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## Subsidiary Body for Implementation

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Item 4(c) of the provisional agenda

### Reporting from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

### Report of the Consultative Group of Experts

## Regional hands-on training workshops held in 2022 and 2023

### Report by the secretariat\*

#### *Summary*

As part of its workplans for 2022 and 2023, the Consultative Group of Experts conducted regional hands-on training workshops, focused on tracking progress towards implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions under the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement, including through mitigation assessment, use of indicators, and monitoring of support needed and received in 2022 and on reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation and on support needed and received in relation to adaptation in 2023. The main objective of the workshops was to enhance the technical capacity of experts from developing country Parties to implement the existing measurement, reporting and verification arrangements under the Convention and prepare for implementation of the enhanced transparency framework. This report outlines the proceedings of the workshops and summarizes the discussions that took place.

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\* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.



## Abbreviations and acronyms

BTR	biennial transparency report
BUR	biennial update report
CBIT–GSP	global project of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency and the Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Transparency Reports by developing country Parties
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTF	common tabular format
ETF	enhanced transparency framework
GHG	greenhouse gas
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MPGs	modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
NAP	national adaptation plan
NC	national communication
NDC	nationally determined contribution
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The CGE, at its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, agreed to organize, as part of its workplan for 2022,<sup>1</sup> a series of regional hands-on training workshops in 2022 on tracking progress towards implementing and achieving NDCs under the ETF, including through mitigation assessment, use of indicators, and monitoring of support needed and received. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, as part of its workplan for 2023,<sup>2</sup> the CGE decided to focus its workshops in 2023 on reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation and on support needed and received in relation to adaptation. The CGE requested the secretariat to make the necessary arrangements to organize the workshops.

2. COP 19 requested the CGE to submit an annual progress report on its work to the SBI for consideration at the sessions of the SBI held in conjunction with the sessions of the COP.<sup>3</sup>

### B. Scope of the report

3. As part of the annual reporting by the CGE on the progress of its work,<sup>4</sup> this report contains a summary of the proceedings of and discussions at the regional hands-on training workshops held in 2022 and 2023.

### C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

4. The SBI will be invited to consider this report and to provide guidance, as appropriate, to the CGE.

## II. Proceedings

5. In 2022, the CGE conducted three regional hands-on training workshops on tracking progress towards implementing and achieving NDCs under the ETF, including through mitigation assessment, use of indicators and monitoring of support needed and received. A total of 140 participants (41 per cent female and 59 per cent male) from 91 developing country Parties attended the workshops (see table 1).

Table 1

**Regional hands-on training workshops of the Consultative Group of Experts in 2022**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Region(s)</i>	<i>Language(s)</i>	<i>Number of countries represented</i>	<i>Number of participants (male/female)</i>	<i>Number of CGE resource persons</i>
19–21 October	Yerevan, Armenia	Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe	English	25	56 (21/35)	2
5–7 December	Bonn, Germany	Africa	English, French	41	50 (39/11)	9
5–7 December	Bonn, Germany	Latin America and the Caribbean	English, Spanish	25	34 (22/12)	6

<sup>1</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/461128>.

<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/9th-meeting-of-the-consultative-group-of-experts-cge>.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 19/CP.19, para. 7.

<sup>4</sup> See documents FCCC/SBI/2022/16 and FCCC/SBI/2023/20 for the 2022 and 2023 progress reports of the CGE.

6. In 2023, the CGE conducted three regional hands-on training workshops on reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation and on support needed and received in relation to adaptation. A total of 157 participants (42 per cent female and 58 per cent male) from 78 developing country Parties attended the workshops (see table 2).

Table 2

**Regional hands-on training workshops of the Consultative Group of Experts in 2023**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Region(s)</i>	<i>Language(s)</i>	<i>Number of countries represented</i>	<i>Number of participants (male/female)</i>	<i>Number of CGE resource persons</i>
25–28 April	Praia, Cabo Verde	Africa	English, French	37	74 (56/18)	5
16–19 May	San Ignacio, Belize	Latin America and the Caribbean	English, Spanish	20	39 (12/27)	3
26–29 September	Siem Reap, Cambodia	Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe	English	21	44 (23/21)	3

**A. Background**

7. The ETF builds on and enhances the existing MRV arrangements under the Convention. With the adoption of the MPGs for the ETF at COP 24<sup>5</sup> and the corresponding common reporting tables, CTFs and outlines for reporting at COP 26,<sup>6</sup> many developing country Parties are already planning, and some are already taking, their first steps to transition to the ETF.

