Clear threshold can be established between mostly and partially;
- Most frequent issues: base year for gases, gases and sectors covered.



Results of the analysis - section specific

3. Progress towards target including projections

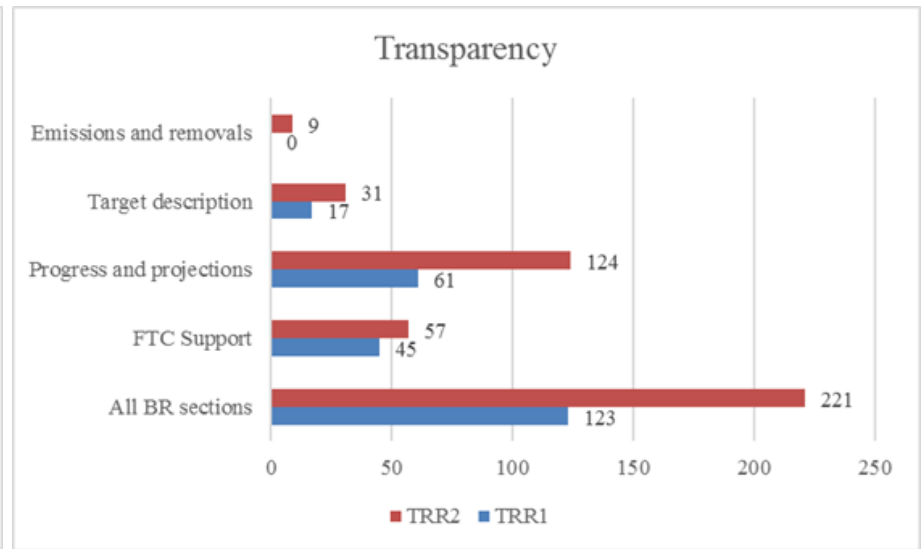
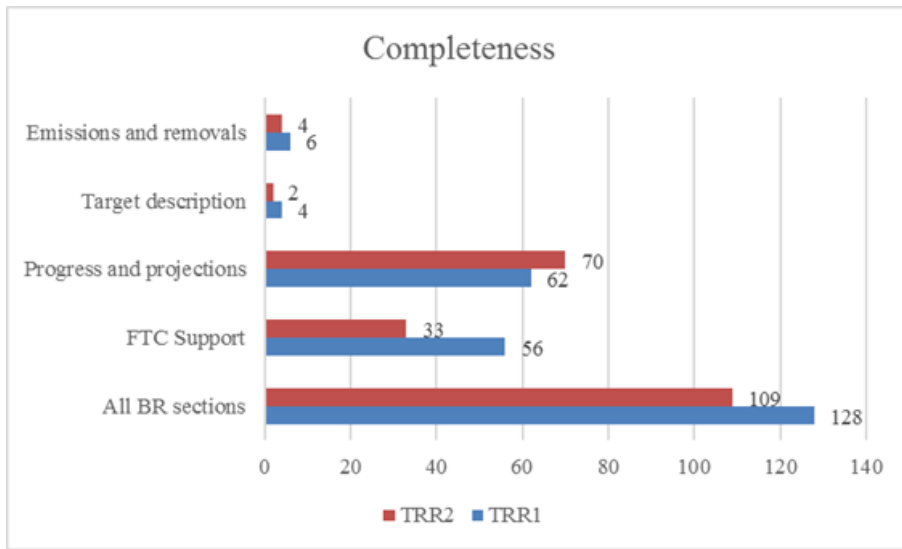
- Mostly horizontal distribution with few cases of vertical distribution;
- Thresholds between mostly and partially were fine-tuned;
- Most frequent issue(s): quantification of effects of mitigation actions and separate reporting of projections related to international bunkers.

4. Provision of support

- Vertical distribution of cases is more significant than in all other sections ('grey area');
- Thresholds between mostly and partially were fine-tuned;
- Most frequent issue(s): how support is identified as new and additional; annual financial support with amounts, type, source, instrument and sectors; measures to support the development of endogenous capacities and technologies; and how support responds to capacity-building needs.



