

Training Workshop: Hands-on Training on Tracking NDC Mitigation Commitments under the Paris Agreement

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Introducing Mitigation Assessment and NDC Tracking under the Paris Agreement

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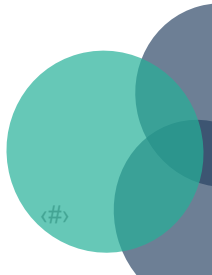


Assessment of Mitigation Actions

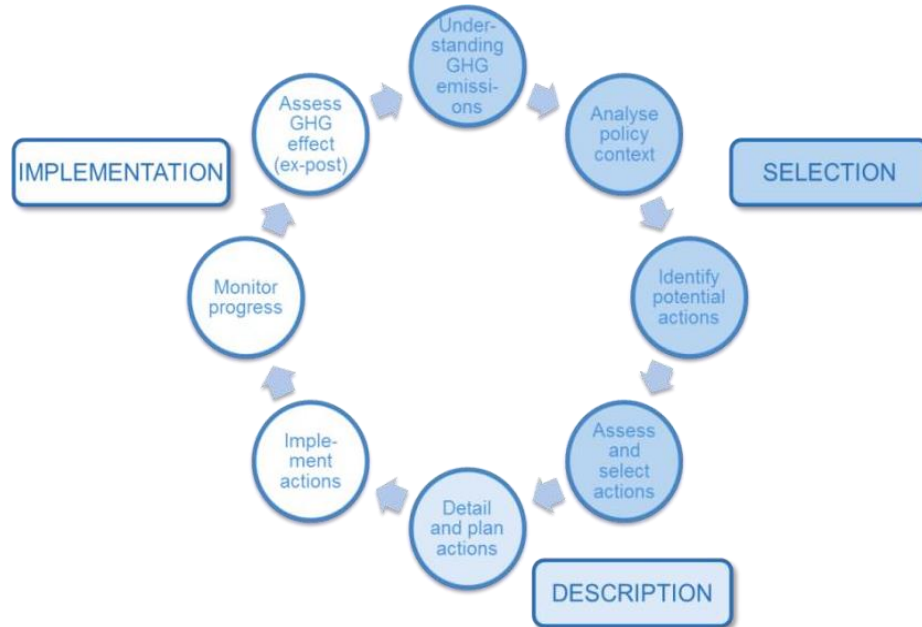
The identification of **mitigation measures, policies, actions, and plans** that can be formulated and implemented is a key part of Party reporting to the UNFCCC, established

- First under the UNFCCC, later under the Kyoto Protocol, and now under the Paris Agreement and its Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).

- Parties need to identify the type of actions, policies, plans, and measures that can contribute to the amount of **GHG available in the atmosphere, their associated objectives, and the co-benefits** (i.e., economic or social benefits) expected from their implementation.
- Parties need to report on envisaged steps to achieve envisaged reductions.
- This includes measures that may still need to be implemented.

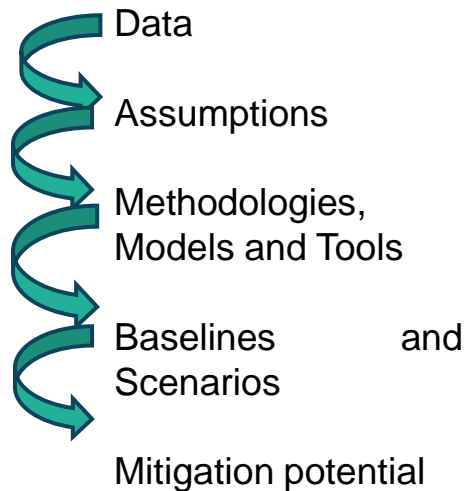


The Cycle of Assessment of Mitigation Actions



An illustrative example of a design and implementation cycle for mitigation actions

Assessing mitigation policies, measures, actions and plans under the ETF

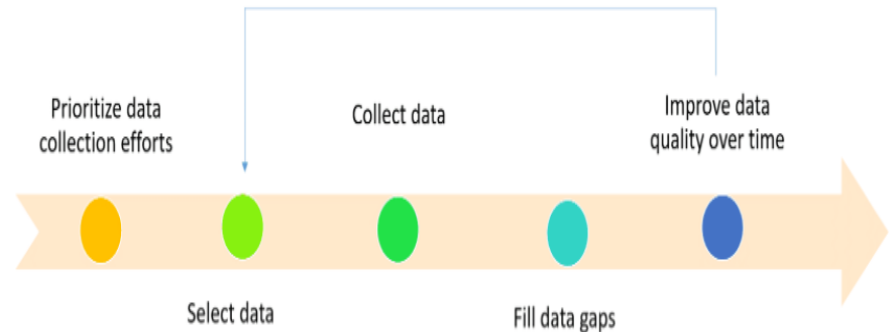


Type of analysis	Associated action	Timeline	Results	Tool	Indicators, metrics
Ex-Ante	Assessing	Future situation	Likely impact	Projections	Qualitative, Quantitative
Ex-Post	Tracking	ongoing or past situation	Actual impact	Progress of implementation	Baseline

