

Consultative Group of Experts
2nd Pilot Informal Forum – Summary

Madrid, 5 December 2019

Version: 20 December 2019

I. BACKGROUND

1. The [Consultative Group of Experts](#) (CGE), at its first meeting held in Bonn, Germany, from 21-22 February 2019, agreed to organize, as part of its [work plan for 2019](#), pilot informal forums on the margin of the sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SBs).
2. The first pilot informal forum was held on 22 June 2019, which provided an opportunity to discuss the emerging needs of developing countries and support opportunities and deliveries to assist them implement the existing measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) under the Convention and prepare for the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.¹
3. The second pilot informal forum was held on 5 December 2019, in Madrid, on the margins of the twenty-fifth session of UN Climate Change Conference (COP 25). Recognizing the unique opportunity to collaborate with the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB), the CGE decided to organize the pilot informal forum as an event part of the Transparency Day at its second Capacity-building Hub at COP 25.
4. This report contains a summary of the proceedings of and discussions at the second pilot CGE informal forum.²

II. PROCEEDINGS

5. The focus of the second pilot informal forum was on institutionalization of data management system and its expected outcomes included:
 - a) Increased awareness of the importance of institutionalizing greenhouse gas (GHG) management;
 - b) Exchange of best practices, practical experiences and lessons learned in institutionalizing GHG data management;
 - c) Improved understanding of constraints and challenges, and the depth and needs for further capacity-building efforts.
6. The second forum convened with opening statements by the Chair of the CGE (Mr. Gervais Ludovic ITSOUA MADZOUS) and Co-Chair of the PCCB (Ms. Marzena CHODOR), and introductory remarks by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) (Mr. Emmanuel DUMISANI DLAMINI), the Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC secretariat (Mr. Ovais SARMAD) and COP25 Presidency (Ms. Carolina URMENETA).

¹ All materials presented in the forum and the summary report are available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/pilot-cge-informal-forum>.

² All materials presented in the forum are available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/institutionalizing-data-management-system-2nd-cge-pilot-informal-forum>.



Opening session speakers (L-R): Ms. Carolina URMENETA (COP25 Presidency), Mr. Ovais SARMAD (Deputy Executive Secretary – UNFCCC secretariat), Ms. Marzena CHODOR (PCCB Co-Chair), and Mr. Emmanuel DUMISANI DLAMINI (SBI Chair).

7. The technical session of the forum consisted of presentations by the CGE Chair, Indonesia and Australia, followed by plenary discussions. It was moderated by two CGE members, namely, Ms. Mausami Desai (USA) and Ms. Tian Wang (China).
 - a) **Setting the scene: the state of play:** The CGE Chair provided an overview of the work that the CGE undertook in 2019 to develop technical capacity of developing countries to institutionalize data management for their national GHG inventories. It also presented the key findings from the assessment undertaken this year to better understand the existing and emerging constraints, needs and gaps in relation implementing the existing MRV arrangements and preparing for the enhanced transparency framework.
 - b) **Institutionalizing data management - country experiences and lessons learned:** In this segment, two countries – Indonesia (Mr. Joko Prihatno) and Australia (Mr. Aaron Kirby) – presented concrete examples of how data management is institutionalized through live demonstration of their data management systems in place. They shared their experiences and lessons learned in developing and maintaining such system, including key success factors that benefited the process of institutionalizing data management, key challenges and constraints faced in the process, and how the countries overcame them and what remains to be addressed. The data management systems that were demonstrated in the forum included:
 - **Indonesia:** [SIGN-SMART](#) (a web-based GHG data management system) and [SRN or National Public Registry System](#) (a web-based data management system for tracking mitigation and adaptation actions and support);
 - **Australia:** [Australian Greenhouse Gas Emissions Information System \(AGEIS\)](#).

- c) **Plenary discussions:** This segment provided a space for further exchange of experiences from more countries, including Thailand who has recently set up their GHG inventory system (TGEIS) in collaboration with Australia.



Plenary discussion session speakers (L-R): Ms. Mausami DESAI (CGE member from USA), Ms. Tian WANG (CGE member from China), Mr. Joko PRIHATNO (Indonesia), Mr. Sivach KAEWCHAROEN (Thailand), Mr. Aaron KIRBY (Australia) and Mr. Gervais Ludovic ITSOUA MADZOUS (CGE Chair).

