

PART B:

**Briefing on the implementation of the UNFCCC budget 2020-21
and the secretariat structure**

by the UNFCCC secretariat

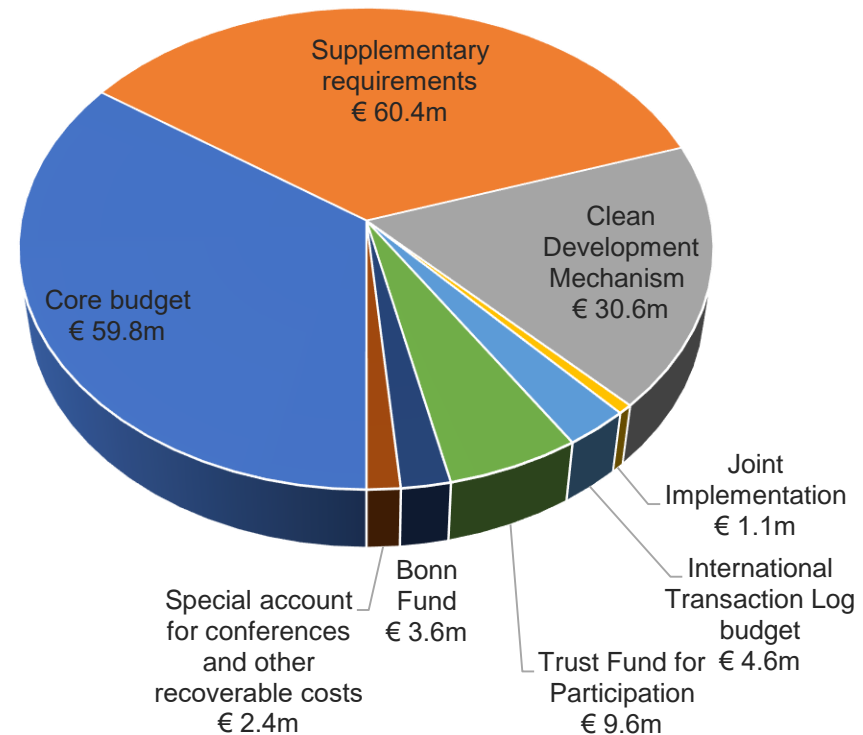
Bonn, November 2020



Overall implementation of the 2020-2021 biennium budget

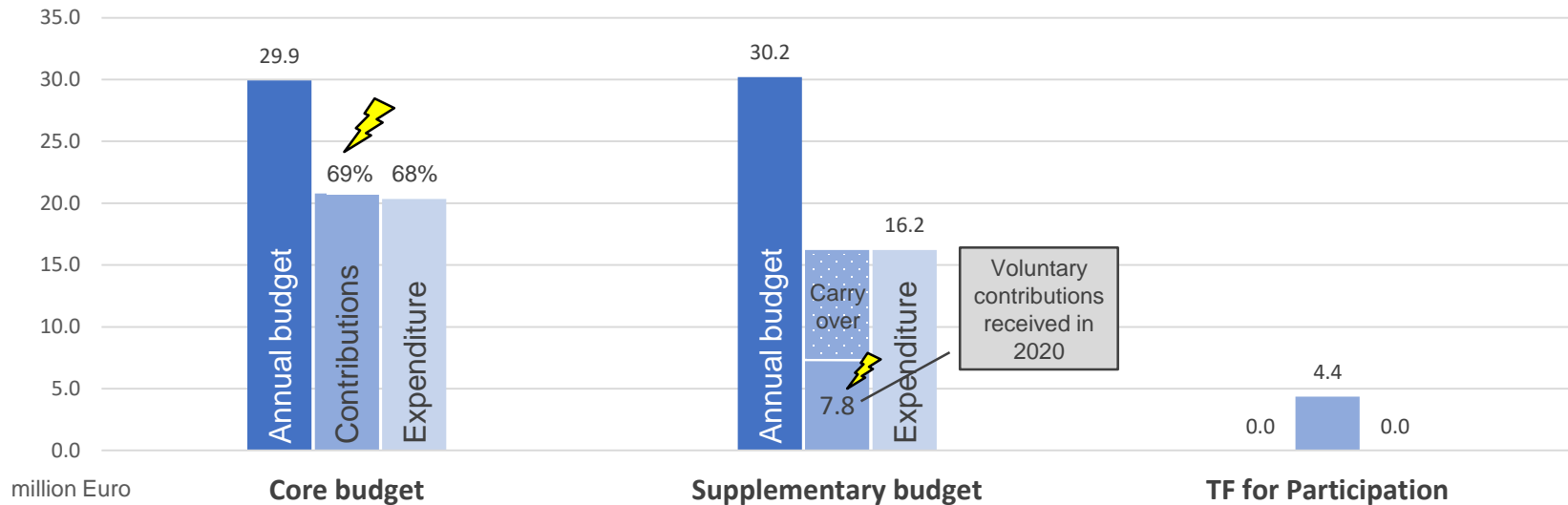


- **Total integrated budget for 2020-2021 under all sources of funding: EUR 172m**
- **Approved core budget: EUR 59.8m**
- **Total non-core budget: EUR 112m**
- **Total number of budgeted posts** under all sources of funding are **498** as follows:
 - **179.5 (2020), 180.5 (2021) in core**
 - 85 (2020), 78 (2021) posts approved under the CDM MAP
 - 107 posts to be funded from supplementary sources
 - 102 posts from overheads/cost-recovery



Financial Status 2020

– Core budget, Supplementary budget & Trust Fund for Participation –



- Outstanding contributions are EUR 9.2m
- Expected expenditure rate for 2020: 80-83%

- Voluntary contributions remain low in 2020 and are far below the biennial requirements
- Expenditure is in line with funding level

