



19 September 2022

**Technical paper on specifications for the UNFCCC web-based
platform on non-market approaches**

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The first meeting of the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches was convened by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and operated in accordance with the procedures applicable to contact groups and under the guidance of the Chair, as Agenda item 14: Work programme under the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement and in decision 4/CMA.3 at SBSTA 56 (June 2022).

2. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper, without formal status, on the specifications for the UNFCCC web-based platform for recording and exchanging information, in line with the mandate from paragraph 4 of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3, taking into account the informal note by the co-chairs of the first meeting of the Glasgow Committee capturing Parties' views on the work mandated in paragraph 4 of decision 4/CMA.3 and the submissions that Parties and observers on the specifications for the UNFCCC web-based platform referred to in paragraph 8(b)(i) of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3, for consideration by the Glasgow Committee at its second meeting.

3. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to organize a virtual intersessional workshop, under the guidance of the SBSTA Chair, ensuring broad participation of relevant experts, on the specifications for the UNFCCC web-based platform, taking into consideration the submissions referred to in paragraph 2 above and this technical paper.

B. Scope and approach

4. Information for the discussion and analysis of the various topics in this paper are drawn from the informal note by the co-chairs on SBSTA 56 agenda item 14, submissions from Parties and observers, and lessons learned from past practices in developing and implementing web platforms within the secretariat, such as the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) registry, Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) web portal, and the Global Climate Action Portal.

5. This technical paper aims to provide a high-level discussion on the form, target users, and information to be contained for the web-based platform on non-market approaches. Where Parties still have major divergent views in the functionality of the web-based platform, specifically on matching functionality, this paper discusses different models on how the matching functionality could or could not be incorporated. The secretariat would need further guidance from Parties on which model is to be developed.

II. Technical analysis of the specifications for the UNFCCC web-based platform

A. Purpose of the web-based platform for non-market approaches

6. The work programme under the framework for non-market approaches, consistent with the objective referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 39, aims to enhance linkages and create synergy between, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, and to address how to facilitate the implementation and coordination of non-market approaches.

7. In decision 4/CMA.3, the CMA decided to develop and implement tools to facilitate the implementation of non-market approaches, including a UNFCCC web-based platform. This web-based platform shall be used for:

- (a) Recording information on non-market approaches;
- (b) Exchanging information on non-market approaches;

(c) Supporting the identification of opportunities for participating Parties to identify, develop and implement non-market approaches.

8. These purposes will be the basis of the following discussion on form, target users, functions, information to be contained, and other/cross-cutting topics related to the web-based platform.

B. Form of the web-based platform

1. Main components of the platform

9. The web-based platform would include three main structures: the landing page of the web-based platform, the active user interface, and the UNFCCC Customer Relationship Management (CRM) database.

10. The landing page of the web-based platform would be the public interface for the web-based platform and would be part of the public UNFCCC website, allowing for a better alignment with the UNFCCC communication and data security protocols. The landing page would be designed to be user-friendly and easy to navigate, and would contain logical functions displaying several tabs/pages, which may include:

- (a) Information on existing non-market approaches;
- (b) Information hub on resources, displaying links to relevant sites and news;
- (c) Link to the Glasgow Committee website;
- (d) Dashboard section on key figures; and
- (e) Mapping of non-market approaches through a visualization tool.

11. The above-mentioned display elements can be considered as the main display of the web-based platform landing page. Other elements of the platform, such as a dedicated page for needs for support identified by Parties (hereinafter referred to as potential non-market approaches) and for support providers could be included but is dependent on the functionality model that will be designed (see discussion in section D below).

12. Active users to the web-based platform who have the access to upload and edit information and other functionality could primarily do this through an active user interface. This interface would only be accessible to users with access provided by the UNFCCC secretariat as instructed by the national focal point or other appointed representatives to upload new information.

13. The landing page and the active user interface of the web-based platform would be supported by the UNFCCC CRM database, where data will be stored. The CRM is operated and maintained following UNFCCC communication and data security protocols.

2. Accessibility and language

14. As per UNFCCC practice, and indeed wider UN practice, development of the UNFCCC web-based platform must be governed by the principles of accessibility and should cater to the needs of different user groups to ensure that there are no barriers preventing access by and interaction between the platform and the target user. The Department of Global Communications¹ provides guiding principles which follow the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines of the World Wide Web Consortium Web Accessibility Initiative² to ensure the accessibility of UN system content. The guidelines are organized into four guiding principles:

- (a) **Perceivable** information and user interface;
- (b) **Operable** user interface and navigation;
- (c) **Understandable** information and user interface;

¹ <https://www.un.org/en/webaccessibility/index.shtml>

² <https://www.w3.org/WAI/fundamentals/accessibility-principles/>

- (d) **Robust** content and reliable interpretations.

15. These guiding principles would be considered when developing the interface and the functionalities of the web-based platform. Several accessibility considerations were identified for consideration when developing the web-based platform. These include:

- (a) User-friendly interface (Perceivable, Operable, Understandable);
- (b) Platform that is easy to navigate, with logical functions and easily searchable information through the use of keywords (Perceivable, Operable, Understandable, Robust);
- (c) Accessible to users with slow internet connections, including from mobile devices (Operable);
- (d) Ability to filter and sort by the different participants who are involved (Perceivable, Operable, Robust);
- (e) Accessible to non-technical audiences including governments, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector (Perceivable, Understandable, Robust);
- (f) Available in all six UN languages (Perceivable, Understandable, Robust);
- (g) Should be updated regularly as opportunities for cooperation are identified or newly developed (Robust).

