



United Nations  
Climate Change

# **UNFCCC BTR REVIEW TRAINING: COURSE C**

**TRACKING PROGRESS IN  
IMPLEMENTING AND ACHIEVING NDCS**

**SUB COURSE C3: MITIGATION POLICIES  
AND MEASURES, ACTIONS AND PLANS,  
INCLUDING MITIGATION CO-BENEFITS  
RESULTING FROM ADAPTATION  
ACTIONS AND ECONOMIC  
DIVERSIFICATION PLANS, RELATED TO  
IMPLEMENTING AND ACHIEVING NDC  
UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THE PARIS  
AGREEMENT**

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# **BTR Review Training Programme**

**Technical review of information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions**

**Sub-course 3 - Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, related to implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement**

## Abbreviations and acronyms

BTR	biennial transparency report
CO <sub>2</sub> eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
CTF	common tabular format
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gas
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPPU	industrial processes and product use
LULUCF	land use, land-use change and forestry
MPGs	modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, set out in the annex to decision 18/CMA.1
NDC	nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement

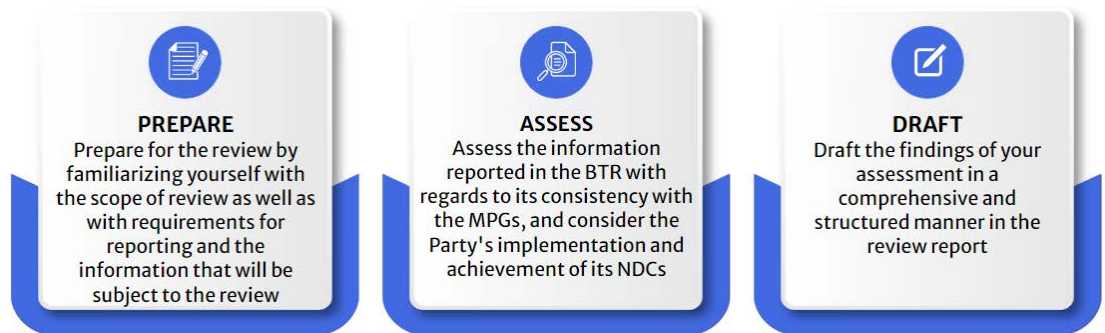
# Table of contents

LESSON 1: PREPARE .....	5
1. Introduction .....	5
2. Reporting requirements .....	7
3. Practice activity: sector information.....	15
Quiz .....	16
4. Lesson summary .....	17
Practice activity: sector information - Answers .....	18
Quiz - Answers .....	18
SECTION 2: ASSESS.....	19
1. Introduction .....	19
2. Consistency with the reporting requirements.....	19
Completeness .....	19
Transparency .....	20
3. Lesson summary .....	21
SECTION 3: DRAFT.....	22
1. Introduction .....	22
2. Practice activity: formulating findings .....	22
3. Lesson Summary .....	23
References .....	24

# Overview

This sub-course provides guidance on assessing the consistency of the information reported by Parties on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, related to implementing and achieving NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement with the reporting guidelines outlined in the MPGs.

It is organized in three lessons that follow the sequence of the steps that you, as a technical expert reviewer, will undertake during the TER of a BTR.



This sub-course has following learning objectives:

- Understand the different types of mitigation policies, measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans;
- Understand the requirements for reporting on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans;
- Learn how to assess the consistency of the information reported by Parties on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans with the reporting guidelines, which includes an assessment of the completeness and transparency of reported information;
- Learn how to draft findings, recommendations and encouragements related to each of the reporting elements in the review reports to help Parties improve their future reporting.



It will take about 60 minutes to work through this sub-course.

# LESSON 1: PREPARE

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## 1. Introduction

To prepare for the TER, get familiarized with the reporting requirements and key related concepts and guidance.

Article 3 of the Paris Agreement requires Parties to undertake ambitious efforts as part of their NDCs towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement.

As part of this, Parties are required to pursue domestic mitigation measures (Article 4, paragraph 2) and provide information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving NDCs (Article 13, paragraph 7).

