



UN Climate Change Conference (COP-29): Nov 11 – 22, 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan

Best Practices for BTR Development in Eurasia, Asia and the Caucasus

-- Side-Event--

Date: November 16, 2024 | **Time:** 14:00 – 15:30 (1 hour 30 min) | **Venue:** Azerbaijan Pavilion

Background

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), established under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, is a key mechanism for tracking and reporting progress toward countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). By promoting transparency and accountability, the ETF supports effective climate action at both national and global levels.

To assist developing countries in meeting ETF requirements, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) offers support through initiatives like the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) and national projects such as Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). At the global level, the CBIT Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP), implemented by UNEP-CCC, helps countries build the institutional and technical capacities needed for transparent climate reporting.

At the national level, the project "Azerbaijan: Enabling Activities for the Preparation of the Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1)"—supported by GEF, implemented by UNEP, and executed by the Azerbaijan Branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (RECC)—is working to develop national transparency reports. The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) is leading these efforts, ensuring the country is well prepared to meet ETF requirements and align with global transparency standards.

With many countries across Eurasia, Asia and the Caucasus on similar transparency journeys, this side event will provide a platform for sharing best practices, success stories and lessons learned while preparing their first BTR. The event aims to enhance knowledge exchange across regions, foster regional dialogue, and help countries strengthen their transparency frameworks to accelerate climate action.

Objective

The primary objective of this side event is to boost the confidence of participating country parties in preparing their first BTR by December 31, 2024, by providing practical knowledge from countries that have already completed their BTR. Representatives from Eurasia, Asia, and the Caucasus will share best practices, success stories, and lessons learned from compiling their Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1).



The event will offer key insights into the BTR process, highlight technical challenges, and provide hands-on recommendations to support other countries in meeting their transparency goals.

Target Audience and Language

This side event is targeted towards all transparency practitioners worldwide, especially those experts from relevant ministries and agencies, which implement the national transparency efforts via enabling activities projects on preparation of National Communications and Biennial Transparency Reports, national and global CBIT projects.

The side-event will be held in **English**.

Format of the Event

In-person participation.

Proposed Agenda

Time	Session
14:00 – 14:15	<p>Opening of the Side-Event and Welcoming Remarks</p> <p>Moderator: Kirsten May, Aether</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Mr. Mukhtar Babayev, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, COP29 President - H.E. Ms. Fatma Varank, Deputy Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye - Mr. Asher Lessels, Head of GEF Climate Mitigation Unit, UNEP - TBC, on behalf of UNFCCC
14:15 – 14:55	<p><u>Main Session: Sharing best practices, success stories and lessons learned from the first BTRs</u></p> <p>Moderator: Kirsten May, Aether</p> <p><i>The countries will take an opportunity to share a best practice, a success story or lessons learned which helped them to facilitate the development of BTR. The countries are invited to pick up one or two cases on technical issues related to GHG Inventory, NDC tracking, Adaptation reporting, etc. and speak up to 7 min max.</i></p> <p><u>The guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What was the main challenge, which prompted your team from developing the part of BTR? In what area (sector, category, chapter, etc.)? - What have you done to overcome this challenge and improve the reporting? - What was the role of support provider(s) – if any? - What is the key take away message you want to convey to the countries which are still in preparatory phase of their BTR? <p><u>Proposed speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aslan Shikhaliyev, Azerbaijan - Kakhaberi Mdivani, Georgia - Takashi Morimoto, Japan - Hakan Aydogan, Türkiye
14:55 – 15:05	<p>Interactive Session:</p> <p>Moderator: Kirsten May, Aether</p> <p><i>This interactive session will include a poll for participating countries to identify challenges and support needs, as well as to assess how countries that have already completed their BTR can help disseminate knowledge and lessons learned.</i></p>
15:05 – 15:15	Feedback from the support providers
15:15 – 15:20	Wrap-up and closure of the event