16. While accessibility features are paramount in considering the development of the web-based platform, certain features such as the web-based platform being available in multiple languages could mean a more extensive development period and more resource requirements. Parties may wish to consider the resource implications of adding these features.

3. Visual tool for mapping

17. A visual tool for mapping non-market approaches, related financial and technical cooperation, and opportunities for support throughout the world as part of the web-based platform could be considered.

(a) Experiences from other UNFCCC web portals with visual tools for mapping

18. Visual tools can be one way to improve accessibility to ensure perceivable information through text alternatives for non-text content. Indeed, some web platforms administered by the UNFCCC secretariat display a map to visualize the information contained on the platform. For analysis and discussion purposes, the Global Climate Action (GCA)³ portal and the REDD+ web platform⁴ are used as comparative examples. These two web portals provide useful insights on how mapping could be implemented on the web-based platform in terms of the display interface, data collection and map functionality.

19. **Display interface** – The GCA portal uses a map as the primary interface, allowing users to easily visualize actors undertaking voluntary climate action by location and to access high-level information regarding the total number actors engaged, including by stakeholder type. In contrast, the REDD+ web platform uses a map to visualise countries in which REDD+ activities take place but is not the primary feature of the platform. When a country is selected from the map, the users are taken to the country page, which displays the submissions received relevant to the selected country.

20. **Data** – The GCA portal receives climate actions, initiatives and associated data registered from its data partners.⁵ Actors who want to register their initiative in the GCA portal would have to register through their data partner, which is then transmitted periodically to the secretariat to review and upload onto the platform. On the other hand, the REDD+ web platform enables registered users to directly submit information relating to reducing

³ <https://climateaction.unfccc.int/>

⁴ <https://redd.unfccc.int/>

⁵ CDP, d, The Climate Group, Global Investor Coalition on Climate Change, UN Global Compact, Global Covenant of Mayors, Climate Bonds Initiative and the UN Environment's Climate Initiatives Platform.

emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and the information is stored on a database backend. All submissions submitted to the REDD+ web platform require moderator approval before other users can view the submitted information.

21. **Map functionality** – The GCA portal utilizes various filtering options by various actors, locations and regions, and cooperative initiatives for users to easily explore non-state actors and initiatives. The REDD+ portal map has limited functionality.

(b) Visual tool of mapping non-market approaches on the web-based platform

22. The specific virtual tool for mapping on the web-based platform would be dependent on the functionality model that Parties decide to develop. However, there are already elements from the GCA portal and the REDD+ platform that would be drawn upon when developing the visual tool for the web-based platform. Since one of the objectives of the work programme is to involve the broad participation of Parties and non-party stakeholders, the display interface and the filtering options implemented by the GCA portal could be well suited to the visual tool for mapping non-market approaches. The level of detail to be displayed and the different filtering options that could be implemented would depend on what information is to be contained on the portal. For instance, the map could map financial and technical cooperation on existing non-market approaches throughout the world but could also map opportunities for support according to the criteria to be developed for the framework. In terms of data collection, the web-based platform could follow the system implemented by REDD+ in which the data used to display on the map would be taken from the UNFCCC CRM database, where all the information uploaded by active users is stored.

4. Maintenance

23. As part of the secretariat's role in assisting the design, implementation and operationalization of the web-based platform, the platform would be maintained to ensure that it is technically sound and reflects the most up-to-date information on non-market approaches.

C. Target users of the web-based platform

24. The Paris Agreement, and indeed in Decision 4/CMA.3, have broadly identified the target users of the web-based platform. Decision 4/CMA.3, paragraph 5, encourages Parties, public and private sector stakeholders, and civil society organizations to actively engage in the research, development and implementation of non-market approaches. Further, the modalities of the work programmes may include the collaboration of the Glasgow Committee with relevant bodies, institutional arrangements and processes under or related to the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

25. This technical paper categorizes the target users of the web-based platform into passive and active users. These two categories determine the different functionalities that users have access to, such as the ability to upload new non-market approaches and records, to update records, and the like. The two categories of target users are defined as follows:

(a) Passive users are users who can consume/use the information recorded in the platform via the landing-page public site. In general, passive users of the web-based platform are the general public and relevant bodies, institutional arrangements and processes under or related to the Convention and the Paris Agreement;

(b) Active users of the web-based platform are users who can access the web-based platform through the active user interface system, which then allows them to provide information by submitting and updating records on the web-based platform. These users can also consume/use the information recorded in the platform. Active users can often vary between the different platforms that the UNFCCC secretariat maintain. One of the more commonly used platforms and one that has a wide range of active users is the submission and statement portal⁶ and REDD+ web platform, where Parties, Observer States, and non-Party

⁶ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>

stakeholders can upload submissions and statements. In contrast, other platforms such as the NAMA registry⁷ only allow developing country Parties as an active user to upload NAMA records. How active users interact with the web-based platform is further elaborated in Section D of this paper.

2. Active users of the web-based platform

(a) Parties to the Paris Agreement

26. The primary active users of the web-based platform are the Parties to the Paris Agreement. Access rights could be given by the UNFCCC administration to the Parties' national focal points, and, in turn, national focal points could request UNFCCC for access by other representatives if Parties would like to delegate their role to other user(s).

