

The Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency – Global Support Programme



Results of the Capacity Needs Assessment Survey 2024: Key findings, gaps and perspectives for Asia

13 January 2025

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Jaypalsinh Chauhan

Asia Transparency Network Coordinator

- To assess the transparency systems and related capacity needs of the countries of **Asia Regional Transparency Network** to comply with the reporting requirements of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement
- In the period spanning November to December 2024, a survey was disseminated to the CBIT GSP Focal and Thematic Points, with copies forwarded to the UNFCCC Country Focal Points
- 17 countries of the regional network participated: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam



Section 1 of 10

Rapid Assessment of Transparency Capacities

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This questionnaire aims to rapidly assess the status of your country's transparency system and related capacities to comply with the reporting requirements of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. The first rapid assessment was conducted in 2022-2023 and served as the basis for informing about the needs and priorities on climate transparency and helped to design concrete supporting activities for your respective regional network under the CBIT-GSP project.

This version of the questionnaire has been updated given the progress countries made in preparation of the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) and latest climate reporting. It aims to **update the status of your country's transparency system** and related capacities and **navigate to new emerging needs** which will be supported via annual work plans of your respective CBIT-GSP regional network for 2025-2026.

This questionnaire includes the questions for all transparency areas related to the ETF and BTR; hence, please, ensure participation of your country thematic experts from GHG Inventory, NDC tracking and mitigation, adaptation, climate finance (support needed/received) and gender while answering to the questions.

If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to your Regional Network Coordinator Mr. Jaypalsinh Chauhan at jaypalsinh.chauhan@un.org or to Mr. Francesco Locatelli at francesco.locatelli@un.org

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Please, indicate what are the main challenges, preventing your country from submitting before **the deadline, i.e. 31 December 2024?**

Lack of data and access to data (63.2%)

- Highest reported barrier
- Includes issues with data availability, quality, and accessibility
- Particularly challenging for disaggregated activity data
- Critical bottleneck for accurate reporting

Lack of domestic technical capacity (57.9%)

- Second major challenge
- Involves shortage of expertise in:
 - Understanding CRT (Common Reporting Tables)
 - CTF (Common Tabular Format)
 - NDC tracking methodologies
- Essential for report preparation and quality assurance

Institutional and organizational challenges (42.1%)

- Third significant barrier
- Includes coordination issues between agencies
- Challenges with institutional arrangements
- Affects data flow and report preparation

Delay in securing GEF resources (26.3%)

- Affects project initiation and implementation
- Impacts timeline for technical expertise recruitment
- Creates cascading delays in report preparation

Multiple challenges at 15.8% each:

- Application of flexibility for developing countries
- Affects reporting requirements and timelines

Several challenges at 10.5% each:

- Political instability/armed conflicts
- Still completing/finalizing previous reports
- Creates resource allocation challenges

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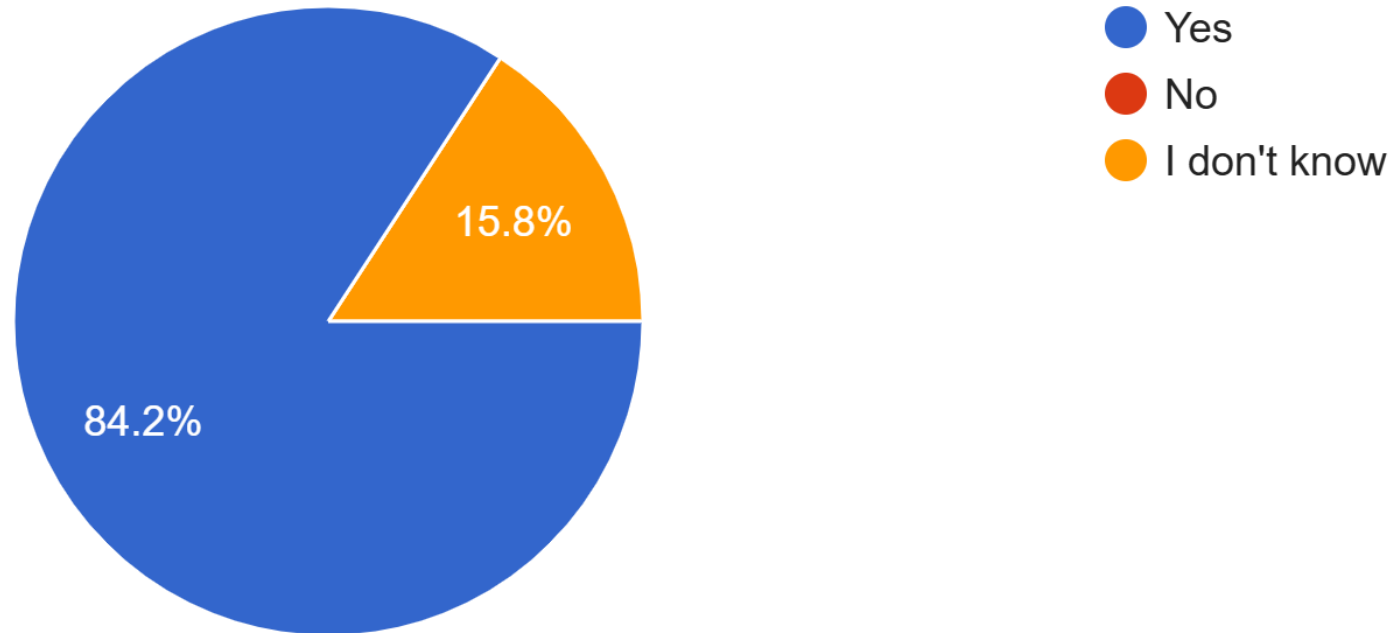


