



United Nations Climate Change  
Paris Committee on Capacity-building



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CONFERENCE  
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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

## COP26 CATALYST FOR CLIMATE ACTION

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action Day

#### #Data4BetterClimateAction

#### The value of transparency to advance national priorities while fulfilling climate reporting

#### Event Summary

The event was held during COP 26 as part of the multi-stakeholder campaign “#Data4BetterClimateAction” with the view to raise awareness and highlight the value of climate data and transparency to advance national priorities while fulfilling reporting obligations under the Paris agreement. Targeting an audience of national government policymakers, government officials and subnational and non-state actors, the event featured speakers and contributors of diverse backgrounds and a wide geographical representation, to demonstrate the broader value of climate transparency beyond reporting and the links between data and policy.

The event started with a speech from the representative of the United Kingdom as host of the COP 26, Rt Hon Amanda Milling MP, Minister for Asia in the FCDO, who highlighted the increased importance of transparency as the backbone of the Paris Agreement. Speeches followed from Ministers of two Small Island Developing States, St. Kitts and Nevis (Honourable Eric Evelyn) and Sao Tomé and Príncipe (Minister Osvaldo Abreu), who shared the good examples of their countries prioritising climate data and transparency and the benefits resulting from ensuring sound data systems. The National Director of Climate Change of Argentina (Ms. Florencia Mitchell) shared her own country example, stressing the importance of including subnational actors and all sectors of policy and the economy in climate data and transparency. As a final country example, the Climate Change Secretariat Director from Sri Lanka (Dr. Sunimal Jayathunga) spoke of how capacity-building, transparency and solid data systems can help advance a country’s climate goals in multiple sectors.

After the country examples, some supporters and contributors to the #Data4BetterClimateAction campaign expressed their thoughts and views on the campaign and the importance of raising awareness for transparency. The Head of the Climate Change Office from the Ministry of the Environment of Chile, Ms. Maria Carolina Urmeneta Labarca, underlined the importance of transparency to achieve national climate goals and the value of international support for capacity-building. The Director of ICAT, Dr. Henning Wuester, noted the links between transparency and success in the Paris Agreement and pointed out that transparency is not an obligation, but an opportunity that needs to be brought





to the attention of policymakers as a tool for policy and engaging stakeholders. Finally, the UNEP-DTU Partnership Director, Ms. Susanne Pedersen, emphasized the need to collect data to support policy, as well as the need for and value of technical support to build capacity in all areas related to transparency under the Paris Agreement.

Following this, the event moderator opened the floor to questions from the public. They included, among others, questions on accessibility of data, transparency in adaptation and challenges related to indicators. The questions were answered by the speakers, who discussed and shared their views on the subjects raised based on their respective experiences.

As a final part of the event, a panel of experts from three international institutions active in the field of transparency, Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada from FAO, Ms. Chizuru Aoki from the GEF Secretariat and Ms. Ingvild Solvang from GGGI reflected on the different types of existing international support and approaches to enable countries to enhance their transparency frameworks.