

WORKSHOP

ON THE ROAD TO ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FOR NDC IMPLEMENTATION:

UNDERSTANDING CAPACITY NEEDS FOR THE PARIS ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY
FRAMEWORK IN AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE SECTORS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Bangkok, Thailand

27-29 June 2016

Background

On 12 December 2015 in Paris, the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) concluded negotiations on a landmark agreement (the Paris Agreement) to limit global average temperatures to below 2°C and pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. The Paris Agreement is also a key underpinning element of the 2030 Agenda including the globally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Implementation of the Paris Agreement will rely on countries to meet their own ‘contributions’ to tackle the drivers and impacts of climate change, as articulated through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The majority of Parties developed and submitted Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) in the lead up to COP21 to facilitate negotiations. Countries are not legally bound under the agreement to meet their NDC contributions. However, the Agreement does establish binding procedural requirements under an “Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)” to promote transparency in the way that countries will report progress against their commitments.

The ETF will be an important new feature of global action on climate change with a number of potential country-level implications; particularly for the agriculture and land-use sectors. While the details of the ETF are still to be decided, it is expected that most countries will need to provide information on a biennial basis including the following:

- 1) A national inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases,
- 2) Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving their NDCs; and
- 3) Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation.

To date systems for measuring and monitoring progress in addressing the drivers and impacts of climate change in the agriculture sectors in the region are considered under-developed relative to other sectors such as energy and transport. This raises a pressing

need to strengthen the capacities of officials from the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry assess the gaps and needs of existing M&E and MRV systems in the agriculture and land-use sectors in preparation for implementation and monitoring of the Paris Agreement. Amidst the challenges, there may also be opportunities for countries to exchange their knowledge and experiences with existing M&E and MRV systems such as biennial update reports (BUR), national forest monitoring systems (NFMS), forest reference emission levels (FREL) and/or forest reference levels (FRL) and pilot project and national-level adaptation monitoring systems.

In this regard, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific with the support of the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), the Mitigating the Impacts of Agriculture on Climate Change Programme (MICCA), the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA), the UN-REDD Programme and the Integrating Agriculture into National Adaptation Plans Programme is organizing a regional workshop on “On the Road to Enhanced Transparency for NDC Implementation – Identifying Gaps and Needs for the Paris Agreement Enhanced Transparency Framework in Agriculture and Land Use sectors in Asia and the Pacific”.

The regional workshop aims to help countries in Asia and the Pacific identify core technical and institutional capacity gaps in establishing national inventory and monitoring systems for adaptation and mitigation in the agriculture and land-use sectors to better track progress toward achievement of country NDC targets. In addition, the workshop will also aim to assist countries identify links between NDC implementation and reporting requirements and existing UNFCCC frameworks such as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions, Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and National Adaptation Plans (NAP), and last but not least the achievement of SDGs and country-level development objectives.

Purpose/Objective

The objective of the workshop is to strengthen country capacity to prepare for implementation and monitoring of National Determined Contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement by identifying core technical and institutional capacity gaps and needs for national inventory and monitoring systems for adaptation and mitigation actions in the agriculture and land-use sectors.

It is anticipated that the workshop will lead to the following outcomes and outputs:

Outcomes

- Improved understanding of potential requirements for monitoring and reporting systems under the Paris Agreement ETF reporting based on experiences with existing national reporting, MRV and/or M&E systems for the agriculture and land-use sectors;
- Increased awareness of initiatives to assist countries plan for monitoring and evaluation of adaptation and mitigation priorities in agriculture and land-use sectors; and
- Key data and institutional gaps and needs for meeting the potential requirements of the Paris Agreement ETF are identified.

Outputs

- A regional roadmap for capacity building for NDC preparation, implementation monitoring and reporting in the agriculture, forestry and other land use sectors for Asia and the Pacific.

Target audience

The scope of the event is for countries in Asia and the Pacific region that have:

- Submitted an INDC to the UNFCCC;
- Ongoing programmes for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) programme; and/or
- Initiatives in place to integrate agriculture sectors into National Adaptation Plans (NAP).

