



United Nations
Climate Change

Introduction to the Technical Expert Review (TER)

Federico Brocchieri
Programme Officer, UNFCCC Secretariat
BTR Review Planning and Coordination unit

18 March 2025

#Together4Transparency

A horizontal line composed of several colored segments: teal, yellow, orange, light blue, purple, green, and red.



Agenda

- Overview of the ETF process and scope of the TER
- TER for BTR1: review plans and formats
- Roles and expectations for the review process
- Becoming eligible experts
- Challenges encountered in recent TERs

- Q&A





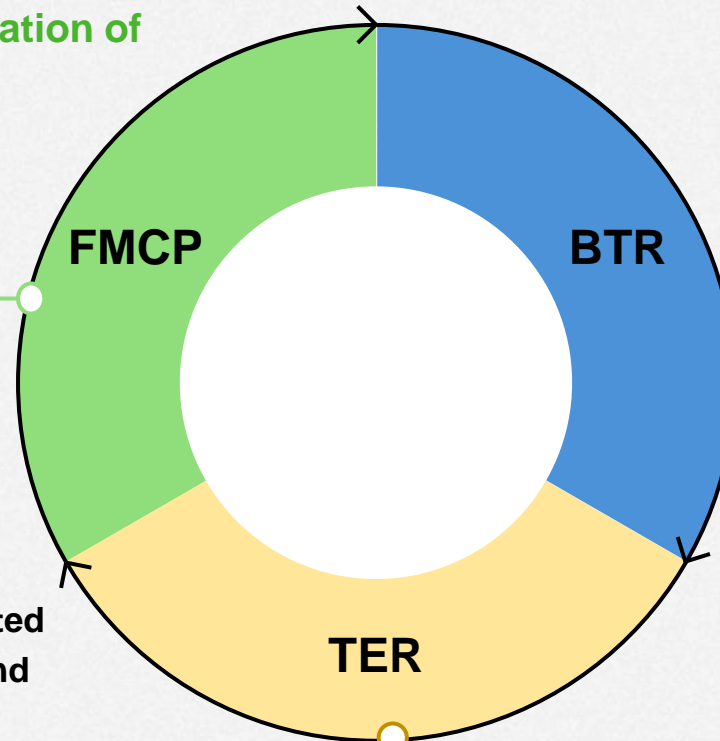
Overview of the ETF process and scope of the TER

ETF process overview

Reporting, review and multilateral consideration

Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress

- Online Q&A
- In session presentation and Q&A (*all shall*)



Biennial Transparency Report

- GHG inventory (*all shall*)
- Progress in NDCs (*all shall*)
- Support provided / mobilized (*developed shall*)
- Support needed / received (*developing should*)
- Adaptation (*all should*)
- Annex on REDD+ (*some*)



Technical Expert Review

- Consistency of information reported
- Consideration of progress with and achievement of NDC
- Support provided (*developed shall, and other Parties at their discretion*)
- Identification of improvements
- Identification of capacity building needs



More on the scope of TER

147.

The technical expert review shall pay particular attention to the **respective national capabilities** and **circumstances** of developing country Parties.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR TER

