INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION AND ANALYSIS
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International consultation and analysis (ICA) is a process adopted at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties as part of the measurement, reporting and verification arrangements under the Cancun Agreements. It applies to biennial update reports (BURs), which are prepared by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties).

ICA aims to increase the transparency of mitigation actions and their effects, along with other information reported in BURs. It commences within six months of the submission of BURs from non-Annex I Parties and is conducted in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty. Discussion on the appropriateness of domestic policies and measures is not part of the process.

Guided by the modalities and guidelines in annex IV of decision 2/CP.17 and the annex to decision 20/CP.19, the ICA includes two main steps: a technical analysis of BURs from non-Annex I Parties and a facilitative sharing of views among Parties.

KEY ELEMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION AND ANALYSIS

- **Composition of TTE**
- **Technical analysis of BURs by TTE**
- **Draft summary report (SR)**
- **Review and comment on draft SR by the Party concerned**
- **Final SR by TTE and the Party concerned**

**INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION AND ANALYSIS**

**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS**

- **Final SR noted by SBI**
- **Record of the facilitative sharing of views**

**FACILITATIVE SHARING OF VIEWS**

**OUTPUTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION AND ANALYSIS**

- A workshop under SBI — a one- to three-hour session for each Party or group of Parties
- A brief presentation by the Party or Parties concerned on their biennial update report, followed by oral questions and answers among Parties
STEP 1: THE TECHNICAL ANALYSIS OF BURS

The technical analysis is the first step of ICA and starts within six months of the submission of BURs from non-Annex I Parties.

The technical analysis is conducted by a team of technical experts (TTE) composed by the secretariat, under the general guidance of the Consultative Group of Experts.

The technical analysis is guided by the modalities and guidelines in the annex to decision 20/CP.19.

The technical analysis entails the three elements illustrated in the figure below:

Each technical analysis results in a summary report.
The TTE completes a draft summary report no later than three months after the start of the technical analysis, and shares it with the concerned non-Annex I Party for its review and comment, which is to be provided within three months of receipt of the draft summary report. The TTE responds to and incorporates the comments from the Party concerned, and finalizes the report in consultation with the Party concerned, within three months of receipt of the comments.
STEP 2: THE FACILITATIVE SHARING OF VIEWS

The facilitative sharing of views (FSV) is the second step in the ICA process. It will be conducted in the form of a workshop under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, convened at regular intervals and open to all Parties.

A final summary report and the BUR, will serve as input to the FSV, for the non-Annex I Party which will undergo this process. Other Parties will be allowed to submit written questions in advance.

The FSV will consist of a 1–3 hour session for each Party or group of up to five Parties. It will include a brief presentation by the Party or Parties concerned on its/their BUR(s), followed by a question and answer session.

The FSV process is illustrated below:

The output of FSV will include a record of the workshop with a summary of the Parties’ presentations, questions submitted by other Parties and the responses provided.
Pursuant to decision 20/CP.19, paragraph 4, the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), developed a training programme for the technical experts nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts who, upon successful completion of this training, shall be eligible to be part of the team of technical experts, to undertake the technical analysis of submitted biennial update reports (BURs).

The primary objective of the training programme is to ensure that the experts nominated on the UNFCCC roster of experts are fully conversant with the relevant reporting requirements for developing country Parties, and the modalities and procedures for the international consultation and analysis, including the technical analysis of BURs from developing country Parties.

The training programme covers three clusters of training materials: (A) provisions on reporting information in the BURs and conducting technical analysis of BURs under the international consultation and analysis (ICA) process; (B) background materials covering methods and science on key themes addressed in BURs, and (C) provisions relevant to the technical analysis of a technical annex containing information on results-based actions relating to REDD-plus activities.