



Building Capacity for MRV

For climate change mitigation to be effective, Parties need reliable information on emissions and actions. Ever since the inception of the international climate regime, the measuring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of Parties' progress has been one of its most important building blocks. MRV is a term used to describe all measures which Parties take to collect data on emissions, mitigation actions and support, and to compile this information in reports and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventories which are then subject to some form of international review or analysis. In Cancún in 2010, all Parties agreed to submit National Communications (NC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) every four years. In addition, it was agreed that Annex I countries will submit less comprehensive biennial reports (BRs) every two years and non-Annex I countries will submit biennial update reports (BURs) in the same intervals. These reports aim to provide clarity and transparency about the current level of global emissions and they attest the ambition and efforts countries undertake to combat climate change at the national and international level.

Transparency is thereby one of the backbones of the Agreement, concluded in December 2015 at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris, and important for building international trust and – inter alia – tracking of progress towards achieving Parties' Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). The transparency framework of the Paris Agreement brings all countries into a common process for providing enhanced data and tracking progress against their commitments on mitigation, adaptation and support and builds on the above mentioned reporting commitments.

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation,

Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) has been supporting MRV projects in several countries with the aim of building national MRV capacities. Domestically, MRV helps governments to understand key emission sources and sinks, to design effective mitigation strategies, to assess impacts of mitigation projects and policies, to track progress toward mitigation goals, and to link mitigation activities with technology, finance, and capacity building support. Internationally, MRV enables countries to meet their international reporting obligations under the UNFCCC (i.e. National Communications every four years, Biennial Update Reports every two years), to compare their national mitigation commitments and to help build trust among the Parties about the actions taken and reported information.

PROJECT EXAMPLE: Measurement and Performance Tracking Project

The Measurement and Performance Tracking of Climate Change Mitigation Actions Project (MAPT) is implemented by the World Resources Institute (WRI). MAPT is a six-year project (2011–2016) conducted



with governmental and non-governmental partners in Colombia, Ethiopia, India, South Africa, and Thailand (Thailand only in Phase I).

To this end, MAPT has been producing a series of tools, case studies, trainings and guidance related to national GHG inventories, institutions, mitigation accounting, forestry and land use, industry and policy implementation. The project has thus informed the guidance for developing INDCs, analysed options and made proposals to strengthen MRV provisions under the UNFCCC.

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PROJECT EXAMPLE: Capacity Building for Ambitious Reporting and Facilitation of International Mutual Learning through Peer-to-Peer Exchange

The project Information Matters, implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, has strengthened capacities in four partner countries: Chile, Dominican Republic, Ghana, and the Philippines, and since 2016 is also starting to work in Colombia, Egypt, Georgia, and Viet Nam. Under the project's Ad-hoc Facility, a number of additional countries may benefit from capacity building activities upon request. Following a specific country-tailored approach and sharing lessons learnt in peer-to-peer events, the project enables partner countries to implement sustainable MRV systems and report on GHG inventories and mitigation actions, as well as on other Biennial Update Report (BUR)-relevant topics, in their BURs and National Communications (NC).

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Since its start in May 2013, the project has achieved or contributed to the following:

- (1) Chile submitted its first BUR in December 2014 as one of the first non-Annex I Parties, and is currently finalising its second BUR to be submitted before the COP in 2016. Chile also completed as one of the first countries the *International Consultation and Analysis (ICA)* process, participating in the first round of the *Facilitative Sharing of Views (FSV)* in May 2016.
- (2) The Dominican Republic developed its first national GHG inventory in 2015 with national experts and is currently preparing its third NC and first BUR.
- (3) Ghana submitted its first BUR in July 2015. It was also one of the first countries to complete the ICA process, participating in the first round of the FSV.
- (4) The Philippines submitted the second NC in 2014, developed a comprehensive data management system and institutionalized its domestic GHG inventory system.

Moreover, several knowledge products have been developed to assist countries in developing their BURs and undergoing the ICA process, such as the BUR Process Guidance Tool.

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For further information please refer to:
[International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV](#)



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