



5th Informal Forum of the Consultative Group of Experts

13 December 2022, 15:30–17:30 CET

Summary Report

Version: 22 December 2022

I. BACKGROUND

1. The [Consultative Group of Experts](#) (CGE), at its seventh meeting held on 28 February and 1 March 2022, agreed, as a part of its work plan for 2022, to organize its [fifth informal forum](#) in December 2022, as a virtual event.
2. As Parties transition from the existing measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) arrangements under the Convention to the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement, support for developing countries is critical to facilitate successful implementation.
3. Further technical work on the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the ETF was completed, with tables, outlines and other formats for the reports agreed at COP26. At COP27, SBI57 conclusions on item 24 Reporting and review pursuant to Article 13 of the Paris Agreement: provision of financial and technical support to developing country Parties for reporting and capacity-building, acknowledged the importance of the Consultative Group of Experts in providing technical support to developing country Parties.
4. To that end, the objective of the fifth informal forum of the CGE was to showcase the work of the CGE, existing and upcoming CGE materials and activities; and collect feedback on CGE's support to developing countries and their preference for topics of 2023 CGE capacity-building activities. Further, it aimed to serve as a platform for participants to have more in-depth discussions with CGE members to informally reflect and exchange views on addressing difficulties in preparing transparency reports and transitioning from MRV to ETF.
5. The call for registration was sent to national focal points and participants of 2021 and 2022 CGE trainings and webinars. This event was also promoted via the CGE main page, social media and other communication channels of the secretariat.
6. More than 80 experts worldwide participated in this forum interactively, and more than 30 experts watched the broadcast¹. In addition, the event recording on YouTube has been viewed more than 400 times as of 21 December 2022.
7. This report contains a summary of the proceedings and discussions at the fifth informal forum of the CGE.

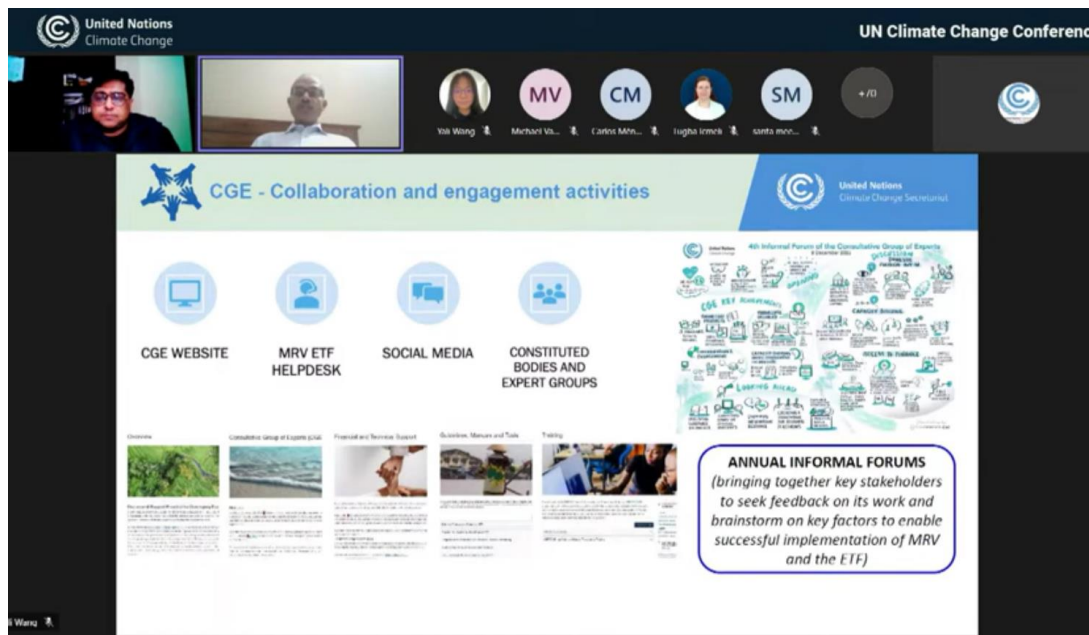
II. PROCEEDINGS

8. The fifth CGE informal forum was convened as a 2-hours long virtual event, and also broadcast live on YouTube.
9. The event kicked off with welcoming and opening statements by Mr. Arif GOHEER, the CGE member from Pakistan, and introductory remarks by Ms. Tugba Icmeli, Team Lead at the Transparency Division of UNFCCC secretariat.