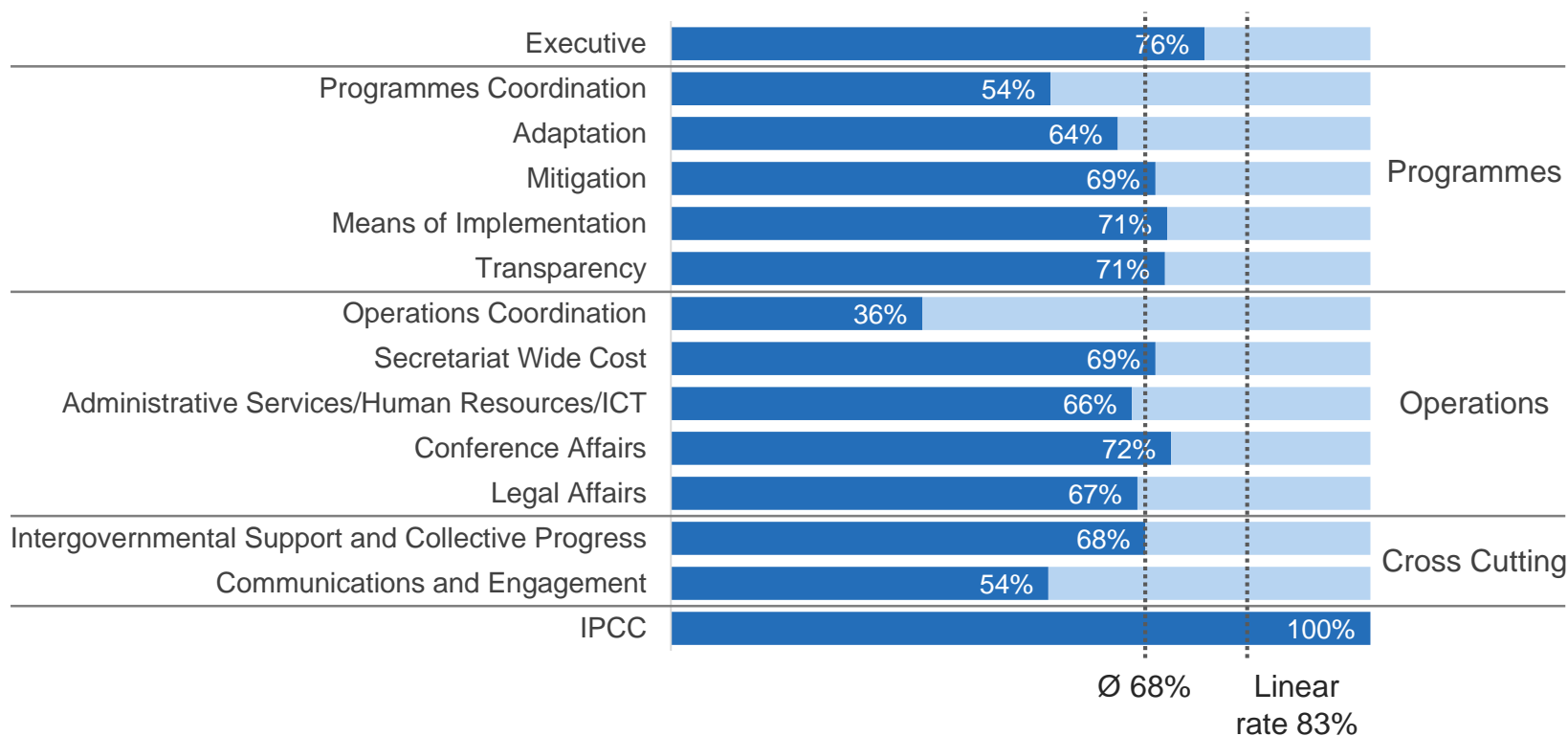
- All sessions postponed
- Contribution balance will be carried forward to 2021

As at 31.10.2020 in million **EUR**



Core expenditure rate by division/appropriation line

The average expenditure rate of 68% is distributed evenly across most divisions. Under-expenditure of a few divisions is due to vacant positions which currently are under recruitment.