8. While reporting under the Convention through NCs will continue, BURs and the international consultation and analysis process under the Convention will eventually be superseded by BTRs, the technical expert review and processes for facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress under the Paris Agreement. The final BURs by developing country Parties will be those that are submitted no later than 31 December 2024, and Parties shall submit their first BTRs and national inventory reports, if submitted as a stand-alone report, at the latest by 31 December 2024.<sup>7</sup>

9. Developing country Parties' reporting in their NCs and BURs, the CGE stocktake survey conducted in 2021<sup>8</sup> and the technical analysis of BURs have shown that national experts continue to require capacity-building for implementing the existing MRV arrangements. The key areas of capacity-building needs in preparing for implementation of and transition to the ETF are:

(a) Enhancing knowledge of the MPGs and understanding of areas of enhancement of the ETF as they relate to the existing MRV arrangements and how best to address them;

(b) Gathering and reporting information in the thematic areas of the BTR, namely the national GHG inventory, tracking progress of implementation and achievement of NDCs, climate change impacts and adaptation, and support needed and received;

(c) Enhancing knowledge and technical capacity in relation to methodologies and tools, especially for tracking progress of implementation and achievement of NDCs and the

<sup>5</sup> Decision 18/CMA.1, para. 1. The MPGs are contained in the annex to that decision.

<sup>6</sup> Annexes to decision 5/CMA.3.

<sup>7</sup> The least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit the information referred to in Article 13, paras. 7–10, of the Paris Agreement at their discretion.

<sup>8</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/307003>.

transition from the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*<sup>9</sup> to the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*;<sup>10</sup>

(d) Enhancing the data-collection and data management process through formalization and/or standardization, and exploring opportunities for synergies between the process and existing reporting mandates and processes at the national level.

10. Despite the flexibility provisions enshrined in the Paris Agreement and detailed in the MPGs, many developing country Parties expect that considerable efforts will be required for the transition from the existing MRV arrangements to the ETF. For those Parties, the enhanced depth, scope and frequency of reporting under the ETF will pose a significant challenge in terms of the resources required to meet the new requirements. In that context, Parties need to familiarize themselves with the CTFs and understand which aspects of support needed and received are to be reported under the ETF for tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs.

## B. Objectives

11. In 2020 and 2021 the CGE held 14 virtual regional hands-on training workshops on the existing MRV arrangements and the ETF. The workshops were aimed at enhancing the technical capacity of experts in implementing the existing MRV arrangements and understanding the MPGs with a view to facilitating developing country Parties' preparation for and transition to the implementation of the ETF.

12. The workshops held in 2022, on tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs, were designed to build on training materials already developed for the workshops held in 2020 and 2021 and focus on:

(a) Reporting information related to tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs, and assessing outcomes of policies, measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans;

(b) Identifying indicators for tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs;

(c) Understanding the requirements for preparing a structured summary on tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs;

(d) Understanding national circumstances, institutional arrangements and country-driven strategies with a view to identifying support needed and received in relation to tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs.

13. The main objective of the workshops held in 2022 was, by engaging participants in discussions and exercises, to enhance the technical capacity of experts from developing country Parties to implement the existing MRV arrangements relevant to tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs, determine the provision of support needed and received in relation to tracking progress of NDCs and prepare for implementation of the ETF, complementing other efforts of the CGE in this regard.

14. On the basis of feedback collected from biennial stocktake surveys and following previous workshops, and reinforced by the request of SBI 57 to the CGE to enhance its provision of technical advice and support to developing country Parties for reporting information pursuant to decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chapters III–IV,<sup>11</sup> the objectives of the

<sup>9</sup> IPCC. 1997. *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*. JL Houghton, LG Meira Filho, B Lim, et al. (eds.). Paris: IPCC/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/International Energy Agency.

Available at <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gl/invs1.html>.

<sup>10</sup> IPCC. 2006. *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*. S Eggleston, L Buendia, K Miwa, et al. (eds.). Hayama, Japan: Institute for Global Environmental Strategies.

Available at <http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl>.

