

Workshop on *Enhanced Transparency Framework* under the *Paris Agreement*

25-28 March 2025
Rarotonga, Cook Islands



United Nations
Climate Change



CBIT-GSP
CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY



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facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

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environment
programme

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environment
programme

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Main objective

To build momentum and support Pacific Island Countries to implement the ETF with a view to facilitate submission of BTRs.



Expected Outcomes

- Raise awareness on **credible reporting under the ETF**
- Technical advice on **key ETF provisions for BTRs**
- Discussion on **transparency related gaps and needs**, and **available support to address these**
- **Peer-learning and exchange** of experiences and best practices
- **Confidence to submit BTRs** as early as possible

Day 1: Overview of Transparency Arrangements

- **Opening remarks**
- **Overview of ETF and transparency outlook**
 - ❖ Talanoa Dialogue
 - ❖ Presentations, group work, discussion
- **Institutional arrangements for transparency**
 - ❖ Presentations, group work, discussion
- **Reflections on preparation of the BTRs**

Welcome reception

Day 2: Peer exchange and Hands-on work

- **Experience sharing on MRV and ETF implementation**
 - ❖ Presentations, panel discussion
- **Overview of ETF reporting tools and IPCC software**
 - ❖ Presentations, hands-on work with IPCC software, discussion

Day 3: Hands-on work with ETF reporting tools

- **Inventory reporting tool**
 - ❖ Presentation, discussion
- **Progress reporting tool**
 - ❖ Presentation, discussion, hands-on work
- **Linkages between BTRs, NDC and GST**
 - ❖ Presentation, discussion

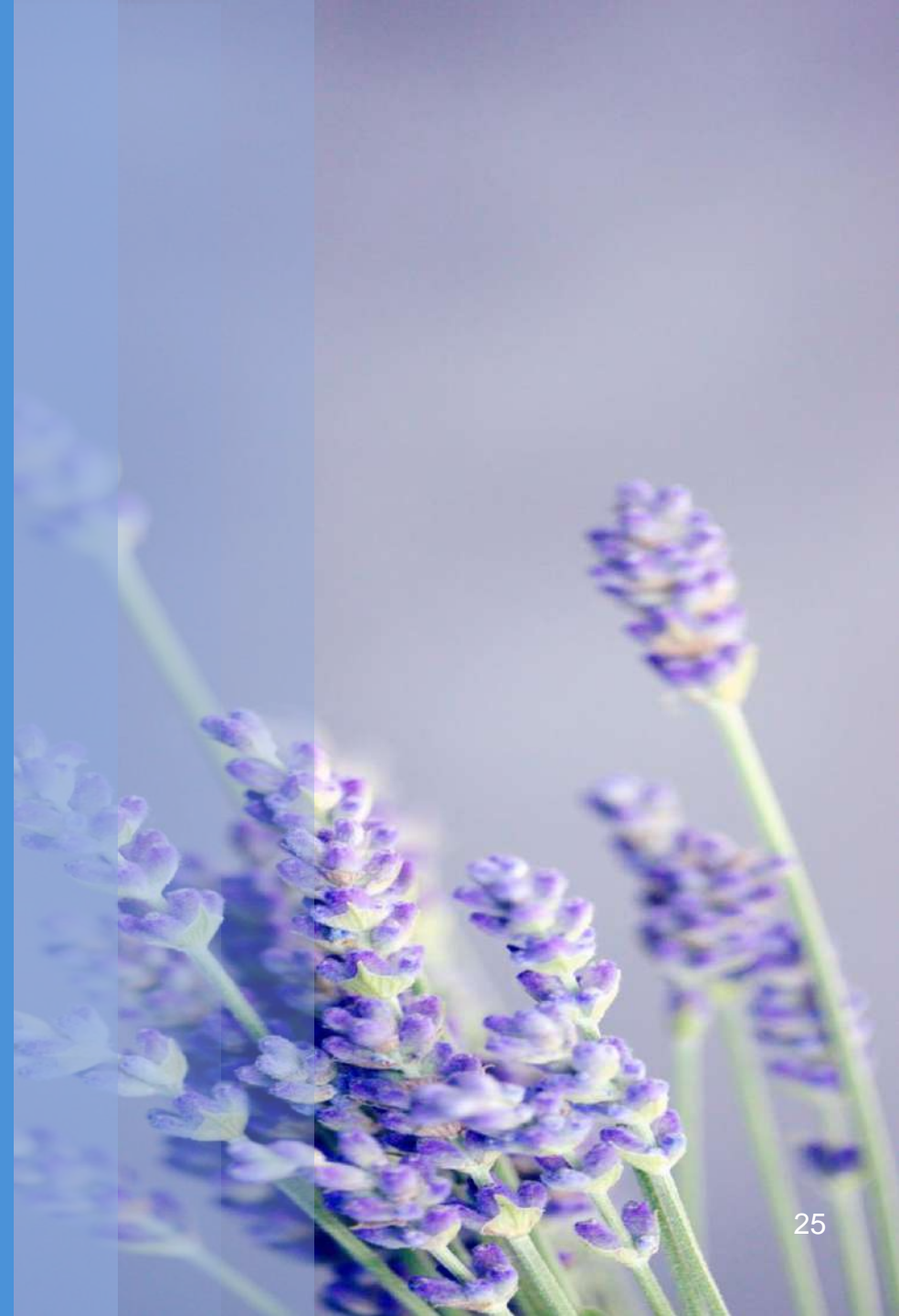
Day 4: Cross cutting issues and knowledge sharing

- **QA/QC plans**
 - ❖ Presentation, discussion
- **Article 6/Carbon markets**
 - ❖ Presentation, Q&A
- **Available support opportunities**
 - ❖ Presentation, Q&A
 - ❖ Partner's Kiosk: Ask the expert
 - ❖ Reflection on next steps
- **Closing remarks, certificates, feedback survey**

ENJOY THE WORKSHOP!