Targeted participants from each country will include:

- Representatives from Ministries of Agriculture involved in agriculture sector planning and/or reporting activities to address the impacts and drivers of climate change;
- Representatives from National Forestry Agencies involved in development of national forest inventories, implementing REDD+ programmes and/or implementing associated MRV initiatives;
- Representatives from Ministries of Environment involved in UNFCCC reporting processes including preparing NDCs and BURs, developing implementation and monitoring plans for NDCs, and negotiating global climate agreements.

In addition, approximately 10 resources persons from NGOs/CSOs/Think tank organizations will participate. To extend the discussion to broader actors, regional development partners based in Bangkok will be invited to join the cocktail reception on day 2.

Tentative Programme

Time	Session	Lead
DAY 1		
SESSION 1: UNPACKING THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND ITS ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK		
08:30-08:45	Registration	
08:45-09:05	Opening remarks	Organizers
09:05-09:15	Welcome, objectives, and introduction	FAO
09:15-10:15	Setting the scene: The Paris Agreement - 101 The process and major outcomes of the Paris Agreement; The implications to the land sector in the region (agriculture and forestry); and its linkages to SDGs <u>Format</u> <i>Short presentations (15 minutes each) followed by Q&A (15 minutes).</i>	Panel: FAO UNESCAP TBC

10:15-10:45	<i>Photo + Coffee Break</i>	
10:45-12:15	<p>Technical Briefing: Paris Agreement and Transparency How will Paris Agreement shape future actions on measuring success and progress on the mitigation and adaptation priorities as identified in the NDCs? What are the key gaps associated with implementing transparency-related activities? What are emerging and existing initiatives with related objectives, and how to explore opportunities for potential collaboration with development partners?</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>Panel of three experts provide 15 minutes each to address Panel Question followed by 30 minute Q&A session with participants.</i></p>	<p>Panel:</p> <p>IPCC GEF ICAT FAO GRA</p>
12:15-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
SESSION 2: ASSESSING COUNTRY READINESS FOR ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK		
13:30-14:30	<p>Country Briefing: Current status of and lessons learned from climate reporting and preparation of technical information Country presentations on their experiences with (1) GHG inventory & reporting, (2) measuring & reporting of mitigation actions, (3) monitoring & evaluation of adaptation actions, in particular on key institutional arrangements/requirements.</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>Presentations from each country participant on their answers to the following key questions:</i> (1) What are the key gaps associated with implementing transparency-related activities and reporting? (2) What are the key lessons learned from the emerging and existing initiatives including but not limited to the following?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National reporting systems for national GHG inventory and UNFCCC reporting (BURs); - MRV frameworks for agriculture and forestry (CDM, NAMAs, NFMS, FREL/FRL); and - Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks for Climate Adaptation (NAPAs NAPs). 	<p>Representatives from invited countries</p> <p>Moderator : FAO</p>
14:30-14:50	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
14:50-15:50	Country Briefing: Current status of and lessons learned from climate reporting and preparation of technical information (continued)	FAO
15:50-16:20	Q&A and discussions on country presentations	FAO
16:20-16:50	<p>End of day learning exercise</p> <p><u>Format</u> Participants will be divided up into four small groups. The facilitator will introduce the rule of Jeopardy quiz on the new information/knowledge introduced today.</p>	Facilitator
16:50-17:00	<p>Summary</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>The organizers will summarize the key points from the day's discussions and introduce the following day's sessions.</i></p>	Facilitator
DAY 2		