Data needs for assessing mitigation policies, measures, actions and plans under the ETF

Collecting good-quality data is paramount for transparent and valuable mitigation assessments.

figure to the right presents a typical cycle of data management to perform mitigation assessments:



Adapted from WRI. Policy and Action Standard (2014).

Selection and coverage of mitigation initiatives for assessment

Choose which mitigation initiatives to report

- **Establish common criteria for evaluating initiatives**
 - the GHG emissions profile,
 - national development priorities, and
 - the policy context of the initiative of interest.

Select the mitigation initiatives for assessment and reporting,

- identify a sub-set of key mitigation initiatives that can be easily reported instead of identifying the entire set of mitigation initiatives undertaken in a country.
- Sub-sets that have a more significant and observable impact on GHG emissions reductions in sectors of relevance or key categories in the National GHG inventories.

This is also echoed in the ETF's MPGs.

Mitigation Potential

Common Understanding:

“The term ‘potential’ is used to report the quantity of GHG mitigation compared with a baseline or reference case that can be achieved by a mitigation option over a given period” (Halsnaes et al., 2007)

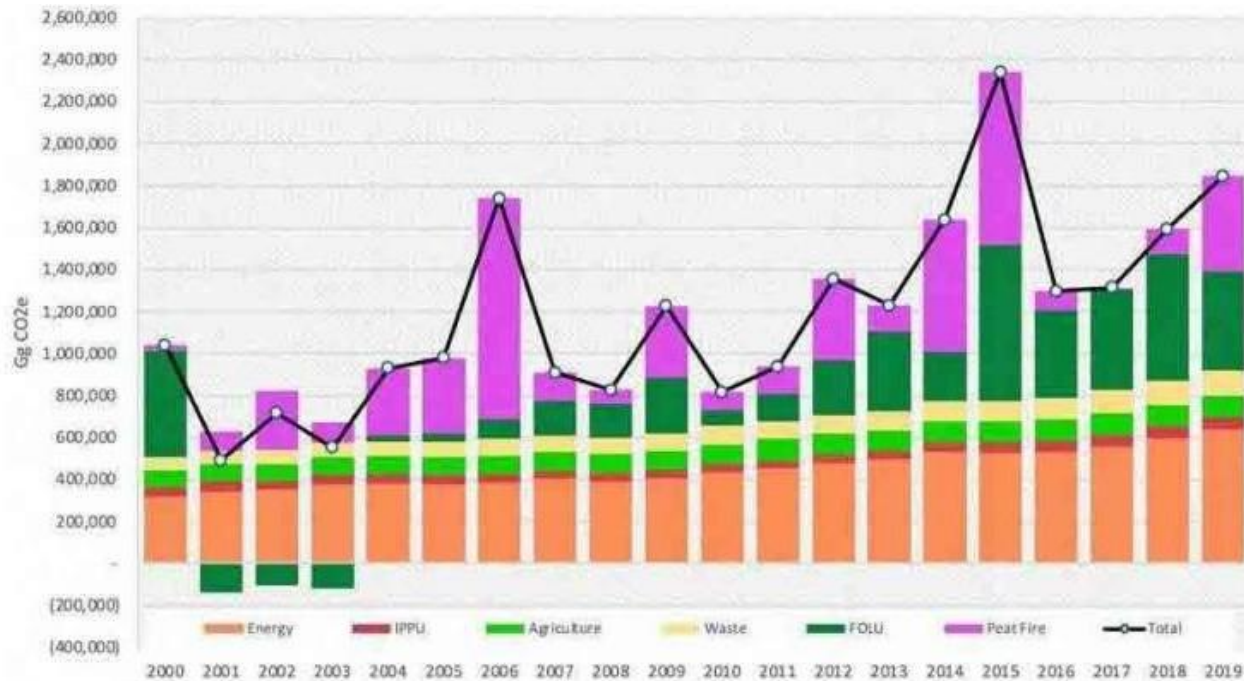
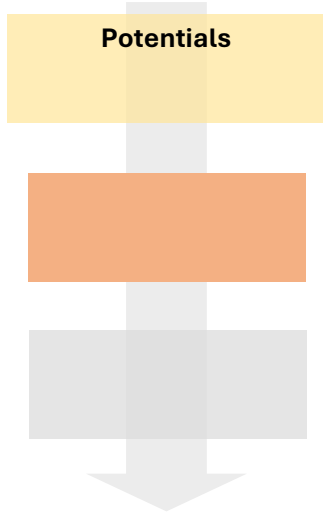
Potential is usually expressed as megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂e) of avoided emissions per given time frame (e.g. year, 5-year period, etc.)