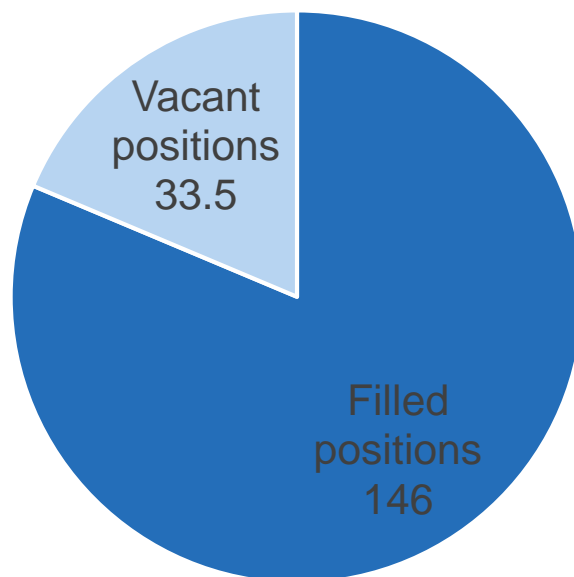


As at 31.10.2020



Core staffing and vacancies

As at 31.10.2020

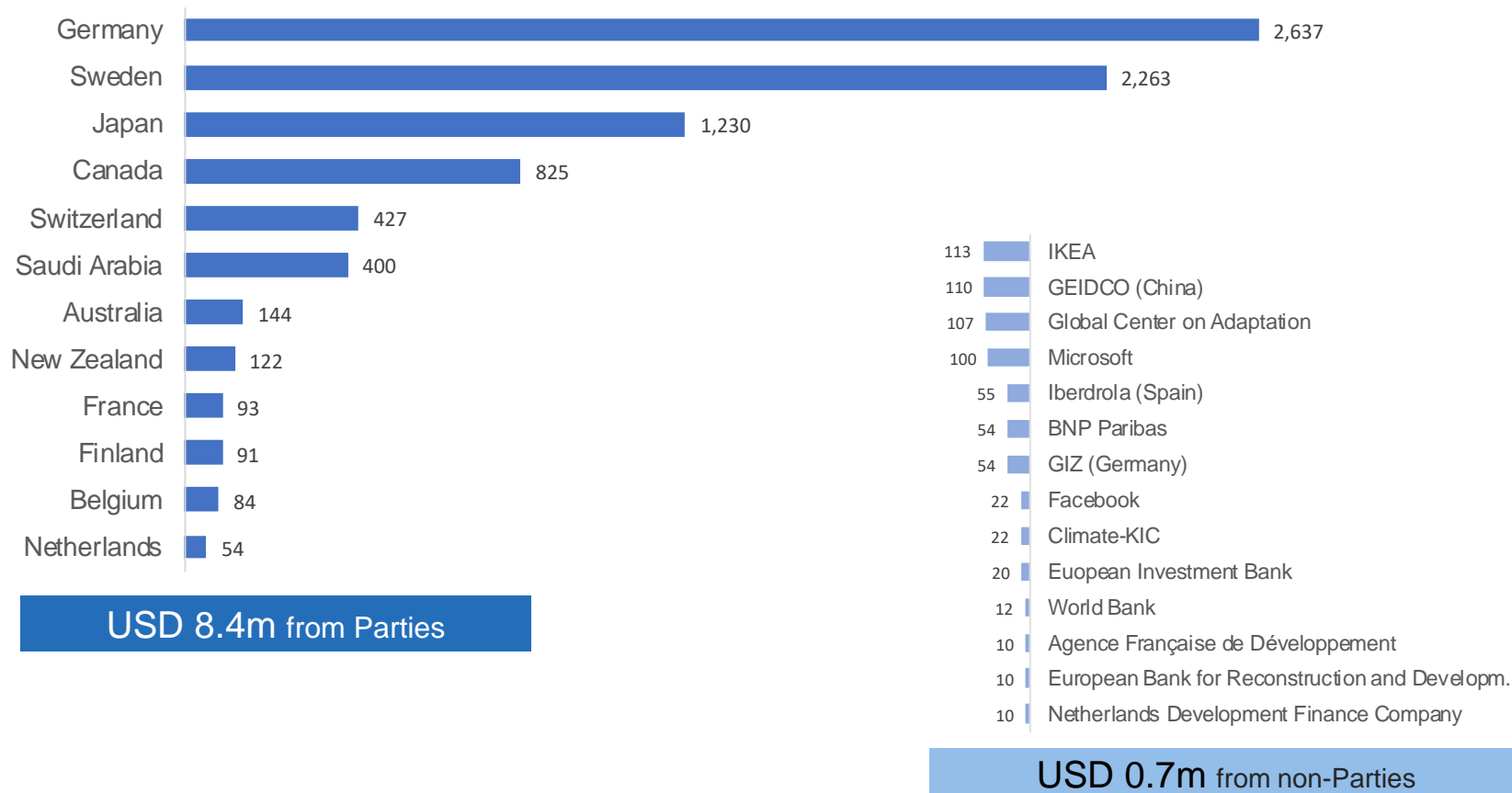


Approved core positions are vacant due to a combination of funding constraints and recruitment of vacant core posts pending the conclusion of the structure review implementation.

Supplementary Budget

– USD 9 million voluntary contributions received in 2020 –

As at 15.11.2020 in thousand USD



Financial implications due to COVID-19 based on actual expenditures as at 31 October 2020

- Continuous monitoring and review of programmatic activities across all divisions to find alternative ways of collaboration and delivering on the work programme.
- Impacts on the core budget are being closely monitored; resource requirements for supplementary projects are regularly re-assessed and shared with Parties for support.
- Staff costs and contractual services increased due to need for short-term staffing to cater for the changed modalities due to the COVID-19. Supplies/materials remain mostly unchanged.
- Travel costs reduced significantly due to travel restrictions. Savings in the amount of EUR 1.7m in core budget were used to cover short-term staffing needs.
- ICT costs increased due to shift to virtual platform solutions. These increased costs were mostly covered from supplementary funding.

High-level overview of activities implemented in 2020



High-level overview of activities implemented in 2020, organized following the new secretariat structure:

- Executive division
- Intergovernmental support and collective progress division
- Communication and Engagement division
- Programmes coordination department
 - Adaptation division
 - Mitigation division
 - Transparency division
 - Means of Implementation division
- Operations coordination department
 - Administrative Services, Human Resources, & Information and Communication Technology (AS/HR/ICT) division
 - Conference Affairs (CA) division
 - Legal Affairs (LA) division

Executive Division

- Continued to provide strategic and policy guidance and administrative/operational oversight to the secretariat.
- Through active engagement and participation with UN Bonn-based agencies, ensured that appropriate safety and wellbeing measures were implemented in the interest of UNFCCC staff. Undertook regular contact with individual staff and collective communication on the evolution of the impact of the pandemic on the work of the secretariat and the process.
- The ES continued to engage in high-level political engagements to ensure that the momentum to address all aspects of UNFCCC mandated work remains high on global platforms.
- Provided guidance on the changes introduced in the working methods of UNFCCC process to continue making progress under the framework as the COVID 19 crisis continued.
- Kept close contact with Presidencies, Presiding Officers and Party delegations, as well as non-Party stakeholders, through various fora during this period of the pandemic.
- Ensured effective outreach through media channels of the UNFCCC, as well as those of the UN secretariat and UN organizations to leverage the importance of implementing the Paris Agreement, as well as the need to place climate change at the center of the recovery efforts.
- Worked closely with SG, DSG and key UN entities such as UNDP, UNEP, WMO and DESA to ensure the alignment of strategic objectives and communication. Also worked with the SG 's Climate Action Team to provide expert advice and inputs for the SG and DSG climate-related engagements.
- Continued driving the preparations for COP 26.