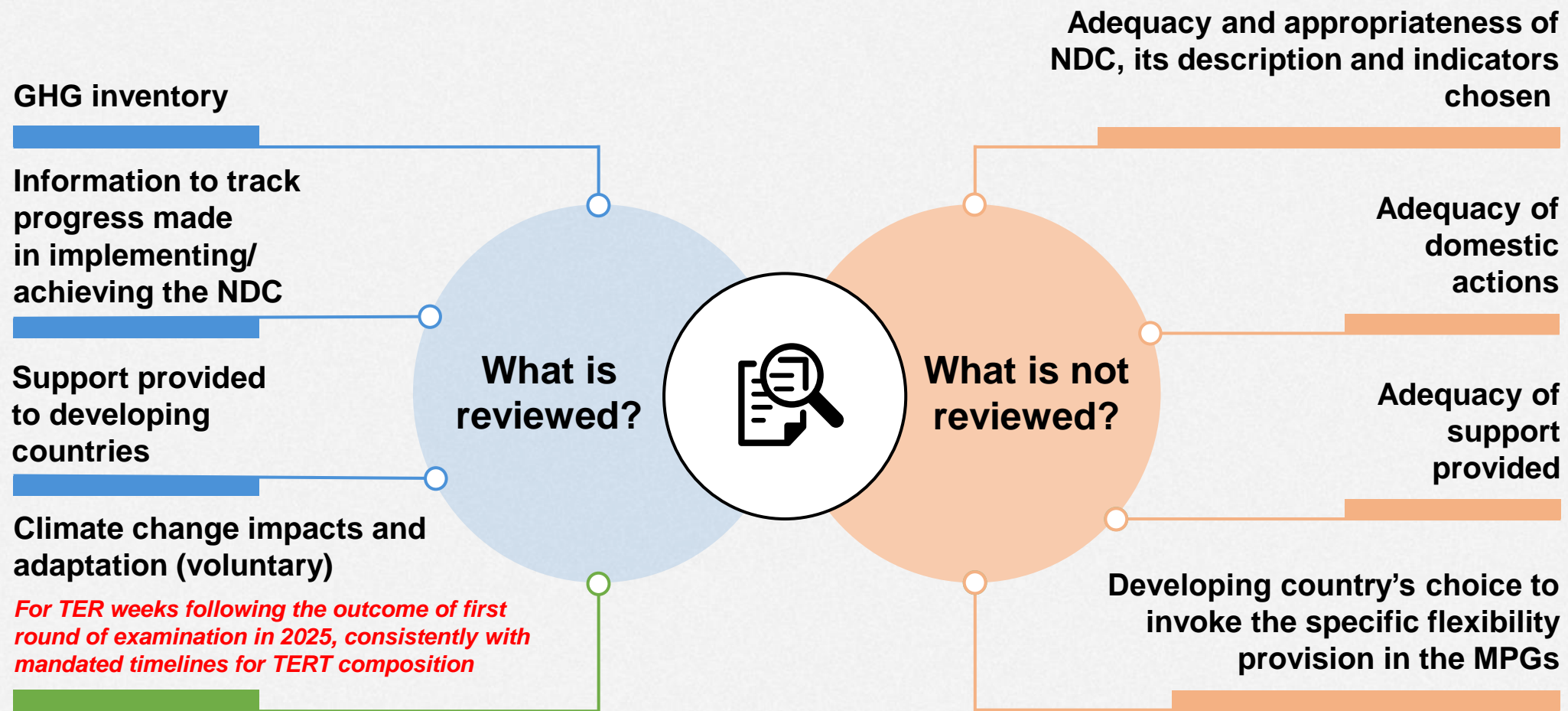


148.

In accordance with Article 13, paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement, the technical expert review will be implemented in a **facilitative, non-intrusive, non-punitive manner, respectful of national sovereignty**, and will **avoid placing undue burden on Parties**.



Information to be reviewed





TER for BTR1: review plan and formats

TER format for BTR1

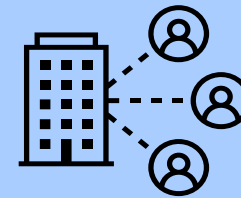
In-country review (ICR)



TERT visits a host country to conduct a review of the Party's submission, **interacts** with Party's experts in person and **observes** institutional arrangements firsthand.

A **Party** shall undergo an **in-country review** for BTR1 *MPGs para. 158(a)*

Centralized review (CR)



TERT **convenes in one location** and reviews the BTRs of **multiple Parties' submissions**, interacts with Party's experts **remotely**. For BTR1, **developing country Parties** that need it in the light of their capacities have the **flexibility** to choose to undergo a CR.