Key terms to understand:

- **Mitigation policies or mitigation plans** generally refer to a decision or a set of decisions that a government takes to achieve certain objectives.
- **Actions or measures** generally refer to a concrete activity or set of activities taken by a government to implement a policy or plan.
- **Mitigation co-benefits** result from actions undertaken as part of adaptation and/or economic diversification plans where these generate emissions reductions and thereby contribute to achieving mitigation outcomes.

The MPGs for the transparency framework for action and support include flexibility for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities (for more information, see decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraphs 4–6). This includes flexibility in implementing the provisions of the transparency framework, which can influence the scope, frequency and level of detail of reporting, as well as the scope of the review.

The application of flexibility provisions is self-determined. For more information on specific flexibility provisions, see Lesson 1 of the ETF Overview Course A.

Parties to the Paris Agreement may implement mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans in any sector of their economy, focusing on those that have the most significant impact on GHG emissions or removals and those impacting key categories in the national GHG inventory.

Examples of mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans being implemented around the world, as reported by Parties, include:

- **Australia** has extended and deepened its support for clean technology through the launch of its Technology Investment Roadmap, which will help to drive further investment in low-emission technologies, including clean hydrogen, electricity storage, low-emission steel and aluminium production, carbon dioxide capture and storage, and carbon sequestration.

- **Canada** is investing in public transport and making zero emission vehicles more affordable and accessible, for instance through rebates and funding for more charging stations.
- **France** has implemented a carbon tax with an energy excise fee, an energy savings certificate system, and investment schemes for the development of infrastructure and alternative fuels.
- **Japan** promotes compliance with energy-saving standards for new buildings and energy-saving renovation of existing homes and promotes investment in net zero energy buildings. It is also working towards the realization of a 'hydrogen society'.
- **New Zealand** has reformed its national Emissions Trading Scheme to support the country in meeting its NDCs and domestic emission reduction targets. The reforms include introducing an emissions cap in line with climate change targets, phasing out emission allocation to the industrial sector from 2021 and introducing an auction by the Government of New Zealand Units (emission units).
- **Norway** has committed to achieving a 50–55 per cent reduction in emissions by 2030 and a climate-neutral, low-emission society by 2050. Norway plans to achieve these goals through various measures, including participation in the European Union Emissions Trading System, application of green taxes and provision of support for energy-efficient and climate-friendly technologies, including carbon capture and storage.
- **Botswana** is addressing emission reductions in the energy sector by increasing the share of renewable energy sources, including by investing in solar power stations, solar appliances and biogas development.
- **The Republic of Korea** launched a national emissions trading system in 2015, covering 525 companies in its first phase (2015–2017). Through this system, the country plans to promote low-carbon industry innovation and green investment, reduce GHGs in a cost-effective and flexible way and achieve national emission reduction targets.
- **Lebanon** is working to increase the share of renewable energy sources as part of its energy mix, aiming to increase the share of renewables to 18 per cent of overall power demand and 11 per cent of heat demand by 2030. These efforts will be complemented by energy efficiency measures.
- **Maldives** is working to reduce emissions from the waste sector through a combination of improved waste management across the islands and the introduction of a new waste-to-energy project.

## 2. Reporting requirements

In practical terms, your main tasks as a reviewer are:

- To review the consistency of the information submitted in the BTR with the annex to decision 18/CMA.1 (i.e. the MPGs) and annexes I–VII of decision 5/CMA.3 (i.e. the CTF tables). This is done by comparing the information provided by Parties with the relevant reporting requirements set out in these decisions, focusing on completeness and transparency;
- To consider the information reported on mitigation policies and measures, plans and actions provided in both the narrative section of the BTR and the relevant CTF tables.

To review the information reported by a Party on its mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, you first need to know the relevant requirements of the reporting guidelines.

These are outlined in paragraphs 80 – 90 of decision 18/CMA.1.

The information to be reviewed on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans includes various kinds of information:

1. Descriptive information on policies, measures, actions and plans;
2. Quantitative information;
3. Methodological information;
4. Information on policies and measures contributing mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions or economic diversification plans implemented under them;
5. Other information.