27. Parties may not be currently participating in non-market approaches under the work programme. However, these Parties, through their national focal points, could be given access rights as an active user. This is currently a common practice with other UNFCCC web platforms and would require less administrative time to grant access as and when Parties want to participate in the work programme.

(b) Non-Party stakeholders

28. Decision 4/CMA.3 paragraph 5, encourages Parties, public and private sector stakeholders, and civil society organizations to actively engage in the research, development and implementation of non-market approaches. The co-chairs' informal note published at SBSTA 56 further stated that the web-based platform should be accessible to non-party stakeholders and indeed any end user, including the private sector, civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other non-governmental organizations.

29. Non-party stakeholders could be considered active users to the web-based platform. Depending on which functionality model is to be developed, non-party stakeholders' representatives could be given access to the information hub and upload resources on non-market approaches (refer to paragraph 36(b)) and/or upload information on the provision of means of implementation they are offering to support initiatives (refer to paragraph 51(b)).

3. Relevant bodies, institutional arrangements and processes under or related to the Convention and the Paris Agreement

30. One of the guiding principles in the implementation of the framework for non-market approaches is to enhance the linkages and create synergies between mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building. Within the UNFCCC process, the web-based platform can be a tool to reflect this principle by facilitating the establishment of linkages between other UNFCCC entities such as the Adaptation Committee, the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the Technology Executive Committee, and the Paris Committee on Capacity-building.

31. Other institutional arrangements and its members would be considered passive users to the web-based platforms and could use the information on non-market approaches, including best practices and lessons learned. With the information contained in the web-based platform, other institutional arrangements could consider collaboration with the Glasgow Committee on non-market approaches (e.g. through workshops, technical papers).

4. Role of the secretariat

32. Decision 4/CMA.3, annex, paragraph 8(b)(i), stated that the UNFCCC web-based platform would be developed and implemented with the assistance of the secretariat. In the area of maintaining the web-based platform, the secretariat could:

⁷ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/publicnama/SitePages/Home.aspx>

(a) Develop and maintain the web-based platform – this would be undertaken according to the secretariat business practices and arrangements. The secretariat would provide regular information to Parties in the course of implementation, and would engage with a range of potential active users, including through the provision of interim versions for testing and feedback;

(b) Perform completeness checks of new records before publishing them onto the public interface – this would ensure that the quality of the records submitted by active users are complete and free from errors and adhere to criteria that may be determined by Parties.

D. Functions of the web-based platform

33. This section discusses the various functions of the web-based platform based on the outcomes held during the in-session workshop and the co-chairs' informal note from SBSTA 56. This section presents three functional models for the web-based platform and discusses the key functional differences between these options. These functional models are broadly described as:

(a) Model A: Web-based platform for recording existing non-market approaches;

(b) Model B: Web-based platform for recording existing and potential non-market approaches and support providers;

(c) Model C: Web-based platform for recording existing and potential non-market approaches and support providers with matching functionality.

1. Model A: Web-based platform for recording existing non-market approaches

34. Model A of the web-based platform provides active users the ability to record and exchange information on existing non-market approaches, including non-market approaches and actions based on them, and non-market approaches based on submitted nationally determined contributions (NDCs). It would also include an information hub where active users could upload resources (e.g. links to related web-based platform, tools) on non-market approaches.