Intergovernmental Support and Collective Progress division (1/2)

Intergovernmental Support subdivision

Enabling the functioning of the intergovernmental climate change process

Supporting the COP 25 Presidency, the COP 26 Incoming-Presidency and the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies

- Weekly coordination meetings to identify opportunities to maximize progress and minimize delay in the intergovernmental process
- Organizing and supporting over 100 informal consultations with the Presiding Officers and Parties on procedural and substantive issues
- Organizing and supporting the June Momentum for Climate Change and the Climate Change Dialogues November/December 2020

Supporting the COP 25/CMP15/CMA2 Bureau:

5 Bureau meetings and 1 informal briefing

Building a roadmap towards COP 26:

Coordinated the launch of the Climate Hub 360

External Relations:

Maintaining channels of communication and relationships with Parties and observer States Diplomatic Missions and United Nations organizations



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



Collective progress subdivision

Facilitating consideration of Collective Progress

Second periodic review of the long-term global goal

- Facilitating virtual consultations by the SB Chairs on the Review
- Briefing of IPCC and constituted bodies
- Supporting the Co-Facilitators of the Structured Expert Dialogue (SED)
- Preparing for the first meeting of the SED

Research, systematic observation and science

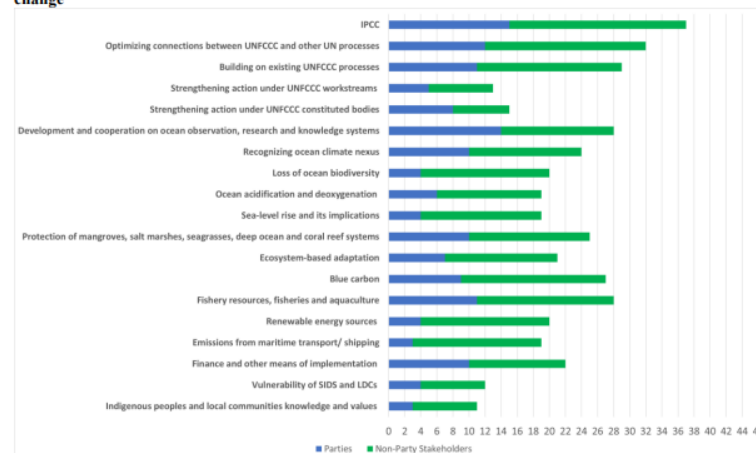
- SBSTA Chair informal meeting with the scientific community
- Meeting of the SBSTA–IPCC Joint Working Group
- Preparation of the Research Dialogue, Earth Information Day, Land and Ocean Dialogues to be convened during Climate Dialogues

MESSAGE TO PARTIES

The Structured Expert Dialogue on the second periodic review of the long-term global goal and the progress towards achieving it

I am pleased to convey to the Parties to the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, a joint message from Ms. Tara Shine and Mr. Xiang Gao, co-facilitators of the Structured Expert Dialogue on the second periodic review of the adequacy of the long-term global goal and the overall progress made towards achieving it.

Major themes mentioned in the 47 submissions to inform the dialogue on the ocean and climate change



Q2: Using a maximum of 3 words, what are the research opportunities that you feel need to be explored to support a sustainable recovery?



Intergovernmental engagement

Marrakech Partnership: biannual work programme, Party consultations and launch of Race to Zero campaign (June Momentum)

Race to Zero November Dialogues: 90 events across 10 thematic areas

Climate Action Pathways: 8 thematic pathways, with recommendations to enhance ambition and accelerate implementation of NDCs

Intergovernmental process

ACE: virtual events: 4 regional, 2 global, 2 youth climate action events in the African region, published synthesis report and information note

Gender: 13 virtual workshops, gender composition report and UN SWAP report, gender information package for constituted body members

Observers: participation in June Momentum including with SB Chairs, assessed 200 applications for admission



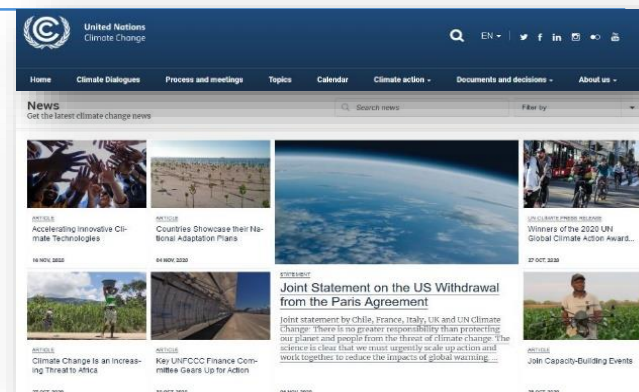
Communication and Engagement division (2/2)

Enhance engagement

- **Communication:** Servicing more than 3.2 million per year actively returning website users and more than 2 million social media followers
- **Nurturing partnerships:** Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action; Sports for Climate Action Framework; Climate Neutral Now initiative outreach to tourism, events and meetings, and arts and culture sectors
- **UN global climate action award:** 13 award-winning projects in 3 focus areas including 4 promotional videos

Data and information management

- **UNFCCC website:** supported the launch of *Climate Hub 360* calendar tool, website re-design, *enterprise taxonomy* applied to official documents, *CDM catalogue of decisions*, enhanced mobile application
- **Global Climate Action Portal (NAZCA):** user interface enhancements, tracking 18,279 actors representing 27,175 actions

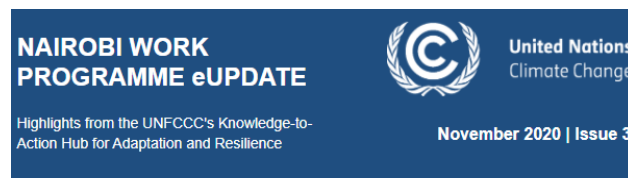


Supporting adaptation processes and work programmes

- **Nairobi work programme:** progress report, expert meetings on oceans and biodiversity, 3 NWP eUpdates
- **Process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans:** events with NAP Champions, on NAP country platform and COVID-19 recovery, upcoming progress report
- **Technical examination process on adaptation:** 6 expert meetings, 7 policy briefs and 2 competitions

Maintaining and enhancing data portals

- Adaptation Knowledge Portal
- NAP Central
- Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer
- Progress on LCIPP web portal



NWP Updates

Dear NWP Community,

Prioritizing and Narrowing Knowledge Gaps at National and Regional Levels

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, organizations around the world continue their efforts to adapt to the constantly changing situation. The pandemic and the climate crisis are part of the same challenge and never has the urgency been greater to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

The [Paris Committee on Capacity Building](#) (PCCB) is excited about the collaboration with the NWP this year. There are several opportunities for NWP partners to engage with the PCCB over the coming months.