<sup>11</sup> FCCC/SBI/2022/20, para. 25.

workshops held in 2023, on reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation and on support needed and received in relation to adaptation, were, inter alia, to:

(a) Raise awareness among national institutions and experts of the provisions for reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including on support needed and received, under the Paris Agreement and the Convention;

(b) Provide participants with an overview of data-collection and data management methodologies and approaches used for assessing impacts, risks and vulnerabilities; identifying and prioritizing adaptation actions; reporting information related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts; and reporting on support needed and received for adaptation;

(c) Promote good practices for and draw on lessons learned from communicating adaptation information under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as well as facilitate networking and the sharing of relevant experience among national experts.

## **C. Structure**

15. The training was conducted in person, with language interpretation services provided for some of the workshops. Training materials and presentations were made available to participants before the workshops (see the annex).

16. The training was aimed at experts who are actively involved in processes related to the existing MRV arrangements and the ETF, including in relation to establishing and sustaining institutional arrangements and collecting data and information for preparing NCs, BURs, GHG inventories and BTRs. The CGE strongly encouraged national focal points to take gender into account when nominating experts to participate in the training.

17. Each training workshop was structured in three phases – preparatory, training and follow-up – and spanned a three-week period.<sup>12</sup>

### **1. Preparatory phase**

18. During the preparatory phase, participants studied introductory materials, defined their expectations and familiarized themselves with the training materials and exercises. Participants received a survey form on which they shared personal information including expertise, working areas and interests. They were invited to submit an initial set of questions on the workshop materials or on areas for which they sought clarification. The information received was synthesized and shared with the CGE resource persons.

### **2. Training phase**

19. The workshops were conducted over the course of three days in each case in 2022 and four days in each case in 2023. During the workshops, participants had the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification on the materials provided during the preparatory phase, exchange views and discuss the relevant topics. Participants also shared their experience and lessons learned.

### **3. Follow-up phase**

20. After the training, participants were encouraged to continue engaging with their peers and the CGE resource persons, either to address any technical questions they may have or to share their experience, lessons learned or technical resources that may benefit their peers. In addition, an online survey was circulated to participants to solicit feedback on the preparatory and training phases, training approach and content, as well as on whether the training objectives and participants' individual expectations had been met.

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<sup>12</sup> The agendas for the 2022 and 2023 workshops are available at <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/consultative-group-of-experts/calendar-of-meetings/archive-of-meetings>.

### III. Summary of discussions from the workshops

#### A. 2022 workshops

##### 1. Understanding the enhanced transparency framework arrangements

21. A presentation was given to introduce the outcomes of CMA 3 and 4 in relation to the ETF, particularly how it builds on and enhances the existing MRV arrangements under the Convention, and the importance of transparency arrangements at the domestic level. Participants discussed the outline of the BTR and the CTFs for reporting the information necessary for tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs. The discussions revolved around the technical terminology used, such as for a structured summary on tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement; national GHG emission projections; climate change policies, measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans; and use of qualitative and quantitative indicators for tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs.

22. Most of the workshop participants indicated that, in their countries, MRV and ETF activities are centrally coordinated by national environmental or climate change authorities. Other entities engaged in the MRV and the ETF processes include GHG units; ministries of agriculture, energy, finance, forestry, planning or transport; national statistics offices; private sector organizations; research institutions; and subnational agencies.

23. Participants shared information on plans and projects aimed at enhancing capacity to implement the ETF and prepare the first BTR. They highlighted the challenges involved in transitioning to the ETF, raising concerns about capacity to do so prior to submitting the first BTR. Many participants noted that more support will be needed, including at the technical level with regard to preparing information in accordance with the MPGs and using the CTFs and reporting formats; at the human resource level with regard to ensuring sufficient numbers of skilled and qualified staff for climate change reporting; and at the financial resource level with regard to ensuring adequate finance for activities such as enhancing stakeholder engagement in the reporting process.

24. Some participants acknowledged the importance of international support to facilitate a smoother transition to the ETF and gave examples of international support programmes.

##### 2. Estimating and accounting for greenhouse gas emissions and removals

25. Participants were given an overview of the steps involved in assessing and reporting progress towards GHG emission reduction goals. A list of typical emission accounting methods was shared with participants for use in assessing progress towards GHG emission reduction goals.

