





### **GEF Support for BTR Financing and Access Modalities**

Time: 1.5 hours per webinar | Dates: see below | Format: Virtual

This webinar is jointly organised by UNFCCC, the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency – Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) and the GEF.

#### **Background**

Through Article 13, the Paris Agreement established the **Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)** to regularly measure the progress made by countries to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change. The objective of the new framework is to build mutual trust between countries, raise climate ambition and rigorously monitor public mitigation and adaptation policies. It aims to better track GHG emissions over time, assess the progress made by Parties in meeting their commitments on mitigation and adaptation, and assess collective progress toward the 2°C long-term pathway.

The modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs) for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement were adopted in December 2018 at the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 24). The Global Environment Facility (GEF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, was requested to support developing country Parties in preparing their first and subsequent biennial transparency reports (BTRs).

The first Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA .1) decided that Parties shall submit their first BTR and national inventory report, if submitted as a standalone report, in accordance with these modalities, procedures and guidelines, at the latest by December 31, 2024, and that the least developed country (LDC) Parties and small island developing States (SIDS) may submit this information at their discretion.

For most developing countries, this presents a significant challenge due to stronger transparency requirements, increased scope of categories and gases to be reported on a mandatory basis, and an increase of data and information associated with different components of MRV that need to be collected and processed.

In 2020, the GEF organized two informal consultations<sup>1,2</sup> to discuss support needs, possible modalities, and timing for BTRs with partners. Following the informal consultations, the information note on the "Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement" was submitted to the 59<sup>th</sup> GEF Council<sup>3</sup>, which met in December 2020. The GEF CEO then made the support

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Information is available at: https://www.thegef.org/events/informal-consultation-meeting-financial-support-biennial-transparency-reports-under-paris

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Information is available at: https://www.thegef.org/events/second-informal-consultation-financial-support-biennial-transparency-reports

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> GEF, 2020, <u>Information Note on the Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement,</u> Council Document GEF/C.59/Inf.19.





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modalities for the first BTR available and communicated them to all countries in February 2021. The early rollout of the BTR support was done to ensure sufficient lead time for countries to prepare and submit their first BTR by the deadline of December 31, 2024. In response to CMA.3 guidance, the GEF updated the cost structure for BTR in 2022 as per the information note on the "Update of the Cost Structure for the Financing of BTRs for the Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement"<sup>4</sup>.

As of March 31, 2023, the GEF has provided support to 65 Parties to prepare their first and subsequent BTRs. With limited time left for the submission deadline for the first BTR, approximately 80 developing countries have yet to request support and are encouraged to apply for funding to prepare their BTRs to be able to report them by December 2024.

#### **Objective**

This webinar aims at informing developing countries on the access modalities and procedures of the GEF and its implementing agencies to apply for funding for the BTRs. The webinar includes speakers from UNFCCC and GEF, and its Implementing Agencies, e.g., UNEP, UNDP, and FAO, and allows for sufficient time for Q&A.

#### **Detailed Objectives of the Webinar:**

- Raise developing country Parties' awareness on the timeline for BTR submission, as well as the requirements as per the MPGs.
- Inform countries about the financing support available from GEF for Enabling Activities to prepare their BTRs, while detailing the various available access modalities.
- Enhance capabilities of developing country Parties' to be able to apply for BTR funding in a timely manner to meet the December 2024 deadline.
- Inform countries about the different procedures and processes for accessing support through the various GEF Implementing Agencies.
- Provide contact points for support in GEF and the implementing agencies for queries about the process.

#### **Target Audience**

The webinar will bring together coordinators of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports, GEF's Operational Focal Points, national and international transparency experts and thematic experts for the different areas of transparency, i.e., greenhouse gas inventory, NDC tracking, adaptation and impacts, etc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> GEF, 2022, <u>Information Note on the Update of the Cost Structure for the Financing of BTRs for the Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement</u>, Council Document GEF/C.62/Inf.15.







#### **Format and Timeline**

The webinar will be held **in English** with simultaneous translation provided for **the main languages in the different regions** (please see table below). The records will be shared with all participants after the webinars.

It is expected that the webinar will last both up to **1,5 hours** with sufficient time dedicated to discussion, information exchange and Q&A sessions.