#TEPA2020

ENTER THE UNFCCC

ADAPTATION VISUAL ART COMPETITION

Show us your vision for a resilient future and submit a piece of artwork by 30 September 2020!

This is your chance to win a prize and be featured in UN Climate Change publications!

Find details at tep-a.org/artcompetition



AC highlights in 2020

Despite the challenges and restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the AC has continued moving forward on its technical work and achieved milestones in implementing its 2019-2021 workplan.



Implementing the Paris Agreement

2020 saw the launch of the first two AC deliverables in support of the Paris Agreement. One is a publication examining how developing countries are addressing climate hazards, geared towards recognizing adaptation efforts by developing countries. The second one is the AC's pilot inventory for methodologies for assessing adaptation needs, designed as a centralized



Focussing on data for adaptation

The AC is proud to announce its 2020 flagship publication on data for adaptation at different spatial and temporal scales. It is intended to help Parties and practitioners navigate the complex landscape of data sources to support adaptation.



Supporting constituted bodies

- **Adaptation Committee:** 2 meetings, technical reports and outreach products
- **Least Developed Countries Expert Group:** 2 regular and 1 Stocktake meetings, multiple rounds of NAP Country dialogues, updated compilation on gaps and needs related to NAPs
- **Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform:** 2 meetings, stakeholder dialogue and training webinars
- **Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage:** 2 meetings, meetings of the Task Force on Displacement and Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management, technical reports and policy brief

Intergovernmental engagement

- 2 informal events held to progress on the technical work of the Response Measures Forum (due to postponement of SBs);
- Engaged with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in relevant committees and working groups.

Established processes


- 1 compilation and synthesis report on Article 3, para. 14, of the Kyoto Protocol
- 1 three-day Global TEMs Meeting held; 1 Meeting Report and 1 Technical Paper

Technical Expert Meetings

The technical expert meetings facilitate the identification of policy options, practices and technologies with high mitigation potential. The meetings bring together experts from national and subnational governments, private sector, financial institutions, leading international organizations and other stakeholders to examine in-depth opportunities to promote the implementation and increase in support for climate action.

Meeting Calendar

Meetings in 2020

 **TEMs 2020 Topic: Human settlements Sustainable low-emission housing and building solutions. Technologies and design for buildings, housing and construction**

30 September 2020, 7 October 2020 and 14 October 2020, Bonn, Germany

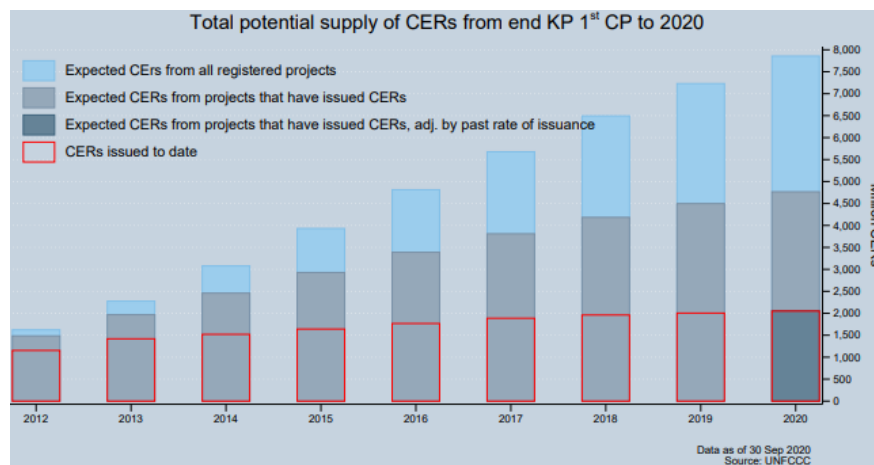
Constituted bodies

- 1 annual report of the Katowice Committee on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures (KCI) and 1 meeting report of the KCI delivered
- 2 virtual meetings of CDM Executive Board (third meeting planned for Dec.), 1 meeting of Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee (JISC)
- Annual report of the International Transaction Log (ITL) administrator to the CMP, 22nd Registry Systems Administrators Forums held, Data exchange standards and common operational procedures are up-to-date

Data and information management

Maintained data portal for response measures modelling tools

CDM: processed 5000+ registry transactions, maintained project and programme of activity database, prepared CDM insights, CDM Registry reports, and addressed over 600 queries from external stakeholders



Enhanced engagement

- 4 Surveys at regional level to assess NDC related needs and expected submission
- 11 virtual events held to support countries in designing policy instruments to enhance incentives for deploying private capital to mitigation activities
- CDM
 - 4 Designated National Authority (DNA) Forums, 4 regional training sessions and 3 Designated Operational Entity (DOE) Forums
 - 6 regional dialogues on Carbon Pricing
 - 1 meeting with the aviation sector about the use of offsets as a tool to drive climate action in aviation.
 - 3 Regional Events to promote Climate Neutral Now in West Africa and Central and South America
 - 1 UN system online training on climate action and the role of offsets, co-hosted with UNSSC.
 - Launched a virtual platform for regional events. The platform includes 97 events to date.