26. Participants were taught how to estimate changes in GHG emissions and removals resulting from specific policies and actions relative to a baseline scenario and discussed common types of policy instrument for reducing GHG emissions, including climate-related regulations and standards, carbon taxes and charges, and subsidies, as well as the importance of raising awareness of the need for climate action to promote behavioural change and address technology development and transfer needs.

27. Participants then further discussed the steps involved in assessing and reporting on progress towards GHG emission reduction goals, including defining those goals and identifying potential policies and measures for achieving them; assessing the impact of policies and measures on GHG emissions (ex ante and ex post); monitoring progress during the implementation stage; and updating GHG inventory systems.

28. Participants took part in an exercise on mapping the causal chain for implementing a housing insulation subsidy policy to learn how to achieve policy objectives, in this case reducing demand for electricity generated from fossil fuels and contributing to a reduction in GHG emissions.

29. Participants reported the following experience and challenges faced:

(a) There are difficulties in defining policies and measures for reducing GHG emissions in a particular sector, understanding their interaction with existing policies and measures and identifying areas of overlap or counterproductivity among several policies. Identifying such difficulties, and making any necessary adjustments to the affected policies and measures, requires specific expertise and a whole-of-government approach;

(b) There is an ongoing need to enhance national technical capacity to fully understand the intended and unintended leakage and spillover effects of implementing policies and measures aimed at reducing GHG emissions, which was seen as critical to monitoring the progress of implementing and achieving NDCs.

### **3. Estimating mitigation outcomes of policies and measures**

30. A presentation was given on how to track overall progress towards national or subnational GHG emission reduction or intensity goals and calculate associated GHG emissions and removals, including compared with a base year or baseline scenario. They received training on designing mitigation goals and estimating mitigation outcomes, such as in the areas of conducting research on potential areas for climate change mitigation, defining goal boundaries and levels and setting time frames for achievement of goals.

31. Participants then took part in hands-on exercises: (1) to design different types of mitigation goal, examine GHG emission profiles and mitigation potential and identify sectoral coverage, taking into account various drivers for climate change mitigation efforts and the local context; (2) to calculate allowable GHG emissions on the basis of the percentage reduction in emissions compared with the base year and accountable GHG emissions for the target year to determine whether a mitigation goal has been met; and (3) to consider what information from the previous exercises could be used to meet the reporting provisions under the ETF and its MPGs.

32. Participants shared their country experience of setting mitigation goals and converting them into actionable projects. Some indicated that while their country's NDC contains targets and goals, there is still a need for capacity-building for developing indicators for tracking progress of implementation and putting in place a system to collect necessary data for reporting gaps and needs. They valued the systematic approach of the hands-on exercises and found it useful to map out NDC mitigation goals and targets.

### **4. Common tabular formats for reporting information on support needed and received for implementation of the enhanced transparency framework**

33. A presentation was given highlighting the differences in reporting on support needed and received under the current MRV arrangements, following the BUR guidelines contained in decision 2/CP.17, and under the ETF, following the MPGs. Country-specific examples were given of challenges that may arise in implementing the ETF, such as defining climate finance in the country context, implementing methods for tracking climate finance at the country level, assessing and resolving data gaps and uncertainties, improving stakeholder mapping and engagement, enhancing impact reporting systems and practices, and integrating gender considerations into reporting on support needed and received. Participants sought clarity on the level of detail of data that need to be collected in accordance with the MPGs and on the information required to be included in the common reporting tables and CTFs for the BTR.

34. Participants indicated a range of needs, including for more targeted capacity-building for collecting data that show the impact of gender-related policies and measures on climate actions taken; a more integrated approach to the tracking of climate finance by finance and other ministries; a more comprehensive assessment of financial support for national climate action provided by domestic and international stakeholders; and more robust data-collection and data monitoring systems for tracking climate finance flows.

35. A presentation was also given on the experience of the Government of Japan in establishing a system to track climate finance flows; monitoring the financial support provided; implementing the country's policy on international cooperation on climate change; and reporting on these elements as part of its biennial report. The Government of Japan also



shared its experience of preparing biennial reports and explained how it is preparing to transition to the ETF. Participants appreciated the information and insights shared.

## **5. Institutional arrangements for implementing the existing measurement, reporting and verification arrangements and the enhanced transparency framework**

36. A presentation was given on the benefits of having robust institutional arrangements in place for MRV of climate action and support; the need to continue to build on and enhance existing arrangements; the need to explore different options for institutional arrangements; and the need to seek the capacity-building support needed to develop robust institutional arrangements.