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Does your country intend to submit an updated NDC 3.0 in 2025?



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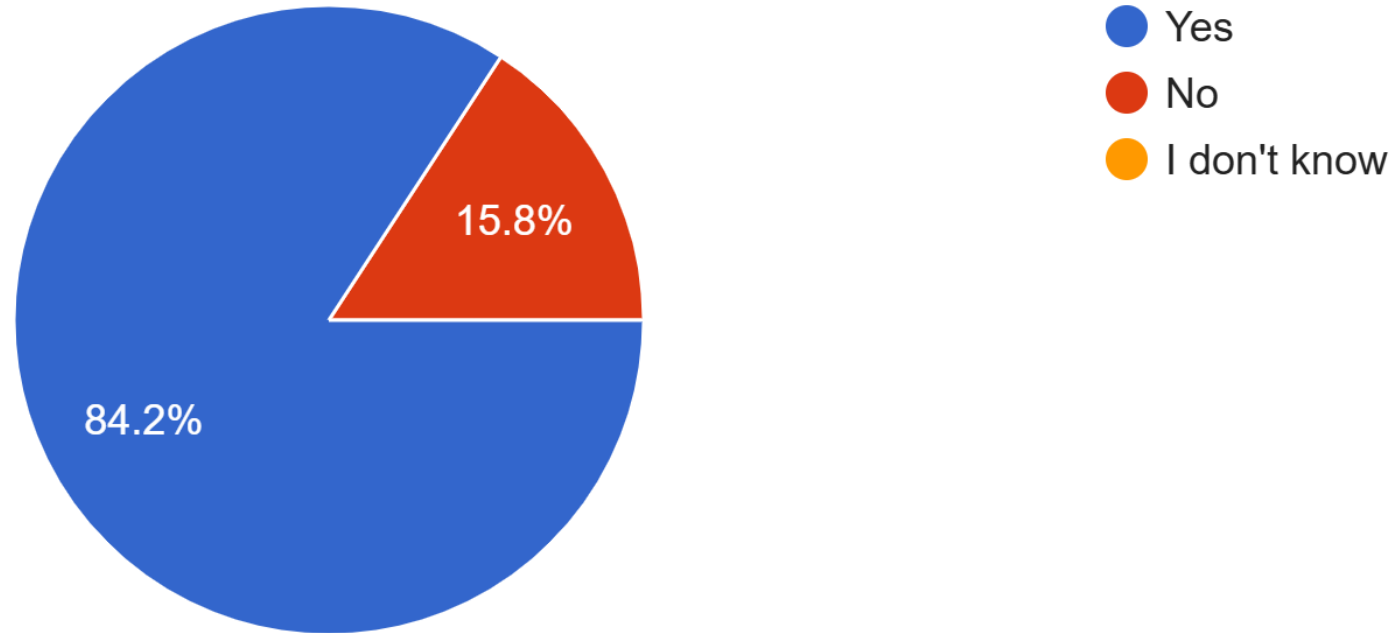


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Do you need support to understand linkages between NDC 3.0 and first BTR?