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaaQ1FyhoBE>



- Mr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, CGE member from Bangladesh, presented the CGE's achievements in 2022, the existing and upcoming materials and planned activities in 2023, as well as the key findings from the [2022 CGE transparency needs assessment](#)².



- Participants then informally reflected and exchanged views on the experiences around preparing national GHG inventories and reporting on mitigation, reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation, and reporting on support needed and received, which are among the major components of transparency reporting under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The guiding questions for the focused group discussions are contained in the annex.
- Following the discussions, a Mentimeter exercise was conducted to collect participants' feedback on CGE support and expectations from the CGE in assisting developing countries in transparency and transitioning to ETF. This exercise also solicited information on the challenges that developing countries are facing in preparing transparency reports.

III. KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The reflections and key messages from the feedback and inputs received throughout the forum are summarized below.
- Participants' views around the experiences on "preparing national GHG inventories and reporting on mitigation" are summarized below:
 - Participants reflected on challenges associated with the availability of data from the private sector, data formats, and regular provision of data.
 - They also expressed the areas and topics of interest to address emerging and existing capacity-building needs. These include the need to focus on data quality and availability, developing time series and projections, and also identifying appropriate indicators to track their nationally determined contribution goals and measures.
 - Some participants also shared experiences and lessons learned. For example, one participant explained that remote sensing and GIS technologies can better help countries develop land use maps and prepare regular inventories. Another participant introduced her country's GHG data

² The presentation is available here https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/CGE%205th%20informal%20forum_13%20Dec%202022.pdf.



collection system - a decentralized system where working groups and sectoral focal points were assigned for data collection.

- The new version of the IPCC Inventory Software released at COP27 was also mentioned during the group discussion as it can better support inventory reporting.

15. Participants views around the experiences on “reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation” are summarized below:

- Participants discussed different approaches to assessing impacts and adaptation, such as by sector and geographical zones; and expressed the need to learn about the approaches and methodologies to analyzing vulnerabilities and developing indicators to report climate change impacts and adaptation.
- Some participants emphasized the importance of agriculture and food production, cross-cutting issues such as gender and local communities, and that these areas should be considered when reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation.
- Participants also requested CGE to support developing countries in enhancing capacity to reporting on impacts and adaption.

16. Participants views around the experiences on “reporting support needed and received” are summarized below:

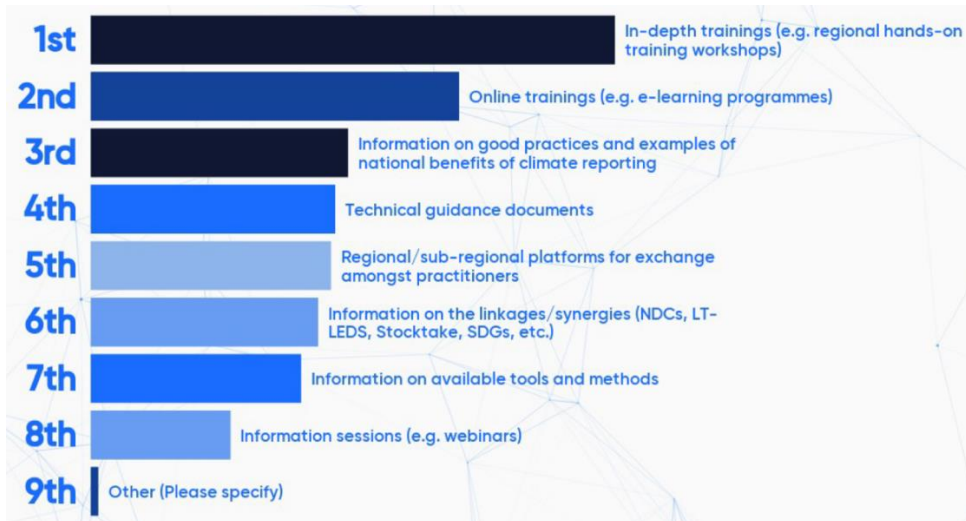
- Participants highlighted a general lack of experience in collecting data on support needed and received. They discussed matters around tagging and classification of climate related support and the need to establish standardized data collection processes across relevant actors.
- Interagency coordination of climate finance tracking is crucial. Many participants stated that information on support needed and received is scattered across various agencies and institutions. It is challenging to work with that volume of different actors and collect data for reporting. There is also a lack of data regarding support received from private entities and NGOs. Therefore, it is important to establish a system to collect information across agencies/entities on a regular basis. Many participants also mentioned the challenge of classifying and identifying climate finance from an overall project that is not 100% climate related.
- Some participants indicated tracking systems for support needed and received are two fundamentally different tracking systems. Challenges and gaps for reporting on support needed and received shall be separated and addressed individually. One participant shared that as a solution for identifying and assessing support needs, they built clear national investment plans and pipelines.
- On the support needed side, the tracking methodologies are new, and there are opportunities to articulate the methods and share experiences. On the support received side, there are opportunities for both South-South and North-South sharing experiences, particularly on interagency tracking.

