Recent developments in climate change policy

Fourth meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics,
Prague, 3-5 May 2017
Overview

- Data/reporting requirements before Paris
- Data Collection – reporting system
- Nationally Determined Contribution and global emissions
- The Paris Agreement and the impact on Data
- Adaptation and Sustainable Development
- Measuring and reporting progress - Paris Agreement, linkages with SDGs and Sendai
- Next steps
**Data/Reporting requirements before Paris**

**International climate change regime: UNFCCC and its legal instruments**

- **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):** in force since 1994
- **Kyoto Protocol (KP) under UNFCCC:** in force since 2005
- **Paris Agreement (PA):** adopted in 2015 & into force since 4 Nov 2016
  - 144 Parties have ratified of 197 Parties to the Convention
Two major groups of Parties under the UNFCCC:

- **Annex I Parties** ("developed countries")
- **Non-Annex I Parties** ("developing countries")

Annex I / Non-Annex I Parties have different requirements:

- *Different methodological basis (versions of IPCC guidelines)*
- *More extensive and frequent reporting for Annex I Parties*
- *Reporting by Non-Annex I Parties is conditioned by funding*
- *Annex I Parties have a rigorous review process*
### Annex I Parties (44):

**Very detailed GHG inventory annually:**
- *Data in formatted tables (CRF)*
- *Methodological report (NIR)*
- *Additional information including SEF*

**Policy-related information (mitigation, adaptation, funding):**
- *every 4 years - national communication (NC),*
- *with an interim update in 2 years biennial report (BR)*

**Methodological basis:**
- *2006 IPCC guidelines*

### Non-Annex I Parties (152):

**Less detailed GHG inventory:**
- *every 4 years in a national communication (NC)*
- *an update in 2 years biennial update report (BUR), depending on funding*

**Policy-related information (mitigation, adaptation, funding and capacity building needs):**
- *every 4 years in a national communication (NC)*
- *an update in 2 years biennial update report (BUR), depending on funding*

**Methodological basis:**
- *1996 Revised IPCC guidelines*
- *Can also use IPCCs good practice guidance (2000, 2003)*

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* There is additional reporting for Kyoto Protocol Parties

** IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
CoP 19 – Warsaw in 2013
➤ *intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) preparations*

CoP 20 – Lima in 2014
➤ **INDCs possible content:**
  • *quantifiable information on the reference point (e.g., a base year)*
  • *time frames and/or periods for implementation*
  • *scope and coverage,*
  • *planning processes,*
  • *assumptions and methodological approaches,*
  • *how an NDC contributes towards achieving the objective of Article 2 of the Convention*
165 INDCs by 193 Parties (almost universal participation)

Mitigation has been covered in all INDCs

Most of the INDCs
- included an adaptation component (135 INDCs)
- covered all or the majority of sectors in the national economy
- included quantified mitigation targets: absolute targets, targets relative to business-as-usual (BAU), energy/emissions intensity targets

Synthesis report on the aggregate effect of INDCs
Data Collection – Reporting system

Data collection: Reporting and formal submission

- Reporting tools
  - CRF Reporter
  - SEF Application
  - BR-CTF Application

- Reports
  - CRF tables
  - NIR
  - SEF tables
  - BR-CTF tables
  - BR
  - NC
  - BUR

- Submission tools
  - CRF Reporter submission module
  - Submission portal

- UNFCCC
  - Submission processing
    - Internal communication
    - Record storage and official file management

Publication process
- GHG Inventories page
- Initial reports page
- BRs page
- NCs-IAI page
- NCs-NAI page
- BURs page
Data Collection – Reporting system

**Data collection**: Made publicly available - **GHG Data interface**

Web Interface providing access to most recent data on national GHG emissions and removals:

- **GHG Data - UNFCCC**: most recent GHG data reported by countries that are Parties to the Climate Change Convention
- **KP Data - UNFCCC**: GHG data relating specifically to the Kyoto Protocol; the data are as reported by Annex I Parties that are Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
- **GHG Data - Non-UNFCCC**: links to the web sites of various organizations that also collect, estimate and/or disseminate data on GHG emissions/removals

Following the adoption of 2006 reporting guidelines, the GHG Data interface is under upgrade

[https://unfccc.int/ghg_data/items/3800.php](https://unfccc.int/ghg_data/items/3800.php)
Data Collection – Reporting system