This information will be reported in both narrative and tabular format, and both formats are subject to review.

1. Information reported in narrative format
2. Information reported using CTF (annex II to decision 5/CMA.3 contains CTF tables)

Information on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, is reported in CTF table 5 shown below:

**5. Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, related to implementing and achieving a nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement<sup>a,b</sup>**

Name <sup>c</sup>	Description <sup>d,e,f</sup>	Objectives	Type of instrument <sup>g</sup>	Status <sup>h</sup>	Sector(s) affected	Gases affected	Start year of implementation	Implementing entity or entities	Estimates of GHG emission reductions (kt CO <sub>2</sub> eq) <sup>i</sup>	
									Achieved	Expected

<sup>a</sup> Each Party shall provide information on actions, policies and measures that support the implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, focusing on those that have the most significant impact on GHG emissions or removals and those impacting key categories in the national GHG inventory. This information shall be presented in narrative and tabular format (para. 80 of the MPGs).

<sup>b</sup> For each Party with an NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement that consists of mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans consistent with Article 4, para. 7, information to be reported under paras. 80, 82 and 83 of the MPGs includes relevant information on policies and measures contributing to mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions or economic diversification plans (para. 84 of the MPGs).

<sup>c</sup> Parties may indicate whether a measure is included in the 'with measures' projections.

<sup>d</sup> Additional information may also be provided on the cost of the mitigation actions, non-GHG mitigation benefits, and how the mitigation action interacts with other mitigation actions, as appropriate (para. 83(a-c) of the MPGs).

<sup>e</sup> Parties should identify actions, policies and measures that influence GHG emissions from international transport (para. 88 of the MPGs).

<sup>f</sup> Parties should, to the extent possible, provide information about how actions, policies and measures are modifying longer-term trends in GHG emissions and removals (para. 89 of the MPGs).

<sup>g</sup> Parties shall, to the extent possible, provide information on the types of instrument: regulatory, economic instrument or other (para. 82(d) of the MPGs).

<sup>h</sup> Parties shall, to the extent possible, use the following descriptive terms to report on status of implementation: planned, adopted or implemented (para. 82(c) of the MPGs).

<sup>i</sup> Parties shall, to the extent possible, provide information on sector(s) affected: energy, transport, industrial processes and product use, agriculture, LULUCF, waste management or other (paras. 81 and 82(f) of the MPGs).

<sup>j</sup> Each Party shall provide, to the extent possible, estimates of expected and achieved GHG emission reductions for its actions, policies and measures in the tabular format; those developing country Parties that need flexibility in the light of their capacities with respect to this provision are instead encouraged to report this information (para. 85 of the MPGs).

<sup>k</sup> To the extent available, each Party shall describe the methodologies and assumptions used to estimate the GHG emission reductions or removals due to each action, policy and measure. This information may be presented in an annex to the biennial transparency report (para. 86 of the MPGs).

**Custom footnotes:**

**Documentation box:**

To review the information reported by a Party on its mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, you first need to know the relevant requirements of the reporting guidelines contained in paragraphs 80 to 90 of the MPGs. Additionally, you will find examples of information that could be reported to meet each requirement and/or guidance on interpreting each requirement.

**Paragraph 80: Each Party shall provide information on actions, policies and measures that support the implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, focusing on those that have the most significant impact on GHG emissions or removals and those impacting key categories in the national GHG inventory. This information shall be presented in narrative and tabular format.**

- ✓ Parties do not need to report every action, policy or measure that impacts GHG emissions or removals. Parties should focus on those that have the most **significant** impact on emissions or removals. It could help to ask a question to the Party on how it has determined which actions, policies and measures to include in its BTR.
- ✓ A **key category** is one that is prioritized within the national GHG inventory system because its estimate has a significant influence on a country's total inventory of GHGs in terms of the absolute level, the trend, or the uncertainty associated with emissions and removals. Whenever the term key category is used, it includes both source and sink categories.

