

# The Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency – Global Support Programme

## Preparing Data for UNFCCC Reporting Tools: Formats and Best Practices

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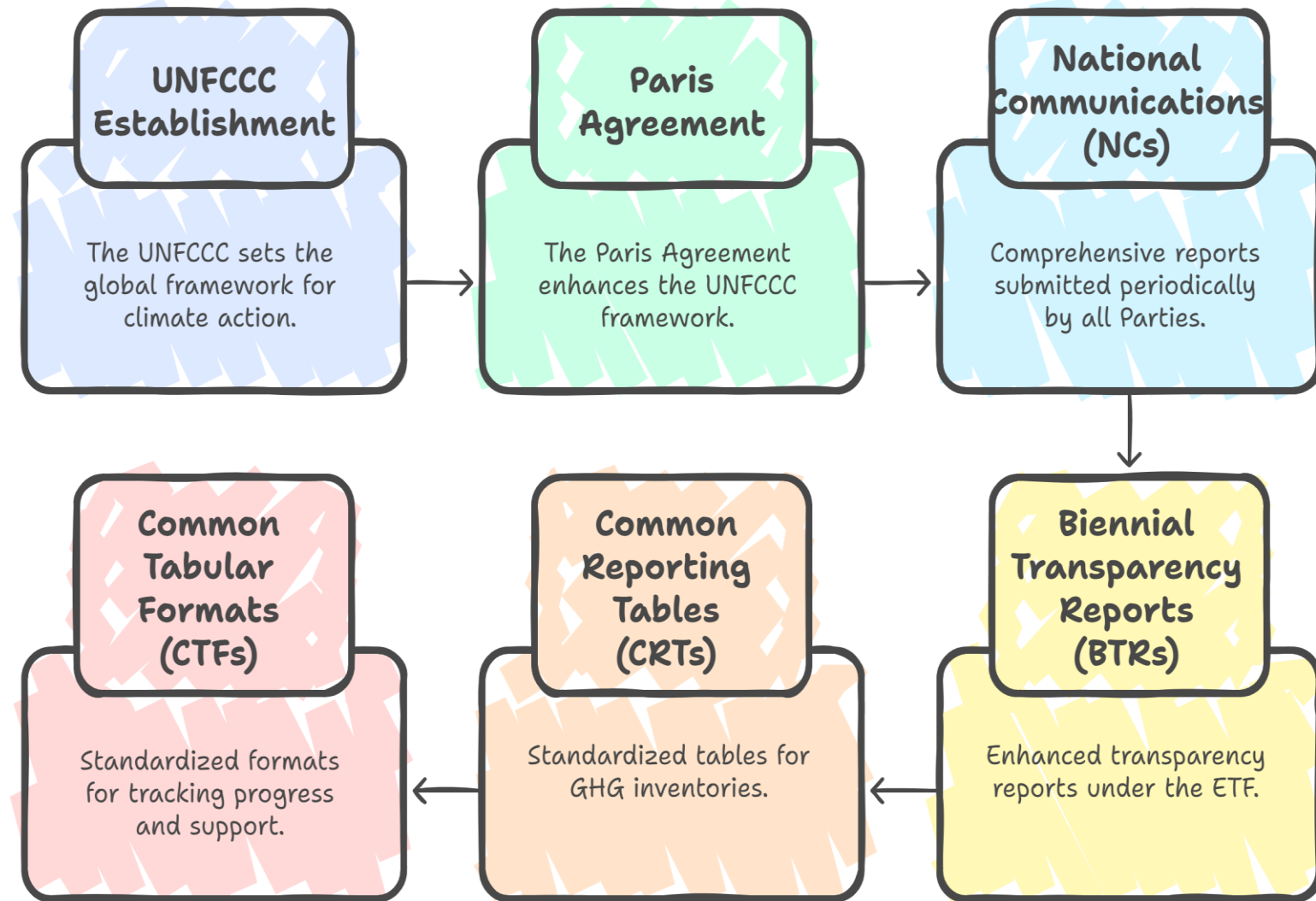


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# Introduction to UNFCCC Reporting

