



CONSULTATION - THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY'S SUPPORT TO THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK

Date: Thursday June 8, 2023

Time: 13:00 to 14:30 CEST

Venue: Club Lounge, Main Building of the World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB), Bonn, Germany

Background

The Paris Agreement was adopted by the Parties at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) Twenty-first Conference of the Parties (COP 21) in December 2015. The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) is a crucial result of the Paris Agreement for tracking and reporting the progress of existing and future country commitments, with built-in flexibility for developing country Parties.

As part of the Paris Agreement, Parties agreed to establish the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), aiming to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of developing countries to meet the enhanced transparency requirements defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. In response to COP 21 guidance, the GEF established the CBIT in June 2016. The CBIT has three aims: (i) Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities; (ii) Provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement; and (iii) Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

The total CBIT project portfolio, as of February 16, 2023, comprises 88 projects in 87 countries; 82 are individual country projects, one is a regional project (including five countries), and five are global projects. These 87 countries represent 55.8 percent of all 154 non-Annex I Parties. The total CBIT support amounts to \$144.6 million, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

In November 2022, the fourth Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 4) provided guidance to the GEF Secretariat on matters related to finance. In particular, paragraph 10 of decision 8c/CMA 4 reads as follows: [the CMA] "*Acknowledges* the challenges developing country Parties face in implementing the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement in a sustainable manner, including in establishing and enhancing reporting systems within their respective national governments, and *requests* the Global Environment Facility to consult with developing country Parties on how the support provided to them by the Facility for preparing their biennial transparency reports could best achieve this, in addition to the support provided for capacity-building provided through the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency."

This workshop is intended to respond to the CMA guidance above and to provide an update on the status of the GEF support to Parties for the implementation of the ETF. The workshop is also designed to enable sharing of information and early lessons between Parties regarding the initial experiences with BTR support and preparation.

Under the eighth replenishment of the GEF (GEF-8), which runs from July 1st, 2022 to June 30th 2026, the budget available to support Enabling Activities under the Climate Change focal area has increased by more than 30% compared to GEF-7. This include support for National Communications, Biennial Transparency Reports and the CBIT.-Countries also continue to have access to resources intended for climate reporting obligations and CBIT support from set-aside funding that do not draw on country allocations.

Objectives & Outcomes

- Raise developing country Parties' awareness of the support the GEF provides to the ETF.
- Identify developing country Parties' challenges in establishing and enhancing their reporting systems under the ETF, particularly in terms of process streamlining, project structuring, training and workshops, as well as communication and outreach activities.
- Showcase good practices and early lessons from developing country Parties and agencies in implementing the ETF.
- Enhance developing country Parties' capacity to implement the ETF in a timely manner.

Target Audience

- UNFCCC National Focal Points, GEF Operational Focal Points, and transparency experts
- GEF Implementing Agencies and GEF Donors
- Global and regional transparency initiatives (i.e. CBIT-GSP, PAPTA)

Format and Timeline

One hour and a half in-person workshop in English. The outcome of this workshop will be a summary report with lessons learned, good practices, and recommendations for implementing the ETF. This summary report will be attached as an annex to the GEF report to COP28.

Light catering will be served.

Draft Agenda

| Time | Duration | Session |
|-------------|----------|---|
| 13:00-13:05 | 5 min | <p>Opening Filippo Berardi, Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat</p> <p>Welcome remarks Chizuru Aoki, Lead Environmental Specialist, GEF Secretariat</p> |
| 13:05-13:15 | 10 min | <p>Update on the Enhanced Transparency Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jigme, Manager, Transparency, UNFCCC Secretariat <p>The UNFCCC will provide an overview of the ETF in the run-up to COP28.</p> |
| 13:15-13:35 | 20 min | <p>GEF support under the Enhanced Transparency Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderated by Filippo Berardi, Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat. Presentation by Esteban Bermudez Forn, Climate Change Specialist, GEF Secretariat <p>The GEF will provide an overview of its support to countries under the ETF. After the presentation, the Moderator will open the floor for discussion among participants</p> |
| 13:35-14:05 | 30 min | <p>Challenges, Experiences and Lessons Learned in implementing the ETF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderated by Filippo Berardi, Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat Country 1 (TBC) Country 2 (TBC) Country 3 (TBC) <p>Country and agency representatives will share the challenges, experiences, and lessons learned related to implementing the ETF. After the presentation, the Moderator will open the floor for discussion among participants.</p> |
| 14:05-14:25 | 20 min | <p>Q&A Moderated by Filippo Berardi, Climate Change Focal Area Coordinator, GEF Secretariat</p> |
| 14:25-14:30 | 5 min | <p>Closing: Outcomes and next steps Filippo Berardi, Lead Climate Change Mitigation, GEF Secretariat</p> |