**Paragraph 81: To the extent possible, Parties shall organize the reporting of actions by sector (energy, transport, industrial processes and product use, agriculture, LULUCF, waste management and other).**

- ✓ According to the guidance provided in note (i) to CTF table 5, the reporting of information on actions by sector must be organized, **to the extent possible**, using the given sectors.
- ✓ Where a Party does not use the given sectors, it should provide an explanation for not doing so, as well as an indication of how its definition of sectors corresponds to or differs from the suggested sectors.
- ✓ Note that, as indicated in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 82(f), Parties may indicate that a measure affects a single sector or multiple sectors.

**Paragraph 82: Each Party shall provide the following information on its actions, policies and measures, to the extent possible, in a tabular format:**

**a) Name;**

- ✓ The information reported must include the name of the policy, measure, action or plan.
- ✓ The Party may indicate whether a policy, measure, action or plan is included in the 'with measures' scenario.

**b) Description;**

- ✓ The description of the policy, measure, action or plan can be brief.
- ✓ Additional information may be provided on the cost of the mitigation action, the non-GHG mitigation benefits of the action or how the mitigation action interacts with other mitigation actions, as appropriate.
- ✓ The Party should identify those actions, policies and measures that influence GHG emissions from international transport.
- ✓ The Party should, to the extent possible, provide information about how actions, policies and measures are modifying longer-term trends in GHG emissions and removals.

**c) Objectives;**

- ✓ The information reported must include the key objectives and benefits of the policy, measure, action or plan.

**d) Type of instrument (regulatory, economic instrument or other);**

- ✓ The information reported must include, to the extent possible, whether the measure is a regulation, an economic instrument or another type of instrument.
- ✓ Examples of possible other types of instruments include fiscal, voluntary (e.g. agreements), informational, educational and research measures.

**e) Status (planned, adopted or implemented);**

- ✓ The information reported must include, to the extent possible, whether the policy, measure, action or plan is in the planning stage, adopted or implemented.
- ✓ Parties may also provide information related to the status of implementation, for example, funds already allocated to the measure, future budget allocations and the time frame for implementation.

**f) Sector(s) affected (energy, transport, industrial processes and product use, agriculture, LULUCF, waste management or other);**

- ✓ The information reported must include, to the extent possible, which sector(s) is/are affected by the action, policy or measure.
- ✓ The following sectors must be used by Parties: energy, transport, IPPU, agriculture, LULUCF, waste management or other.

**g) Gases affected;**

- ✓ The information reported must include, to the extent possible, which gas or gases the policy, measure, action or plan targets.

**h) Start year of implementation;**

- ✓ The information reported must include, to the extent possible, in which year the policy, measure, action or plan was or is expected to be implemented.

**i) Implementing entity or entities.**

- ✓ The information reported must include, to the extent possible, the implementing entity or entities (e.g. national, state, provincial, regional or local government) and the involvement of any other entities (e.g. private sector organizations).

NOTE: CTF table 5 (in annex II to decision 5/CMA.3) sets out the agreed format for presenting the information required to be reported in accordance with paragraph 82(a–i) above.

**Paragraph 83: Each Party may also provide the following information for each action, policy and measure reported:**

**a. Costs;**

- ✓ Any action taken to mitigate climate change may divert financial resources from alternative uses. Mitigation assessments estimate the value of these resources using cost–benefit analysis. Incremental costs are normally measured relative to a ‘no action’ counterfactual baseline. As far as possible, assessments should include all costs, but bear in mind that technical options, including many energy efficiency measures, may have negative costs in terms of, for example, economic benefits.

- ✓ It may not make sense to specify a cost for non-technical, socially focused actions. Examples of this type of action include campaigns to encourage the public to waste less energy or efforts to develop less energy intensive urban environments. These actions are typically referred to as ‘no regrets’ actions.

**b. Non-GHG mitigation benefits;**

- ✓ Any action taken to mitigate climate change may also generate non-GHG benefits. These can range from impacts on sustainable development to economic and social consequences of response measures to reduced emissions of other types of pollutants and/or health benefits.
- ✓ Parties can report using quantitative and/or qualitative indicators when describing non-GHG benefits.
- ✓ The information reported may be linked to the availability of reliable indicators or data that can be collected on a regular basis and at reasonable cost.