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TRANSPARENCY OUTLOOK

- ❖ *Transparency systems in place*
- ❖ *Status on implementation*
- ❖ *Transparency outcomes from Baku*

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Enhances the skills and knowledge of technical experts to report and review information in a manner that is both efficient and effective

Facilitates the submission of information by Parties in a user-friendly and efficient manner



Enhances sustainability, boosts effectiveness, and increases efficiency in both national reporting and the international review process

Facilitates the effective and efficient review of submitted information

UNFCCC Secretariat

- [ETF manual](#) and [FAQs](#)
- [Technical Paper on Benefits of Climate Transparency](#)
- [Climate Action and Support Transparency Training \(CASTT\)](#)
- [GHG Quality Assurance \(QA\) Workshops](#)
- [MRV/Transparency Helpdesk](#)

Consultative Group of Experts

- [ETF technical materials](#), such as [2nd edition of the ETF Technical Handbook](#) and its [addendum](#); [CGE Toolbox for IAs](#)
- [CGE Regional Training Workshops](#) and [Webinars](#)
- Training materials: [Reporting on mitigation](#) and [adaptation](#) under the ETF

Other multilateral organizations

- [Global Environment Facility](#) and its implementing agencies
- [Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency](#)
- [Global Support Programme \(GSP\) \(UNDP+UNEP\)](#)
- Other multilateral and bilateral support providers

❖ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/support-for-developing-countries/support-to-developing-countries#Financial-and-Technical-Support>

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. Climate change impacts and adaptation reported under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement

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



Examination dates in 2025 →

	<i>1st period</i>	<i>2nd period</i>	<i>3rd period</i>	<i>4th period</i>
Registration	13-16 Jan	7-10 Apr	23 Jun – 6 Jul	1-14 Sep
Q&A sessions	6 Feb	2 May	17 Jul	25 Sep
Examination	10-23 Feb	5-18 May	21 Jul – 3 Aug	2- Sep – 12 Oct

GHG inventory



- All sectors, data entry grids
- All flexibility provisions and version settings
- Key category analysis
- Interoperability with IPCC software

Progress



- All data entry grids
- All flexibility provisions and version settings
- Interconnection with CRT
- Bulk import tool for Policies and Measures

Support



- All data entry grids
- All version settings
- Detailed explanation of each decision step
- Bulk import tool for projects/ activities for relevant finance tables

- Generating reporting tables
- Importing and exporting (Excel and JSON)
- Working in offline mode

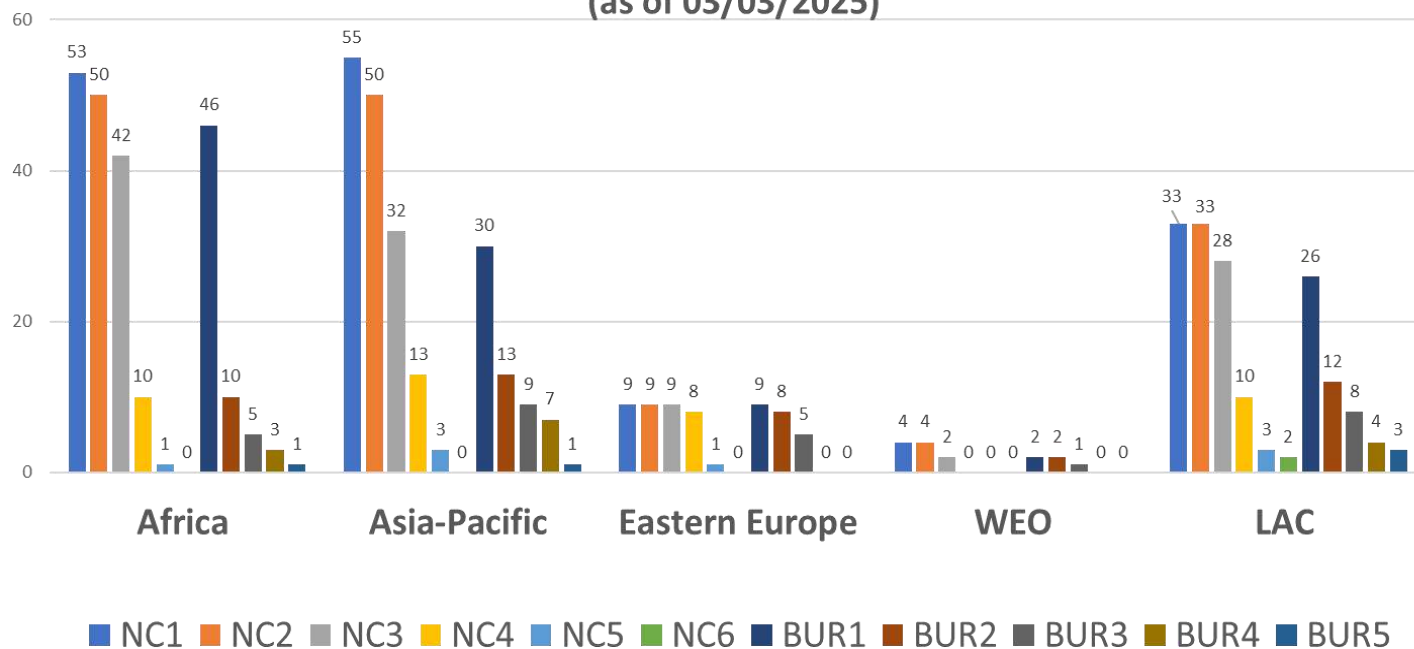
- Data validation in the data entry grids
- Providing comments/custom footnotes/doc boxes

ETF Reporting Tools allow Parties to compile data and generate reporting tables for submission

NCs & BURs

(155 non-Annex I Parties: 154 NC1, 146 NC2, 111 NC3, 40 NC4, 9 NC5, 2 NC6; and 112 BUR1, 45 BUR2, 28 BUR3, 15 BUR4, 5 BUR5)

Regional perspective of NC/BUR submissions by developing countries
(as of 03/03/2025)

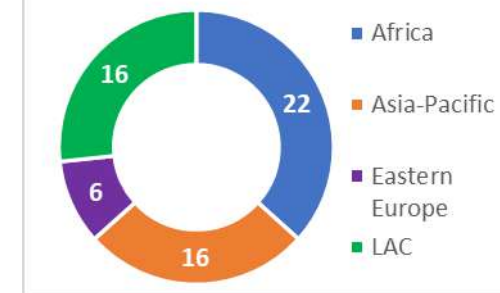


NAPs

60 developing country Parties

(15 LDCs, 13 SIDS)