37. Participants engaged in a discussion on the key emerging challenges and needs related to establishing robust and sustainable institutional arrangements for implementation of the ETF and explored how engaging with senior and high-level actors in the climate change sphere could enhance domestic political buy-in and enable successful implementation of the existing MRV arrangements and the ETF.

38. Participants shared the challenges facing their countries in terms of building on and enhancing their existing institutional arrangements, including in relation to developing projects and seeking support from the Global Environment Facility through its Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency. They shared solutions to these challenges, such as increasing the number of stakeholders assisting in data collection by, for example, engaging with national universities and statistics offices; training staff across line ministries to improve their capacity to collect, manage and report data; engaging consultants to transfer relevant knowledge and skills to local staff; and appointing climate champions at high-level positions in line ministries to articulate the need for and benefits of institutional arrangements for transparency.

## **B. 2023 workshops**

### **1. Global landscape of climate change impacts and adaptation**

39. A presentation was given on the global landscape of climate change impacts and adaptation, including the latest outcomes from the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report; the observed and projected climate change impacts and risks of global warming in near-, mid- and long-term scenarios; and loss and damage incurred. Other topics covered included setting up enabling environments for adaptation action, creating synergies between adaptation and mitigation action to effectively address climate change impacts and risks, understanding how climate-resilient development relates to integrated and inclusive national planning and investment, taking into account social, environmental and economic aspects, and understanding the need for international cooperation to unlock support needed.

40. A broad overview was given of how national Governments are collectively responding to climate change under the intergovernmental climate change negotiation process, with information covered on the latest decisions and progress regarding climate change impacts and adaptation, including in relation to the new funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage, the global goal for adaptation and climate-resilient development.

41. Participants discussed the outcomes of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, sharing country-specific experience and reiterating the urgent need for climate action. Participants appreciated the detailed knowledge of the resource persons, who answered questions and provided clarity on the content presented.

### **2. Reporting information related to climate change impacts and adaptation**

42. Participants were given an overview of arrangements and instruments for reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (e.g. in NCs, NAPs, NDCs, BTRs and adaptation communications), as well as of the interlinkages of those arrangements and instruments with, for example, the global stocktake, the global goal on adaptation and the Sustainable Development Goals.

43. Participants appreciated the mapping out of information on climate change impacts and adaptation that needs to be reported through various channels, such as NCs, NAPs, NDCs, BTRs and adaptation communications, as well as how these channels are linked to the global stocktake process. It was stressed that information should be communicated within reporting timelines for each channel and that duplicating information among these channels should be avoided.

44. Participants shared their country practices, challenges and lessons learned in relation to reporting climate change impacts and adaptation. Discussions revolved around cooperation among government offices and ministries on international agendas, including how such cooperation could be enhanced, and best practices for reporting on adaptation. Participants suggested capacity-building activities such as investing in training for national experts on reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation, assigning roles and responsibilities to relevant entities for preparing information needed to report on climate change impacts and adaptation, keeping up to date with the latest climate change negotiation outcomes, making use of capacity-building support offered by United Nations organizations and other support providers, and developing methods and tools for collecting data and information to facilitate monitoring impacts, assessing vulnerability and designing adaptation policies.

### **3. Reporting elements on climate change impacts and adaptation under the enhanced transparency framework**

45. The reporting provisions under the MPGs were covered systematically, with examples given of the type and extent of information reported in NCs, NAPs and adaptation communications.

46. The differences and nuances between reporting under the ETF and reporting under other arrangements, such as for NCs and adaptation communications, were highlighted. Participants highlighted the need to have more integrated ways for preparing information that meets these different reporting requirements.

### **4. Analysis of climate change impacts, vulnerability and risks, assessment frameworks, and planning and implementation**

47. Participants engaged with resource persons to discuss methods for assessing climate change impacts, vulnerability and risks at the local, project-specific, national, regional and global level, and for identifying adaptation needs. A summary of existing and emerging approaches to impact, vulnerability and adaptation assessments, and associated methods and tools, was discussed, and country-specific examples of conducting assessments were shared. It was stressed that assessments need to be carried out regularly in order to keep pace with changes in context and circumstances.