**c. How the mitigation actions as identified in paragraph 80 above interact with each other, as appropriate.**

- ✓ Two or more actions taken to mitigate climate change may interact and could complement one another in ways that enhance overall GHG mitigation. Parties may report on the interaction between such policies.

NOTE: The may requirement for paragraph 83 means that Parties can report this information but it is not mandatory that they do so.

FOR NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ONLY: Information on costs should be accompanied by a brief definition of the term ‘cost’ in this context.

**Paragraph 84: For each Party with an NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement that consists of mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties’ adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans consistent with Article 4, paragraph 7, information to be reported under paragraphs 80, 82 and 83 above includes relevant information on policies and measures contributing to mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions or economic diversification plans.**

- ✓ Information on mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties’ adaptation actions or economic diversification plans must be reported in both narrative and tabular (CTF table 5) format, as applicable, in line with decision 5/CMA.3.
- ✓ Examples of adaptation actions or economic diversification plan measures that may result in mitigation co-benefits include the following:
  - Applying climate-smart agriculture;
  - Reducing food waste;
  - Adapting coastal ecosystems;

- Increasing the share of renewable energy sources in energy generation;
- Improving energy efficiency;
- Implementing carbon dioxide capture and storage;
- Switching fuels and implementing fuel price reforms;
- Transitioning to a more circular economy;
- Adopting sustainable tourism practices;
- Deploying technologies for the fisheries, industrial and buildings sectors.

**Paragraph 85: Each Party shall provide, to the extent possible, estimates of expected and achieved GHG emission reductions for its actions, policies and measures in the tabular format referred to in paragraph 82 above; those developing country Parties that need flexibility in the light of their capacities with respect to this provision are instead encouraged to report this information.**

- ✓ Parties may report this information for individual mitigation actions, policies and measures, or for groups thereof.
- ✓ Developing country Parties that need flexibility in the light of their capacities are encouraged rather than required to report this information.
- ✓ This information should indicate the estimated emission reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> eq for a particular year - and not the cumulative impact.
- ✓ CTF table 5 indicates that Parties must provide estimates of GHG emission reductions in kt CO<sub>2</sub> eq, and distinguish between estimates for reductions **achieved** and reductions **expected**.

FOR NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ONLY: Estimates should be presented for a particular year, ending in either a zero or a five, following the most recent inventory year.

**Paragraph 86: Each Party shall describe the methodologies and assumptions used to estimate the GHG emission reductions or removals due to each action, policy and measure, to the extent available. This information may be presented in an annex to its biennial transparency report.**

- ✓ The information reported should explain how Parties have arrived at the values reported in CTF table 5 for estimates of expected and achieved GHG emission reductions for the years reported.
- ✓ In addition to information on the specific methodologies used for calculating the estimates of expected and achieved GHG emission reductions or removals, Parties could report on any key underlying assumptions, for example for GDP growth, population growth, tax level and international fuel price.
- ✓ Information on methodologies and assumptions may be presented in an annex to the BTR.

**Paragraph 87: Each Party should identify those actions, policies and measures that are no longer in place compared with the most recent biennial transparency report, and explain why they are no longer in place.**

- ✓ For the first BTR, a comparison with previous BTRs will not be possible. Some Parties may voluntarily compare their actions, policies and measures with their previous biennial report or biennial update report, but this is not required.

**Paragraph 88: Each Party should identify its actions, policies and measures that influence GHG emissions from international transport.**

- ✓ Parties are encouraged to provide information on measures taken to influence emissions from international transport. This information should be reported in CTF table 5, in the “Description” column.
- ✓ The *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (vol. 1, section 8.3) and the MPGs both indicate that emissions from international aviation and maritime transport (also known as international bunker fuel emissions) should be calculated as part of the national GHG inventories of Parties – but should be excluded from national totals and reported separately, if disaggregated information is available.
- ✓ Examples of policies and measures that influence GHG emissions from international transport include:
  - Participating in global market-based measures, such as CORSIA (Carbon Offsetting Reduction Scheme for International Aviation);
  - Implementing incentives to support the development of sustainable aviation fuels;
  - Improving aviation and marine technologies, including developing electric or hybrid electric aircraft and energy-efficient ships;
  - Building the capacity to develop systems for monitoring, reporting and verifying emissions in international transport;
  - Preparing national action plans to reduce emissions from international shipping.