Results of the analysis - comparison BR1 – BR2



Number of recommendations made by ERTs in TRR1s and TRR2s



Results of the analysis - comparison BR1 – BR2

Changes in number of recommendations for C/T per BR sections could indicate:

1. Party resolved issues from BR1 and continued to report in BR2 (number of recommendations ↓);
2. Party resolved issues from BR1 but new related issue emerge in BR2 (number of recommendations ↔);
3. Party reported information in BR1 correctly but made errors in reporting the same information in BR2 (number of recommendations ↑);
4. Party reported information in BR1 but did not report in BR2 (number of recommendations ↑);
5. Party did not report information in both BR1 and BR2 (number of recommendations ↔↑);



Guiding principles were generally followed by the ERTs

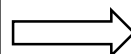
Guiding principle	Key findings of analysis
1. The assessment is based on mandatory requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• straightforward to apply• followed consistently by ERTs• structure of TRR (table 1) ensures its application
2. One omitted mandatory requirement leads to one recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• straightforward to apply• mostly followed by ERTs• few cases when two or more ‘shall’ were merged in one recommendation
3. All mandatory requirements are of equal importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• less straightforward to apply• vertical distributions of cases were used as “litmus test” to indicate expert weighting factor applied• cases of vertical distribution were more frequent in assessment of transparency



Assessment scoreboard is fine-tuned based on practice applied by ERTs

Based on BR1

BR section	Number of mandatory reporting requirements	Number of missing mandatory requirements found by the ERT ¹	Assessment of the completeness and transparency of the BR section
GHG emissions and removals related to the target	2	1	MC / MT
		2	PC / PT
Assumptions, conditions and meth. related to the target	2	1	MC / MT
		2	PC / PT
Progress in the achievement the target	4	1–2	MC / MT
		3–4	PC / PT
Projections	9	1–2	MC / MT
		3–9	PC / PT
Provision of support to developing country Parties	15	1–2	MC / MT
		3–15	PC / PT



Based on BR2

BR section	Number of mandatory reporting requirements	Number of missing mandatory requirements found by the ERT ¹	Assessment of the completeness and transparency of the BR section
GHG emissions and removals related to the target	2	1	MC / MT
		2	PC / PT
Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the target	2	1	MC / MT
		2	PC / PT
Progress made towards the achievement of the target <u>including projections</u>	13	1–4	MC / MT
		5–13	PC / PT
Provision of support to developing country Parties	15	Based on analysis of TRR2s	
		1–3	MC / MT
		4–15	PC / PT

¹ In case when number of missing mandatory requirements is equal to number of mandatory requirements from reporting guidelines, the ERTs should decide whether to assess BR section as partially complete/transparent or not complete/transparent.

¹ When the number of missing mandatory requirements is equal to the number of mandatory requirements from the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs, the ERTs should decide whether to assess the BR section as partially complete or transparent or not complete or transparent.

Main conclusions of analysis for consideration by LRs (i)

- Assessment by ERTs of the completeness and transparency of information provided in the BR2s **was largely consistent across TRR2s, and the consistency had improved in comparison with the assessment of information in the TRR1s;**
- The improvement could be attributed to the following:
 - a) The LRs provided consistent guidance to the ERTs, based on the guiding principles and the assessment scoreboard, for assessing completeness and transparency issues;
 - b) The ERTs had accumulated and refined experience in assessing the completeness and transparency of information provided from the reviews of the BR1s;
 - c) The ERTs applied the review tools developed by the secretariat and recommended by the LRs; most notably, the Review Practice Guidance.



Main conclusions of analysis for consideration by LRs (ii)

- The **completeness of reporting has improved** in all sections with the exception of that related to the progress made towards the achievement of the target, including projections.
- The **transparency of reporting has not improved**: it is evident that more recommendations on transparency were made in all sections of the TRR2s compared with the TRR1s.
- The reporting element that was singled out by experts was related to the non-estimation of impacts for the entire scope of mitigation actions reported without a sufficient explanation for why these impacts could not be estimated.



Main conclusions of analysis for consideration by LRs (iii)

- The LRs recommendation that ERTs apply the assessment scoreboard in future reviews would facilitate consistency across TRRs; however, the ERTs may apply their judgment and a more refined approach in reviewing particular cases.
- In order to continue to evaluate the consistency of the assessment it would be useful to: analyse the TRR3s, assess how the review practice in the assessment of completeness and transparency has evolved in comparison with the previous review cycles, and update the analytical tools used in this paper, as appropriate.

