**DPG Transparency system set up in Seychelles: First Mission**

**From March 03 to March 09, 2024**

**Transparency workshop: BTR training and Scoping for the DPG transparency system**

**Location : Beau Vallon**

**CONCEPT NOTE AND WORKSHOP AGENDA**

1. **Background**

As Parties to the Paris Agreement, all countries agreed to an enhanced transparency framework (ETF) for action and support (Article 13) which considers building mutual trust, and confidence and promoting effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and the NDCs. The ETF demands substantial and immediate progress in countries’ domestic monitoring reporting and verification (MRV) systems and strategic de-carbonization planning. This entails moving from often disintegrated, not consistently updated, and different methodologies and processes of data collection, to integrated and robust systems and requires countries to set up new transparency governance structures, develop and implement MRV methodologies and tools, and update, implement, and integrate new data and information flows with pre-defined periodicity.

A robust MRV system is important for national policy decisions and is a key requirement for reporting under UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Seychelles is expected to participate in existing MRV arrangements of the UNFCCC including preparation and submission of National GHG Inventory Reports, National Communications, Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) under the Paris Agreement. In addition to facilitative process for international consultation and analysis. All of which build on the existing national arrangements.

Digital systems are an important technological element of the Paris Agreement that enables transparency and credibility for the progress reporting of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). However, the use of digital technology in achieving the Paris Agreement tends to happen in silos. Governments or market innovators create point solutions that may create fragmented standards, applications, and data that may not work well with each other.

UNDP saw a unique opportunity to cooperatively create open-source, open data, open AI models, open standards, and a ‘ready to install’ modular transparency system that adheres to privacy and other applicable best practices. The system is built so that Governments can leverage a proven codebase to easily install and launch a sovereign system with different modules allowing for tracking mitigations and adaptations progress, received and needed support, Inventory GHG as well as benefiting from future upgrades as technology evolves.

Globally, UNDP as a co-host of the Digital Public Goods Alliance is shepherding the next frontier of digital public infrastructure built as digital public goods components that are oriented towards sectoral transformation, with climate being one of the key sectors of UNDP’s global leadership. By adopting a Digital Public Infrastructure approach, we have an opportunity to accelerate the reach and impact of digital technologies in this sector and potentially serve as the new frameworks required for the achievement of the ambitious Paris Climate Accord.

A key condition for the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement’s transparency requirements is the provision requiring adequate and sustainable financial support and capacity building to enable developing countries to significantly strengthen their efforts to build robust domestic MRV processes and digital systems.

The Government of Seychelles, through the ​Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment, sought support from the transparency Helpdesk \_*An established support Funded by the Government of Belgium and channeled through UNDP to enhance countries’ MRV and Transparency Systems*\_ to ​design configure and install a digital MRV/transparency system for NDC tracking based on the UNDP open-source DPG transparency system codebase.

The system would be aligned with the ETF and ensure NDC updates are reflected and have an easy process for iterative upgrade.

Generally, the set-up of the DPG Transparency system is done through different phases:

1. A Scoping phaseto design the key building blocks for the national systems​, engage national institutions and identify User Interface.
2. An Installation or configuration phase, where all the resources needed such as server, domain, teams, and budget are utilized to install and customize to meet countries' specifics requirements.
3. An end-to-end testing and dissemination phase, where the support to enter existing data into the system is provided and a handover training to the government is often organized to ensure knowledge and skill transfer.
4. **Objectives**

This first mission to Seychelles encompasses two primary objectives: BTR Training and Transparency System Scoping.

* BTR Training:

One objective focuses on empowering local experts in the Seychelles with the necessary skills for the upcoming Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) scheduled for completion by December 31, 2024. The training program aims to provide comprehensive technical assistance, guiding participants through the preparation, drafting, and reporting processes of BTRs.

* Transparency System Scoping

The second objective involves a meticulous examination of the institutional and information systems integral to the climate change-related reporting process in Seychelles. This scoping initiative is essential in establishing a solid foundation for the configuration and customization of the national DPG transparency system so that UNDP can ensure the system meets not only the Paris Agreement requirements for BTR reporting, but also accommodates the unique national circumstances. For this objective, the activities will include one-on-one meetings and sessions in the workshop with key government stakeholders involved in climate change information and reporting, as well as development partners who are actively providing support for climate change.

