

## Second set of questions submitted by Parties in writing after the second meeting of the contact group on SBI 60 item 19 (Administrative, Financial and Institutional Matters) and responses by the secretariat

---

**Regional Climate Weeks: We noticed that the secretariat's response clarifies that they do not have the budget to continue the regional climate weeks, we would like to enquire about the nature of the partnership with IEA and whether the secretariat is contributing financially within that partnership or covering its own cost to participate in the workshops within the partnership.**

**Response:**

The secretariat is not contributing financially to the partnership with IEA and the secretariat is only covering its own costs.

**Trust fund for participation: What efforts has the secretariat engaged in to raise funds for this trust fund? Please include a list of efforts in relation to any fundraising efforts conducted. For example, the GCAP raised funds through engaging non-Party Stakeholders, did the secretariat consider this approach as well for the trust fund for participation?**

**Response:**

The secretariat has made significant efforts to raise funds for the TFP and TFSA, which include:

- Consistent outreach to Parties, for example, during the first quarter of 2024, the secretariat contacted Annex I Parties via email to request urgent support for the upcoming SB60.
- Subsequently, bilateral meetings with Parties at different levels were engaged by the Executive Secretary, Senior Director for Operations, Director of Conference Affairs and Chief of Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Sub-division to encourage voluntary contributions to TFP.
- These efforts successfully secured sufficient funding to support the participation of funded participants, particularly LDCs and SIDS at SB60 but not for COP29 and to cover the deficit from 2023.
- In addition to sending the fundraising letter to all Annex I Parties (except Ukraine) on 13 March, the letter was also extended to all non-Annex I Parties (except Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Palestine) on 23 May 2024, for the first time. The letter outlined the deficit and funding gaps for TFP and encouraged Parties to consider making voluntary contributions.
- The secretariat also plans to send out a mid-year update letter to all Party recipients of the fundraising letter (Annex I and non-Annex I), detailing the most up-to-date funding situation of TFP (and TFSA).
- Continued strengthened outreach efforts will be made through 2024 to gauge support in the first quarter of 2025 for the SB session.
- To broaden the funding base for the Trust Funds (TFSA and TFP), the secretariat made efforts to gain support from non-Party stakeholders. Such outreach continues to be conducted at different levels, taking a strategic approach to enhance engagement and support from non-Party stakeholders.

**Trust fund for participation: Is the trust fund for participation the only source of funds for supporting developing countries' participation in the UNFCCC process or are there more, if so what are they? Is it possible to tap into any other available sources?**

**Response:**

The Trust Fund for Participation in the UNFCCC process is used to fund participation of representatives of eligible Parties in the sessions of the governing and subsidiary bodies and COPs. Parties from developing countries may also be funded to attend capacity building workshops, trainings and other meetings from other relevant sources such as TFSA (under individual projects) and CDM.

**Executive travel: Please add a column that indicates total flights, rather than missions. Kindly as well add the currency and indicate if that is the total expenditure.**

**Response:**

**Travel costs of the Executive Secretary and his accompanying team for 2023 and the first half of 2024**

Year	ES mission Count <sup>a</sup>	Mission cost for the ES + accompanying officer, USD	Number of flights <sup>b</sup>
2023	27	348,358	75
2024 (first half)	10	140,004	34

<sup>a</sup> Missions may include participation in more than one event (i.e.: for the UNFCCC secretariat mission may include a connected itinerary with more than one destination)

<sup>b</sup> Includes the count of all flight segments that ES undertook

**Executive travel: Please add an exhaustive list of all events attended in 2024.**

**Response:**

Date start	Date end	Event	Location	Participation paid by UNFCCC or the organizer
15/1/2024	19/1/2024	WEF - 54th World Economic Forum Annual Meeting	Davos, Switzerland	Accommodation by organizer for the senior advisor, the rest is paid by UNFCCC
31/1/2024	2/2/2024	First Strategy Meeting: Official Visit to Baku in preparation for COP 29	Baku, Azerbaijan	UNFCCC
12/2/2024	14/2/2024	2024 World Government Summit	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	UNFCCC
13/2/2024	13/2/2024	United Nations Security Council High Level Open Debate: the impact of climate change & food insecurity on the maintenance of international peace & security	New York, USA	UNFCCC
22/2/2024	23/2/2024	ES Mission to Australia to meet with Members of the Government, and other stakeholders	Sydney, Australia	UNFCCC
26/2/2024	27/2/2024	Pacific Islands High level conference - charting the course towards shared prosperity	Nadi, Fiji	Accommodation by organizer for the ES, the rest is paid by UNFCCC
20/3/2024	22/3/2024	Copenhagen Climate Ministerial	Copenhagen, Denmark	UNFCCC
10/4/2024	10/4/2024	Fundraising meetings & Chatham House Event	London, UK	UNFCCC
12/4/2024	13/4/2024	ES official visit to Italy. Meeting with Italian government, Italian G7 Presidency and the Vatican	Rome, Italy	UNFCCC
16/4/2024	16/4/2024	ES official visit to New York to attend meetings with UN SG and UN counterparts	New York, USA	Accommodation by organizer for Senior Advisor, the rest is paid by UNFCCC