**Paragraph 89: Each Party should, to the extent possible, provide information about how its actions, policies and measures are modifying longer-term trends in GHG emissions and removals.**

- ✓ This information is to be provided **to the extent possible**; some Parties may not have the capacity to provide it.
- ✓ Parties may choose to fulfil this requirement in various ways, including by indicating the mitigation impact of their actions, policies and measures over time or by providing information on their national circumstances, climate strategy and planned actions.

- ✓ Parties may also choose to provide qualitative information on how actions, policies and measures are modifying longer-term trends. This information could include, for example, relevant elements of a long-term emission reduction strategy or sustainable development strategy. This information could be included in the “Description” column of CTF table 5.

**Paragraph 90: Each Party is encouraged to provide detailed information, to the extent possible, on the assessment of economic and social impacts of response measures.**

- ✓ Response measures in the context of the UNFCCC are the actions, policies, programmes and other measures undertaken by Parties mostly for mitigating GHG emissions. In addition to their direct mitigation impact, implementation of these response measures can have social, environmental and economic consequences (both positive and negative) with impacts that could be either domestic or cross-border.
- ✓ Examples of social impacts include changes in gender equality, social relationships, health, education, status of different social groups (Indigenous peoples; ethnic minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; etc.) and access to rights. Economic impacts include changes in national or regional GDP, employment levels and income. Environmental impacts include changes in pollution levels and impacts on biodiversity.
- ✓ In assessing and analysing the impacts of response measures, both quantitative and qualitative methodological approaches can help.
- ✓ Examples of quantitative approaches include:
  - Computable general equilibrium models, which model whole economies using economic data;
  - Integrated assessment models, which integrate geophysical and economic data;
  - Macroeconometric models, which provide behavioural data.
- ✓ Examples of qualitative approaches include:
  - Stakeholder interaction analyses, which can provide insight into policy impacts and help to validate quantitative findings;
  - Expert assessments, which can assist in providing country-specific insights;
  - Qualitative surveys, which can help to close gaps in quantitative data.
- ✓ Noting that information on response measures is also required for tracking progress (as per decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 78), the information to be provided as per paragraph 90 is:
  - Specific actions, policies or measures that are expected to have social and economic impacts;
  - Specific Parties affected;
  - Sectors and/or stakeholders affected;
  - Methods of assessing impacts;

- The results of impact assessments.
- ✓ However, to fulfil the requirement of paragraph 90, Parties are encouraged to provide detailed information, to the extent possible, on the **assessment** of economic and social impacts of response measures.
- ✓ Examples of the information to be provided in relation to this requirement include:
  - A description of international impact assessment methods;
  - A description of national impact assessment methods;
  - Examples of international financial support and/or collaboration.

### 3. Practice activity: sector information

Indicate in which sector the following examples of mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans are to be reported: energy, transport, IPPU, agriculture, LULUCF, waste and/or other.

Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans	Sector
Implementing an emissions trading scheme	
Increasing the share of clean energy sources in road transport	
Increasing the share of renewable energy for space heating	
Applying sustainable forest management practices	
Improving methane capture from landfill sites	
Improving energy performance and certification of buildings	
Improving cycling infrastructure	
Reducing fluorinated gas emissions	
Developing a framework for transitioning to a low-carbon economy	
Promoting multi-modal freight transport	
Reducing the use of nitrogen fertilizers	
Improving manure storage and management	
Deploying innovative technologies	
Implementing a carbon tax	
Divesting fossil fuels	
Installing solar arrays	
Phasing out hydrofluorocarbons	

## 4. Self-check quiz

Test your knowledge of the reporting requirements by indicating whether each statement below is TRUE or FALSE.