III. DISCUSSIONS

8. The exchange of experiences and lessons learned from the participants, as well as the presenters, highlighted the following key messages:
- Putting in place a national data management system and institutionalizing data collection and management brings benefits beyond reporting under the UNFCCC process. The data management system brings more robust data and flexibility in terms of archiving and documentation of the data. Further, it helps to communicate with broader stakeholders, which then contributes to getting support on MRV process.
 - Governance system and leadership, including legal and regulatory frameworks that mandate regular reporting and establishment of national data management system, was identified as key success factors. It is vital not only for setting up the national data management system, but for its operationalization, especially when there is lack of readiness or willingness of sectoral agencies and various levels of stakeholders (i.e. local and/or provincial levels) to use the established data management system and provide the required input data.

- c) In terms of the design of the national data management system, it is important to incorporate the system into a broader national inventory plan. In case a country has separate sectoral data collection/reporting systems, it is important to integrate them into the national system and ensure the consistent flow of data and information without duplicative work.
- d) The need for continuous capacity-building was imperative. It is important to provide adequate training to the stakeholders to help them better understand their roles and responsibilities in the process; and facilitate their provision of the required input data and use of the established system. The review process for countries' GHG inventories also provides an important opportunity for knowledge sharing and capacity building. Further, for those developing countries who used the revised 1996 IPCC guidelines, capacity-building is imperative to transition to the use of 2006 IPCC guidelines.
- e) Initiative for Climate Action Transparency shared the information on the technical support and capacity-building opportunities that it provides to developing countries. It encouraged developing countries' participation in the call for proposals that it has recently launched. Australia also mentioned that, building on its experiences in assisting Thailand, it has expanded collaboration with few other developing countries and will continue to do so.

ANNEX. Programme of the Second Pilot CGE Informal Forum

Date: Thursday 5 December 2019

Time: 18:00 – 20:00

Location: Capacity-building Hub at COP25

Programme of the Pilot CGE informal forum

Time	Agenda items/Speakers	
18:00–18:20	I. Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening statement by the Chair of the Consultative Group of Experts (<i>Mr. Gervais Ludovic ITSOUA MADZOUS</i>) - Opening remarks by the Co-Chair of the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (<i>Ms. Marzena CHODOR</i>) - Introductory remarks by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (<i>Mr. Emmanuel DLAMINI</i>) - Introductory remarks by the Deputy Executive Secretary of the secretariat (<i>Mr. Ovais SARMAD</i>) - Introductory remarks by the Presidency for COP 25 (<i>Ms. Carolina URMENETA</i>) 	
18:20–18:35	II. Setting the scene: the state of play <p>A presentation by the CGE highlighting the importance of having in place a robust and quality data as a basic foundation for implementation of the existing measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) arrangements under the Convention and the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement. It will also provide an overview of how the CGE in 2019 assisted developing country Parties to institutionalize data management for their national GHG inventories. Further, it will provide an overview of its findings from the assessment undertaken in 2019 to better understand the existing and emerging constraints, needs and gaps in relation to the existing MRV arrangements and the enhanced transparency framework.</p>	Mr. Gervais Ludovic ITSOUA MADZOUS (<i>CGE Chair</i>)
18:35–19:15	III. Institutionalizing data management - country experiences and lessons learned (<i>moderated by Ms. Tian Wang (CGE member) and Ms. Mausami Desai (CGE member)</i>) <p>In this session, a developed country Party and a developing country Party will present a concrete example of how data management is institutionalized through live demonstration of its data management system in place and sharing of experiences and lessons learned in developing and maintaining the system. Specifically, the presentation will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Showcase the data management system in place, including live demonstration of the system; and - Address two key questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were key lessons learned in the process of institutionalizing data management? In other words, what were the key success factors and how did they benefit the process? 	1. Mr. Joko Prihatno (<i>Indonesia</i>) 2. Mr. Aaron Kirby (<i>Australia</i>)

Time	Agenda items/Speakers	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were key challenges and constraints you faced in that process and how did you overcome it? What remains to be addressed? 	
19:15–19:45	<p>IV. Plenary discussions (<i>moderated by Ms. Tian Wang (CGE member) and Ms. Mausami Desai (CGE member)</i>)</p> <p>Building on the two country presentations, the country representatives in the plenary will be invited to share their own county experiences by addressing the two questions above.</p> <p>In addition, those participants in the room involved in supporting developing country Parties in the area of the existing MRV arrangements and the enhanced transparency framework will be invited to respond to these two questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your on-going and/or planned initiatives, is there any support available that responds to the constraints, needs and gaps expressed by developing country Parties? • If not, do you foresee any prospect of designing your future support initiatives to cater to those constraints, needs and gaps? 	
19:45–20:00	<p>V. Closing session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closing remarks, including a recap of the key messages, by the CGE Chair 	<p>Mr. Gervais Ludovic ITSOUA MADZOUS (<i>CGE Chair</i>)</p>
20:00–20:30	Networking (light refreshment)	