17. Feedback provided via the Mentimeter exercise on reflections and expectations from the CGE in assisting developing countries in transparency and transitioning to ETF are summarized below.

- 88 per cent (35 out of 40) of the Mentimeter respondents had heard about CGE before. 72 per cent (29 out of 40) of the respondents or their colleagues attended CGE capacity-building activities and online courses or used CGE technical materials. Most of them, 87 per cent (34 out of 39), were in the view that CGE activities and materials were helpful to their countries’ MRV and transparency work.



- They also provided some suggestions, such as having more online and in-person capacity-building activities, extending the duration of the regional training workshops, conducting activities and preparing materials in different languages, improving the CGE website for a better navigation in finding the materials, and conducting more in-depth training.
- On a question about the priority areas for technical support, 32 respondents gave the below feedback:



- On a question on topics of interest for CGE’s future capacity-building activities and materials, 31 respondents shared the following feedback. In addition, one participant also requested if CGE can guide them on how to apply flexibilities, in their efforts to prepare the first biennial transparency report in accordance with the MPGs.



- In response to a question on the main challenges in preparing the first BTRs, participants expressed difficulties around collecting data from different agencies; interagency collaboration; unfamiliarity with MPGs, common reporting tables and common reporting formats; tracking adaptation actions; unfamiliarity with reporting on loss and damage; quantifying GHG emission reductions to track NDCs; accessing financial resources in a timely manner; and lack of proper institutional arrangements and human resources.

18. This summary report will serve as an input to CGE 2023 workplan and the progress report of the CGE for 2023.



ANNEX. Programme of the CGE 5th informal forum

Tuesday, 13 December 2022, 15:30–17:30 CET

Time	Item
Moderator – Mr. Arif GOHEER, CGE member	
10 min	Welcoming remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arif Goheer, Member of the Consultative Group of Experts Tugba Icmeli, Team Lead at the Transparency Division, UNFCCC secretariat
5 min	Agenda introduction and housekeeping
15 min	Existing and upcoming CGE support to developing countries, presentation by Mr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque AHMED, CGE member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overall picture of all CGE existing and upcoming materials, event recordings, and planned activities in 2023. Overall finds from the latest 2022 CGE transparency needs assessment
30 min	Focused group discussion (FG) Moderator of each group will present detailed findings from the 2022 CGE transparency needs assessment of the respective group. Each group will, on the basis of experiences, lessons learned and expert judgment, aim to answer the respective questions. <u>FG #1: Preparing national GHG inventories and report on mitigation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderator: Arif GOHEER, CGE member Secretariat support: Yali Wang 1. How to address data gaps for reporting and improve associated data collection processes and data quality over time? 2. How to enhance national capacity in applying guidelines, guidance, tools and methods? 3. How could CGE support, i.e., your preferred topics of CGE capacity-building activities in 2023? <u>FG #2: Reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderator: Carlos MENDEZ, CGE member Secretariat support: Bhava Dhungana 1. How to better understand and report on the impacts of climate change in various sectors (e.g. biodiversity, health, water resources and agriculture) and improve and increase the use of impact and vulnerability assessments? 2. What are the methodologies in use for consistently monitoring adaptation actions and assessing vulnerability and adaptation issues? 3. How could CGE support, i.e., your preferred topics of CGE capacity-building activities in 2023? <u>FG #3: Reporting on support needed and received</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderator: Toby HEDGER, CGE member Secretariat support: Tibor Lindovsky 1. What are the gaps and best practices to monitor and report on support needed and received? 2. What capacities need to be built and maintained for reporting on support needed and received? 3. How can Parties establish standardized data collection processes and collect relevant data across all relevant actors? 4. How could CGE support, i.e., your preferred topics of CGE capacity-building activities in 2023?
15 min	Report back from the focused groups (5 min per each group)
10 min	Plenary discussion
15 min	Menti exercise: Feedback on CGE support and expectations from the CGE in assisting developing countries in transparency and transitioning to ETF
15 min	Q & A session
5 min	Closing: Summary of key takeaways and closing remarks by the moderator