1. **Expected Results**

The expected results of the mission will be the following:

* The one-on-one meetings are designed to foster greater alignment among crucial government stakeholders and, potentially, key development partners, ensuring their readiness to meet the updated requirements for Biennial Transparency Reporting (BTR) and adopt the forthcoming digital transparency system of Seychelles.
* The workshop sessions dedicated to BTR reporting aim to enhance the knowledge of key government stakeholders and in-country development partners, to empower them with the requisite knowledge of BTR reporting needs and advantages, while providing comprehensive guidance on the associated guidelines and requirements.
* Furthermore, the workshop sessions related to the digital transparency system will facilitate the collaborative mapping of the existing (‘in practice’) institutional systems and processes utilized by the government for climate change reporting. Additionally, these sessions will enable the mapping of project-level information available in the country, categorized by sector. This collaborative effort between UNDP and the government aims to create a practical overview of the Seychelles' current institutional landscape, enhancing the groundwork for the subsequent implementation of an effective digital transparency system.

1. **Mission Agenda**

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| **Day** | **Activities** |
| Tuesday 5th March. | * Kick-off meeting with UNDP Country Office and Climate Change Department of the ​Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment, * One-on-one meetings with relevant ministries and departments dealing with energy, transport, waste, agriculture, forestry, climate change, environment, statistics, government IT and key development partners who provide support for climate change. |
| Wednesday 6th March. | * One-on-one meetings with relevant ministries and departments dealing with energy, transport, waste, agriculture, forestry, climate change, environment, statistics, government IT and key development partners who provide support for climate change. |
| Thursday 7th March. | * Workshop for BTR training and digital transparency system scoping (*See workshop agenda below*). |
| Friday 8th March. | * Wrap-up meetings with UNDP Country Office and Climate Change Department |

1. **Workshop Agenda**

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| **Time:** | **09:00 am-04:45 pm (Seychelles time)** | | |
| **Date:** | **Thursday, 07 March, 2024** | | |
| **Venue:** |  | **Location** |  |
| **Time in ET** | **Item** | **Duration** | **Responsible** |
| 08:30 - 09:00 | Arrvial and networking | 30mins | Arrvial and networking |
| 09:00 - 09:15 | Welcome and opening remarks | 15 minutes | **Name, Funtion**  **Name**, Minister of Agriculture, Climate Change & Environment **Name**, UNDP Resident Representatives |
| 09:15 - 09:45 | Presentation of the Enhanced Climate Transparency Project | 30 mins | **Moussa Diop,** Transparency Network Coordinator-Francophone countries UNDP |
| 09:45 - 10:15 | Presentations of the ongoing MRV Initiatives in Seychelles | 30 mins | **Wils Agricole,** Transparency Focal Point- Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change & Environment |
| 10:15 - 10:50 | Coffee/tea Break & Family photo | 20 mins | Coffee/tea Break & Family photo |
| 10:50 - 12:30 | Training on Biennal Transparency Report: Understand the requirements and guidelines | 110 mins | **Moussa Diop,** Transparency Network Coordinator-Francophone countries UNDP  **Theodore Marguerite,** MRV officer of the MRV Officer of the Ministry |
| 12:30 - 13:30 | Lunch Break | 60 mins | Lunch Break |
| 13:30 - 14:00 | Digital Transparency System session 1: Intorduction to digital transparency systems for climate change | 30 mins | **Reina Otsuka,** Lead Digital Innovation Nature Climate and Energy, UNDP. |
| 14:00 - 15:00 | Digitial Transparency System Session 2: Breakout session for mapping existing insitutional processes for national climate change information | 60 mins | **Douglas Marett**, Transparency systems consultant DPG UNDP  (breakout groups - by sectors) |
| 15:00 - 15:15 | Coffee/tea Break | Coffee/tea Break | Coffee/tea Break |
| 15:15 - 16:15 | Digital Transparency System Session 3: Breakout session for mapping information on national projects that address climate change | 60 mins | **Douglas Marett**, Transparency systems consultant DPG UNDP  (breakout groups - by sectors) |
| 16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-Up and Next Steps | 15 min | Wrap-Up and Next Steps |