



## **Training Workshop on Building confidence and capacity in the preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports**

13 – 14 May 2024  
Baku, Azerbaijan

### Introduction

With a view to contributing to on-going efforts of developing country Parties to prepare and finalize their Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and achieve universal participation in the Enhanced Transparency Framework, the incoming COP29 Presidency, with the support of the UNFCCC secretariat and in collaboration with UNDP, organized a training workshop from 13 to 14 May 2024, in Baku, Azerbaijan in hybrid format. Under the banner of [Together4Transparency](#), the workshop united Parties and support providers in joining forces in preparation for the ETF, in particular the submission of BTRs this year. Participants included representatives of around 40 Parties, UN agencies and international financial institutions.

### Summary of proceedings

The Chief Negotiator for COP29 Presidency, Mr. Yalchin Rafiyev, provided the opening remarks followed by Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan, Ms. Umayra Taghiyeva. The UNFCCC Director of Transparency Division, Mr. Donald Cooper, and the UNDP COP29 Focal Point for RBEC, Mr. Nuri Ozbagdatli, completed the opening session.

Speakers, in their opening remarks, emphasized how important climate transparency is to the Paris Agreement, as it allows us to track progress towards our collective goals, build trust and confidence, unlock finance, and identify areas where we need to accelerate action. Moreover, the COP29 Presidency encouraged all Parties to prepare and submit their first BTRs well ahead of COP29 if possible. It also encouraged international organizations to provide technical support to Parties in enabling activities, including the preparation of BTRs, to speed up the process.

The workshop, facilitated the exchange of experiences and lessons learned, and contributed to building the confidence of developing countries to prepare and submit their BTRs in a timely manner through:



- Sharing of experiences and lessons learned under the Convention by developed countries, demonstrating that their ability to prepare and submit a quality report was a result of capacity-development accumulated over 20 years and that their expectations for the quality of the reports to be submitted reflect the different starting points and experiences to date with reporting under the Convention;
- Enhanced understanding of the key reporting provisions for the preparation of BTRs, including the specific flexibility provisions available to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities. Through one session on flexibility participants were able to recognize the fact that Parties have different starting points and, as a result, time is needed for developing countries to incrementally improve their capacity. The enhanced understanding of the flexibility provisions reassured developing countries that these provisions provide them time and space to improve the quality of their report over time;
- Improved understanding of the key reporting provisions through sharing of experiences and lessons learned in preparing: national inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases; information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined (NDCs) contributions under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement; information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement; information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building (FTC) support received and needed under Article 9-11 of the Paris Agreement;
- Increased familiarity with the ETF reporting tools, through live demonstration sessions of each of the three new ETF reporting tools (national GHG inventory; tracking progress of NDCs; and support needed and received). These live demos showed that the reporting tools are intuitive and easy to use;
- Promoting networking between countries that face challenges and entities which have a potential to provide support.

The highly interactive discussions over two days highlighted the following:

- Most countries present at the workshop are in the process of preparing their BTRs and are on track to complete the technical work in time for submission;
- While most countries highlighted technical challenges that they continue to face, none of those challenges were to the degree that would impede them from completing their BTR;
- Most countries envisage to make use of the flexibility provisions to a varying degree. However, there were an emerging common theme, which includes time-series and uncertainty assessments of national GHG inventories, projections of GHG emissions and removals, quantification of the impacts of policies and measures in terms of avoided/reduced GHG emissions, etc.

Newsroom article of the event can be found [here](#).