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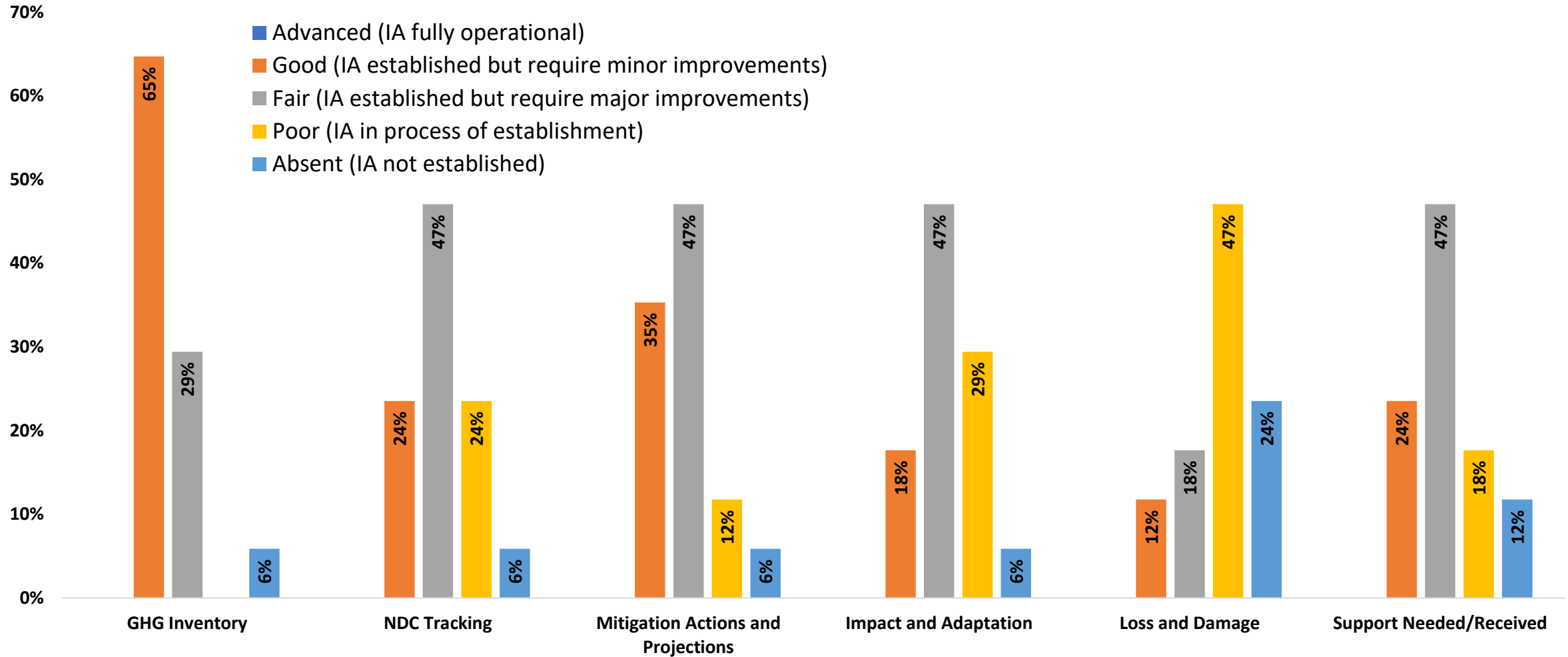
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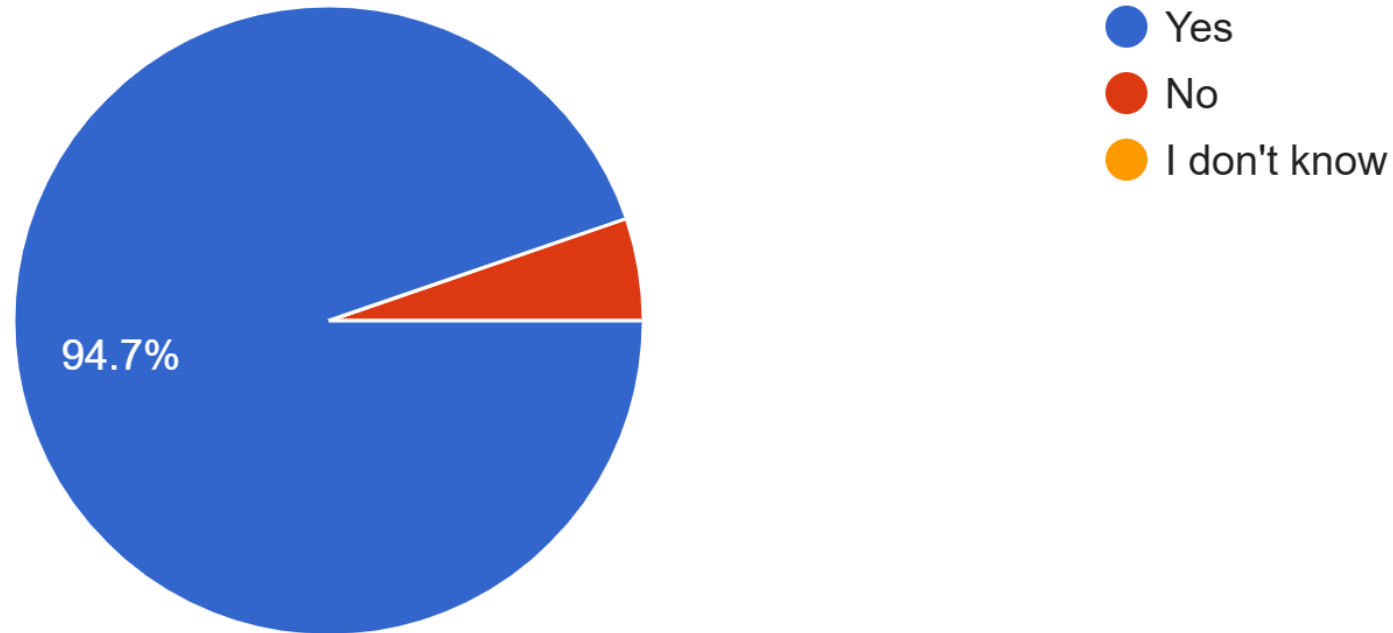
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How would you assess the **institutional arrangements (IA)** for each of the proposed ETF reporting areas in your country.

