



## Inception Meeting of the CBIT-GSP Climate Transparency Network for the Middle East and North Africa

**Wednesday 3 April 2023 at 10:00 am GMT (Times in Agenda) | Format: online |**

### Background

The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency - Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) is a global support project for capacity-building on transparency, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), implemented by UNEP and executed by the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC). The CBIT-GSP is a five-year long project, running from 2022 to 2026, and offering a multitude of support to developing countries to enable them to comply with the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement reporting requirements.

The project aims at providing streamlined support and capacity building at the country, regional, and global level to enable developing countries under the Paris Agreement to better respond to reporting requirements and to catalyse increased ambition within country NDCs to contribute to the stated temperature goal of well below 2 degrees. Transparency Networks are the key support modality of the CBIT-GSP project through which support is provided to countries. Ten (10) Regional Transparency Networks have been established to provide support and foster south-south collaboration and knowledge exchange.

This year, CBIT-GSP is activating the Climate Transparency Network for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region which is one of the ten networks. The primary aim of this network is to enhance south-south learning and facilitate exchange of lessons learned and good practice among countries in the region for the reporting on national GHG inventories, NDC tracking and mitigation, adaptation and its impacts, loss and damage, and support needed and received, as well as the establishment of institutional arrangements for transparency.

As an initial step, a Capacity Needs Assessment was conducted from January 24th to February 29th to identify gaps, needs, and priorities across countries. In addition, a series of bilateral meetings were held with various countries in the region to discuss the main priorities identified in terms of capacity building and technical support. Based on the findings of the assessment and the bilateral meetings, a draft Annual Work Plan for 2024 has been developed. This Work Plan reflects all the activities and the next steps of the Network for this year, which will be implemented both at the national and regional levels.

## Objective

The main objective of this inception meeting is to **introduce the CBIT-GSP project** to the members of the Climate Transparency Network for the Middle East and North Africa and **kick-off the Network activities** through the project work plan with proposed activities for 2024.

It is expected that the participants will **discuss the key findings** of the initial assessment of transparency capacities and **jointly agree on proposed activities in the Network for 2024** to support the network countries' technical capacities on climate transparency and reporting in the region.

## Target Audience and Language

The inception meeting will gather UNFCCC focal points, CBIT-GSP focal points and national transparency thematic experts from member countries of the network as well as other experts from national institutions who are involved in climate change reporting. Furthermore, the meeting will gather representatives from partner organisations involved in climate transparency efforts in the region, including UNFCCC, UNEP, UNDP, FAO, GGGI, RENGI and NDC Partnership.

The meeting will be held in English and French with simultaneous interpretation.

## Duration and Registration

It is expected that the meeting will last up to two hours with sufficient timing dedicated to discussion and Q&A sessions.

To participate, please complete the following registration form by **Monday 1 April 2024**, via the link below:

<https://un-org-unep.zoom.us/j/96030146731>

## Inception Meeting Agenda

Time	Session
15 minutes	<p><b>Opening session and welcoming remarks</b></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Fatima-Zahra Taibi (CBIT-GSP Global Coordinator)</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> John Christensen (UNEP-CCC Director) William Franco Holness (GEF Climate Ambition and Transparency Coordinator)</p>
15 minutes	<p><b>Introduction to the CBIT-GSP project: Key objectives and expectations</b></p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Fatima-Zahra Taibi (CBIT-GSP Global Coordinator)</p>
10 minutes	Sharing of views, questions and answers
15 minutes	<p><b>Assessment of Transparency Capacities: Key findings and perspectives for the Middle East and North Africa</b></p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Keltoum AIT BELHAJ (CBIT-GSP Regional Network Coordinator)</p>
15 minutes	Sharing of views, questions and answers
20 minutes	<p><b>2024 Work Plan Proposal: Setting priorities and scheduling project activities</b></p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Keltoum AIT BELHAJ (CBIT-GSP Regional Network Coordinator)</p>
15 minutes	Sharing of views, questions and answers
15 minutes	<b>Wrap-up and closing remarks</b>

Time: 10:00-12:00 am (GMT) : Mauritania, Morocco  
 11:00-13:00 am (GMT+1): Algeria, Tunisia  
 12:00-14:00 am (GMT+2): Egypt, Libya, Sudan  
 13:00-15:00 am (GMT+3): Bahrain, Djibouti, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Yemen  
 14:00-16:00 am (GMT+4): Oman