

Training workshop for Anglophone African countries: Deep dive into tracking NDC mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement

Country presentations of ongoing
or planned tracking of mitigation
initiatives

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Systems and national challenges

Monitoring and reporting processes in place

- South Africa developed the online National Climate Change Response Database (NCCRD) to track all climate change initiatives in the country.
- NCCRD is publicly available although a free registration is required to obtain the more detailed information about projects.
- NCCRD contains information provided by individual participants (government, business, non-government organizations, and academia).
- NCCRD is envisioned to be linked with Provincial Climate Change Databases, currently only Mpumalanga Climate Change Response Database is linked to NCCRD.
- In consultation with data providers of key mitigation actions, South Africa developed set of climate change mitigation indicators to monitor the implementation, tracking of greenhouse gas (GHG) effects and non-GHG effects. The information was used to develop the mitigation quantification tool, which incorporates ex-post assessment.
- South Africa has upgraded the South African Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting System to integrate the submissions and annual reporting of mitigation plans by industries.
- South Africa developed the Climate Change Tracking Indicators Report to communicate the progress and lessons learnt in tracking South Africa's transition towards a climate resilient society and a lower carbon economy. The resultant Indicators are intended to track and communicate the causes and effects of climate change to the domestic audience. The indicators are aligned with the South Africa's NDC and SDGs.

Main challenges faced in implementing tracking systems

- Hosting Infrastructure and system maintenance.
- Lack of Funding for continuous maintenance and IT support system.
- Lack of funding to develop provincial sub-systems.
- Human capacity: Currently the existing personnel for system administration support is on contract.
- Lack of a centralised system to maintain and update the offline tracking tools.

Challenges for mitigation tracking

Capacity and resource constraints

- The provision of data by both provincial and local remains a challenge due to capacity constraints.
- Reporting fatigue.
- Some data providers require DFFE to pay membership fee to get access to the data.
- Institutional personnel constraints due to high professional staff turnover.
- Capacity building constraints in preparation for reporting under the ETF

Data availability and quality issues

- Information received on NCCRD includes the implementing agency, program description, and the budget, but information on emission reductions is incomplete for some of the projects.
- Accuracy and verification of the information reported by individuals in NCCRD.
- For some mitigation actions, there is a delay in approval of reports which then affect timing and availability of the data.
- Some data providers require DFFE to pay membership fee to get access to the data.
- Good mitigation initiative being implemented but implementing agencies have no monitoring system in place incorporating climate change indicators.

Addressing challenges and next steps

Strategies and approaches to overcome challenges

- Having MOUs with data providers.
- Developing Provincial Climate Change Database and linking it to the National database to reduce reporting fatigue.
- Linking NCCRD to another project database that are in DFFE.
- Ensuring that personnel maintain and update tracking tools on SharePoint.

Next steps in tracking and reporting mitigation initiatives

Securing funding to develop provincial systems for other provinces and linking them to the National Climate Change Response Database.

- Secure funding to employ personnel.
- Development of reporting template for monitoring Sectorial Emission Targets (SETs).
- Review existing tools and align them to support the enhanced transparency reporting.