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Will you need support on improving the institutional arrangements for the mentioned reporting areas (e.g. exchange of experience events, recommendations for improvement, etc.)?



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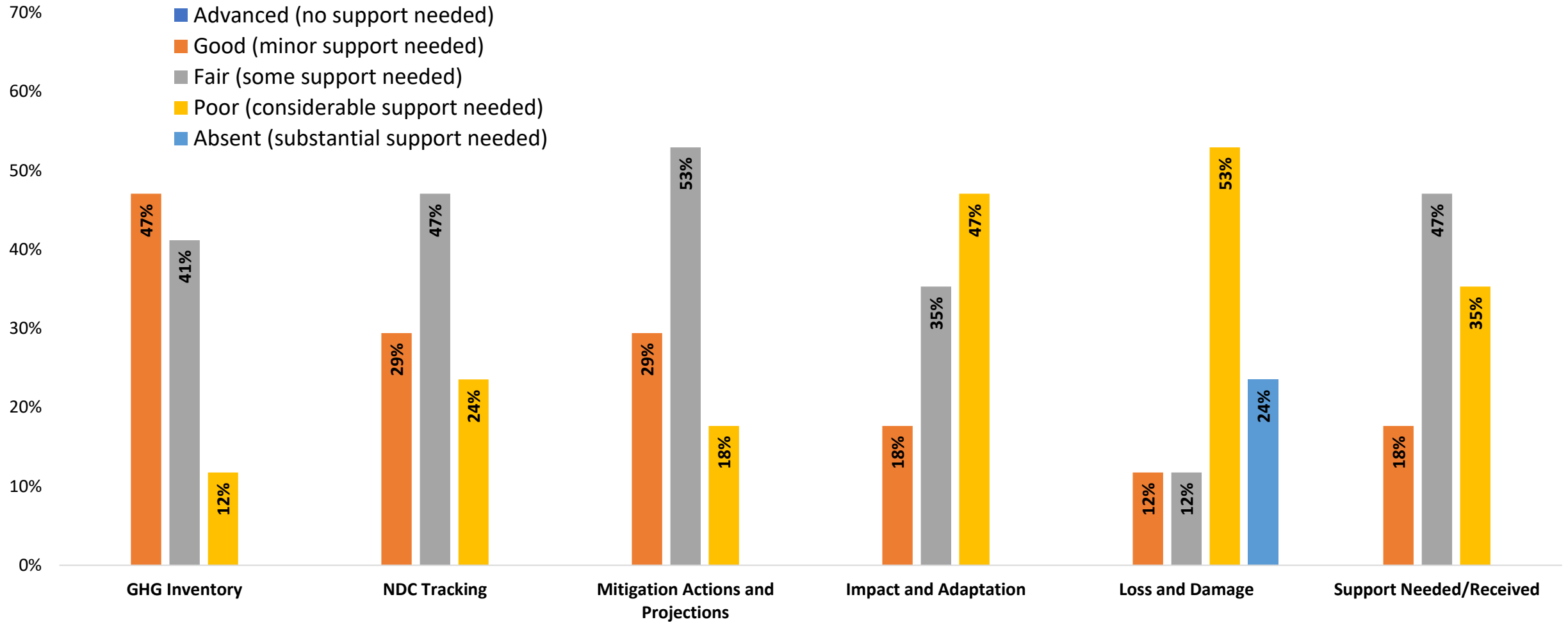
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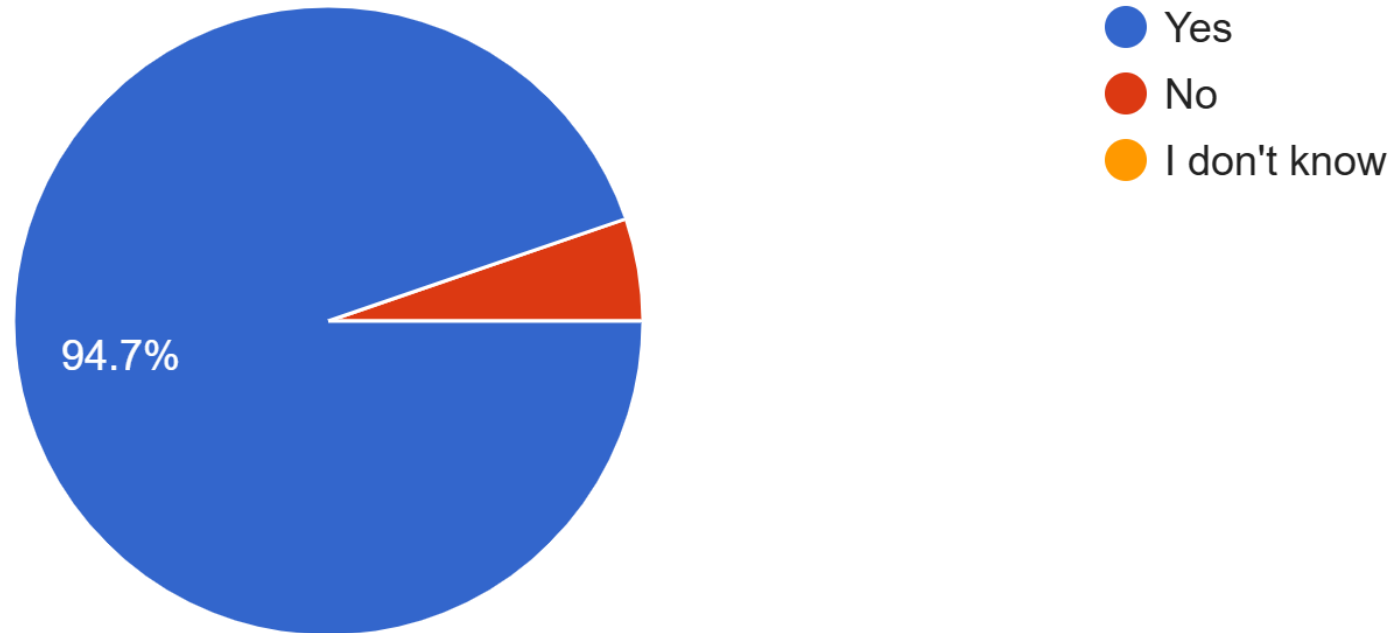
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How would you assess the **technical domestic capacity** to develop, report and submit on each of the proposed ETF reporting areas in your country

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Will you need support on improving the technical domestic capacity for the mentioned reporting areas (e.g. capacity building sessions, exchange of ...events, introduction of tools, consultations, etc)?