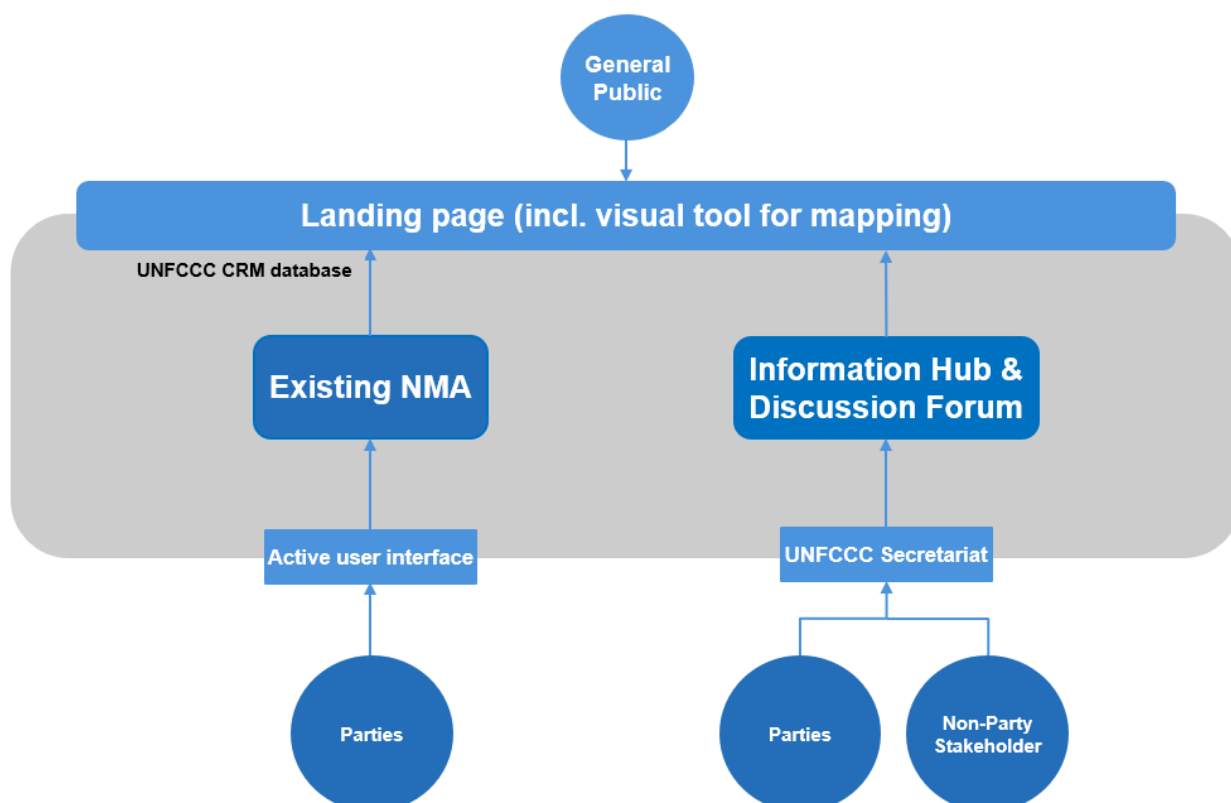


Figure 1: Web-based platform functionality in Model A

(a) Form

35. In model A, the web-based platform would include the three main structures as described in section B paragraph 9 above, and the landing page would include pages described in paragraph 10 above.

(b) Active users in Model A

36. This model would have two groups of active users:

(a) Parties through their UNFCCC focal point who are participating in non-market approaches and want to upload and edit information on their existing non-market approaches;

(b) Parties and non-party stakeholders who want to use the platform to provide resources relevant to their country or organization and could upload and edit the information onto the information hub via the active user interface.

(c) Information to be contained

37. Model A would contain two types of information: information on existing non-market approaches; and available resources relevant to the development and implementation of non-market approaches (e.g. tools, reports, links to initiatives).

38. National focal points can upload basic information on non-market approaches by submitting information through standardized fields, including, but not limited to:

(a) Participating Parties and their contact information;

(b) General description of the non-market approach, including location and date of creation;

(c) Link to external website relevant to the non-market approach;

(d) Description of how the non-market approach aims to promote mitigation and adaptation ambition;

(e) Description of how the non-market approach aims to or has enhanced participation of the public and private sector and civil society organizations in the implementation of NDCs;

(f) Description of how the non-market approaches aims to enable opportunities for coordination across instruments and relevant institutional arrangements;

(g) In relation to elements of paragraph 3(a)-(f) of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3, description of how the non-market approach:

(i) Does not involve the transfer of any mitigation outcomes;

(ii) Facilitates the implementation of NDCs of host Parties and contributes to achieving the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement;

(iii) Is conducted in a manner that respects, promotes and considers respective obligations of Parties on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations, and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity, consistent with the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement;

(iv) Minimizes and, where possible, avoids negative environmental, economic and social impacts;

(h) Keywords and tags, including categorization by focus area(s), categorization between mitigation and adaptation, joint mitigation and adaptation, among others;

(i) Any other information identified by Parties that supports the facilitation of implementation and coordination of the non-market approach identified.

39. Additional information on existing non-market approaches could also be submitted subsequently by the national focal points. These could include:

- (a) Estimated quantitative and/or qualitative outcomes achieved from non-market approaches;
- (b) Best practices and lessons learned in developing and implementing non-market approaches;
- (c) Experiences of existing linkages, synergies, coordination and implementation in relation to non-market approaches;
- (d) Information on how to possibly scale up or replicate non-market approaches given the local, national or regional contexts.

40. In addition to a page for Parties to submit their existing non-market approaches, both Parties and non-Party stakeholders could have access to an information hub. This section would contain useful resources, including learning materials for identifying, developing and implementing non-market approaches, links to specific country information (e.g. NDCs and/or long-term low-emission development strategies), non-Party stakeholder initiatives, and other useful tools.

(d) Process for submission

41. When submitting an existing non-market approach, the national focal point would have to indicate the partner Party/Parties to the non-market approach, consistent with the mandate.⁸ The Parties indicated as partners would be notified immediately through their focal point. This would initiate a process of legitimation by the focal point of the collaborating Party who, with a simple click, would authorize the publication of the status of the collaborating Party of the case. This action prevents any Party from being listed as partner Party of a non-market approach without consent.

(e) Platform utility

42. Information would be easily searchable by any end user. From the UNFCCC landing page, any user could easily search recorded information stored in the CRM database using keywords, lists of registered parameters and attributes through the search tool connected to the UNFCCC CRM database.

43. Likewise, this model has a filtering option that allow users to select a combination of keywords, tags or other attributes. For example, the filter could list the non-market approaches from a Party or list the non-market approaches uploaded in given period or using a specific technology.

(f) Networking

44. In addition to the information hub, this model could include a discussion forum that Parties and non-Party stakeholders could access to facilitate networking between them. In this forum, users could exchange information on non-market approaches and further collaborate in the development of new initiatives, programmes and projects.

45. The REDD+ web platform provides an example of how an interactive discussion forum could be implemented onto the web-based platform.⁹ Another example would be the Forum on the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV)/Transparency helpdesk¹⁰ where experts can discuss key issues, and share experiences, information and resources relevant to the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports. A similar discussion forum could be developed for the web-based platform and be modified and further updated depending on the interest level of Parties.

⁸ As per paragraph 3(b) of the annex to Decision 4/CMA.3, a non-market approach facilitated under the framework involves more than one participating Party.