48. Participants took part in a hands-on exercise to assess adaptation needs. They were tasked with learning a five-step needs assessment process that provides a systematic approach that could be used to conduct a needs assessment. The exercise demonstrated that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to conducting needs assessments and that it is important to take into account social, physical and economic vulnerabilities, risks and scenarios in order to find an optimal assessment approach and develop domestic climate change adaptation plans.

### **5. Translating climate change impact, vulnerability and risk assessment results into national policies and plans**

49. Information on and tools for translating the results of needs assessments, with regard to impacts, vulnerability and risks, into national policies and budgets were discussed. Participants explored how to incorporate adaptation aspects into planning, at both the local and the national level; create linkages between adaptation and sustainable development; ensure that the potential impacts of climate change are given due consideration in the development of national plans or policies and the necessary resources are provided; and access international climate funding.

50. Information was shared on analysis tools and approaches such as cost-benefit and multi-criteria analyses, their advantages and limitations, and how they can be used to prioritize adaptation options.

51. Participants stressed the importance of ensuring the availability of relevant data and knowledge and mainstreaming needs and priorities in the development of policies and plans. They took part in a hands-on exercise to assess and prioritize adaptation options by means of a multi-criteria analysis for the agriculture and water sectors, translating the options selected on the basis of that analysis into sectoral actions.

## **6. Evidence-based climate action decision-making**

52. WMO showcased its publicly available tools for monitoring weather events more accurately and in greater detail and assessing the extent to which they can be attributed to climate change, as well as its methodology for cataloguing hazardous weather, climate and water events with a view to providing transparent and authoritative data for documenting climate change impacts and the effectiveness of adaptation efforts, and its evidence-based methodology for characterizing climate systems (past, present and future) according to key climatic indicators and their relationship with non-climatic contributing factors.

53. Participants then took part in a hands-on exercise, using online tools such as the Climate Information Platform<sup>13</sup> to generate national reports on various climate change indicators and weather events over specific time frames. They discussed how this information can support decision-making and developing policies and plans for climate change actions.

## **7. Identifying capacity-building gaps and needs with respect to climate change impacts and adaptation**

54. Information was shared from the CGE annual technical needs assessment report<sup>14</sup> on capacity-building gaps and needs with respect to developing country Parties' reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation. The participants then took part in a hands-on exercise during which they explored their country's readiness to implement the ETF and identified the following capacity-building gaps and needs to be addressed, among others:

(a) Lack of a legal framework or formal process for provision of data on climate change impacts and adaptation by a wide range of stakeholders;

(b) Lack of data-sharing arrangements, platforms and templates for providing data in a consistent manner, and lack of guidelines for developing vulnerability, risk and adaptation assessment scenarios;

(c) A need for support and resources in many areas, including system development and maintenance, data analysis and use of the MPGs;

(d) Lack of inter-institutional systems for monitoring the effectiveness of adaptation actions and for monitoring and evaluating the impacts of climate change.

## **8. Prioritizing capacity-building gaps and needs and available support**

55. Participants explored ways of prioritizing capacity-building gaps and needs by level of urgency. Representatives of the Adaptation Committee, CBIT-GSP, the CGE, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the United Nations Development Programme and WMO then reported on their latest work and technical materials and shed light on the support available for meeting those gaps and needs. Participants shared their experience of accessing support from the Global Environment Facility and United Nations organizations for preparing their national climate reports and implementing capacity-building projects.

## **9. Reporting information on support needed and received for implementation of the enhanced transparency framework**

56. Information on the MPGs and CTFs for reporting on support needed and received in the BTRs was provided. Country examples highlighted challenges in implementing the ETF, such as defining climate finance in the national context; tracking climate finance at the

<sup>13</sup> <https://climateinformation.org>.

<sup>14</sup> FCCC/TP/2023/5.

national level; assessing and resolving data gaps and uncertainties; improving stakeholder mapping and engagement; enhancing impact reporting systems and practices; and integrating gender considerations into reporting on support needed and received.

57. Participants sought clarity on the level of data that need to be collected in accordance with the MPGs and on the information required to be included to the common reporting tables and CTFs for the BTR. They emphasized the need to collect information at the national level, particularly on support needed to address climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and risk, and on support received, as well as the need to enhance capacity to compile information on support for activities related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.