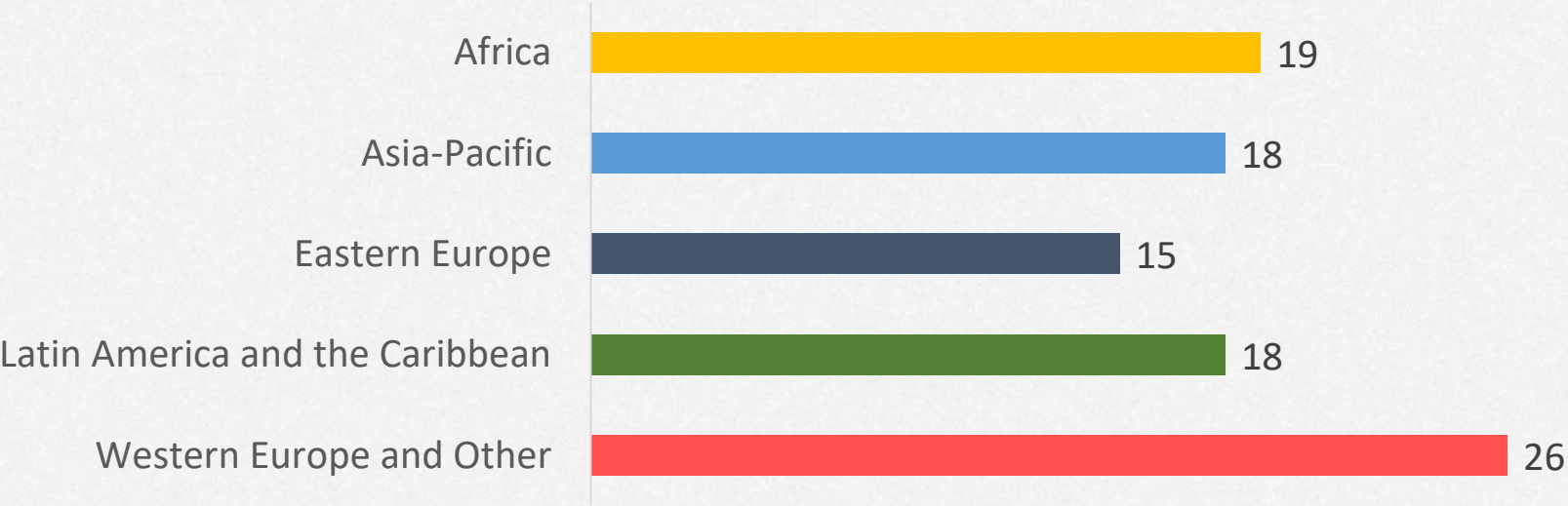
LDCs and SIDS may choose to participate in the same **CR as a group**
MPGs para. 157

Technical Expert Review (TER) Planning for 2025

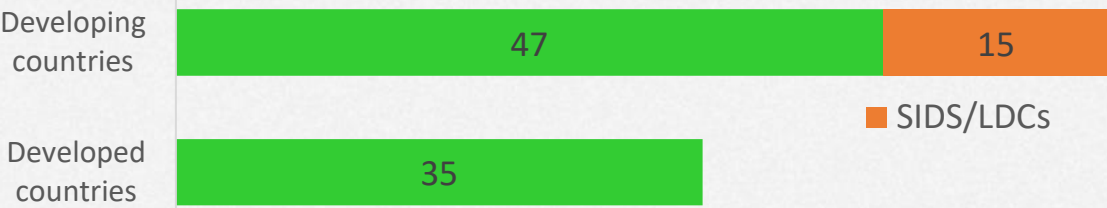
BTR1 submission status

88 Parties submitted by 31 Dec 2024 (97 as of 16 Mar 2025)

UN regions



Status (self defined by Parties)



