



CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE FOR TRANSPARENCYPROJECT OF SOUTH AFRICA:

Peer-to-peer learning exchange

11 March 2024



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Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Overview of the Presentation

- Background, context, barriers the country seeks to overcome through the project.
- Project implementation plan.
- Implementation of a long-term capacity building strategy on Greenhouse Gas Inventory Compilation and Mitigation Actions Impact Assessment.
- Provision of Greenhouse gas inventory expertise within the DFFE.
- Peer-to-peer learning exchanges for international experts to share knowledge and experiences as part of implementing the CBIT project of South Africa.
- Re-allocation of funds for other activities related to the CBIT project.
- Hiring of an external auditor to conduct an audit for the project.
- An overview of the remaining project activities between now and 31 August 2024.
- Summary and conclusion.



CBIT Project for South Africa

- The Paris Agreement was adopted at the Twenty-First Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Paragraph 84 of the COP decision adopting the Paris Agreement decided to establish “a Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency in order to build institutional and technical capacity, both pre-and post-2020”.
- The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) “will support developing country Parties, upon request, in meeting enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Agreement in a timely manner”.
- The trust fund for CBIT is administered by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The CBIT is now fully integrated into GEF-7 replenishment through the climate change focal area and is open for applications.
- All developing country Parties have access to CBIT funds upon request, and all GEF policies and procedures apply to projects supported by the CBIT.



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CBIT Project for South Africa

- Among the decisions that give effect to the Paris Agreement, is for Parties to report on policies and measures that they are implementing to achieve their NDC targets, in line with the Enhanced Transparency Framework.
- The ETF entails detailed reporting through Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), including on progress in implementing the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). South Africa plans to submit its first BTR by 31 December 2024.
- In order for South Africa to be able to effectively monitor NDC implementation and report progress in the BTR, in line with the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) every 2 years, it needs to build the required institutional and technical capacities within the country such that all sectors will be able to monitor, assess and evaluate progress in implementing their policies and measures and share the relevant data with the DFFE as the coordinating entity.



CBIT Project for South Africa

Project Title: Strengthening South Africa's capacity to comply with enhanced transparency reporting requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

Objectives.

- Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities.
- Provide relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement.
- Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.



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Project Implementation Plan

The Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) with UN Environment acting as the GEF Implementing Agency (IA).

The South African Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is the Executing Agency (EA).

The Project Management Unit has already been established.

A Technical Expert in Greenhouse Gas Inventory information systems has been procured and has started delivering capacity building for the GHG Inventory Directorate

The DFFE leads the delivery of the National Climate Change Information Systems workshops to build capacities in all provinces in the country.

A consortium of experts has been procured and has developed long-term capacity building strategy on Greenhouse Gas Inventory and mitigations impact assessment.

A gender action plan for the project will also be implemented across all deliverables.

The DFFE also submits financial reports as well as all monitoring and evaluation reports to UN Environment as required.

The project is audited by an external auditor who was procured by the DFFE.



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Implementation of a long-term capacity building strategy on Greenhouse Gas Inventory Compilation and Mitigation Actions Impact Assessment.

- The service provider for the development and implementation of the long-term capacity building strategy has been hired. The inception meeting was held in June 2023.
- The service provider has developed the long-term capacity building strategy in preparation for reporting under the ETF and will also develop and deliver training courses on Greenhouse Gas Inventory compilation and mitigation actions assessment.
- The service provider is also working on developing training material on GHG Inventory compilation and mitigation actions assessment. As soon as the training materials are finalized, the service provider will organize, and deliver trainings on Greenhouse Gas Inventory compilation and mitigation actions assessment.
- The courses will run for a period of 3 months each scheduled to start in April 2024. To date, the DFFE has confirmed 30 nominations to participate in the GHG inventory Compilation course and 30 nominations to participate in the Mitigation Impact Assessment course.
- Nominations have been received from the following Departments, DFFE (Climate Change, Air Quality, Forestry and Waste), DOT, DMRE, Dept of Agriculture and Rural Development as well as the ARC.



Implementation of a long-term capacity building strategy on Greenhouse Gas Inventory and mitigation actions assessment.

- The courses will entail a general compulsory training on GHG inventory compilation and mitigation actions assessment, which will be followed by specific training modules for the respective sectors in Waste, IPPU, Energy and AFOLU.
- A hybrid model will be adopted for the training where virtual sessions will focus mainly on theoretical parts of the modules whilst in person training will involve hands on training exercises.
- South African case studies will be used in both GHG Inventory compilation and mitigation actions assessment training courses.



Provision of Greenhouse gas inventory expertise within the DFFE.

- The service provider has been hired for the provision of greenhouse gas inventory expertise within the DFFE in the GHG Inventory Directorate and the Inception meeting was held on 30 May 2023.
- The service provider consists of Project leader, Project manager and a Junior consultant.
- The service provider provides support on the implementation of the requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework(ETF), with regards to the National Inventory Report (NIR) for all the IPCC sectors.
- Supports the DFFE in updating the National GHG Emissions Inventory data on the National GHG Inventory Management System.
- Provides training for DFFE officials and other data providers on GHG Inventory compilation and GHG tools.