16/4/2024	19/4/2024	WB/IMF Spring meetings	Washington D.C., USA	UNFCCC
21/4/2024	25/4/2024	UNFCCC NAP Expo 2024	Dhaka, Bangladesh	UNFCCC
24/4/2024	26/4/2024	Petersberg Climate Dialogue + Pre-meeting with COP28/29 Presidencies	Berlin, Germany	UNFCCC
28/4/2024	30/4/2024	G7 Climate, Energy, Environment Ministerial Meeting	Venaria, Turin	Accommodation by organizer for the ES, the rest is paid by UNFCCC
14/5/2024	17/5/2024	Mission to Paris: * Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa; * 1st COP29-IEA High-Level Energy Transition Dialogue; * UNESCO / UNFCCC Exchange Session - contributions to COP29	Paris, France	UNFCCC
27/5/2024	30/5/2024	4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States SIDS4	St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda	UNFCCC

**Executive travel: Are trips that the executive secretary takes to participate in international events covered by the UNFCCC (e.g., World Government Summit, TED Talks etc.)?**

**Response:**

Flights and accommodation for TED Countdown Summit in 2023 were covered by the organizers. Please see the previous response with regard to events of 2024.

**CDM trust fund: How much does the CDM Trust Fund currently have in EUR and how are these resources used (i.e., for which division and does it cover any staff costs)?**

**Response:**

The CDM Executive Board decides on the budget on a biennium basis by adopting a business and management plan to be funded by the CDM Trust Fund. As reported to the CDM Executive Board in the Status of [CDM MAP 2022–2023 implementation \(1 January – 31 December 2023\)](#), the balance of the CDM Trust Fund as at 31 December 2023 was: EUR 31,945,294 (USD 34,610,286). Activities and resources for the current biennium are contained in the Clean Development Mechanism's (CDM) business and management plan 2024–2025 ([CDM-MAP 2024–2025](#)), adopted at the 119th meeting of the Executive Board of the CDM (CDM-EB119-A06).

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, we estimate the balance will be EUR 54.9 million (USD 59.5 million including the USD 45 million reserve). As indicated in the [Technical Paper](#): "Necessary level of resources for the functioning and operation of the processes and institutions under the Clean Development Mechanism" (FCCC/TP/2024/4), there are assumptions and considerations related to the estimates of the financial resources required for future operations under the clean development mechanism for various time frames. At this session, the SBSTA is considering these resource estimates.

The CDM Executive Board approved 43 positions for 2024, in its business and management plan 2024–2025 ([CDM-MAP 2024–2025](#)), to support the work of CDM.

**Mitigation work program vs global goal on adaptation: Please provide us with the costs associated with the mitigation work programme (including global dialogues and investment events) and the global goal on adaptation in a table and separate staff costs from activity costs.**

**Response:**

There was no core funding approved for **Mitigation Work Program** implementation. Under the supplementary funding, the budgeted amount for 2024-25 is EUR 2.6 million (including 13 % PSC) in total. This includes staff cost EUR 900K (including 13% PSC) and non-staff cost amounting EUR 1.7 million (including 13% PSC). This includes supporting the global dialogues and investment forums. Approximately 80% of the non-staff costs correspond to funding the participation of eligible developing country experts.

**For GGA**, negotiations are ongoing on this item. Assuming an outcome that includes one workshop/dialogue prior to COP 29, one workshop/dialogue during SB 62, one workshop/dialogue prior to COP 30, and associated staffing of 1xP4; 1xP2 and 1 team assistant, the envisaged conservative cost estimates are of 423K for the workshops (including PSC), and 900,000 for staffing (including TCO and PSC).

**Executive division: The justification for the nearly 300% increase in the executive division was that it was needed in order for the OES to carry out its activities. Kindly advise how the below activities, retrieved from Article 8 of the Convention, require 6 million EUR over two years just for the executive office and oversight division?**

**The functions of the secretariat shall be:**

- (a) To make arrangements for sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies established under the Convention and to provide them with services as required;**
- (b) To compile and transmit reports submitted to it;**
- (c) To facilitate assistance to the Parties, particularly developing country Parties, on request, in the compilation and communication of information required in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;**
- (d) To prepare reports on its activities and present them to the Conference of the Parties;**
- (e) To ensure the necessary coordination with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies;**
- (f) To enter, under the overall guidance of the Conference of the Parties, into such administrative and contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions; and**
- (g) To perform the other secretariat functions specified in the Convention and in any of its protocols and such other functions as may be determined by the Conference of the Parties.**

**Response:**

The total core and supplementary budget over two years includes staffing and non staff requirements for ES, DES and their offices, including Chief of Staff and the ODO team. We emphasize that no substantive changes have been made to levels of staffing, nor to the extent or costs of travel, or any other budget expense lines, relative to 2022-23 levels.