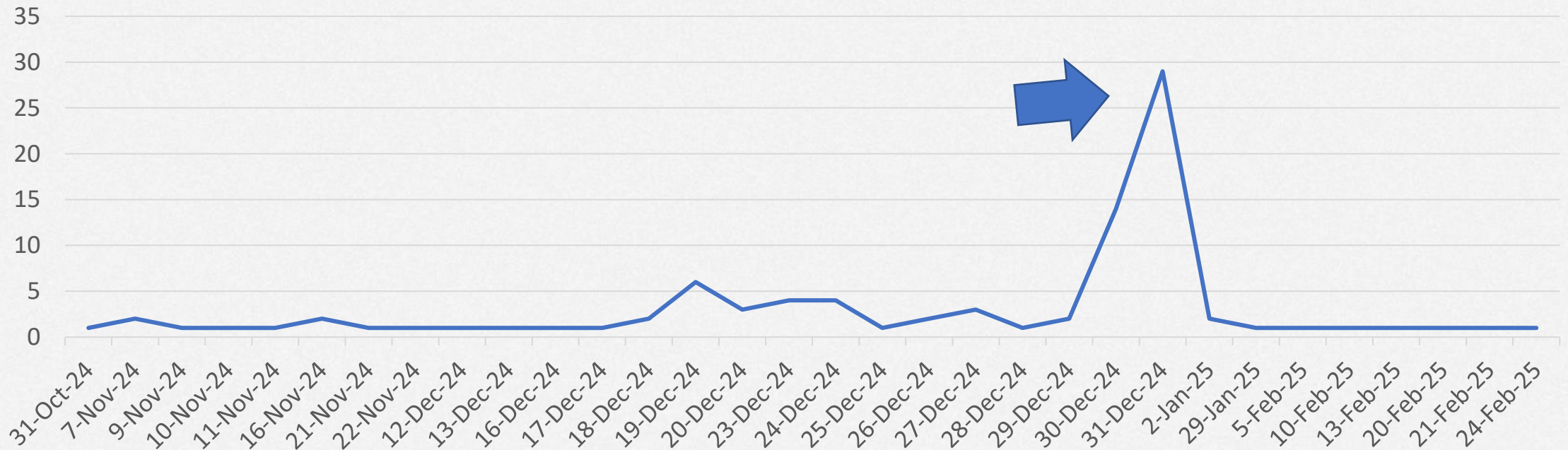
SIDS/LDCs

Scheduling technical expert reviews

Principles for organising reviews

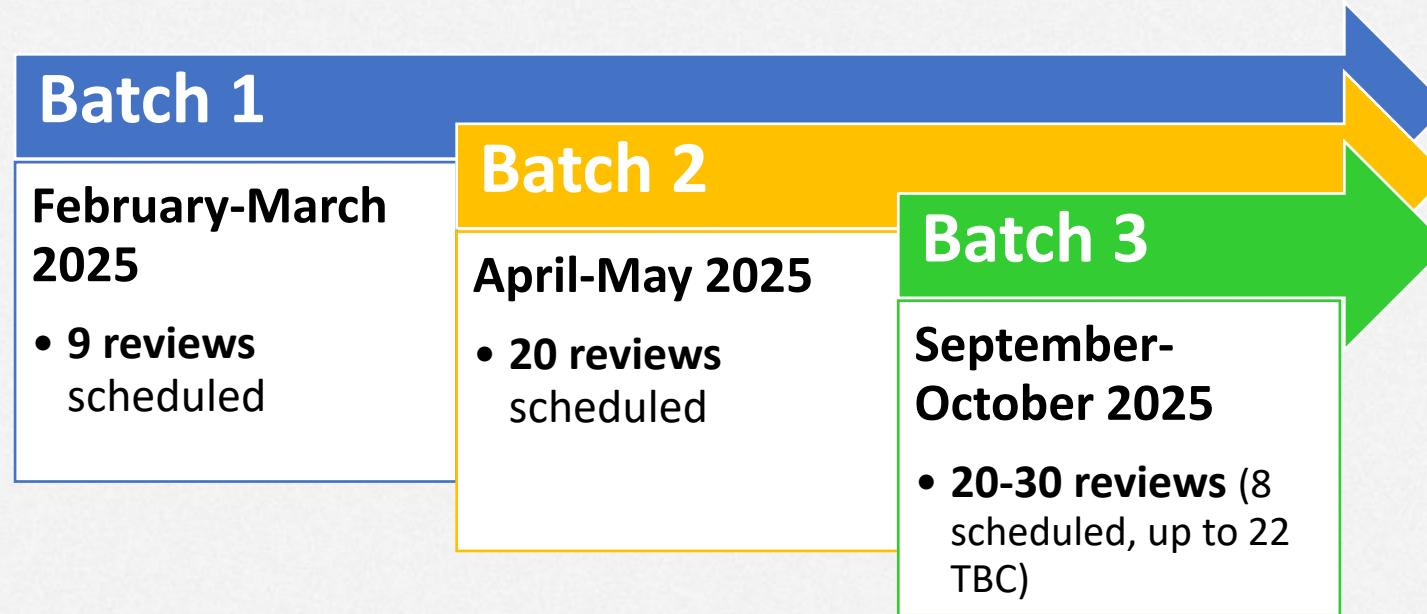
- First submitted, first reviewed basis for 50-60 TERs
- BTR submission surge 30-31 December 2024 (43 BTRs) – warranted additional principles

BTR submission dates (October 2024 - March 2025)



2025 plan for technical expert reviews of BTR1

50-60 Parties scheduled/planned for review in 2025



Principles for scheduling reviews:

- First submitted, first reviewed;
- Centralized reviews which may change the order of Parties going through reviews;
- BTRs with REDD+ annex.