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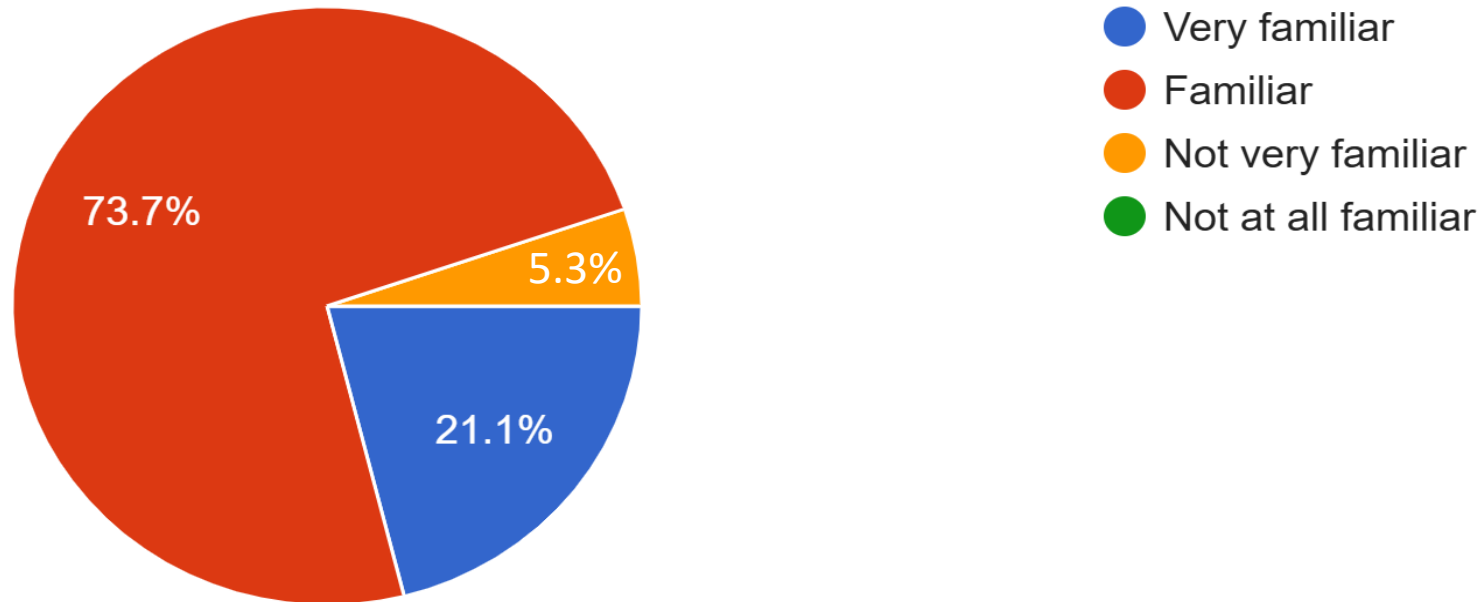


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How familiar are you with the MPG provisions (Decision 18/CMA1), including the reporting templates (Decision 5/CMA3)?



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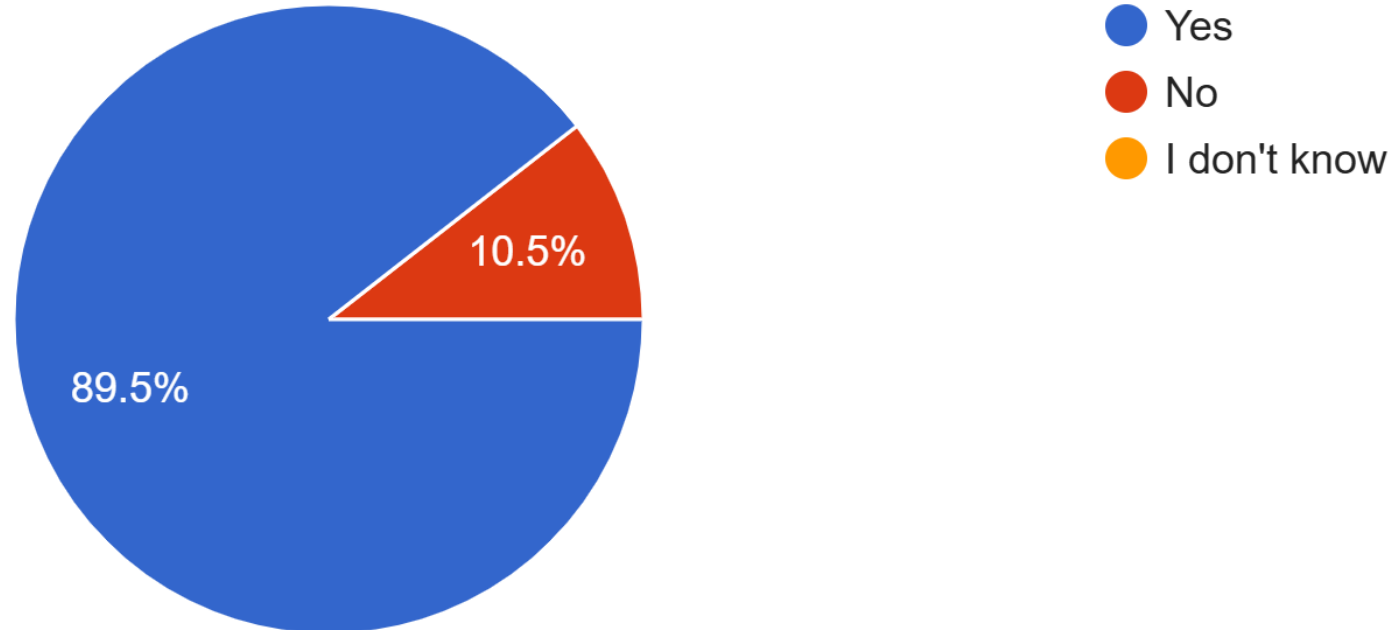


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Will you need support on improving the knowledge and awareness on MPG provisions, incl. reporting templates?