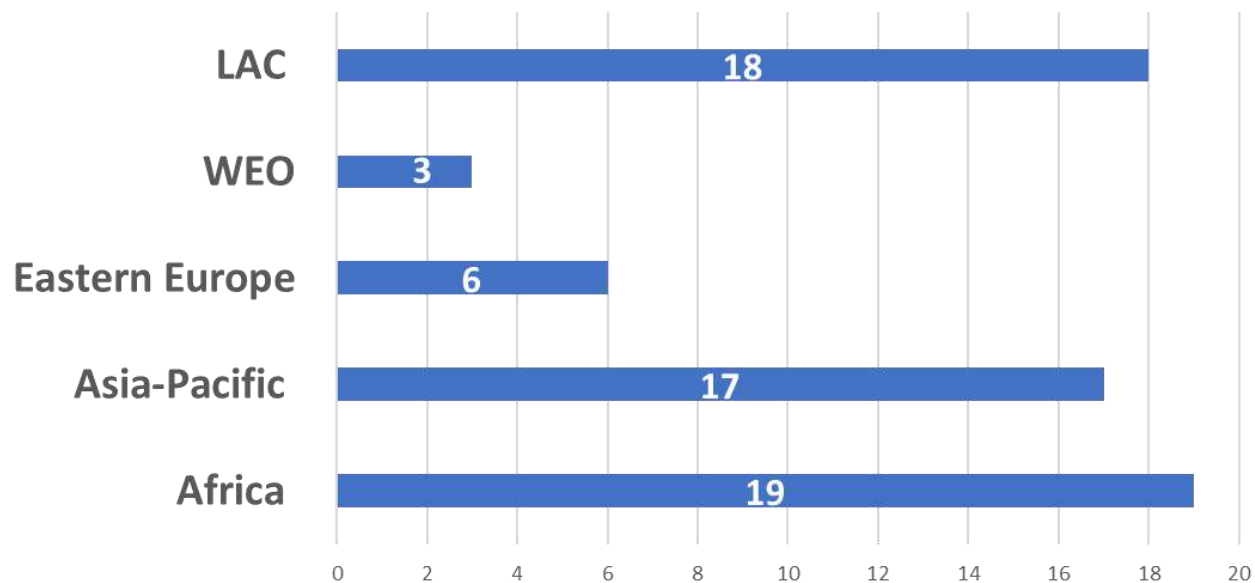
NAPs by region
(March '25)



Source: NCs: <https://unfccc.int/non-annex-i-NCs>
 BURs: <https://unfccc.int/BURs>
 NAPs: <https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps>

BTRs (97 as of March)

Regional perspective of BTR submissions of developing countries (63 as of 03/03/2025)



Adaptation Communications

66

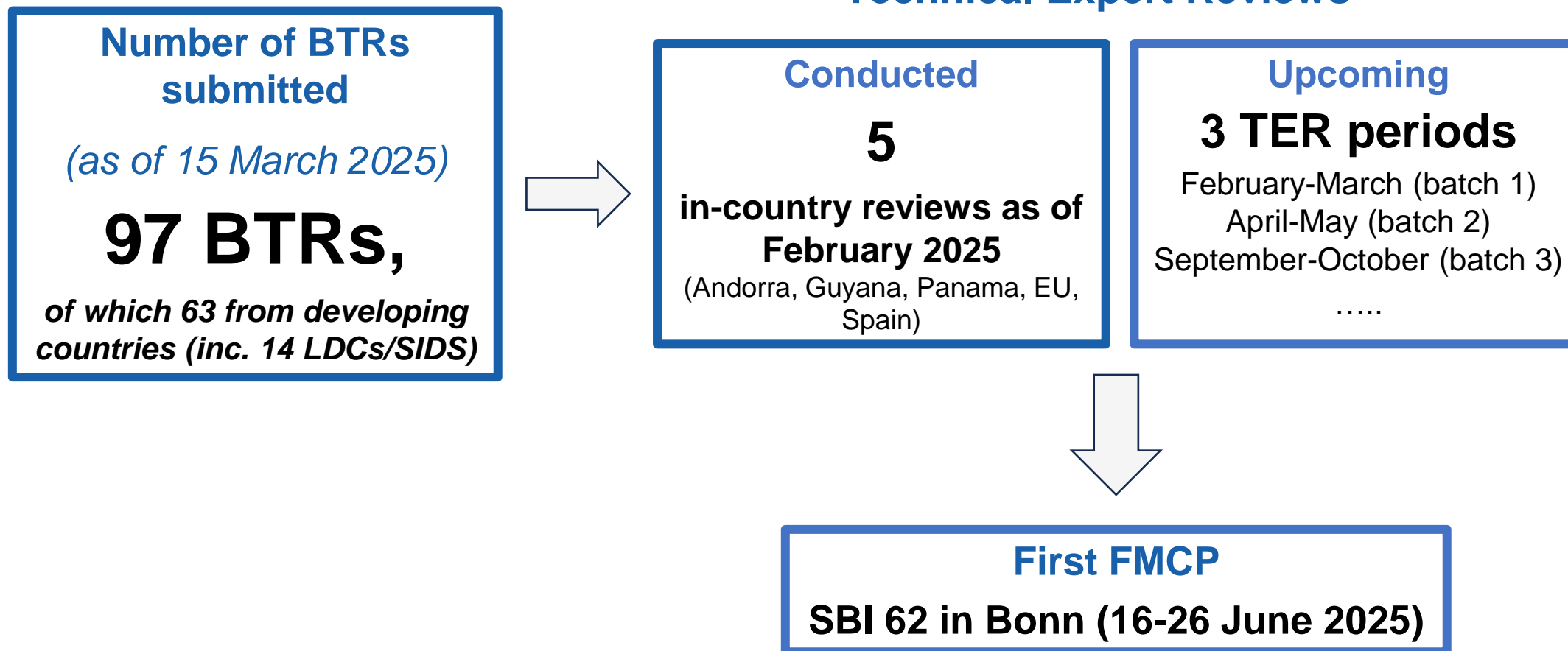
(of which 49 from developing countries)