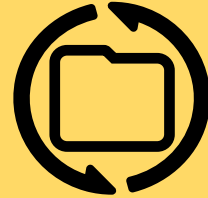
Note

- *As of 16 March 2025, 5 developing country Parties used the flexibility provision to request a centralized review format, in the light of their capacities.*

Preparing for review

Resubmission vs Additional information

Resubmission



- BTR/CTF/CRTs may be resubmitted by **8 weeks before the review week**
- Submissions later than 8 weeks before will be treated as **additional information provided during the review.**

The secretariat shall compose a TERT by 10 weeks before the review week

MPGs para. 162(b)

Response to TERT questions



- Party should provide requested information **within 2 to 3 weeks** (if flexibility is applied).
- TERT may make a request to the Party by the end of the review week (Friday).

TERT may request additional information **before/during review**

week *MPGs para. 162(c)*

TERT composition process

Approach and principles for each batch

TERT availability

- **Survey issued** to all experts eligible to perform reviews under the ETF
- **Responses recorded and verified integrated** with information from the ROE/Training programme

TERT composition

- **Consideration of experts available for the specific week** of the Party's review
- **Assessment of potential conflicts of interest**
- **Mandated criteria for each TERT**

TERT invitation

- **Email to confirm expert's availability** for the assigned review/dates
- Upon confirmation, **issue of official invitation letter**

Process finalized 10 weeks ahead of TER week start



Roles and expectations for the review process

Roles and responsibilities

Party

- Cooperate and respond to questions of TER team
- Provide comments on the draft TER report

Lead reviewers

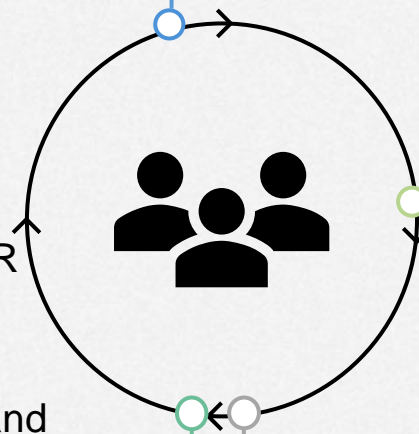
- Oversee the work of the TER team
- Ensure that TER adheres to MPGs
- Ensure the quality and objectivity of the TER and provide for the continuity, consistency across Parties and timeliness of the TER
- Communicate, monitor, coordinate review and preparation of TER report
- Give priority to issues raised in previous TER reports
- Provide technical advice to TER team
- Annually discuss how to improve the quality, efficiency and consistency of TER, and develop conclusions

Experts

- Nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts
- Complete the training programme
- Adhere to MPGs
- Participate in individual capacity
- Pay particular attention to national capabilities and circumstances

Secretariat

- Agree on date and format and logistic and admin arrangements with Party
- Compose TER team
- Facilitate communication
- Provide tools and templates to TER team
- Compile and edit TER report
- Facilitate annual LRs meetings



Expectations from Parties in TER (1/3)

| TER phases (pre-review week) | In-country | Centralized |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Pre- Agree with the secretariat on the date of the review at least 14 weeks prior to that date | X | X |
| Pre- Agree on format, as applicable. If in-country, coordinate with the secretariat to identify city/venue, and review admin/logistics and agenda | X | - |
| Pre- Participate in the preparatory call with the secretariat | X | X |
| Pre- Coordinate internally to respond to any questions from TERT, from 4 weeks prior to the review week, to answer all questions within 2 weeks or for developing countries that need flexibility in light their capacities within 3 weeks, of the request | X | X |

Expectations from Parties in TER (2/3)

| TER phases (during-review week) | In-country | Centralized |
|--|------------|-------------|
| During- Present to TERT on thematic areas included in the BTR on day 1 of the review week | X | - |
| During- Participate in meetings with TERT | In-person | Remote |
| During- Continue to respond to questions from TERT | X | X |
| During- Consider recommendations or encouragements received and/or work with TERT to identify capacity-building needs | X | X |

Expectations from Parties in TER (3/3)

| TER phase (post-review week) | In-country | Centralized |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Post- Answer any remaining questions from the review week within 2 weeks of receipt or 3 weeks for developing countries | X | X |
| Post- Provide comments within 1 month or for developing countries that need flexibility in light their capacities, within 3 months, from the receipt of the draft report | X | X |
| Post- Coordinate with the technical expert review team and/or the secretariat to finalize the report, as needed | X | X |
| Post- Incorporate the findings from the technical expert review report into a plan to be addressed in a future BTR | X | X |
| Post- Participate in facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress | X | X |