Regional Virtual Platform



Overall objectives for Transparency:

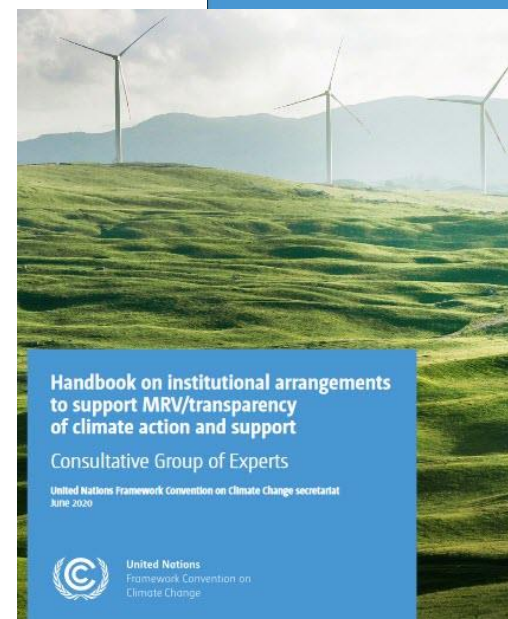
1. Raise ambition of climate action
2. Build mutual trust and confidence among Parties
3. Promote effective implementation of action and support

Specific deliverables:

1. Facilitate intergovernmental engagement (negotiations) on MRV & ETF issues
2. Support intergovernmental processes under MRV & ETF
3. Enable CGE to fulfil its mandate in assisting developing countries and implement its workplan
4. Maintain the transparency data hub as the authoritative and trusted repository of data and info related to MRV & ETF
5. Facilitate participation by strengthening collaboration and coordination with other organizations on MRV & ETF matters
6. Coordinate transition to ETF implementation by developing plans for: reviews, IT tools, training, support; and engagement

International Consultation and Analysis:

Facilitating climate action through transparency



Multilateral Assessment at Climate Dialogues 2020



The multilateral assessment (MA) is part of the [international assessment and review \(IAR\)](#) for developed countries where countries are assessed on their progress in meeting their 2020 targets. MA and IAR help to promote the comparability of efforts among all developed countries and this builds confidence that all developed countries are implementing climate actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.





Reviews & technical analysis

- **76** reviews/technical analysis (TA) of
 - BRs (30)
 - BURs (21)
 - GHG Inv. (25)
- **15** REDD+ FREL/FRL assessments
- **>300** experts involved in reviews/TA
- **27** Parties subject to multilateral consideration
- **2** Lead Reviewers' meetings



Support, trainings & events

- **18** trainings on ICTU and tracking progress of NDCs: **770** participants in **90** countries and partners
- **6** CGE meetings & **7** CGE workshops on MRV/ETF
- **5** QA events of GHG Inv. attended by **177** experts
- **319** experts certified in 2020 on the use of 2006 IPCC GL; additional **311** experts enrolled for 2021
- **>25** webinars/townhalls, events on ETF transition



Negotiations, data & tools

- **18** negotiation items (June Momentum, Nov. Dialogues, COP26)
- **All** systems & tools maintained & **3 GHG** Data Interface updates
- Online review issues **database** for GHG Inv.
- Access to **CRF Reporter** for developing countries
- **Knowledge** products, technical guides, manuals, presentations

Technology development and transfer

Mandated activities to support the intergovernmental work and process

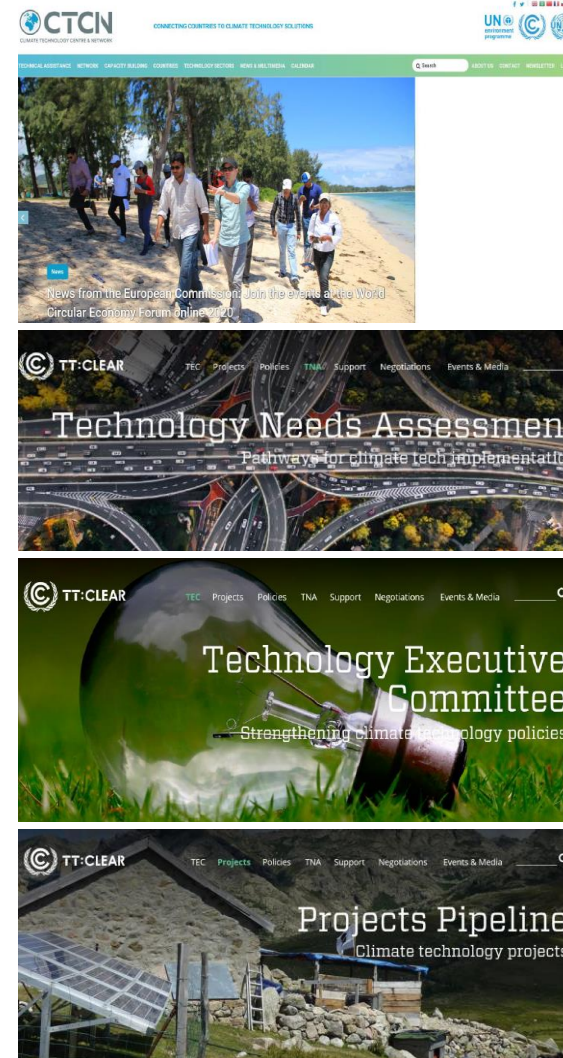
- Fourth synthesis report of technology and a paper for aligning the CTCN review with the periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism prepared for SBI 52;

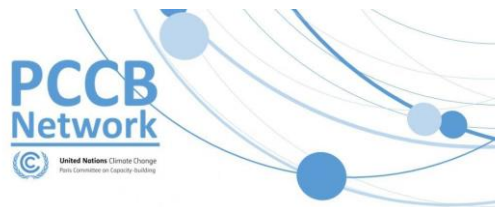
Work to support the Constituted Bodies

- Two virtual meetings of the TEC. These achievements included:
 - a) Two policy briefs on technology needs assessments and on technologies for coastal zones, one publication on innovative approaches on climate technologies;
 - b) Annual report of the TEC to be published jointly with the CTCN for 2020 for COP 26/CMA 3;
 - c) 4 regional technical expert meetings to support the pre-2020 action and implementation process and one technology event

Communication and outreach activities

- Information platform on technology-related matters is regularly updated; support the TEC in providing their inputs to the work of other constituted bodies or process; 3 technology events at the Climate Dialogues.





Capacity-building

Intergovernmental process

- Supported the organization of the 9th Durban Forum virtual meeting.
- Supported the preparation of the annual synthesis report of Capacity-building activities, the report on capacity-building activities of constituted bodies and the annual technical progress report of the PCCB.