Web Interface providing access to most recent data regarding:

- Reduction targets
- Progress towards achieving the targets including mitigation measures
- GHG emission Projections
- Finance, Technology and capacity building information

Data collection: Made publicly available - BR Data interface

http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/br-di/Pages/Home.aspx
Nationally Determined Contribution and global emissions

Synthesis report on the aggregate effect of INDCs

Aggregate effect
Nationally Determined Contribution and global emissions

Slow down of emission growth due to INDCs

- Growth rate 1990-2010
- Extended growth rate 2010-2030
- Estimated growth rate with INDCs 2010-2030 (median and range)
Global impact of INDCs (from latest synthesis report):
- reduced by 2.8 in 2025
- reduced by 3.3 in 2030

Still, gap to 2ºC scenarios:
- reduced by 8.7 in 2025
- reduced by 15.2 in 2030

Under available NDCs, emissions are not in 2ºC/1.5ºC scenarios
Enhanced reductions before and after 2030 are needed
The Paris agreement and the impact on Mitigation Data

Article 2.1. This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention … aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:

(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels…

Article 4.1. In order to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2, Parties aim to reach global peaking of GHG emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing country Parties, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter…, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs in the 2nd half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.
## The Paris agreement and the impact on Mitigation Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element / concept</th>
<th>Change brought by Paris</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Differentiation in reporting and other requirements between Annex I (“developed”) and Non-Annex I (“developing”) Parties</td>
<td>Differences will remain but within one common framework (e.g., “The transparency framework shall provide flexibility in the implementation of the provisions of this Article to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of the information provided (GHG inventories, information to track progress, information on climate change impacts and adaptation, information relating to financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support)</td>
<td>“Information submitted by each Party … shall undergo a technical expert review”: this is a change (before, only Annex I Parties had “reviews”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obligations and work relating to NDCs</td>
<td>NDC is a new concept, with its own “workflow” and information/data needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matters relating to the global stocktake</td>
<td>“Global stocktake” is a new concept, with its own “workflow” and information/data needs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The exact requirements for key new concepts are under discussion under the new APA body

The work on relevant modalities, rules and procedures has started but will require time
The Paris Agreement is an Agreement under the UNFCCC

- the new data or reporting requirements are to be developed based on what already exists under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol

- The transparency framework shall build on and enhance the transparency arrangements under the Convention...

Of particular importance in the Paris Agreement, in terms of data and reporting requirements:

- Articles 3 and 4 defining the “Nationally determined contributions”,
- Article 13 defining the new “transparency framework”, and
- Article 14 defining the new “global stocktake”
Adaptation and sustainable development
Data/Reporting requirements pre-Paris

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# NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS

## NAPs from developing countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>National Adaptation Plan</th>
<th>Date Posted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>📋 Executive Summary (Portuguese), 📋 Part 1 (Portuguese), 📋 Part 2 (Portuguese), 📋 Part 1 (English), 📋 Part 2 (English)</td>
<td>May 12, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>📋 English, 📋 French</td>
<td>October 15, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>📋 French</td>
<td>October 26, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>📋 English</td>
<td>February 28, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>📋 English</td>
<td>November 1, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Palestine</td>
<td>📋 English</td>
<td>November 11, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>📋 English</td>
<td>September 26, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# ADAPTATION PLANS AND STRATEGIES

SUPPORT AND MONITORING

http://www4.unfccc.int/nap
Goals of the Paris Agreement - strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:

- Limiting global temperature increase to well below 2°C, pursuing efforts towards 1.5°C
- **Global goal on adaptation:** Enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to SD and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal
- Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development
Under Paris Agreement:

- No globally agreed associated targets and indicators (yet), up for Parties to translate this goal in their respective adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including through their national adaptation plans (NAPs).