58. Participants then reported their experience and challenges faced in collecting such information, including lack of coordination among institutions, lack of memorandums of understanding to compel organizations to report on support received, an overreliance on consultants to conduct analysis of needs and a failure to effectively translate such analysis into policies and plans for requesting support, and lack of awareness of available tools and approaches that could help in compiling data and information.

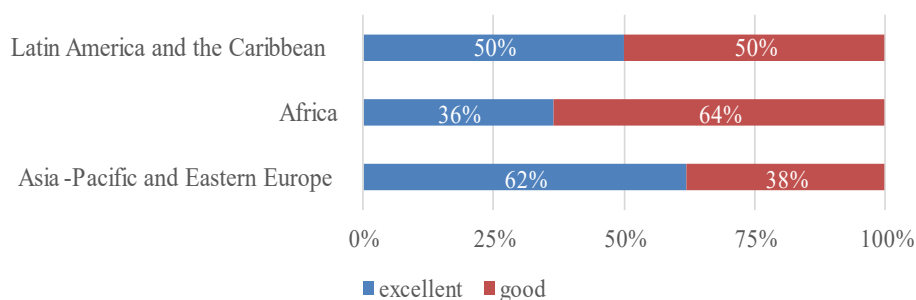
## IV. Feedback from participants

### A. 2022 workshops

59. After each workshop, a survey was conducted to obtain feedback from the participants. Respondents were asked to rate the workshop overall as excellent, good, fair or poor. Figure 1 indicates that all respondents rated the workshops in 2022 as either excellent or good.

Figure 1

#### Surveyed participant ratings of the quality of the regional hands-on training workshops in 2022

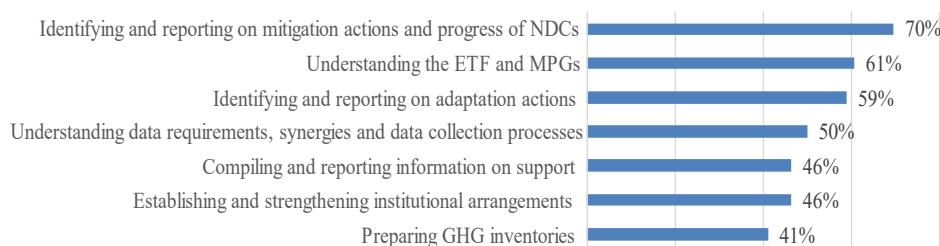


60. All survey respondents indicated that the workshops were well structured and organized and that they could access the training materials easily or very easily. They noted that the training sessions during the workshops were well presented and facilitated, and that their questions were addressed, concluding that the workshops had enhanced their understanding of the topics covered. Some surveyed participants in the 2022 workshops expressed the view that lessons learned from the preparation of NCs and BURs will guide them in preparing their BTRs.

61. All surveyed respondents were appreciative of the workshops. Most suggested extending their duration to cover the workshop content in more depth and a few suggested allocating more time to group exercises and case study presentations.

62. Survey respondents indicated they would like to learn more about identifying and reporting on mitigation actions and tracking progress of implementation and achievement of NDCs, understanding the ETF and MPGs, and identifying and reporting on adaptation actions, among other areas, in future workshops and to apply the new knowledge to the specific context of their country. The CGE received 55 responses to the question on areas for inclusion in future workshops, which are mapped in figure 2.

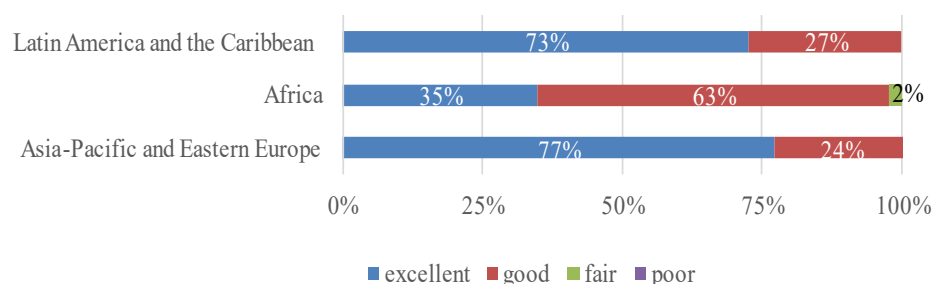
Figure 2  
**Areas identified by surveyed participants in the 2022 workshops for inclusion in future workshops**



## B. 2023 workshops

63. After each workshop, a survey was conducted to obtain feedback from participants. Respondents were asked to rate the workshop overall as excellent, good, fair or poor. Figure 3 shows that almost all respondents rated the workshops as either excellent or good.