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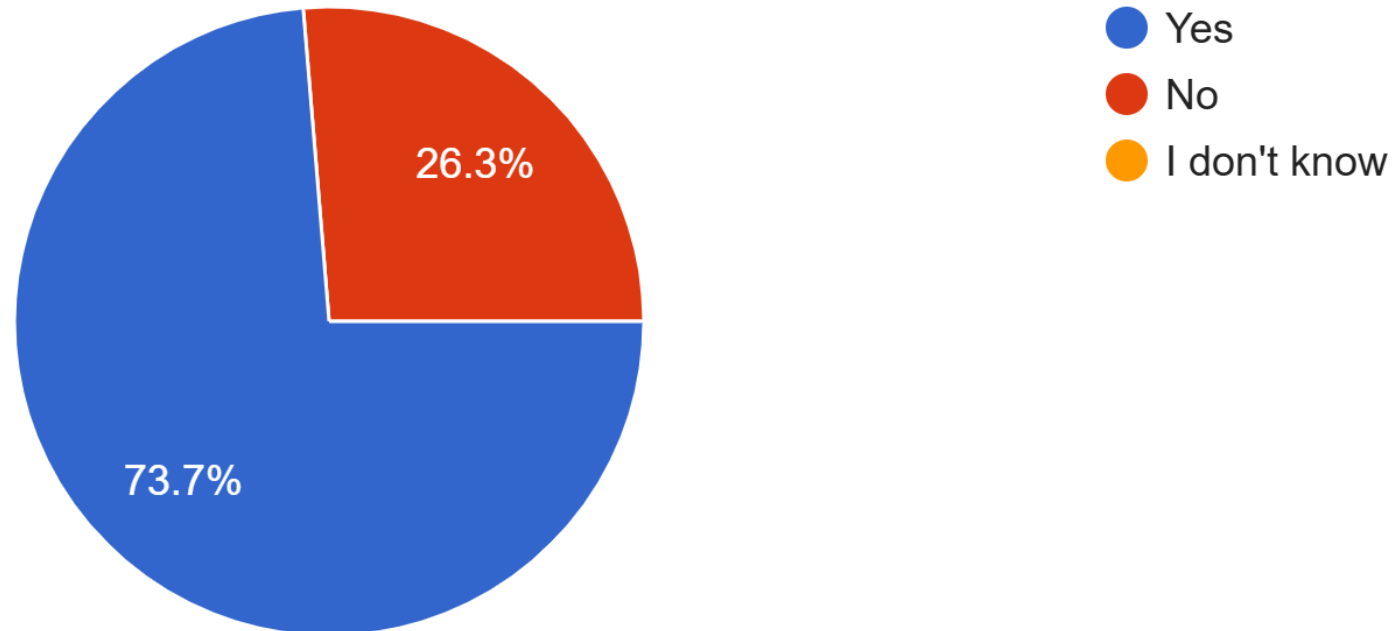


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Will you need support to understand and using flexibility provisions in the development of 1BTR?



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What was/is the most challenging in development of the NIR under the 1BTR?

Filling in the CRT tables (84.2%)

- Highest reported challenge
- Relates to completing Common Reporting Tables accurately
- Essential component for standardized reporting

Three major challenges tied at 68.4% each:

- Compiling the narrative analysis
- Compliance with MPGs (Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines)
- Use of ETF Reporting Tools

Data collection and access (63.2%)

- Nearly two-thirds of respondents struggle with this fundamental aspect
- Critical foundation for accurate reporting

Use of IPCC software (42.1%)

- Technical challenges with inventory software
- Less than half of respondents identified this as a major issue

Use of flexibility modality (36.8%)

- Relatively lower concern
- Relates to understanding and applying flexibility provisions

Use of IPCC 2006 Guidelines (26.3%)

- Lowest reported challenge
- Suggests relatively good familiarity with IPCC methodologies
- Foundation for GHG inventory development

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What are the most challenging **MPG mandatory provisions** that your country faces/faced in development of the NIR of the 1BTR?