⁹ Refer to <https://redd.unfccc.int/forum.html?url=%2FphpBB3%2F>

¹⁰ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/transparency/SitePages/Forum.aspx>

(g) Assessment of implementation and costing

46. **Pros** – This model of the web-based platform is the least sophisticated of all the options and therefore has the lowest cost. Despite its simplicity, it allows the public to identify the existing cases of non-market approaches and their details, including their location and attributes. Depending on how the work programme develops, this model can be expanded and improved over time as more experience is gained on the design and implementation of non-market approaches; that is, it allows a modular expansion design. The tasks of commissioning and training the focal points and users are simple.

47. **Cons** – This model allows recording and exchanging information on non-market approaches but has very limited functionality to facilitate the collaboration processes within it.

48. **Implementation time** – A web-based platform with characteristics described in model A can be implemented in a period between six and nine months, subject to the mandate by Parties and availability of resources.

2. Model B: Web-based platform for recording existing and potential non-market approaches and support providers

49. Model B is similar and contains the same functionality as Model A. The difference is that Parties can submit and publish non-market approaches that are at the development stage, that it is understood to be potential non-market approaches in the future (i.e. potential non-market approaches on the basis of country needs). Further, Parties and non-Party stakeholders could also submit and publish information on the provision of support they could offer (i.e. finance, technology or capacity-building). With this added information, this model can help expand the opportunity for collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

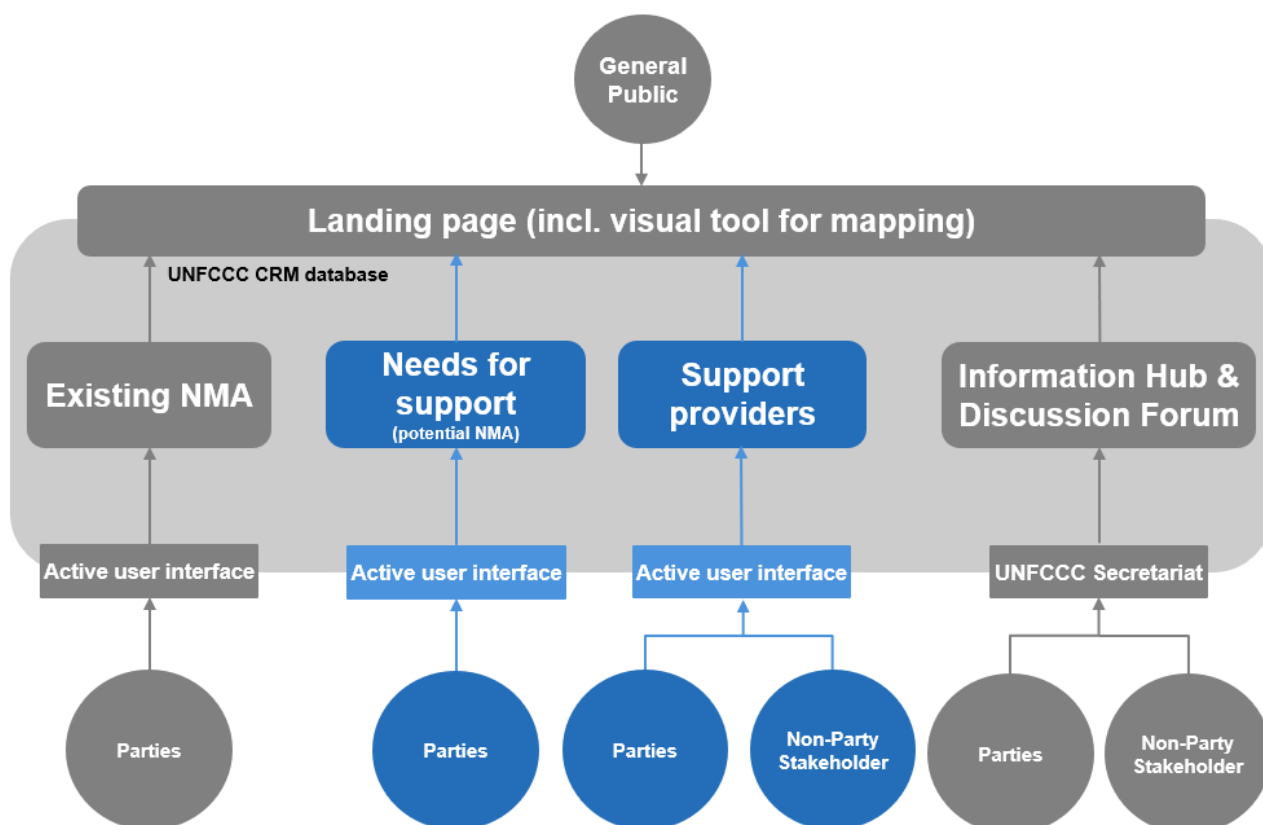


Figure 2: Web-based platform functionality in Model B

(a) Form

50. Like model A, model B of the web-based platform would include the three main structures as described in paragraph 9 above, and the landing page would include pages

described in paragraph 10 above. In addition, this model would add pages displaying information on potential non-market approaches seeking support and information on the provision of means of implementation to support initiatives.

(b) Active users in Model B

51. In addition to the two groups of active users from Model A, Model B would have two additional groups of active users:

(a) Parties seeking support on their needs and the needs of NDCs may want to upload this information on potential non-market approaches through the UNFCCC national focal point;

(b) Parties and non-Party stakeholders who are offering opportunities for support may want to use the platform to upload information on the provision of means of implementation to support initiatives.