Support to constituted bodies

- Supported the organization of the PCCB's annual virtual meeting including the proposed workplan for 2021-2024.
- Technical support to the PCCB to develop a toolkit to assess capacity-building needs and gaps.
- The design and launching of the PCCB Network, with now more than 200 members.
- Coherence and coordination of capacity-building activities through dedicated dialogues with other constituted bodies and collaboration with other bodies and processes
- Support the PCCB's engagement at regional level including by organizing Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day for Africa



Communications and outreach

The capacity-building portal, associated webpages and social media channels are regularly updated; organization of two events on capacity-building during the climate dialogues; organization of 6 webinars

Climate finance

Intergovernmental process

- Supported consultations by the Presidencies with 10 groups of Parties
- Prepared briefing notes on the reviews of the Financial Mechanism and Adaptation Fund, guidance to the operating entities, new quantified goal on finance and long-term finance;
- Organized long-term climate finance in-session workshop (virtual) and supported the Joint Presidencies event on climate finance
- Established the submissions portal for the biennial communications on Article 9.5 of the Paris Agreement and updated Finance web sites.



Support to constituted bodies and outreach

- Supported the 22nd Meeting (virtual) and 2 informal meetings of the SCF. Preparing for the 23rd SCF Meeting. Prepared 30 background papers and presentations and meeting reports and SCF report to COP.
 - Organized 7 regional/global webinars on BA 2020, NDR, Art. 2.1c and Financing Nature-Based Solutions (NBS).
 - Advanced work on BA 2020 and Needs determination reports. Processed GEF and AF reports to COP and CMP.
 - Compiled and synthesized 101 submissions/inputs by Parties, civil society, MDBs and other international organizations
- Communications and Outreach
- Needs-based Finance Projects virtual inception workshops in LDC-Asia and West Africa (with a total of 11 regions/sub-regions involving more than 112 countries) and 7 regional technical assessments on climate finance are being finalized
 - Organized 2 climate finance events at the June Momentum and 4 events at the Climate Dialogues.

Administrative Services (AS)

- **Budget and finance:** Continuous management, monitoring and administration of the secretariat's finances. Currently coordinating the process for formulating the programme budget proposal for biennium 2022-2023. (see also slides 3 to 7 and 33 and 34)
- **Travel:** Number of physical meetings and staff missions has sharply declined due to global travel restrictions resulting from the COVID pandemic. Instead, financial support has been provided, through travel claims, to enable funded participants to connect via internet to the virtual meetings.
- **General Services:** The secretariat has made arrangements to respond to the COVID pandemic at its HQ, by reacting to the local situation, implementing protective measures in the office environment and adjusting staff presence on site. Preparations for the move to the new building on the UN Campus have begun, with the support from the host government. The secretariat has assisted UN system organizations, including the UN Secretariat, in achieving climate neutrality by offsetting their remaining GHG emissions through purchase and cancellation of CERs.
- **Procurement:** has continued to review and process requests for goods and services required for implementation of the activities of the secretariat, in accordance with applicable rules.



Human Resources (HR)

- Revision of job descriptions: Of the target of 488, a total of 421 have been classified. The remaining are to be done by the end of December 2020.
- Increased uptake of online learning: A significant number of online courses were undertaken by staff, especially during the lock down and virtual work environment. New relevant courses continue to be developed by the secretariat.
- Increased uptake of staff counselling for wellbeing: the number of counselling has roughly doubled so far at 272 visits

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

- The secretariat has enhanced **enterprise mobility** and **virtual meeting services**, infrastructure and tools which has provided a smooth transition to **flexible home office and virtual meetings for delegates and staff**. This has significantly reduced the operational impact of COVID-19 enabling the secretariat to continue its services with minimal interruptions.
- The introduction of virtual meeting tools contributed to hosting-the **EB, JISC, SCF, TEM-M, June Momentum** etc., paving the way for the **Climate Dialogues** and **COP26**.
- So far, close to **300 meetings have been organized virtually using tools like Microsoft Teams**, and other online platforms since the onset of COVID-19. All internal secretariat meetings have been fully virtual or hybrid.



Intergovernmental negotiation process:

- **Supporting Presidencies and Presiding Officers** on legal and procedural matters

Constituted bodies and mechanisms:

- Servicing three meetings of the **Paris Agreement Facilitation of Implementation and Promotion of Compliance** (two formal and one informal); three meetings of the **KP Compliance Committee** (the Enforcement Branch, Facilitative Branch and plenary)
- Legal support to three meetings of the **CDM Executive Board** and drafting advice and papers therefor; treating the question of operations of the **CDM post-2020**
- **Procedural and legal advice** to all other constituted bodies and mechanisms

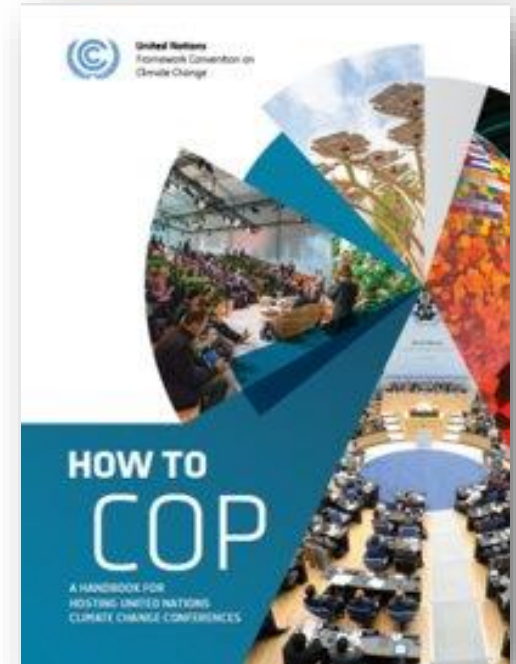
General legal and institutional support:

- Review/negotiation of **over 140 legal agreements**; provision of **institutional legal and policy advice**



Conference Affairs division

- Provided effective organizational, logistical and document support:
 - Continued to work closely with the COP 26 Host Country on preparations for the Conference on incorporating evolving COVID-19 pandemic measures and contingencies in the planning.
 - Serviced meetings, workshops and events.
 - Timely published official documents for the SB 52 in all six official languages of the United Nations to the extent possible.
 - Processed unofficial documents and their publication to the UNFCCC website.
- Responded to the accelerated shift to virtual and hybrid meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to adapt by:
 - Developing and enhancing innovative conference operations to effectively integrate into virtual and physical needs.
 - Reviewing virtual conferencing best practices to ensure the provision of optimal conference services for sessions, as well as for a wide range of workshops and events.