SESSION 3: INVESTIGATING THE ELEMENTS OF THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK		
08:30-08:40	Recap of Day 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief summary of day 1 discussions Review of meeting objectives 	FAO
08:40-09:40	Introductory Panel: Monitoring and Evaluation for NDC Implementation <u>Format</u> <i>Three speakers will outline and introduce the three core elements of the Paris Agreement Enhanced Transparency Framework (10 minutes each), and take questions from participants (30 minutes).</i>	Panel: IIED GEF CGE Moderator: FAO
09:40-10:10	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
10:10-11:40	Establishing inventories and baselines for reporting GHG emissions and progress against the NDCs General requirements for GHG inventory and reporting including data collection, addressing uncertainties, methodological choices, identification of key categories, time series consistency, quality assurance/quality control and verification. Key considerations for inventory preparation for the AFOLU Sector on the identification of land-use and management categories, tier definitions for methods in AFOLU, and steps in preparation of inventory estimates. Regional efforts and on-going initiatives to advance emissions inventories to better reflect national circumstances, and the extent to which inventories can support broader development objectives. <u>Format</u> <i>Technical experts will give 30 minutes introductory session. Presentations will be followed by 30 minute Q&A session with participants and 30 minutes evaluation exercise.</i>	Presenters : IPCC Task Force Bureau on National GHG Inventory FAO GRA
11:40-12:40	<i>Lunch</i>	
12:40-14:10	Parallel Session 1: Measuring, Reporting, and Verification of mitigation actions Basic requirements and steps to establish MRV systems will be introduced by presenters, including national inventory, MRV system components, governance, resources, system operation, and indicator development and baseline setting. Presenters will use practical examples from NAMA and GHG national reporting system. <u>Format</u> <i>Technical experts will give 30 minutes introductory session, followed by 30 minute Q&A session with participants and 30 minutes evaluation exercise.</i> <u>Presenters :</u> UN-REDD	Parallel Session 2: Monitoring and Evaluation of Adaptation Actions Basic requirements and steps to establish M&E systems will be introduced by presenters, including baseline and indicator development, scoping/design/planning M&E, and commonly used CCA M&E frameworks. Presenters will utilize good practice examples from recent projects and programmes. <u>Format</u> <i>Technical experts will give 30 minutes introductory session, followed by 30 minute Q&A session with participants and minutes evaluation exercise.</i> <u>Presenters :</u>

	UNFCCC Regional Centre Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from non-Annex I Parties (CGE) GRA	FAO GEF IIED
14:10-14:40	<i>Coffee break</i>	
14:40-16:10	<p>Joint Mitigation and Adaptation Measures</p> <p>Example cases will be identified to showcase how action to address the impacts and/or drivers of climate change can lead to positive co-benefits with special attention to gender, social protection and tenure. Key considerations on measuring mitigation and adaptation benefits will be discussed.</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>Technical experts will give a 30-minute presentation, followed by 50 minutes public discussion.</i></p>	Moderators: FAO Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from non-Annex I Parties (CGE)
16:10-16:40	<p>End of day learning exercise</p> <p><u>Format</u> Participants will be divided up into four small groups. The facilitator will introduce the rule of Jeopardy quiz on the new information/knowledge introduced today.</p>	
16:40-17:00	Summary and closing	
18:00	Cocktail reception	
DAY 3		
SESSION 4: ASSESSING GAPS AND NEEDS FOR TRANSPARENCY		
08:30-08:40	<p>Review and Introduction</p> <p>Brief summary of day 2 discussions and introduction to the Day 3 activities</p>	ASEAN-CRN
08:40-10:30	<p>Interactive session: Gaps and Needs</p> <p><i>What are the key data and institutional gaps to establish adequate climate change MRV and/or M&E systems for NDC? What are the baselines?</i></p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>In country groups, participants will list core gaps and needs to fulfil upcoming transparency frameworks under UNFCCC.</i></p>	Facilitators: ASEAN-CRN and FAO
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00-13:00	<p>Interactive Session</p> <p>Developing strategies and action plans for the capacity development on monitoring and evaluation of NDC implementation</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>Participants grouped into country will be guided through a series of tasks to develop strategy and action plans that encompasses 1) core capacity requirements for MRV and M&E frameworks in agriculture, forestry, and land sectors to advance NDC priorities, 2) gaps and needs to overcome challenges, and 3) activity level items and timeline.</i></p>	Facilitators: ASEAN –CRN and FAO

Draft concept note

13:00-14:00	Lunch	
SESSION 5: STARTING ON THE ROAD TO ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FOR NDC IMPLEMENTATION		
14:00-16:00	<p>Country Presentations</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>Small groups will be asked to share a 10 minutes summary of their capacity roadmap to enhanced transparency framework with the plenary group.</i></p>	All countries
16:00-16:30	<p>Next Steps: Path to Enhanced Transparency Framework for Asia and the Pacific Region</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>The organizers will lead a discussion to identify key next steps to that can form the basis of a regional concept for the Enhanced Transparency Framework relevant to agriculture, forestry and other land use sectors for Asia and the Pacific to be submitted to Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT).</i></p>	FAO
16:30-17:00	<p>Summary and Close</p> <p>Workshop Evaluation – survey and interactive games</p> <p><u>Format</u> <i>The organizers will summarize the key points from the meeting and conduct evaluation.</i></p>	