(c) Information to be contained

52. In addition to the information to be contained in Model A, Model B would contain two additional types of information: information on potential non-market approaches and information on the provision of means of implementation.

53. Potential non-market approaches are considered to be non-market approaches that do not have another Party/Parties. The information on potential non-market approaches would be similar to those submitted under existing non-market approaches except that there is only one Party submitting the record. Further, because these potential non-market approaches are seeking support on their needs and needs of NDCs, the information to be contained would have to include specific information and criteria on needs for Parties and non-party stakeholders who are offering opportunities for support.

54. Parties and non-Party stakeholders who are offering opportunities for support should include the information on the type of support being offered (finance, technology or capacity building), their contact details, and any criteria relevant to receiving support.

(d) Process for submission

55. When Parties submit potential non-market approaches, the national focal point would not need to indicate who the partner Party/Parties is/are since potential non-market approaches only consist of one party. In this case, the platform would have to differentiate between the process of uploading a potential non-market approach and an existing non-market approach. This could be achieved by a simple indicator in the platform where the national focal point can select the type of non-market approach to be uploaded at the start of the upload process.

(e) Platform utility

56. The platform utility available for Model B would be similar to those offered in Model A. However, the search functionality and filtering options would reflect the new types of information.

(f) Networking

57. The networking functionality in Model B is similar to that described in Model A. Refer to the discussion in paragraphs 44 and 45.

(g) Assessment of implementation and costs

58. **Pros** – Compared to the Model A, this Model has a broader scope, as it displays potential non-market approaches and provision of means of implementation. This would create a platform which further supports collaboration and networking. It also creates a higher total number of cases on the platform than the previous Model, which can attract more attention.

59. **Cons** – The model has a higher level of complexity than the previous one, with the addition of the new category of case or potential non-market approach, for which it has some additional functions that would somewhat increase the level of technical complexity of the platform.

60. **Implementation time** – A web-based platform with characteristics described in model B can be implemented in a period between six and nine months, subject to the mandate by Parties and availability of resources.

3. Model C: Web-based platform for recording existing and potential non-market approaches and support providers with matching functionality

Model C includes all the functionalities of Models A and B together but has expanded scope that allows assisted collaboration through active matching functionality that is built into the functions and/or operation of the web-based platform not only with and between the participating Parties but also with non-Party stakeholders who want to provide technical and financial support.