Status of implementation of the new secretariat structure



Status of implementation of the new secretariat structure

- The mapping of staff to the new structure has been completed, following a thorough, fair and consultative process.
- All secretariat staff are now working according to the new structure.
- Solutions have been found for the few staff who could not be mapped, to allow them to find new opportunities in the secretariat, while ensuring equitable treatment for all staff.
- Remaining transition and hand-over elements are being completed.
- 421 job descriptions have been reviewed and classified.
- Recruitments for new and vacant posts have begun alongside a process to prioritize further recruitments.
- Implementation of ongoing non-structural initiatives, such as the Leadership Development Programme and a range of cultural change and staff development initiatives.



**Preliminary information on the preparation of the 2022-2023 biennium
programme budget**



Preliminary information on the 2022-2023 biennium programme budget (1/2)

Core assumption

- The COVID-19 pandemic will be under control. Meetings will be conducted mostly in-person and virtually where feasible.

Approach

- As in prior biennium, the budget will be developed on zero-based budget principle (to ensure every activity/item in the budget is fully justified):
 - a) Planning of activities in line with the strategic objectives,
 - b) Categorization of all activities in line with the same four categories as in 2020-21 (see next slide),
 - c) Peer review within the secretariat to ensure consistency, validity of assumptions and avoidance of duplications/redundancies.
- Budget workshops and briefings will be conducted leading to budget negotiations in 2021.

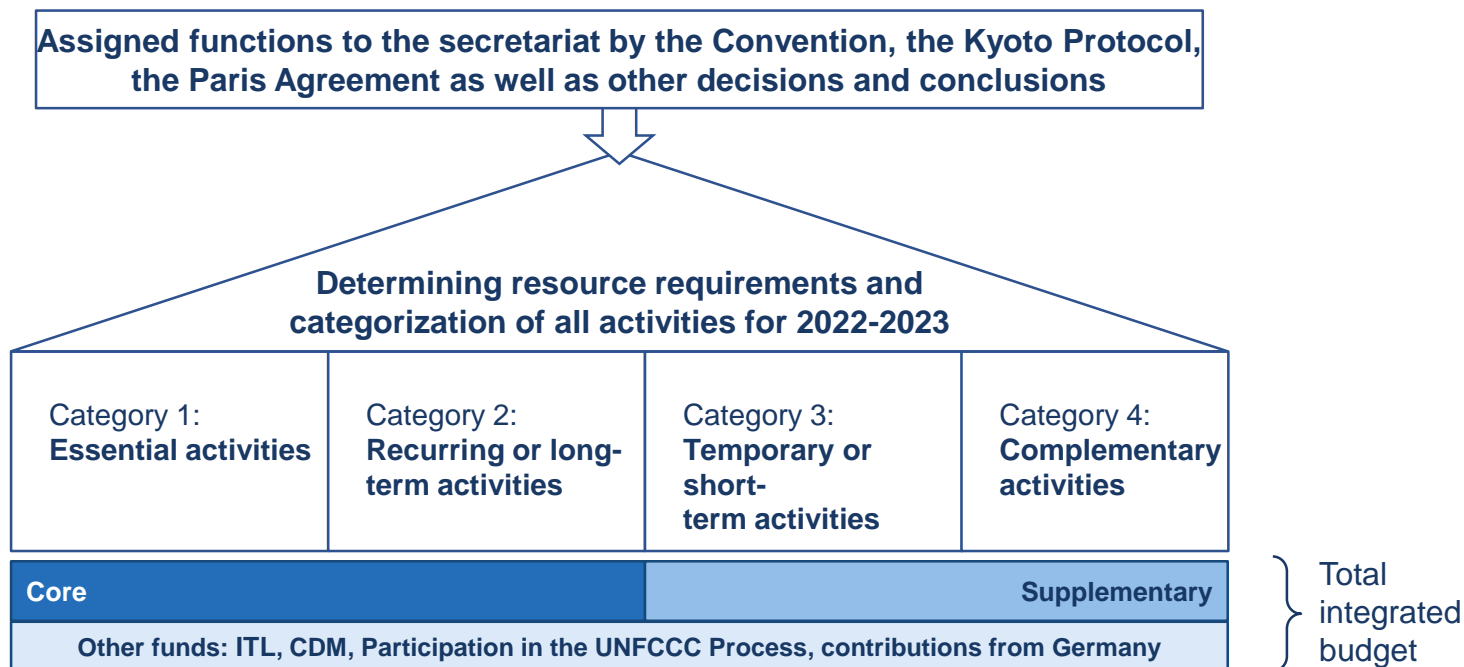
Budget presentation

- The programme budget for 2022-23 will be presented using the same format of the current budget for ease of comparison and consistency, and incorporating further enhancements/transparency.
- As mandated, a zero nominal growth (ZNG) budget scenario will be presented.



Preliminary information on the 2022-2023 biennium programme budget (2/2)

Activities in the budget will be categorized according to the mandates they support:



For budget and funding purposes, category 1 and 2 are considered as core and 3 and 4 are considered as supplementary.



Next steps

- Thank you for your following this presentation.
- We encourage Parties and observer States to submit by **Tuesday, 24 November 2020** any questions they may have, **specifying the relevant section and slide number**, regarding the information in this presentation to UNFCCC-Budget@unfccc.int
- During the live Q&A sessions that will take place on **Thursday, 26 November from 16.00 to 18.00 CET** and be repeated on **27 November from 08.00 to 10.00 CET**, the secretariat will share responses to the questions received.
- Thank you. We look forward to e-meeting you during the live Q&A sessions.