The detailed rationale for the Executive Divisions budget is indicated in the following documents:

- FCCC/SBI/2023/2/Add.1/Rev.1. Revised work programme of the secretariat for the biennium 2024–2025;

- FCCC/SBI/2024/INF.1. Work programme of the secretariat for the biennium 2024–2025: update as at 1 January 2024

The Executive division focuses on three broad areas with related objectives:

- a) Facilitating intergovernmental engagement by overseeing the secretariat support systems

This includes strategic guidance on and effective coordination of the secretariat, including providing executive support and advice to COP Presidencies and presiding officers on advancing work in the UNFCCC process. The Executive division also engages extensively with governments to facilitate their understanding of, and engagement with, issues under discussion in the UNFCCC process and established processes to support the implementation of negotiated mandates.

- b) Conducting outreach to a broad range of stakeholders and ensuring strategic coordination within the United Nations system to promote action towards the achievement of the objectives and goals of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement

This includes strategic outreach to, and coordination with, key stakeholders, including United Nations agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to facilitate and promote an ambitious global response to climate change. This includes close and ongoing coordination to ensure cohesive, efficient and effective UN system-wide practical supports for Parties for their climate efforts, with a focus on the secretariat's mandated role and inputs into these coordinated supports, and alignment of UN system wide activities with the objectives of the UNFCCC process, to strengthen outcomes, both in terms of the secretariat's role as convenor of the intergovernmental process bringing together Parties, at SBs and climate COPs each year (whilst also ensuring all mandated stakeholder inclusiveness in the process), as well as overseeing the secretariat's role in mandated supports to Parties to improve outcomes for communities on the ground, and policy-making capacity within countries.

- c) Managing and administering the cross-cutting and the Executive divisions, as well as the secretariat overall, in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations

This includes ensuring ongoing alignment of all secretariat functions and outputs with the objectives of the UNFCCC process, including the effective functioning of governance mechanisms for the efficient management and use of secretariat resources and overall operational responsiveness to Parties' needs. Where resourcing has not been matched adequately to mandated activities, either due to non-delivery or late delivery of funds pledged by Parties, or due to increasing mandates from Parties not accompanied by execution funding, or both, the Executive division resource management activities increasingly include time spent on these issues, both internally and following up with Parties and non-Party stakeholders, for example most recently to secure adequate funding of the TFP to ensure participation in these SB60 by all Parties. In addition to the above, the Executive division houses the Organizational Development and Oversight Unit (ODO), responsible for providing guidance to the Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary on strategic planning and performance monitoring, organizational design and enhancement of business processes, and oversight and accountability management (incl. enterprise risk management and internal controls oversight). The Manager, ODO, also serves as MT Secretary and management focal point for audits from the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the Board of Auditors (BoA).

Recalling the answer provided to previous related questions, a correction had to be made to restore supplementary funding to the approximate level of the prior biennium, to ensure the work of the

Executive Secretary and his Office could be carried out, as well as that of Organizational Development and Oversight, which is part of the Executive division.

**Intergovernmental support: We noticed a 45% decrease in the resource requirements for this category, this is not consistent with the increased mandates and agenda items. Can you kindly clarify if this was due to cost cutting (reducing webcasts in rooms, hosting mandated events in Bonn, etc.,)? If so, what was this cost cutting done for?**

**Response:**

In response to Parties, please note that a group of Parties raised concerns during the last-year SBs that the proposed budget of Collective Progress was too high. The reduced resource requirements in the Intergovernmental support and Collective Progress division, stem mainly from reduced requirements in the Collective Progress sub-division.

Reductions in collective progress are a result of reduced staff and consultancy requirements as well as reduced travel as activities mandated in the outcome of the first global stocktake are to be undertaken across all divisions drawing from the overall secretariat budget. Reductions in the Intergovernmental Support sub-division solely concern a reduction in travel costs of Bureau Members as inter-sessional Bureau meetings will be organized virtually. Finally, resource requirements for the complementary capacity building project for strengthening engagement with Parties were adjusted and additional work absorbed within the Division by existing resources. An overview of the resource requirements is available in the table below.