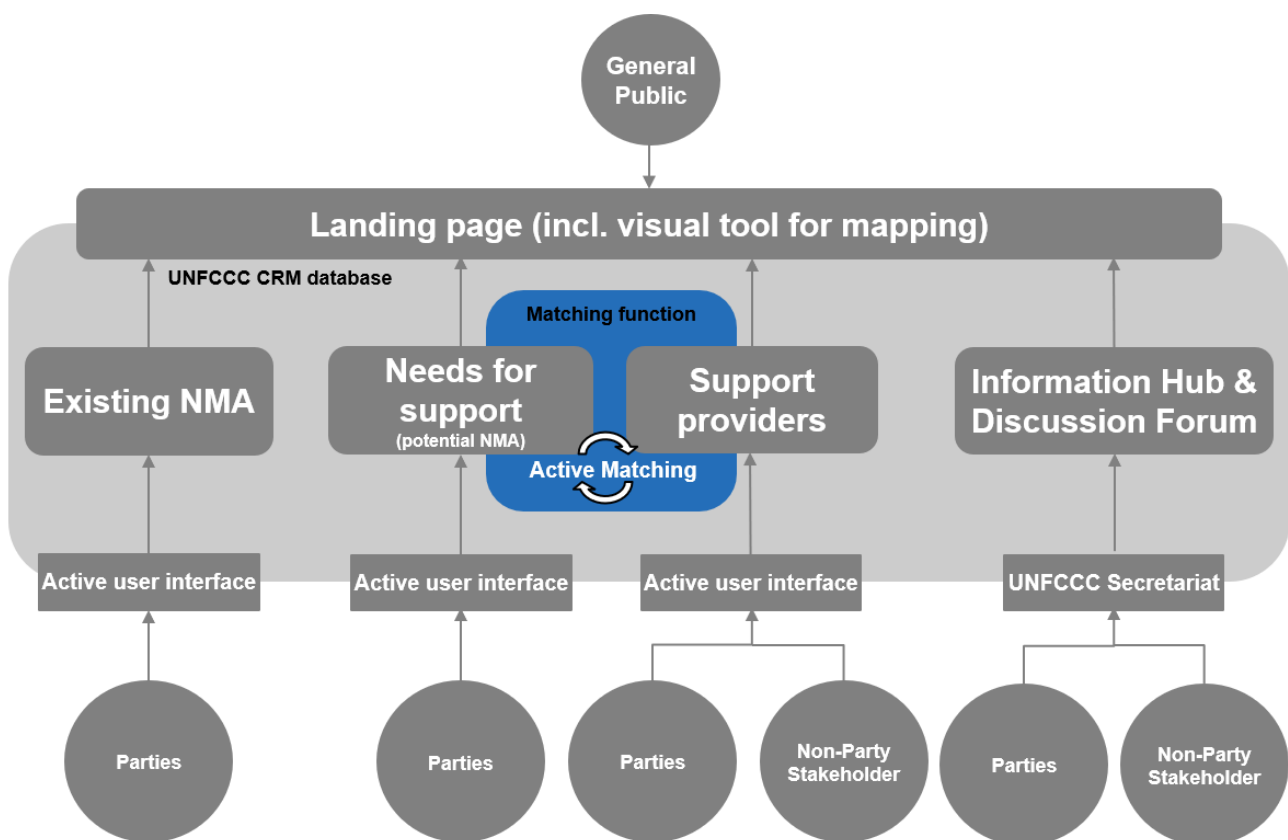


Figure 3: Web-based platform functionality in Model C

(a) Form

61. The form in Model C would be similar to that of Models A + B.

(b) Active users in Model C

62. The active users in Model C would be similar to those of Model B.

(c) Information to be contained

63. The information to be contained in Model C would be similar to that of Model B.

(d) Process for submission

64. The process for submission in Model C would be similar to that of Model B.

(e) Platform utility

65. The platform utility available in Model C would be similar to that of Models A + B.

(f) Networking

66. The networking functionality in Model C would be similar to that described in Models A + B (please refer to discussion in paragraphs 44 and 45 above).

(g) Matching functionality

67. To assist Parties and non-Party stakeholder to collaborate in non-market approaches and to identify opportunities for participating Parties to identify, develop and implement non-market approaches, the informal note by the co-chairs listed matching functions between the needs and the provision of means of implementation (finance, technological transfer or capacity building) to support initiatives and generate new programme. This section provides a brief discussion on how this matching functionality would be implemented in the web-based platform.

68. The matching functionality in this model could function in three different ways:

(a) **Manual** – In this sub-model, by submitting a potential non-market approach, the focal point can identify a potential partner (Party or non-Party stakeholder) and communicate and invite the potential partner directly over the platform. If potential partners respond and express interest in exploring areas of collaboration for the potential non-market approach, the matching is marked as successful. The potential non-market approach is then closed and recorded as an existing non-market approach as required. Progress made between the focal point and collaborators will be reported manually and voluntarily by the focal point over the platform and made visible to public;

(b) **Hybrid** – This sub-model works similarly to the manual matching function above, but functionality is added where one or more Parties and/or collaborators not identified by the focal point of the case can send a message to the focal point offering support. Additionally, the secretariat can proactively and manually facilitate matching between the network of Parties and collaborators of the non-market approach based on given criteria. Similar to the model above, if contributors respond and express interest in exploring areas of collaboration for the potential non-market approach, the matching is successful and then the matching case is closed and the non-market approach records are updated on a regular basis as required. Progress between the focal point and collaborators will be reported manually and voluntarily by the focal point over the platform and made visible to the public;

(c) **Fully automated** – This sub-model has a high level of automation. Through the submission of the potential case by the focal point, the platform performs matching tasks using algorithms and artificial intelligence systems (e.g. deep search, machine learning). In other words, it can predict the association between actors according to certain patterns and algorithms. In the case of machine learning, the expansion of cases in the platform will give the system the ability to "learn" from data analysis in order to identify patterns and support decision-making with minimal human intervention; people and machines work hand in hand. Once the system has performed the matching operation, an automatic notification will be sent to the focal point with a list of potential matches. The focal point will then select suitable options and contact the collaborating entities through the platform. Similar to the manual and hybrid models above, if contributors respond and express interest in exploring areas of collaboration for the potential non-market approach, the matching is marked as successful. The matching case is then closed, and the non-market approach records are updated on a regular basis as required. Progress made between the focal point and collaborators will be reported manually and voluntarily by the focal point over the platform and made visible to the public.

(h) Assessment of implementation and costs

69. **Pros** – Model C enables and facilitates collaboration between Parties and makes the most active actors visible, which can be an incentive for those who commit to and show leadership with the non-market approaches.

70. **Cons** – Model C is more complex than Models A and B above and therefore has a much higher implementation cost than expanding from manual to fully automated. There may be some challenges regarding taxonomy issues related to non-market approaches, for example noting that artificial intelligence algorithms require accurate and systematic use of definitions that are not yet available. There may also be unforeseen challenges, for example in cases where some of the identified collaborators choose not to collaborate and whether such decision is going to be made visible and reported. In addition, these very sophisticated functions depend on the volume of data. If the databases are not expanded rapidly by the focal points, the cost of this solution does not bring commensurate benefits.

71. **Implementation time** – If Parties decide on this model and resources are available, a platform with these characteristics may be implemented in a period between 9 and 24 months. In this case, due to the degree of sophistication, the system architecture would require numerous various interactions between the system developer, the client, and the project sponsor, especially the fully automated matching model.

4. Ad-hoc reporting

72. Across all the three models discussed above, the web-based platform would have a reporting functionality that is supported by the UNFCCC CRM database, where users can extract and aggregate the data contained. The reporting functionality would also assist in extracting, aggregating and reporting on the progress of outcomes of the work programme to be reported at each session of the CMA, as appropriate, on the basis of the information resulting from implementation of the work programme activities.

5. Comparison of functional models for the web-based platform

73. Table 1 below provides a summary of the different functionality models.

Functionality	Model A	Model B	Model C		
			Manual	Hybrid	Fully automated
Landing page	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Information hub	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Discussion forum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Visual tool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Parties	Parties	Parties	Parties	Parties
Active users	Non-Party Stakeholder	Non-Party Stakeholder	Non-Party Stakeholder	Non-Party Stakeholder	Non-Party Stakeholder
		Support Providers	Support Providers	Support Providers	Support Providers
	Secretariat	Secretariat	Secretariat	Secretariat	Secretariat
Search tool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Filtering tool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reporting tool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Matching	×	×	Manual	Hybrid	Automated (Artificial Intelligence)
Implementation time (months)*	6 to 9	9 to 12	9 to 12	12 to 15	12 to 24
Resource implications**	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	Very High

* Subject to availability of resources

** Cost to build based on model selected includes IT services, business analysis, development, licenses, back-end, front-end; it does not include cost related to secretariat staff.