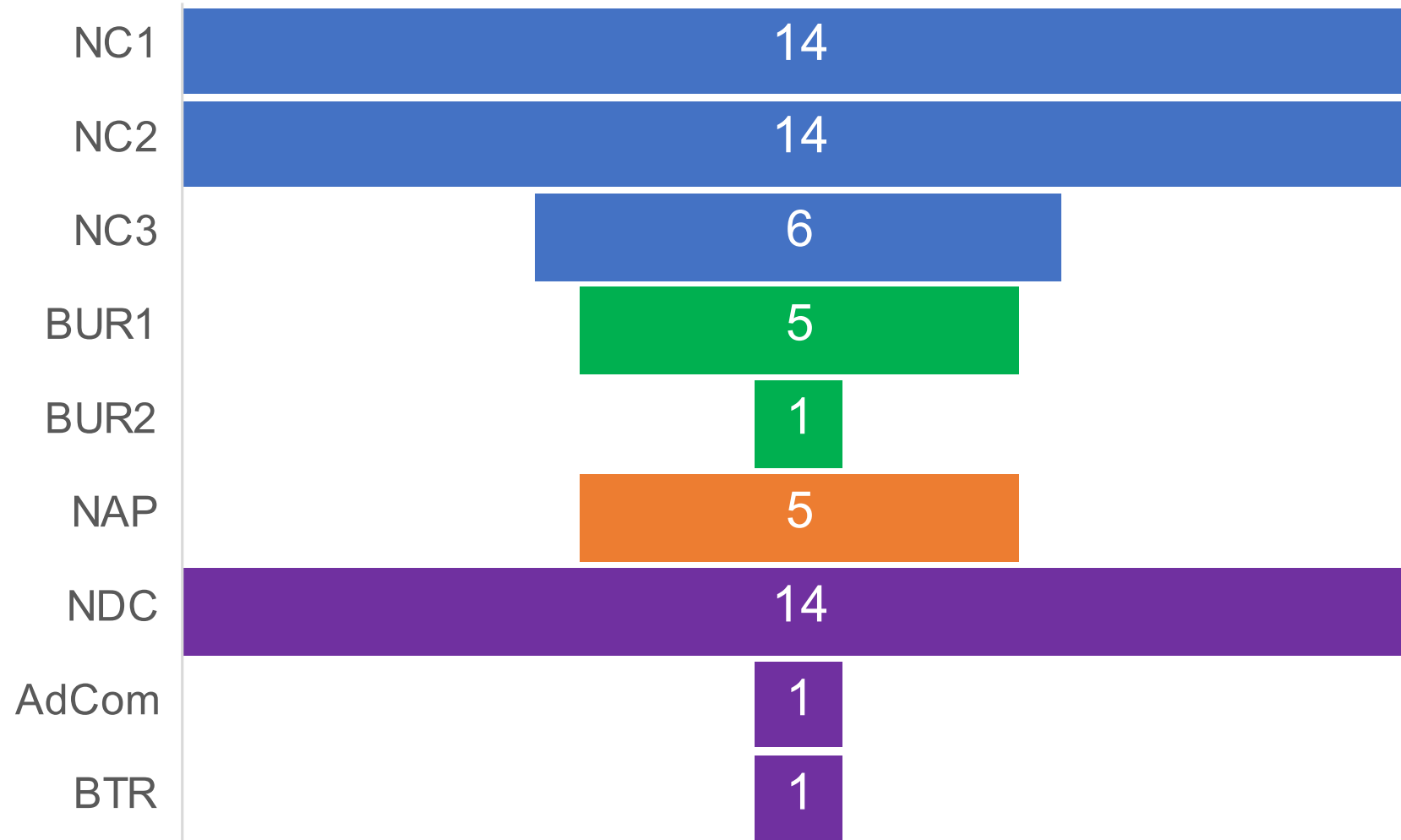
NDCs All Parties

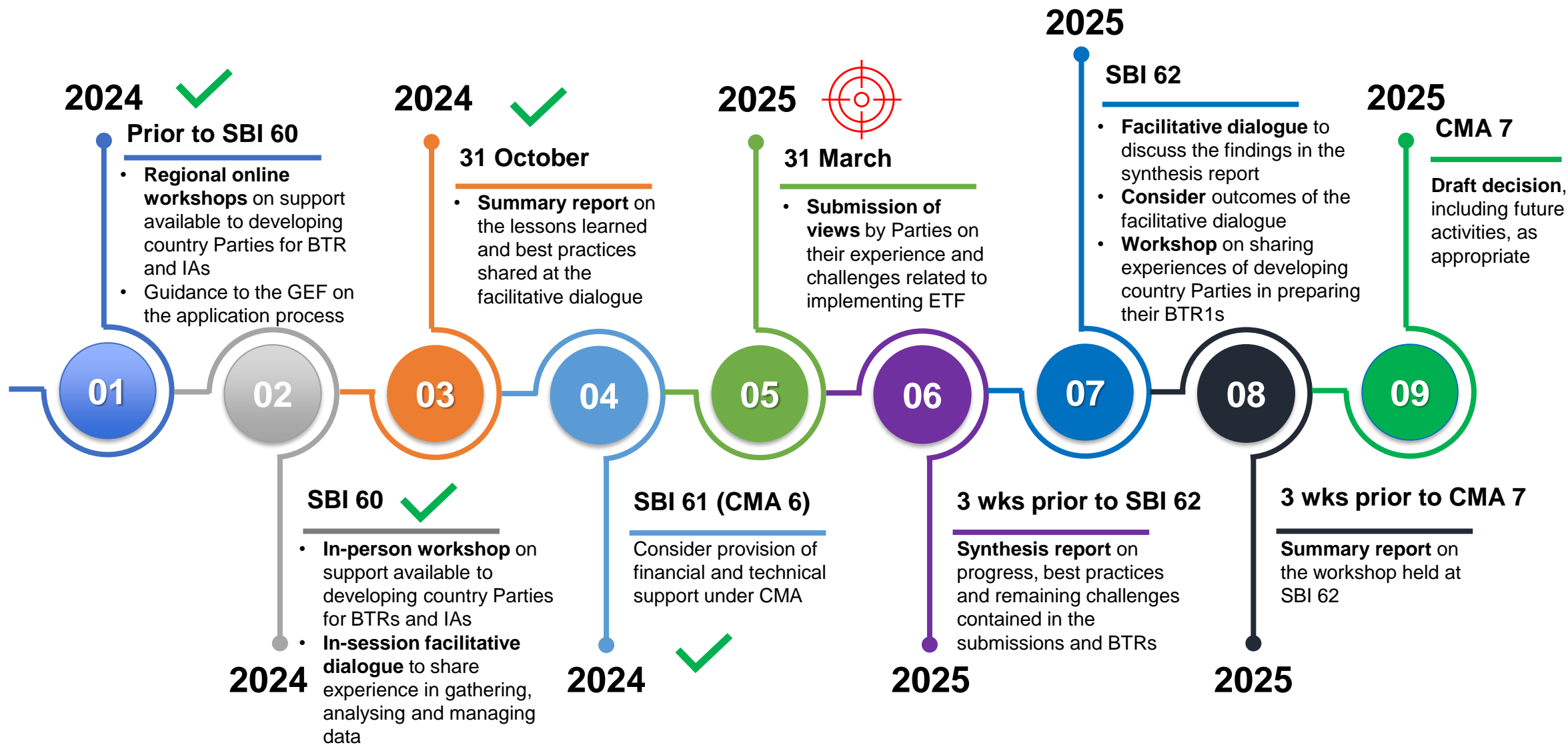
Party	Title	Language	Submission Date	Status	Submission Date	Additional Comments
Marshall Islands	Marshall Islands' Third NDC	English		Active	10/03/2023	
New Zealand	New Zealand's Second National Adaptation Communication	English		Active	01/01/2023	
Australia	Australia's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	01/09/2023	
Tonga	General Review of Tonga's National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	14/07/2023	
Lithuania	Lithuania's National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	11/01/2022	
Cuba	Cuba's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	10/04/2023	
Australia	Australia's 2022 Update	English	4	Active	14/04/2023	Submitted to UNFCCC Secretariat
New Zealand	New Zealand's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	01/01/2023	
Malta	Malta's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	14/07/2023	
Lithuania	Lithuania's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	03/03/2023	Submitted to UNFCCC Secretariat
Bahrain	Bahrain's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	11/07/2023	
Fiji	Fiji's First National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	01/07/2020	
Marshall Islands	Marshall Islands' Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	01/07/2023	Submitted to UNFCCC Secretariat
Fiji	Fiji's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	11/07/2023	
Tonga	Tonga's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	2	Active	01/01/2023	Tonga's Second National Adaptation Communication
China	China's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	1	Active	04/01/2024	
Cuba	Cuba's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	1	Active	01/01/2023	
Malta	Malta's Second National Adaptation Communication	English	1	Active	03/03/2023	