Category	Project	Tables 4&5	Revised WP	Variance in EUR
Cat 2-3	Enhanced coordination and operational support to Presidency teams	€ 1,902,818	€ 1,431,554	€ (471,264)
Cat 2-3	Comprehensive support for the response to the first global stocktake, preparation for the second global stocktake, consideration of research and systematic observation, science, enhanced collaboration with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and enhanced ocean-based climate action	€ 2,292,528	€ 974,496	€ (1,318,032)
	<b>Total cat 2-3</b>	<b>€ 4,195,346</b>	<b>€ 2,406,050</b>	<b>€ (1,789,296)</b>
Cat 4	Strengthening engagement with Parties, observer States and negotiating groups on policies, positions and issues related to COP mandates and UNFCCC process globally and regionally	€ 1,127,953	€ 478,939	€ (649,014)
	<b>Total cat 4</b>	<b>€ 1,127,953</b>	<b>€ 478,939</b>	<b>€ (649,014)</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 5,323,299</b>	<b>€ 2,884,989</b>	<b>€ (2,438,310)</b>

**Why does the mitigation division have a budgeted amount in the supplementary budget of 94 million and adaptation only has 13 million?**

**Response:**

At COP 28 Parties adopted the mandates and budget for the biennium 2024-2025 with EUR 7,638,306 of Core funding for Adaptation and EUR 4,390,876 for Mitigation.

The Trust Fund for Supplementary activities ([tables 4&5 FCCC/CP/2023/11/Add.2](#), update [FCCC/SBI/2024/INF.1](#)) includes:

1. 4 projects for the Adaptation division:

Project SB102-001 = Comprehensive support for the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and adaptation-related: EUR 4.5 million

Project 202-001 = Support for the full extent of activities envisaged in the workplans of the Adaptation Committee, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts: EUR 5.8 million

Project 300-001 = Enhanced engagement with respect to climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation: EUR 872k

Project 400-001 = Enhanced engagement with respect to climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, including on anticipatory approaches and foresight to the attainment of long-term resilience: EUR 2.6 million

2. Total of EUR 94 million represents 4 supplementary funded projects of the Mitigation division:

Project SB101-002= Facilitating enhanced mitigation ambition and implementation (change from Mitigation Implementation through the High-Level Ministerial Round Table on pre-2030 ambition, the Mitigation Work Programme, and continued support to NDC and LT-LEDS): EUR 7.4 million.

Project SB102-002 = Support for the operationalization of Article 6, paragraphs 2 and 8, of the Paris Agreement (change from Support for the operationalization of Article 6, paragraphs 2 and 8, of the Paris Agreement and the implementation of response measures): EUR 8.8 million.

Project SB200-002 = Support for the full extent of activities envisaged in the workplan of the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures and intergovernmental engagement on response measures (change from Support to the operationalization of Articles 6.2 and 6.8 of the Paris Agreement and the implementation of Response Measures): EUR 1.8 million.

Project SB400-002 = Unlocking transformative climate solutions in collaboration with Parties and non-State actors e.g., Art. 6 capacity building, Regional Collaboration Centres (which provide support to developing countries with their commitments under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and engagement in processes and mechanisms established thereunder, in the areas of mitigation, adaptation, transparency, means of implementation and stakeholder engagement), Carbon Pricing support to developing countries: EUR 31.6 million. In addition to:

Article 6.4 mechanism two-year business and resource allocation plan 2024–2025: EUR 31 million ([FCCC/SBI/2024/INF.1](#), paragraph 13 page 8) and,

The CDM Management and business plan for 2024-2025: EUR 14 million for the Mitigation Division ([FCCC/SBI/2024/INF.1](#), paragraph 13 page 8).

**In the document on 2022-23, text from the GST decision must be picked up with more balance. It doesn't mention finance, adaptation finance, and national circumstances.**

**Response:** The secretariat notes the comment made.

**On review for 2024-26, more clarity is required on non-party stakeholders. For example, it says that non-party stakeholders will be supported in implementation of GST outcome. This is not clear as which outcome will be targeted. Also, which kind of coalitions will be supported. Will the NPS from developed countries be also promoted to invest in developing countries.**

**Response:**

In accordance with decision of 1/CMA.5: (para 185) encourages the high-level champions, the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and non-Party stakeholders, as appropriate, to consider the outcomes of the first global stocktake in their work on scaling up and introducing new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions; and (para 161) urges Parties and non-Party stakeholders to join efforts to accelerate delivery through inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action;

The support of the secretariat referred to in the updated 2024–2025 work programme, is to facilitate, coordinate and advise the High-Level Champions, the Marrakech Partnership and NPS, in particular to ensure a balanced and inclusive engagement in their work in considering the GST outcomes, as referred to in the decision 1/CMA.5.