Table 1: Summary and comparison of three functionality models for the web-based platform

E. Other considerations

1. Linking the platform and the centralized accounting and reporting platform of Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement

74. The cooperative approaches under Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement provide an accounting framework for international cooperation and allow for the international transfer of carbon credits between countries. To support transparency in relation to the cooperative approaches and to support the Article 6 technical expert review, the secretariat will establish and maintain a centralized accounting and reporting platform (CARP) for publishing information submitted by participating Parties.

75. The Article 6, paragraph 8, web-based platform could link with the centralized accounting and reporting platform of Article 6.2 to ensure that there is no transaction or possibility of transaction of mitigation outcomes. As the CARP is still early in development, a link with the Article 6, paragraph 8, web-based platform may not be possible. As both the web-based platform and the CARP progress in their development cycle, this link could be further explored.

76. However, it is noted that the types of entries for non-market approaches recorded in the web-based platform would be significantly different to the activities reported by Parties available on the CARP. Linking the two platforms for the purposes of cross-checking, to ensure that no overlap in such activities, would add additional complexity. Other analytical tools are available that would allow such cross-checking to be performed and reported to the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches as required without the need for a direct linking between the two platforms.

Annex I

Description of other UNFCCC web platforms

A. The Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions Registry and supporting platforms

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its sixteenth session (COP16), decided to set up a registry to record nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) seeking international support, to facilitate the matching of finance, technology and capacity-building support with these actions, and to recognize other NAMAs. Participation is voluntary and only information that has been specifically requested for recording in the NAMA Registry is found in this platform. The NAMA Registry has not been designed to perform functions of measurement, reporting and verification of mitigation actions and support.

2. In addition to the official UNFCCC NAMA Registry, there are numerous other databases that provide information on the development status of NAMAs. One of these databases is the NAMA database maintained by Ecofys. It includes both planned measures and NAMAs that are already being implemented. As announced during the climate negotiations 2012 in Doha, Qatar, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy of the United Kingdom jointly established the NAMA Facility. In 2013, they jointly contributed an initial EUR 69 million of funding to support developing countries and emerging economies that show leadership in tackling climate change and that want to implement ambitious climate protection measures (NAMAs).

B. The Global Action Portal

3. The Global Climate Action Portal is an online platform where actors from around the globe – countries, regions, cities, companies, investors and other organizations – can display their commitments to act on climate change.

4. Launched by UN Climate Change, Peru and France in 2014, the portal was borne of the realization that addressing climate change will take ambitious, broad-based action from all segments of society, public and private.

5. Crucially, it helped build momentum towards the adoption of the Paris Climate Agreement 2015. With the portal's formal inclusion in the Decision Text of the Agreement, countries welcomed the efforts of all actors to scale up their climate actions and encouraged them to register these actions via the Global Climate Action Portal.

6. The aim is to present a clear, comprehensive view of global climate action, recognizing actors and inspiring still greater ambition, for the good of current and future generations.

C. The REDD+ Web Platform

7. The COP invited Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders to share outcomes, experiences and lessons learned from their efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+). The REDD+ Web Platform, mandated by the COP in decision 2/CP.13, was established with the purpose of making available such information on the outcomes of activities relating to REDD+, including activities on capacity building, demonstration activities, addressing drivers of deforestation, and mobilization of resources.

8. Since the launch of the REDD+ Web Platform after COP13, both the COP and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) have recognized the platform as a useful tool and have mandated additional functions to be developed.

D. The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform Web Portal

9. The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) is an open and inclusive space and brings together people and their knowledge systems to build a climate-resilient world for all.

10. In accordance with the Paris Agreement and Decision 1/CP.21, climate change is a common concern of humankind. When taking action to address climate change, the respective obligations on, inter alia, the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities should be respected, promoted and considered.

11. The COP has recognized the need to strengthen knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of indigenous peoples and local communities related to addressing and responding to climate change. In this context, the LCIPP was established for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner.

E. The UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub

12. The UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub (UGIH) was launched by UN Climate Change at COP26 in November 2021 to promote transformative innovations for a low-emission and climate-resilient future. The hub promotes a “moon shot approach” which will assist practitioners to base climate action pledges and commitments on what science says is needed, as opposed to what is perceived as possible with current solutions and technologies.

13. The UGIH is a collaborative space consisting of two parts: a physical hub (where participants can share ideas around climate action innovation) at each year’s COP (the first Hub took place at COP26 in Glasgow), and an online hub which will eventually feature a range of innovative climate action solutions.

14. An online hub prototype will be launched at COP27 and will have the following functionalities:

(a) Capability to build a database of demand for climate solutions from challenges, Long-term Low Emissions and Development Strategies, pledges, net-zero targets, and green post-COVID 19 recovery;

(b) Automated specification of the climate solutions that could be effective in addressing a specific demand for climate solutions;

(c) Deep search in any other existing open climate solution databases connected via Application Programming Interface.