Source: NDCs: <https://unfccc.int/NDCREG>
 BTRs: <https://unfccc.int/first-biennial-transparency-reports>
 Adaptation Communications: <https://unfccc.int/ACR>

Technical Expert Reviews







Guidance to GEF

- Requests to consider how it can improve the delivery of support for the **CBIT** and enabling activities to **avoid gaps between the project cycles**, provide support that is timely, and enhance the sustainability of national reporting systems and workflows necessary for developing country Parties to meet their requirements under the ETF on a **continuous basis**;
- Encourages to consider:
 - (a) **Information** submitted by developing country Parties in their **first biennial transparency reports**, *on support needed and received*
 - (b) **Information submitted by Parties** *on their experience and challenges related to implementing ETF*
 - (c) The **synthesis report** *reflecting information on progress, best practices and remaining challenges*
 - (d) The use of transparency support funds available through the transparency allocation under its **eighth replenishment**
- Continuing to provide technical support for developing country Parties for **preparation of NCs**, recognizing that such support is based on technical considerations and should enhance the technical capacity of countries

OVERVIEW OF KEY REPORTING PROVISIONS

- ❖ *Overview of ETF and its MPGs*
- ❖ *Flexibility provisions*

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Reporting

Biennial Transparency Report

- I. GHG inventory (*all shall + FX*)
- II. Progress in NDCs (*all shall + FX*)
- III. Adaptation (*all should*)
- IV. Support provided & mobilized (*developed shall*)
- V. Support needed & received (*developing should*)

Review

Technical Expert Review

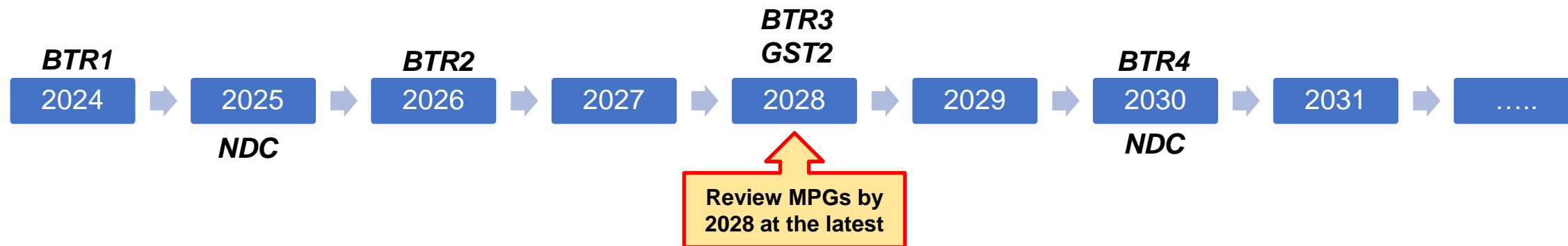
- I. Consistency of information reported
- II. Consideration of progress with and achievement of NDC
- III. Support provided (*developed shall, and other Parties at their discretion*)
- IV. Identification of improvements
- V. Identification of capacity building needs

Consideration

Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

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

- ✓ Modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement; [decision 18/CMA.1 and its annex](#)
- ✓ Common reporting tables (CRTs) and common tabular formats (CTFs) for reporting information under ETF; [decision 5/CMA.3, annexes I-III](#)



All Parties to the Paris Agreement

- I. First BTRs by 31 December 2024, at the latest, and biennially thereafter (*SIDS and LDCs have discretion*)
- II. TER (to be initiated immediately following the submission)
- III. FMCP (ASAP following the publication of the TER report)

Technical analysis of REDD-plus activities for result-based incentives

National Communications*

- **Flexibility** to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities
- **Facilitating improved reporting and transparency over time**

Note: Parties may submit their NC and BTR as a single report

TER: technical expert review; FMCP: Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

Chapter VIII

Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

Chapter VII

Technical expert review

Chapter VI

Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement

Chapter 1

Introduction

Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement
(decision 18/CMA.1 and its annex)