	True or False
i. Parties should only report mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans that address all GHGs (CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, PFCs, HFCs, SF <sub>6</sub> and NF <sub>3</sub> )	
ii. Information on mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans must be reported in both narrative and tabular formats	
iii. The choice to apply flexibility provisions to reporting on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans is self-determined by developing country Parties who need it in light of their capacities	

## 5. Lesson summary

In this lesson, you have learned about:

- The different types of mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans;
- The requirements for reporting on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans.

## 6. Answers

### Practice activity: sector information

Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans	Sector
Implementing an emissions trading scheme	Other
Increasing the share of clean energy sources in road transport	Transport
Increasing the share of renewable energy for space heating	Energy
Applying sustainable forest management practices	LULUCF
Improving methane capture from landfill sites	Waste
Improving energy performance and certification of buildings	Energy
Improving cycling infrastructure	Transport
Reducing fluorinated gas emissions	IPPU
Developing a framework for transitioning to a low-carbon economy	Other
Promoting multi-modal freight transport	Transport
Reducing the use of nitrogen fertilizers	Agriculture
Improving manure storage and management	Agriculture
Deploying innovative technologies	Other
Implementing a carbon tax	Other
Divesting fossil fuels	Other
Installing solar arrays	Energy
Phasing out hydrofluorocarbons	IPPU

### Self-check quiz

- Parties should only report mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans that address all GHGs (CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, PFCs, HFCs, SF<sub>6</sub> and NF<sub>3</sub>)**
  - FALSE:** Parties should indicate which gas(es) are affected. See paragraph 82 of the MPGs for reference.
- Information on mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans must be reported in both narrative and tabular formats.**
  - TRUE:** See paragraph 83 of the MPGs for reference.
- The choice to apply flexibility provisions to reporting on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans is self-determined by developing country Parties who need it in light of their capacities.**
  - TRUE:** See para 85 of the MPGs for reference.

# LESSON 2: ASSESS

## 1. Introduction

The next step in the review process is to review the information reported by the Party in its BTR (and CTF tables, where applicable). Apply your knowledge and expertise to **assess** whether the information submitted by the Party is **consistent with the MPGs**.

To do this, compare the information provided in the BTR (and CTF tables, where applicable) with the relevant mandatory and non-mandatory reporting requirements of the MPGs. As part of assessing consistency, you will assess the completeness and transparency of the reported information.

## 2. Consistency with the reporting requirements

There are two key reporting principles that will guide you in assessing consistency with the reporting requirements of the MPGs. These are **completeness** and **transparency**.

### Completeness

Completeness means that no mandatory (“shall”) reporting requirement is excluded.

Assessing the completeness of the reported information can, therefore, be done in a straightforward manner by **comparing** the information provided in the BTR with the reporting requirements in the MPGs.

There are two possible results for the assessment of completeness:

If the information reported by the Party corresponds fully to the particular reporting requirement of the MPGs, then this information should be considered **complete**, and no recommendation or encouragement is to be given to the Party;

If the information reported by the Party does not correspond fully to the particular reporting requirement of the MPGs, then this information should be considered **not complete**. In this case, you should formulate and submit question(s) for clarification to the Party and formulate a recommendation or encouragement to the Party to improve the completeness of its reporting.

In both cases, it is helpful to record your assessment in the dedicated section of the review report (checklist). Here, you will provide the following information:

- Whether the requirement was met (yes/no);
- What was an issue (in this case, it is a completeness issue);
- Whether you submitted a question to the Party (in this case, yes).

#### **Important:**

You should treat **completeness** issues independently from **transparency** issues (discussed below) and should therefore always provide separate recommendations or encouragements for completeness and transparency in relation to each reporting requirement.

## Transparency

In their BTRs, Parties are expected to provide sufficient information to give the reader a basic understanding of the information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving their NDC, in this case on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans.

This requires Parties to clearly and sufficiently explain and describe the actions, policies and measures that support the implementation and achievement of their NDCs, including by providing descriptive information, quantitative information, methodological information, information on mitigation co-benefits, and any other information relevant to tracking progress.