Mitigation contributes to the objective of stabilization of GHG concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system by promoting efforts to reduce or limit GHG emissions or to enhance GHG sequestration.

Halsnæs K et al. 2007. Framing Issues. In: Climate Change 2007: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Understand highest potentials

The GHG inventory and observed trends can provide a good insight into where mitigation potential is high. Areas that might become important in the future



Narrow Down The List



The number of possible mitigation actions may be large



a) The assessment of the individual possible mitigation actions provides insights into:

- i) The possible mitigation potential and cost of actions;
- ii) Expected sustainable development benefits of actions;



b) The subsequent selection of mitigation actions then provides further clarity on:

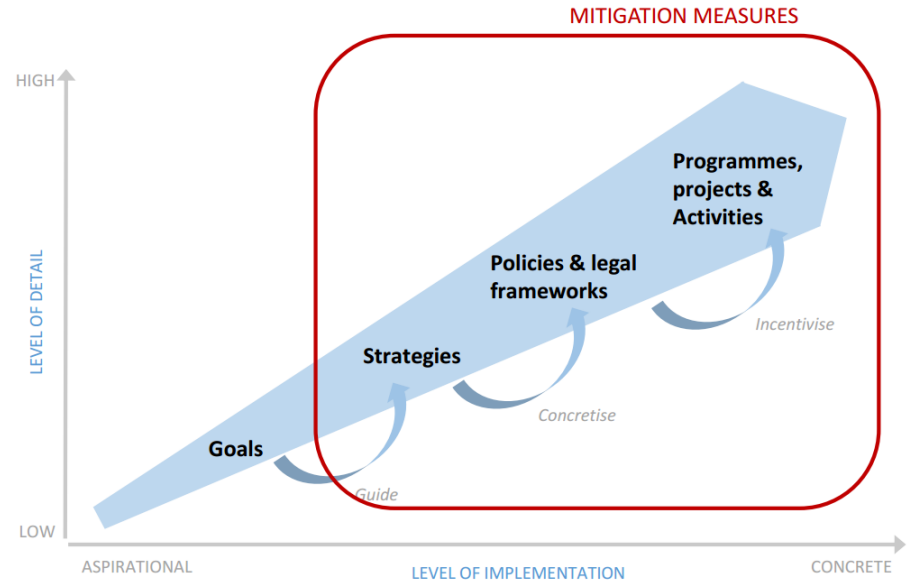
- iii) Expected effects (GHG emissions, sustainable development benefits);
- iv) Feasibility of implementation (capacity, funding, technology, politics).

Some Parties may choose not to prioritize and select actions but instead to assess and report the full set of mitigation actions that have been identified;

- Maximize opportunities for support and to demonstrate the full representation

Helpful sources of data and assumptions for assessing mitigation

- GHG inventories and prior national communications
- Energy statistics and energy balances
- National economic and demographic statistics and surveys
- Planning reports from utilities
- Relevant studies (e.g. low carbon scenarios, renewable energy assessments).
- International data and studies can help fill data gaps.
- Develop consistent energy use and emissions accounts for the base year (and, if relevant, other historical years).