Provision of Greenhouse gas inventory expertise within the DFFE.

Progress of what has been offered.

- Inception Report and Revised Project Management Plan submitted to the DFFE.
- Training for DFFE officials and other data providers on GHG Inventory compilation and GHG tools.
- An updated GHG Inventory chapter for the AFOLU sector on an annual basis submitted to DFFE.



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Peer-to-peer learning exchanges for international experts to share knowledge and experiences as part of implementing the CBIT project of South Africa

- With countries now transitioning to the Enhanced Transparency Framework, it is very imperative to build capacity and countries to have functional Monitoring and Evaluation Framework/systems to enable consistent reporting through Biennial Transparency Reports under the enhanced Transparency Framework.
- As part of implementing the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency project of South Africa and preparation for the ETF, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) would like to learn and share with other countries who developed or in a process of developing and implementing the M&E systems



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Peer-to-peer learning exchanges for international experts to share knowledge and experiences as part of implementing the CBIT project of South Africa

- The DFFE has invited six developing countries to South Africa for a week to participate in a peer-to-peer learning. The countries include Kenya, Namibia, Malawi, Ghana, Gambia, and Zambia.
- The peer-to-peer learning will include South Africa sharing experience with the countries on how they developed National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, known as the National Climate Change Information System (NCCIS).
- South Africa will also share experience on how it developed the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Management System which South Africa currently uses to collect and archive data used for the preparation of the NIRs.



Peer-to-peer learning exchanges for international experts to share knowledge and experiences as part of implementing the CBIT project of South Africa

- As such, South Africa has visited and learned from the United States of America in October 2023 and Canada in February 2024 and participated in a peer-to-peer learning on Climate Change M & E systems as well as preparing to report under the ETF.
- The reports of the outcomes from the peer to per learning are available. South Africa will also prepare a list of capacity Building, technical and financial needs in preparation for reporting under the ETF.
- The peer-to-peer learning exchanges workshops will contribute to building capacities of developing countries in preparation for reporting to the UNFCCC under the ETF. South Africa will also benefit from learning from other countries as it currently working on updating and developing further climate change M&E tools as well as aligning them to the new tools under the ETF.



Re-allocation of funds for other activities related to the CBIT project.

- A total of US\$653 610 which is approximately R11 764 980 has been transferred to UNDP by UNEP for the procurement of service providers. After procurement of service providers, total of **\$459,728** which is approximately **R8,886,200** remained unspent.
- The DFFE requested the re-allocation of the unspent amount for other activities relating to the CBIT project which has been approved by UNEP and UNDP.

The activities are as follows:

- ✓ Conducting the stakeholder engagement workshops for public awareness and inputs as part of reviewing the draft National Climate Change Gender Action Plan.
- ✓ Improvement of the existing version of the South Africa's National Climate Change Information System and development of the Gauteng Provincial Climate Change Information sub-system.
- ✓ Conducting of a gap analysis research study of how South Africa is progressing in terms of implementing the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) under Article 6 of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement.
- ✓ Funding for the Department officials' visit to other countries for the peer-to-peer learning exchanges on climate change monitoring and evaluation systems to support reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework.



Hiring of and External Financial auditor to conduct annual audits for the project.

- The procurement of an external auditor was completed in September 2021. The service provider was appointed in September 2021 and has to date conducted and submitted 3 annual audit reports.
- The first audit report was for the period from 1 April 2019 to 31 May 2020, the second audit report was for the period 1 June 2020 to 31 May 2021 and the third audit report was for the period 1 June 2021 to 31 May 2022.
- The contract of the auditing firm has now ended and since the project end date has been extended, the DFFE has followed the normal Supply Chain processes to hire another auditing firm to conduct the remaining annual audit reports for the project.
- The hiring of the auditor has been included in the Department's procurement plan and is expected to be finalised before the end of the 2023/24 financial year.
- The Terms of Reference has been approved by the Bid Adjudication Committee and has been submitted for advertising. They will be advertised for 30 days, and a Bid Evaluation Committee will follow to evaluate the received bids.



An overview of the remaining project activities between now and 31 August 2024.

- Delivery of the National Climate Information Systems workshop to build capacities in provinces.
- Implementation of a long-term capacity building strategy on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory and mitigation actions impact assessment at national and provincial levels through the provision of relevant training courses to relevant officials.
- Continuation of the provision of greenhouse gas inventory expertise within the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.
- Continuation of the Peer-to-peer exchanges for international experts to share knowledge and experiences as part of implementing the CBIT project of South Africa.
- Conducting the gap analysis study on the implementation of ACE in South Africa.
- Provincial consultations on the SA's draft Gender Action Plan and finalization.
- The audit of the CBIT project.



Conclusion and way forward.

- The Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency Project will be in implementation until 31 August 2024 with the support of UNDP as the project support partner for the procurement of service providers.



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THANK YOU!

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Thank You



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