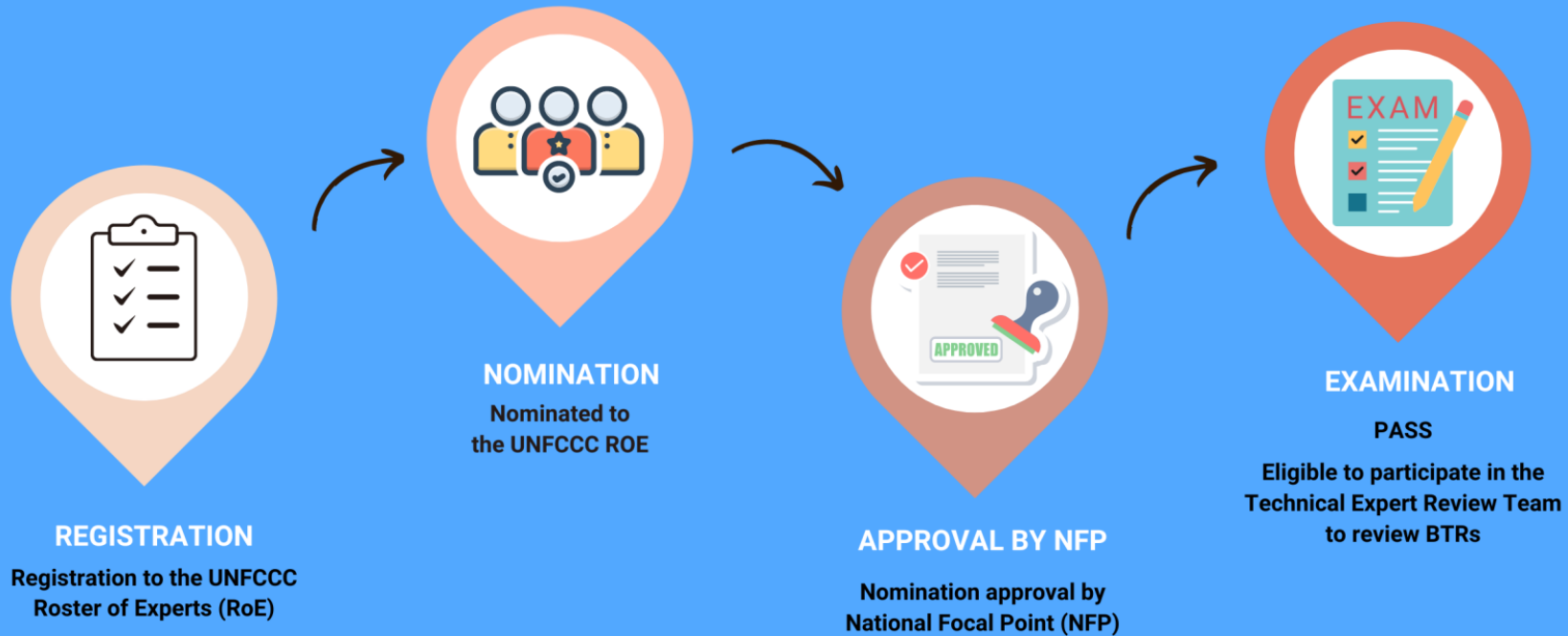


Becoming Eligible Experts

Becoming an eligible member to participate in TERs

From registration to examination

Steps to become eligible as a member of the TER team



Note: The retake of the examination of the same course will be limited to TWO.



Structure of Training Programme

BTR Review Training Programme

- A. General and cross-cutting aspects for the technical expert review under the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement
- B. Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- C. Tracking Progress in Implementing and Achieving NDCs
- D. Financial, technology development and transfer and capacity building support
- E. Information on climate change impacts and adaptation reported under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement

All courses are accessible online with open access, downloadable material, self-paced, and include practical exercises



BTR Training examination dates in 2025: Planned dates

4 periods in 2025

| Examination periods (2025) | 1st period | 2nd period | 3rd period | 4th period |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Registration periods | 13–26 Jan | 7–20 Apr | 23 June–6 July | 1–14 Sep |
| Q&A sessions | 6 Feb | 2 May | 17 July | 25 Sept |
| Examination dates | 10–23 Feb | 5–18 May | 21 Jul–3 Aug | 29 Sept–12 Oct |