Chapter V

Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement

Chapter II

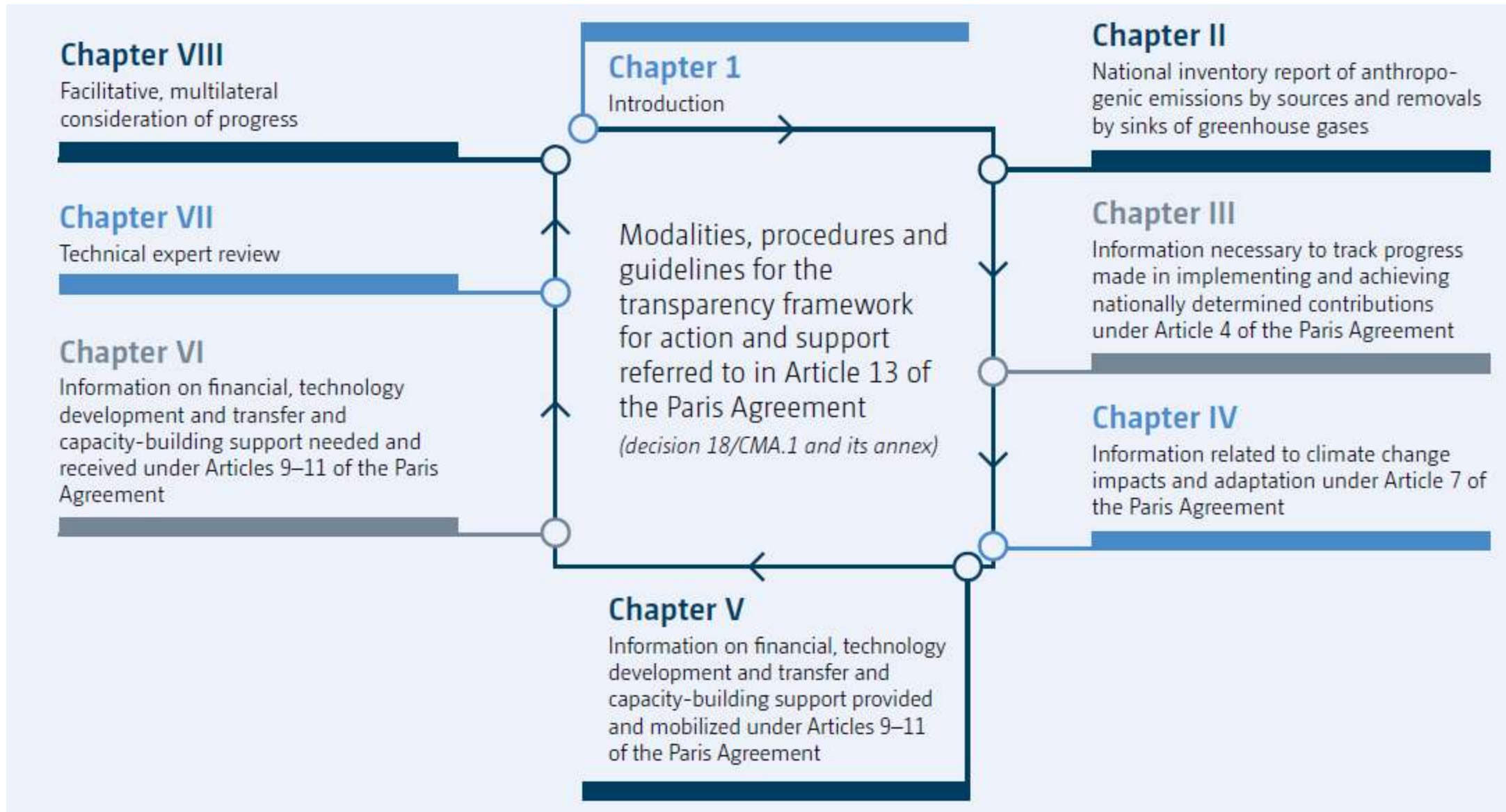
National inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases

Chapter III

Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement

Chapter IV

Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement





Timing

- Parties **shall** submit their first BTR and NIR, *if submitted as a stand-alone report*, in accordance with the MPGs, at the latest by 31 December 2024, and **no less frequently than on a biennial basis**
- **The LDCs and SIDS may submit the information at their discretion**



Flexibility

- in the light of their capacities
- to be self-determined
- scope, level of detail, frequency

If FX applied →

- clearly indicate the provision to which flexibility is applied
- concisely clarify capacity constraints
- provide self-determined estimated time frames for improvements in relation to those capacity constraints



Content and mode

- **BTR (with progress on NDC)**
- **NIR (NID+CRTs)**
- CC impacts and adaptation (or cross reference to previously reported information, i.e. AdCom, NAP, and focus on updates)
- Support needed & received
- **LDCs and SIDS at their discretion**
- Submissions via “Online Portal” & in one of the UN languages

National inventory

Overview of specific flexibility provisions for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities in relation to a national inventory report

REFERENCE IN THE MPGS (ANNEX TO DECISION 18/CMA.1)	PROVISION IN THE MPGs	FLEXIBILITY PROVISION FOR THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES THAT NEED IT IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR CAPACITIES
Paragraph 25 <i>Key category analysis</i>	Parties shall implement the key category analysis consistent with the IPCC guidelines (i.e. apply the 95 per cent threshold defined in the IPCC guidelines).	Identify key categories using a threshold no lower than 85 per cent in place of the 95 per cent threshold defined in the IPCC guidelines.
Paragraph 29 <i>Uncertainty assessment</i>	Parties shall quantitatively estimate and qualitatively discuss the uncertainty of the emission and removal estimates for all categories, including inventory totals, for at least the starting year and the latest reporting year of the inventory time series, and shall also estimate the trend uncertainty for these same categories/inventory totals for the entire time series.	Provide, at a minimum, a qualitative discussion of uncertainty for key categories, using the IPCC guidelines where quantitative input data are unavailable to quantitatively estimate uncertainties. Parties are also encouraged to provide a quantitative estimate of uncertainty for all source and sink categories of the GHG inventory.
Paragraph 32 <i>Use of the notation key "NE" (not estimated)</i>	A category should only be considered insignificant if the likely level of emissions is below 0.05 per cent of the national total GHG emissions, excluding LULUCF, or 500 kt CO ₂ eq, whichever is lower. The total national aggregate of estimated emissions for all gases from categories considered insignificant shall remain below 0.1 per cent of the national total GHG emissions, excluding LULUCF.	Consider emissions to be insignificant if the likely level of emissions is below 0.1 per cent of the national total GHG emissions, excluding LULUCF, or 1,000 kt CO ₂ eq, whichever is lower. The total national aggregate of estimated emissions for all gases from categories considered insignificant, in this case, shall remain below 0.2 per cent of the national total GHG emissions, excluding LULUCF.

Overview of specific flexibility provisions for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities in relation to a national inventory report

REFERENCE IN THE MPGS (ANNEX TO DECISION 18/CMA.1)	PROVISION IN THE MPGs	FLEXIBILITY PROVISION FOR THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES THAT NEED IT IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR CAPACITIES
Paragraph 34 <i>QA/QC</i>	Parties shall elaborate an inventory QA/QC plan in accordance with the IPCC guidelines, including information on the inventory agency responsible for implementing QA/QC.	Encouraged to elaborate an inventory QA/QC plan in accordance with the IPCC guidelines, including information on the inventory agency responsible for implementing QA/QC.
Paragraph 35 <i>QA/QC</i>	Parties shall implement and provide information on general inventory QC procedures in accordance with the QA/QC plan and the IPCC guidelines.	Encouraged to implement and provide information on general inventory QC procedures in accordance with the QA/QC plan and the IPCC guidelines.
Paragraph 48 <i>Gases</i>	Parties shall report on seven gases: CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O, HFCs, PFCs, SF ₆ and NF ₃ .	Report at least three gases (CO ₂ , CH ₄ and N ₂ O) as well as any of the additional four gases (HFCs, PFCs, SF ₆ and NF ₃) that are included in the Party's NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, are covered by an activity under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, or have been previously reported.
Paragraph 57 <i>Time series</i>	Parties shall report a consistent annual time series starting from 1990.	Parties may report data covering, at a minimum, the reference year/period for their NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement and, in addition, a consistent annual time series from at least 2020 onward.
Paragraph 58 <i>Reporting year</i>	The latest reporting year shall be no more than two years prior to the submission of the national inventory report.	The latest reporting year shall be no more than three years prior to the submission of the national inventory report.