- Parties may also provide ‘adaptation communications’:
  - Means of reporting - may include its priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions.
  - The adaptation communication shall be, as appropriate, submitted and updated periodically, as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a NAP, a nationally determined contribution (NDC) and/or a national communication.
Paris Agreement: Global Stocktake every 5 years starting in 2023 to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals. For adaptation it shall, inter alia:

- Recognize adaptation efforts of developing country Parties;
- Enhance the implementation of adaptation action taking into account the adaptation communication;
- Review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support provided for adaptation; and
- Review the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation
Illustration of mandates and provisions related to the Global Stocktake referred to in Art 14 of the Paris Agreement

**GLOBAL STOCKTAKE (GST)**

**General – Art 14.1:**
- Assess collective progress towards the Agreement’s purpose (Art 2) and its long-term goals
- In a comprehensive, facilitative manner
- Consider mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support
- In light of equity and best available science

**Specific – Adaptation – Art 7.14:**
- Recognize developing country adaptation efforts
- Enhance implementation of adaptation action taking into account Parties’ adaptation communications
- Review adequacy & effectiveness of adaptation action & support
- Review overall progress in achieving the global adaptation goal

**Sources of Input** (APA to identify, including:)(§ 99)

- Latest IPCC reports (§ 99 b)
- Reports of the SBs (§ 99 c)
- Transparency framework (Art 13, in particular 13.5-13.12)
  - Information on overall effect of NDCs (§ 99 a.i)
  - Information on long-term low GHG emission development strategies (Art. 4.19)
  - Information on state of adaptation efforts, support, experience, priorities from adaptation communication ref. to in Art 7.10, Art 7.11 and reports per Art 13.8 (§ 99 a.ii)
  - Information on mobilization & provision of support (§ 99 a.iii)
  - Finance: Relevant info from developed countries and/or Agreement bodies (Art 9.6)
  - Technology: Available info (Art 10.6)

**Modalities** (APA to develop, § 101)

Art 14.2:  
- CMA to undertake GST
- In 2023 and every five years thereafter unless otherwise decided by CMA
  (See also Art 14.1 and 7.14 above)

**Relevant mandates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th>Specific</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How IPCC assessments can inform GST (SBSTA advice, §100)</td>
<td>Modalities to recognize developing countries’ adap. efforts as per Art 7.3 (AC+LEG to develop, §41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodologies for reviewing adequacy &amp; effectiveness of adap. action &amp; support (AC+LEG in collab. with SCF, §45b)</td>
<td>Modalities for periodic assessment of support to Technology Mechanism (SBI, § 69-70)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other relevant mandates and provisions** (e.g. §§ 42, 43, 52, 55, 56, 57, 68, 80, 90, 91, 94)

**Outcome**

**GENERAL - Art 14.3:** Shall inform Parties in:
- Updating and enhancing their actions and support and
- Enhancing international cooperation

**SPECIFIC:**
- NDCs – Art 4.9: Each Party shall communicate a NDC every 5 years and be informed by the outcomes of the GST
- Other outcomes, including any relevant adaptation-specific outcomes (in line with Art 7.14 (see above) and relevant modalities and methodologies being developed (see Modalities above, e.g. §41 and §45b))

*Abbreviations: Art = Article of the Paris Agreement; § = paragraph of Decision 1/CP.21; AC = Adaptation Committee; adap. = adaptation; APA = Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement; collab. = collaboration; CMA = Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement; GST = Global Stocktake; IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; LEG = Least Developed Countries Expert Group; NDC = nationally determined contribution; SCF = Standing Committee on Finance; SBSTA = Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice; SBI = Subsidiary Body for Implementation
Links: UNFCCC adaptation, SDGs and Sendai Framework on DRR

Integrating climate change adaptation with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction
**Next steps - Reviewing progress at national and global level for the SDGs and under the Paris Agreement**

- Creating robust review frameworks at national level reported through adaptation communications, which allow for setting a baseline (e.g. national adaptation goal and definition of adaptation efforts) and over time for:
  - Assessing country-specific progress towards the global adaptation goal (possibly relying on SDG indicators)
  - Recognizing national adaptation efforts
  - Reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
- Technical expert meeting on linkages and integration of efforts on adaptation, SDGs and DRR efforts – 16/17 May
- NAP-SDG iFrame - to integrate approaches, and the explicit consideration of how to contribute to addressing the Sustainable Development Goals through NAPs
- Open NAPs – Case studies of national adaptation planning to enable learning – planning, implementation, monitoring, integration, linkages
- Future UNFCCC Adaptation Committee activities to build on 2013 workshop on the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation
Next steps

Under negotiation - Paris Rulebook:

- Rules and modalities under the new climate regime
- Key elements:
  - NDCs
  - Transparency framework
  - Global stocktake (adaptation & mitigation)
Thank you!

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