*Please use this sidebar to point out for your readers e.g. relevant paragraph or keyword.*

### 3. Lesson summary

- To assess whether the reported information is consistent with the reporting requirements of the MPGs, check the following:
- **Completeness:** whether the information reported fully meets the reporting requirements (i.e. no reporting requirement is unmet);
- **Transparency:** whether the information reported is clear, readily understandable and relevant to the reporting requirement.
- To facilitate a systematic comparison of the information against the reporting guidelines, use the checklist provided by the secretariat before the review week.

# LESSON 3: DRAFT

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## 1. Introduction

After completing your technical assessment of the reported information, write up your findings in the review report. Be as specific as possible in drafting your findings.

In drafting your findings, be sure to include the following elements:

- Relevant information that was reported by the Party (if any);
- Any reporting requirements that were not complete or where the information reported was not transparent;
- How the Party should improve its reporting in subsequent BTRs.

The provisions relating to actions, policies and measures in the reporting guidelines include both mandatory (“shall”) and non-mandatory (“should” or “may”) requirements. Therefore, pay careful attention to the nature of the provisions and provide **recommendations** or **encouragements**, as appropriate, and as necessary.

**Remember:** If your assessment of the Party’s reporting is that it is complete and transparent for each reporting requirement, you do not need to provide any recommendations or encouragements.

## 2. Practice activity: formulating findings

In this example, the Party you are reviewing has not provided information on the methodologies and assumptions used in estimating the GHG emission reductions or removals attributable to each action, policy and measure, nor has the Party explained why it was not able to provide this information.

Draft a finding incorporating the following elements:

- The nature of the finding and to which paragraph (or subparagraph) of the reporting requirements it is related;
- Whether the finding is related to completeness or transparency;
- An encouragement or recommendation, as appropriate, to the Party on what to include in and how to improve.

Draft your findings here:

### 3. Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned:

- Various mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, can contribute to implementing and achieving an NDC;
- What the reporting requirements are in relation to mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans;
- How to assess the information reported by Parties against the relevant reporting requirements;
- How to draft findings, including recommendations and encouragements, related to each of the reporting elements to help Parties improve their future reporting on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans.
- As part of the information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, Parties are required to (i.e. “shall”) provide information on mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans. This information will be used to track progress in implementing the NDC.
- To assess whether the reported information is consistent with the reporting requirements of the MPGs, check the following:
  - **Completeness:** whether the information reported fully meets the reporting requirements (i.e. no reporting requirement is unmet);
  - **Transparency:** whether the information reported is clear, readily understandable and relevant to the reporting requirements.
- If the reported information is not complete or not transparent, formulate a question to the Party seeking clarification, and formulate a finding identifying how to address the incomplete and/or non-transparent information to help the Party improve its future reporting.

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## References

Paris Agreement, available at: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf)

Decision 18/CMA.1, available at:

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2018\\_3\\_add2\\_new\\_advance.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2018_3_add2_new_advance.pdf)

Decision 9/CP.16 - NC Reporting Guidelines, available at:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2010/cop16/eng/07a02.pdf>

Decision 2/CP17 - BR Reporting GLs, available at:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf>

UNFCCC Resource Guide for preparing NCs – Module 4, available at:

[https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/08\\_resource\\_guide4.pdf](https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/08_resource_guide4.pdf)

UNFCCC training material for the preparation of BURs – Mitigation actions and their effects:

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/BUR\\_handbook\\_mitigation\\_2018.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/BUR_handbook_mitigation_2018.pdf)

NDC Synthesis Report 2022, available at: <https://unfccc.int/ndc-synthesis-report-2022>

KCI Technical Paper - Facilitating development, enhancement, customization and use of tools and methodologies for modelling and assessing the impacts of implementation of response measures, including identifying and reviewing existing tools and approaches in data-poor environments, in consultation with technical experts, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders:

[https://ecbi.org/sites/default/files/Pocket%20Guide%20to%20Response%20Measures\\_1.pdf](https://ecbi.org/sites/default/files/Pocket%20Guide%20to%20Response%20Measures_1.pdf)