Progress in NDC

Flexibility provisions available to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities in relation to reporting progress in implementing and achieving the nationally determined contribution

REFERENCE IN THE MPGS (ANNEX TO DECISION 18/CMA.1)	PROVISION IN THE MPGS	FLEXIBILITY PROVISION FOR THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES THAT NEED IT IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR CAPACITIES
<p>Paragraph 85 <i>Expected and achieved GHG emission reductions for PAMs</i></p>	Each Party shall provide, to the extent possible, estimates of expected and achieved GHG emission reductions of its PAMs	Instead encouraged to report such information
<p>Paragraph 92 <i>GHG emission and removals projections</i></p>	Each Party shall report projections	Instead encouraged to report such projections
<p>Paragraph 95 <i>Projections extension</i></p>	Projections shall begin from the most recent year in the Party's national inventory report and extend at least 15 years beyond the next year ending in zero or five	May extend their projections at least to the end point of their NDC
<p>Paragraph 102 <i>Projections methodology or coverage</i></p>	See paragraphs 93 through 101 of the annex to decision 18/CMA.1	May report using a less detailed methodology or coverage

TER and FMCP

Flexibility provisions available to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities in relation to the technical expert review

REFERENCE IN THE MPGS (ANNEX TO DECISION 18/CMA.1)	PROVISION IN THE MPGS	FLEXIBILITY PROVISION FOR THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES THAT NEED IT IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR CAPACITIES
Paragraphs 158–159 <i>Format of the TER</i>	A Party shall undergo an in-country review for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The first BTR (b) At least two BTRs in a 10-year period, of which one is the BTR that contains information on the Party's achievement of its NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (c) A BTR if recommended in the TER of the Party's previous BTR (d) A BTR upon request of the Party under TER 	Choose to undergo a centralized instead of an in-country review, but are encouraged to undergo an in-country review
Paragraph 162(c) <i>Provide requested information to TER team</i>	The Party concerned should make every reasonable effort to provide the requested information within two weeks of the request	Encouraged to provide the information within three weeks of the request
Paragraph 162(f) <i>Comments on the draft TER report</i>	The Party concerned shall be given up to one month from receipt of the draft TER report to provide comments	Instead provide comments within three months of receipt of the draft TER report

Flexibility provisions available to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities for the facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

REFERENCE IN THE MPGS (ANNEX OF DECISION 18/CMA.1)	PROVISION IN THE MPGS	FLEXIBILITY PROVISION FOR THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES THAT NEED IT
Paragraph 192 (c) <i>Time to respond to questions</i>	The Party in question shall respond in writing no later than one month prior to the working group session through the online platform	Instead submit written responses to questions up to two weeks prior to the working group session



Flexibility

Each Party shall, those developing countries in the light of their capacities with respect to this provision have the flexibility to instead



- the provision to which flexibility is applied
- capacity constraints
- provide self-determined estimated time frames for improvements

vs. others

... LDCs and SIDS ... at their discretion ...

... should ...

... may ...

... encouraged ...

... as appropriate ...

... to the extent possible ...



Not a flexibility, already not mandatory.

**Thank you.
Questions, reflections?**



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OVERVIEW OF BTR & NATIONAL INVENTORY REPORT

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Biennial Update Reports BUR

- National greenhouse gas inventory
- **Mitigation** actions and their effects
- Finance, technology and capacity-building needs

Cancun Agreements (1/CP.16)
and Durban Outcomes (2/CP.17)

National communications NC

- National greenhouse gas inventory
- Programmes containing measures to **mitigate** climate change
- Programmes containing measures to facilitate **adaptation** to climate change
- Transfer of technology
- Capacity-building
- Constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity-building needs
- Research and systematic observation
- Education, training and public awareness
- Information and networking