#### **Tentative Schedule**

Regional Transparency Networks	RCC Cove- rage	Targeted countries (without a BTR project yet)	Date	Time (in select locations in the regions)	Languages for Simultaneous Interpretation	Zoom link
Asia & Pacific	RCC Bangk ok	Afghanistan Bhutan China Indonesia Iran Jordan Lebanon Marshall Islands Micronesia Myanmar Nauru Niue Palau Papua New Guinea Philippines Samoa Sri Lanka Syria Thailand Timor-Leste Tonga Tuvalu Yemen	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023	Kiribati, Fiji: 16:00 Niue: 17:00 Papua New Guinee: 14:00 Jakarta: 11:00 Bangkok/Hanoi: 11:00 Pakistan: 9:00 Iran: 7:30 Bonn: 06:00 Washington: 00:00	English	https://un- org- unep.zoom.us /meeting/regis ter/tJcsd- CgrT0pE9VM WtQ2d4mrp5y ltjaHq1H1
Eurasia Anglophone Africa Francophone Network Lusophone Cluster (in Africa)	RCC Kampa la RCC Lome RCC Dubai	Asia Albania Armenia Azerbaijan Belarus Kazakhstan North Macedonia	May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2023	Rabat/Dakar: 10:00 Tunis: 11:00 Cairo:12:00 Johannesburg/ Montenegro: 12:00 Addis Ababa/Baghdad/Ku wait/Riyadh: 13:00	French, Russian, Portuguese, Arabic and English	https://un- org- unep.zoom.us /meeting/regis ter/tJOpfu- sqD8jGdU1OP pejo-





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Regional Transparency Networks	RCC Cove- rage	Targeted countries (without a BTR project yet)	Date	Time (in select locations in the regions)	Languages for Simultaneous Interpretation	Zoom link
MENA Central Asia and the Caucasus		Russia Serbia Tajikistan Türkiye Turkmenistan Ukraine  Africa Algeria Angola Benin Botswana Cabo Verde Chad Congo Egypt Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia Guinea Libya Mozambique Sao Tomé and Principe Senegal Somalia South Sudan Sudan Togo Tunisia		Baku/Dubai/Georgi a: 14:00 Uzbekistan: 15:00 Almaty/Kyrgyzstan: 16:00 Bonn: 12:00 Washington: 06:00		X79FzZOAQCG AC
Latin America and the Caribbean	RCC Panam a RCC Saint Georg e	Uganda Barbados Belize Bolivia Colombia Cuba Dominica Grenada Guatemala Guyana Haiti Honduras Jamaica Nicaragua	May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Chile: 12:00 Grenada: 11:00 Panama: 10:00 Nicaragua: 09:00 Washington: 11:00 Bonn: 17:00	Spanish and English	https://un- org- unep.zoom.us /meeting/regis ter/tJMud- qhpjojHtd9qW pVFb3WGr9Rg sOCR- o





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Regional Transparency Networks	RCC Cove- rage	Targeted countries (without a BTR project yet)	Date	Time (in select locations in the regions)	Languages for Simultaneous Interpretation	Zoom link
		Paraguay				
		Peru				
		Saint Vincent and				
		the Grenadines				
		Suriname				
		Trinidad and				
		Tobago				
		Uruguay				
		Venezuela				

After the conclusion the regional webinars, a **side event at SB 58** (June 5 to June 15, 2023) is proposed to further raise developing country Parties' awareness on the GEF funding process for BTRs, and the capacity-building support available to improve over time. The side event also presents an opportunity for Parties to share their experiences and concerns in engaging in the process.







# **Proposed Agenda**

Length of Webinar: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Time	Session
10 min (incl. a short buffer for people to arrive)	Opening and Welcoming Remarks (Short Mentimeter Survey)  Moderator: Fatima-Zahra Taibi, CBIT-GSP
5 min	Transitioning towards the ETF and New Reporting Requirements  Speaker: Mr. Tibor Lindovsky, UNFCCC
10 min	GEF Financing Support for BTR Development under the Paris Agreement  Speaker: GEF
15 min	Interaction and Q&A
20 min	Access Modalities to GEF Funding from Implementing Agencies  Speakers: Elca Wabusya/Marcellus Buyela, UNEP Eva Huttova, UNDP Mirella Salvatore, FAO
25 min	Interaction and Q&A
5 min	Wrap-up and Closing Remarks