Quantitative uncertainty estimation (84.2%)

- Highest reported challenge
- Includes both quantitative estimation and qualitative discussion requirements

Quality assurance/control planning (68.4%)

- Elaborating and reporting comprehensive QA/QC plans
- Second most significant challenge

Emissions displacement tracking (63.2%)

- Tracking and estimating displaced emissions
- Third highest reported difficulty

Multiple provisions at 57.9% each:

- Performing recalculations of previously reported data
- Providing Common Reporting Tables (CRT)
- Estimating and reporting HFCs
- Maintaining consistent annual time series reporting

Mid-level challenges (52.6% each):

- Using recommended methodological tiers
- Identifying key categories and performing analysis

Lower-tier challenges (42.1% each):

- Reporting on national emissions estimation processes
- Implementing general inventory quality objectives
- Reporting transparent information

Basic provisions (10.5% each - lowest difficulty):

- Using notation keys
- Applying global warming potentials
- Providing national inventory documentation
- Meeting latest reporting year requirements

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What was/is the most challenging in development of the NDC tracking under the 1BTR?

Filling in the CTF tables (78.9%)

- Highest reported challenge
- Relates to Common Tabular Format completion
- Critical for standardized NDC progress reporting

GHG emission projections (73.7%)

- Second most significant challenge
- Essential for tracking future emission pathways
- Complex modeling and scenario development

Two challenges tied at 68.4% each:

- Compliance with MPGs (Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines)
- Use of ETF (Enhanced Transparency Framework) Reporting Tools
- Both relate to technical framework adherence

Use of flexibility modality (57.9%)

- More than half struggle with understanding/applying flexibility options
- Important for developing countries with capacity constraints

Two areas reported at 5.3% each (lowest challenges):

- Policy and measures related data
- Data input for progress of implementation
- Surprisingly low given their fundamental importance

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What are the most challenging MPG mandatory provisions that your country faces/faced in reporting on the NDC?

Mitigation policies and measures (89.5%)

- Highest reported challenge
- Involves documenting specific actions and plans
- Includes adaptation co-benefits and economic diversification plans
- Critical for demonstrating NDC implementation progress

Information for tracking NDC progress (84.2%)

- Second highest challenge
- Relates to Article 4 of the Paris Agreement
- Requires comprehensive progress indicators and metrics
- Essential for transparency in NDC achievement

Projections of greenhouse gas emissions (73.7%)

- Third major challenge
- Involves complex modeling and forecasting
- Critical for understanding future emission pathways
- Important for assessing NDC target achievement

Summary of greenhouse gas emissions (31.6%)

- Moderate challenge level
- Involves synthesizing emission data
- Important for establishing baseline and progress

Description of NDC (26.3%)

- Lower challenge level
- Involves explaining NDC components and targets
- Basic requirement for transparency

National circumstances and arrangements (15.8%)

- Lowest reported challenge
- Includes institutional arrangements and domestic policies
- Foundational information for NDC context

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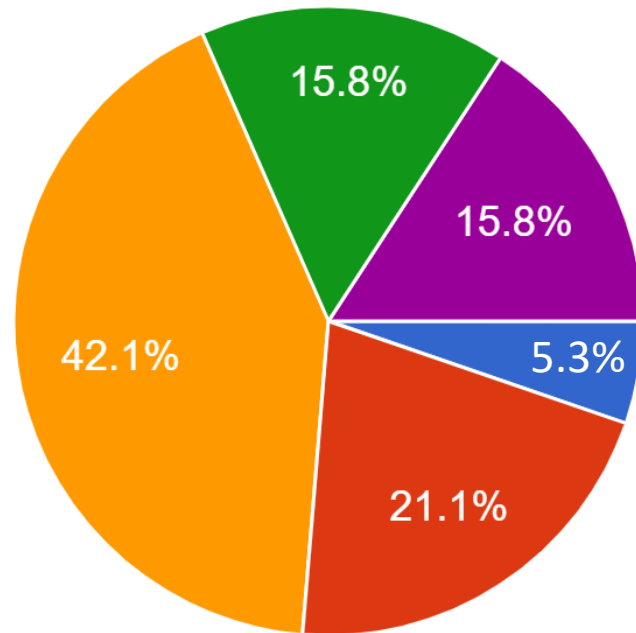


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Does your recent climate report (NC, BTR, NDC or Adaptation Communication) include gender considerations? If yes, to what extent?



- Extensively
- To a greater extent
- To some extent
- Fairly
- Not at all

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Thank you for your attention !

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Please reach out to us for any question, comments or suggestions!



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