- **Strategies & strategic documents**
- **Policies & legal frameworks**
- **Programmes, projects & activities**

Different stages in the different phases of the mitigation process

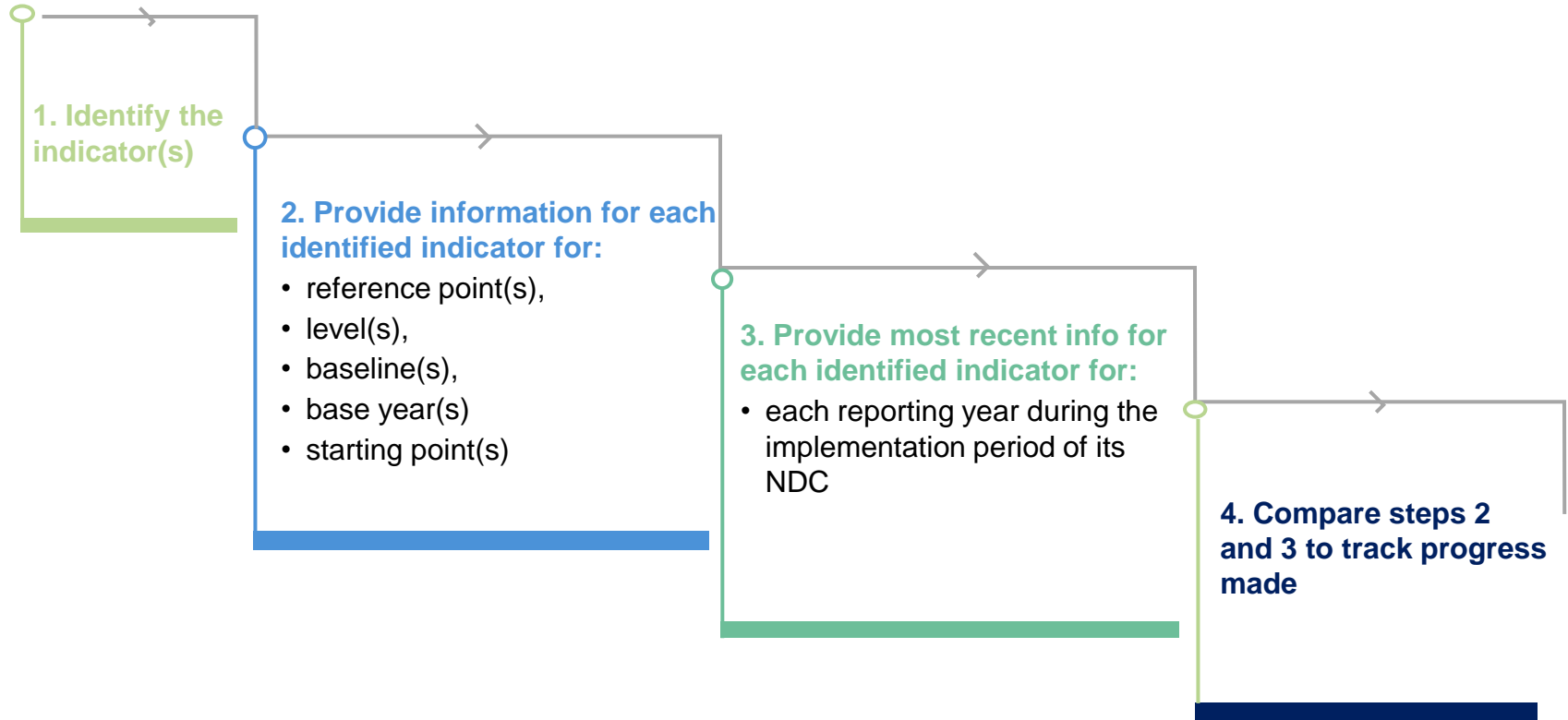
Before implementation

- Choose among mitigation options based on their expected GHG effects.
- Improve the design of measures by understanding the GHG effects of different design choices.
- Understand potential GHG reductions from options to inform GHG reduction goals.
- Report on expected future GHG effects of measures being considered or implemented (for domestic or international purposes).
- Attract and facilitate financial support for mitigation actions.

After implementation

- Understand whether measures are effective in delivering the intended results.
- Inform and improve implementation.
- Decide whether to continue current activities or implement additional measures.
- Learn from experience and share best practices.
- Evaluate the contribution of measures toward the NDC.
- Ensure that policies and actions are cost-effective and that limited resources are invested efficiently.
- Report on the GHG effects of measures over time.
- Meet funder requirements to report GHG reductions from mitigation actions.

Overview of steps for Parties to track the progress of their NDCs by indicators



Multiple benefits of mitigation assessment



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat

International reporting

- Meeting reporting requirements under the UNFCCC



National policy-making

- Providing policy-makers a robust basis for decisions
- Enhance understanding of available options and associated GHG results, cost and benefits
- Enable tracking of effectiveness of measures to facilitate corrective measures and gain acceptance



Financing of measures

- Prioritization of support
- Demonstrate potential to funders and investors
- Enable MRV of projects and programs
- Build trust

Thank you for your attention!

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