Article 4.1 and 12.1 of the Convention;
decision 17/CP.8

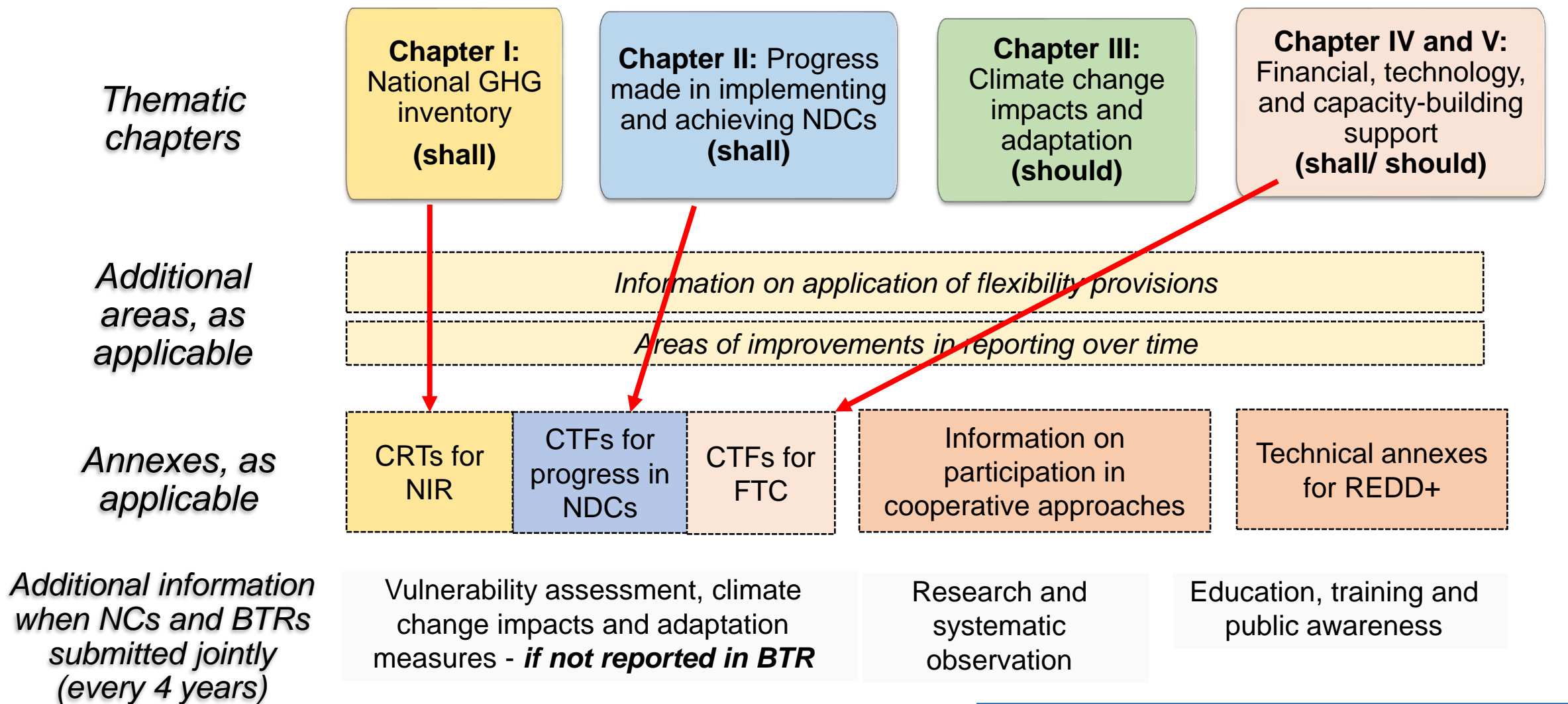
Biennial transparency reports BTR

- National greenhouse gas inventory
- Progress made in implementing and achieving **NDCs**
- Climate change impacts and **adaptation** (as appropriate)
- Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received

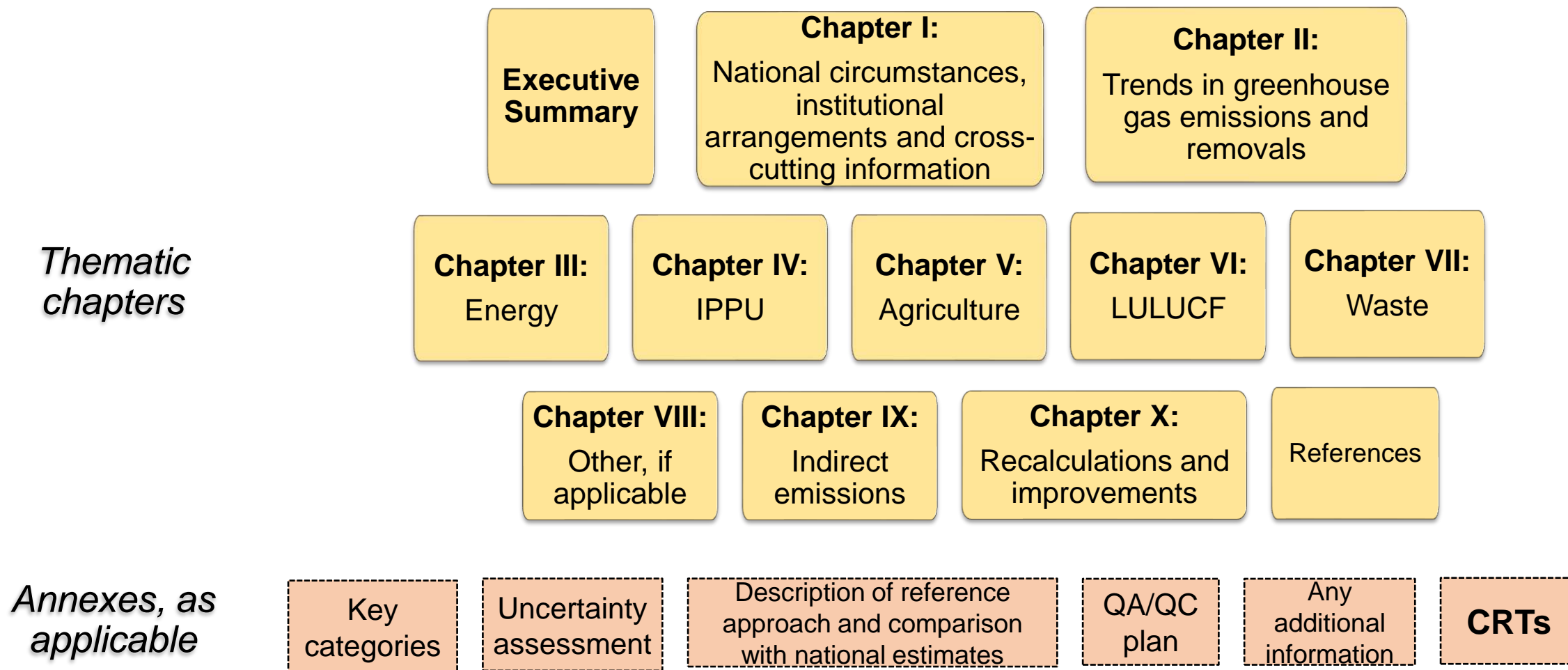
Flexibility ↔ **Areas of improvement**

Article 13 of the Paris Agreement;
decisions 18/CMA.1, 5/CMA.3

It is important to note that the legal nature of these reporting themes differ across the reports.



For the BTR outline, see [decision 5/CMA.3, Annex IV](#).



For the NID outline, see [decision 5/CMA.3, Annex V](#).

- Apply **flexibilities** to the full extent
- Explore data and information that is already available
- Use the opportunity to identify and communicate your **support needs** to meet your priorities, address challenges and gaps
- **Strategize** your next steps: what are your priorities, what are your sustainable development goals, what is the story you would like to share, how do you wish to use this report
- Explore synergies with other processes: NDC3.0, SDGs, NAPs
- Understand and promote the **benefits of ETF and BTRs at the national & international level** - to facilitate political buy-in and high-level support, to hold others accountable.
- **Start now, improve over time**
- Focus on enhancing the **institutional arrangements**: Better arrangements will pave the way to better BTRs over time

**Thank you.
Questions, reflections?**



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Clinic session: Preparation of BTRs (Part 1)



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1. Self work: Prepare your responses to the following questions (5 minutes)
 - What is the status of preparation of the BTR in your country? (*i.e., conceptual phase, project proposal sent, project approved, project implementation started, first draft ready, final version under review/approval*) When do you plan to submit your first BTR?
 - What are the main concerns or challenges in BTR preparation process?
 - Are there any approaches implemented to overcome these concerns and challenges?
 - Do you foresee the need to make use of flexibility provisions? Have you already identified the ones you will apply?
2. Share your responses (5 minutes per country)

Clinic session:

Preparation of BTRs (Part 2)



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1. Self work: Consider the responses that are shared in the previous session and prepare your reflections (5 minutes):
 - How can these concerns and challenges be addressed?
 - What are some good practices and potential solutions among the region to address these issues?
2. Share your reflections (5 minutes per country)

Thank you.

Next:

- *Installation of IPCC software to laptops
(getting ready for tomorrow)*
- *Closing prayer*
- *Welcome reception by NDC Partnership*



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