Figure 3  
**Surveyed participant ratings of the quality of the regional hands-on training workshops in 2023**



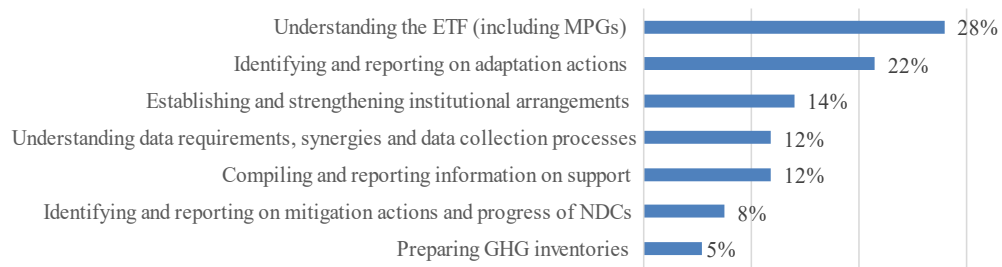
*Note:* The percentages in the figure may not sum to 100 per cent owing to rounding.

64. Participants reported that the workshops were well structured and organized, and they could access the training materials easily or very easily. Training sessions were well presented and facilitated, and participants’ questions were addressed. Participants noted that the training materials and the presentations enhanced their understanding of adaptation-related topics and how adaptation-related information can be reported under the Paris Agreement. Moreover, respondents indicated the materials provided key information they will refer to and benefit from in their work on identifying needs and plans for adaptation actions, as well as in preparing NAPs and BTRs. Respondents also expressed that learning from experience and lessons learned from other countries will guide them in preparing their BTRs.

65. Respondents were appreciative of the workshops and some suggested extending the duration of training workshops or allocating more time to group exercises and case study presentations.

66. Survey respondents indicated they would like to learn more about understanding the ETF and MPGs, identifying and reporting on adaptation actions, and establishing and strengthening institutional arrangements, among other areas, in future workshops and to apply the new knowledge to the specific context of their country (see figure 4).

Figure 4  
**Areas identified by surveyed participants in the 2023 workshops for inclusion in future workshops**



**C. Additional remarks**

67. The CGE expressed its appreciation to the Governments of Armenia, Belize, Cabo Verde, Cambodia and Germany for hosting the workshops and to all the resource persons and organizations that provided assistance during the workshops, including WMO, the World Resources Institute, UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as assistance provided under CBIT-GSP and by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan.

68. The CGE thanked Parties that contributed financial resources to support its work, including for organizing these workshops.

## Annex

### Preparatory materials provided for the regional hands-on training workshops

1. The following preparatory materials were provided for the workshops held in 2022:
  - (a) A technical handbook for developing country Parties on preparing for implementation of the ETF under the Paris Agreement in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese;<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) Four introductory videos on MRV arrangements and the ETF in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish;<sup>2</sup>
  - (c) The CGE toolbox on institutional arrangements,<sup>3</sup> comprising a handbook, available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, on such arrangements supporting MRV or transparency of climate action and support; animations on institutional arrangements; a compilation of country experience and lessons learned; and a compilation of references to other relevant technical resources;
  - (d) A hands-on exercise aimed at helping participants to ascertain necessary arrangements for tracking progress in implementing and achieving NDCs and identifying action items and support needs.
2. The following preparatory materials were provided for the workshops held in 2023:
  - (a) CGE training material on reporting information related to climate change impacts and adaptation;<sup>4</sup>
  - (b) Presentations, exercises and introductory videos on MRV, the ETF and institutional arrangements.

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<sup>1</sup> CGE. 2023. *Technical handbook for developing country Parties on preparing for implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/support-for-developing-countries/consultative-group-of-experts/enhanced-transparency-framework-technical-material#Technical-Handbook>.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBcZ22cUY9RLLBHnq3xwvt1fq3qPqcxWb>.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/CGE/IA>.

<sup>4</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/consultative-group-of-experts-cge/cge-training-materials/enhanced-transparency-framework-technical-material#CGE-adaptation-materials-for-ETF-reporting>.