



BTR review newsletter

1 October 2025

Version 1.0



What's happened in the last six months and what's to come!

Welcome to the second edition of the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) Review Newsletter, providing insights into the latest developments, achievements, and priorities as we continue implementing the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement.

From April to September 2025, the review process gained significant momentum. With the ETF now fully operational, we successfully launched the second wave of technical expert reviews of BTRs. Engagement from Parties across all regions continues to demonstrate the universal commitment to transparency.

These reviews are not only delivering critical insights on progress toward nationally determined contributions (NDCs), but also support Parties in identifying needs, strengthening institutional capacity, and attracting targeted support.

While the first year of BTR reviews has shown that the processes and procedures are functioning effectively, we also acknowledge

the challenges encountered—ranging from systems and coordination to financial resources and timelines. These challenges are being addressed through innovation, resource mobilization, continued collaboration, and learning. The experience so far has reaffirmed the critical importance of sustained engagement, knowledge exchange, and mutual support among Parties, experts, relevant stakeholders, and partner institutions.

As we move into the second year of the first BTR cycle, I would like to sincerely thank all stakeholders for their active and meaningful participation. Your commitment, cooperation, and partnership are essential to the success of this transformative process and to building a robust, credible, and inclusive global transparency system.

Xuehong Wang,
Director, Transparency division

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Review updates

In 2024, 3 in-country reviews were completed.* From February to May 2025, another 29 reviews were completed, with 25 being in-country (IC) and 4 being centralized reviews (CRs). In September 2025, 8 more reviews were completed (7 ICs and 1 CR).** These 40 reviews included 4 voluntary reviews of information on climate change impacts and adaptation and 3 technical analyses of REDD+ results.

By December 2025, 10 additional reviews are

* 'Completed' refers to completion of the review week.

** See <https://unfccc.int/documents/645840>.

expected to be completed. Preparations to schedule reviews for the first half of 2026 are currently underway. 11 technical expert review reports have already been published, initiating the facilitative multilateral consideration of progress (FMCP) process for those Parties.

We wish to express our gratitude to all Parties, lead reviewers, technical experts, and partner institutions who have continued to collaborate with us. Your commitment and dedication have been instrumental in ensuring that the reviews proceed smoothly and effectively.



Submission status

As at 30 September 2025, 88 Parties had submitted BTRs by 31 December 2024, with an additional 22 Parties submitting in 2025, bringing the total to 110.

By region, Western European and Other States submitted 29 BTRs, representing 97% of Parties in that group. This is followed by Eastern Europe (70% of Parties), Latin America and the Caribbean (61%), Asia-Pacific (45%) and Africa (38%).* Out of 110 BTRs, 6 BTRs were received from LDCs, 9 from SIDS, 2 from Parties that are both LDCs and SIDS, and the remaining 93 BTRs were from Parties that are neither LDCs nor SIDS.



News and developments

To facilitate adequate preparation, kindly be informed of the following upcoming activities related to the BTR review process:

- Technical Expert Review Annual Report—November 2025
- ETF Review Information Session and Side Event—November 2025 (TBC)
- Second half of 2025 wrap up article in UNFCCC newsroom—December 2025
- Enhancing BTR reviews through innovation and regional collaboration—2026

* The regional groupings are based on the United Nations Statistics Division classification ([M49](#)) Methodology.

Team composition

As at 30 September 2025, the secretariat has composed 44 teams of technical experts and, to the extent possible, fulfilled all the criteria outlined in paragraphs 175–182 of [decision 18/CMA.1](#).

The secretariat's ability to meet the mandated criteria for team composition was constrained by the increasing number of experts nominated by developed country Parties who declined to participate due to limited funding and competing professional commitments.



as at 30 September 2025



International experts convened in September 2025 for the centralized review of China's first BTR

Capacity-building highlights



A convergent set of capacity-building needs were identified in the first Biennial Transparency Reports from Andorra, Guyana, Kazakhstan, Panama, South Africa, and Türkiye, as well as during the technical expert reviews. Common themes include the need to strengthen national data collection systems and institutional arrangements to enhance the completeness and quality of GHG inventories.

All Parties emphasized the

importance of conducting uncertainty analysis and reinforcing QA/QC procedures.

Another shared priority is enhancing technical capacity for developing GHG emission projections and tracking progress towards NDC targets, highlighting the need for improved modeling tools, scenario analysis, and indicator frameworks to better monitor mitigation outcomes.

Useful links

- [Submitted BTRs and technical expert review reports](#)
- [Reviews conducted to date](#)
- [Training programme for BTR technical expert reviewers](#)
- [ETF reporting tools help page](#)
- [Simplified review reports 2025](#)
- [Second lead reviewers meeting conclusions](#)
- [FMCP website](#)
- [REDD+ newsletter](#)



Party representatives at SB62 (June 2025) side event on achievements, challenges, and lessons learned from BTR reviews

Stories of impact: Building trust, gaining clarity

What Parties are saying about BTR reviews

Survey feedback collected from Parties that have completed their reviews reveals a common theme: the technical expert review process is not merely about fulfilling requirements—it's a powerful tool for learning, capacity-building, and strengthening national system.

Several Parties shared that the clarity provided by expert recommendations has helped them identify technical gaps, refine their reporting methodologies, and align more closely with the modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs) under the Paris Agreement. "Thanks to the direct exchange with the review team, we know exactly how to implement the recommendations—this ensures our next report will truly improve," one Party shared.

Beyond technical gains, the reviews are contributing to broader institutional benefits. The review process also served as a valuable

capacity-building opportunity for experts themselves, strengthening their technical skills and enabling them to better inform BTR preparation and reviews in their own countries.

Parties shared that enhanced awareness of transparency processes among national stakeholders, stronger inter-agency coordination, and increased motivation for domestic experts to become qualified reviewers. The review has also laid the groundwork for formalizing and reinforcing existing institutional arrangements for transparency.

These insights confirm that the BTR review process is delivering on its promise: building trust through transparency, and helping Parties move from reporting to results. As we enter into the second year of reviews in 2026, these stories of impact serve as a testament to what can be achieved through collaboration, clarity, and commitment to continuous improvement.

Thank you for reading!

**REPORTING & REVIEW
SUBDIVISION**

ETFREVIEWS@UNFCCC.INT

<https://unfccc.int/Transparency>

Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn, Germany



United Nations
Climate Change

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