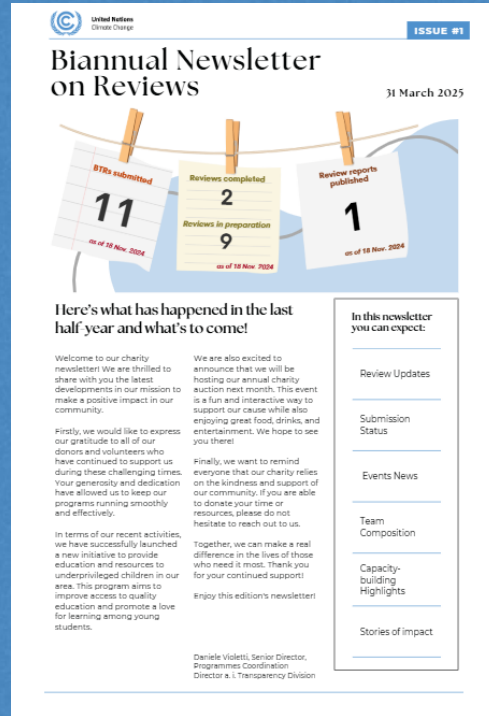
Challenges encountered with ETF review implementation



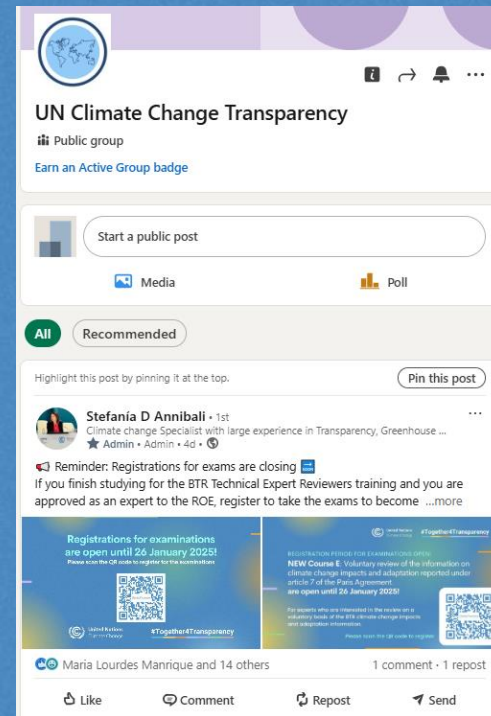
Challenges encountered with ETF review implementation

1. Uncertainty on availability of supplementary resources to perform additional reviews.
2. Increasingly high rate of rejection from experts invited for review, especially by developed country Party experts (nearly 50% in some periods).
3. Challenge in fulfilling mandated criteria for TERT composition balance (*language, gender, and geographical balance*).
4. Uncertainty of (re) submissions-impacts the planning process
5. Some submissions are not in CRT and CTF formats (electronic) – in particular, support received and needed.

BTR reviews - Communication and outreach



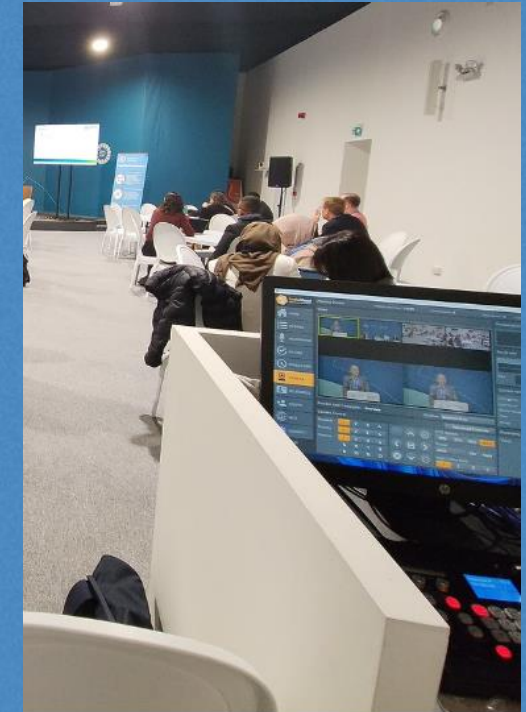
Biannual Newsletter –
Coming soon!



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13910606/>



<https://unfccc.int/reporting-and-review>



Webinars and events during SBs and COPs



United Nations
Climate Change

Thank you!

Let's work **#Together4Transparency!**



bit.ly/T4TGroup

**Join our LinkedIn
Community**



bit.ly/T4TCalendar

**Explore upcoming
Transparency Events**



bit.ly/UNTransparency

**Learn more on our
Official Website**



Question and Answer session