## Purpose of Reporting:

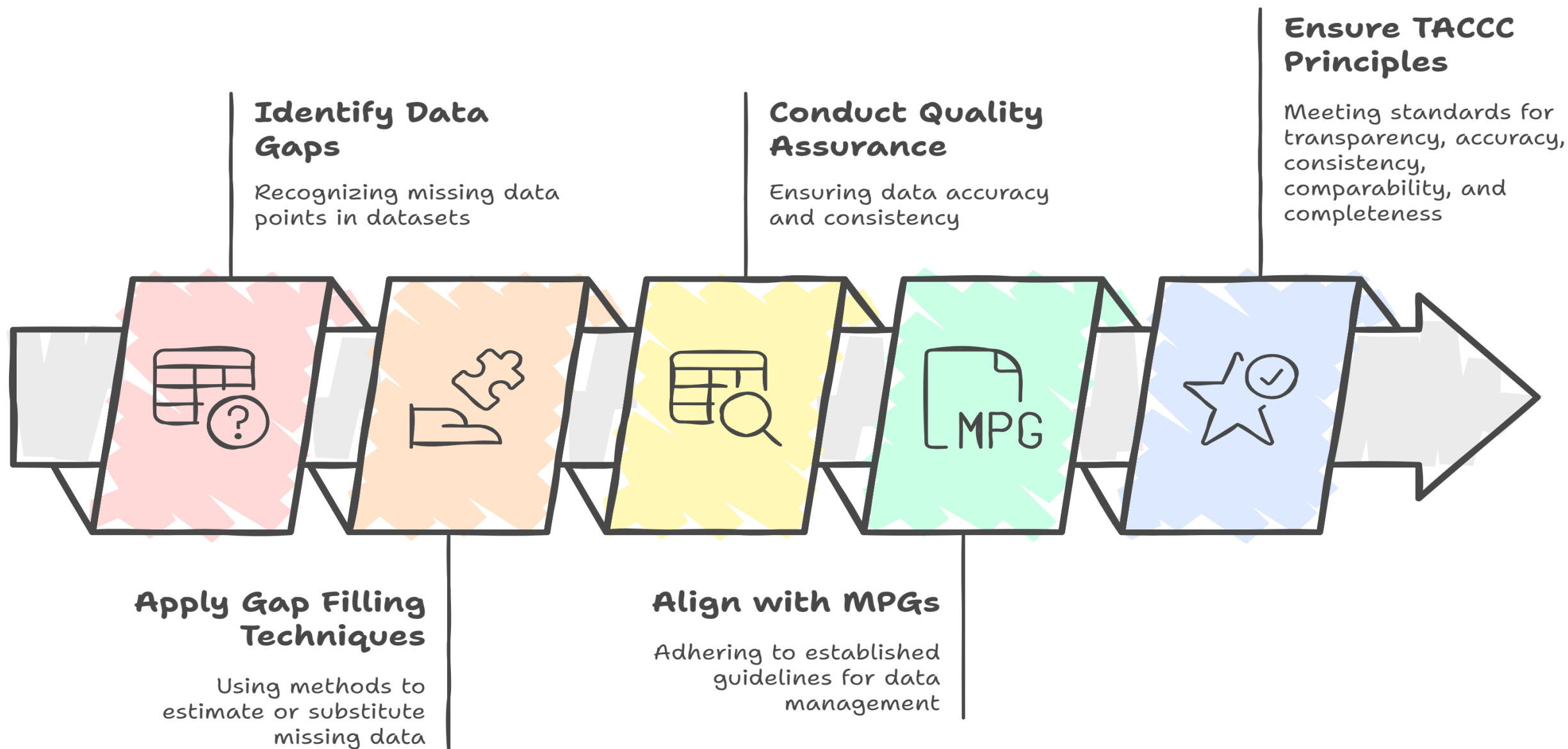
- To track progress towards national and global climate goals.
- To facilitate an effective and facilitative technical review process.
- To foster mutual trust and confidence among Parties.
- To ensure accountability in global climate efforts.



# Key Challenges in Data Preparation for UNFCCC Reporting

- **Data Acquisition and Availability:** Difficulties in obtaining specific data, especially for populating CRTs and CTFs. A persistent issue is the challenge of compiling historical data, particularly for periods extending back to 1990, due to data unavailability.
- **Data Gaps and Inconsistencies:** Challenges in addressing data gaps and ensuring consistency across various datasets.
- **Technical and Methodological Complexities:** Navigating overarching technical and methodological complexities in data processing and utilizing new reporting tools effectively.
- **Limited Capacity:** Limited technical and human capacities, alongside insufficient institutional arrangements and inadequate data systems, as significant impediments to comprehensive reporting.
- **NDC Tracking Complexities:** Inconsistencies in NDC structures and reporting mechanisms across various countries hinder comparability and present data complexities.
- **Cross-Cutting Themes:** Existing data for reporting on cross-cutting themes like gender and youth inclusion is often "critically deficient/insufficient," highlighting a broader need for more disaggregated and inclusive data collection practices.





# Data Requirements & Formats for UNFCCC Reporting Tools



## Common Reporting Tables

Standardized tables for reporting detailed information, particularly for Greenhouse Gas inventories. These tables ensure consistency across Parties.



## Common Tabular Formats

Standardized formats for reporting on tracking progress towards NDCs, support needed and received, and other relevant information.



## Standardized Units

Adherence to globally recognized units for all data, such as Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq for GHG emissions, and TJ for energy.



## Time Series Data

Requirement for consistent time series data, often extending back to 1990 for GHG inventories.



## Disaggregated Data

UNFCCC reporting requires disaggregated data, particularly for cross-cutting themes and detailed sectoral analysis.



## Metadata

Comprehensive metadata documenting data sources, methodologies, assumptions, and any uncertainties associated with the data.

# Best Practices for Data Collection & Preparation

## Early Planning and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Initiate data collection and preparation processes well in advance of submission deadlines.
- Engage all relevant national institutions and stakeholders from the outset to ensure data availability and coordination.

## Robust Institutional Arrangements:

- Establish clear institutional arrangements for seamless data flow and governance. This includes defining roles and responsibilities for data collection, management, and quality control.

## Centralized Data Management Systems:

- Develop or utilize centralized national data management systems to store, process, and manage all relevant climate data. This enhances accessibility, consistency, and traceability.

## Standardized Methodologies and Protocols:

- Adopt and consistently apply internationally recognized methodologies (e.g., IPCC Guidelines for GHG inventories) and develop national protocols for data collection and processing.
- Ensure data standardization to facilitate regional harmonization and comparability.

## Continuous Capacity Building:

- Regularly train national experts on data collection techniques, QA/QC procedures, and the use of UNFCCC reporting tools. This addresses frequently cited limitations in technical and human capacities.

## Documentation and Archiving:

- Maintain comprehensive documentation for all data, including sources, methodologies, assumptions, and any transformations.
- Implement robust digital archiving practices for long-term data management for current and future BTR cycles.

## Pilot Reporting and Mock Submissions:

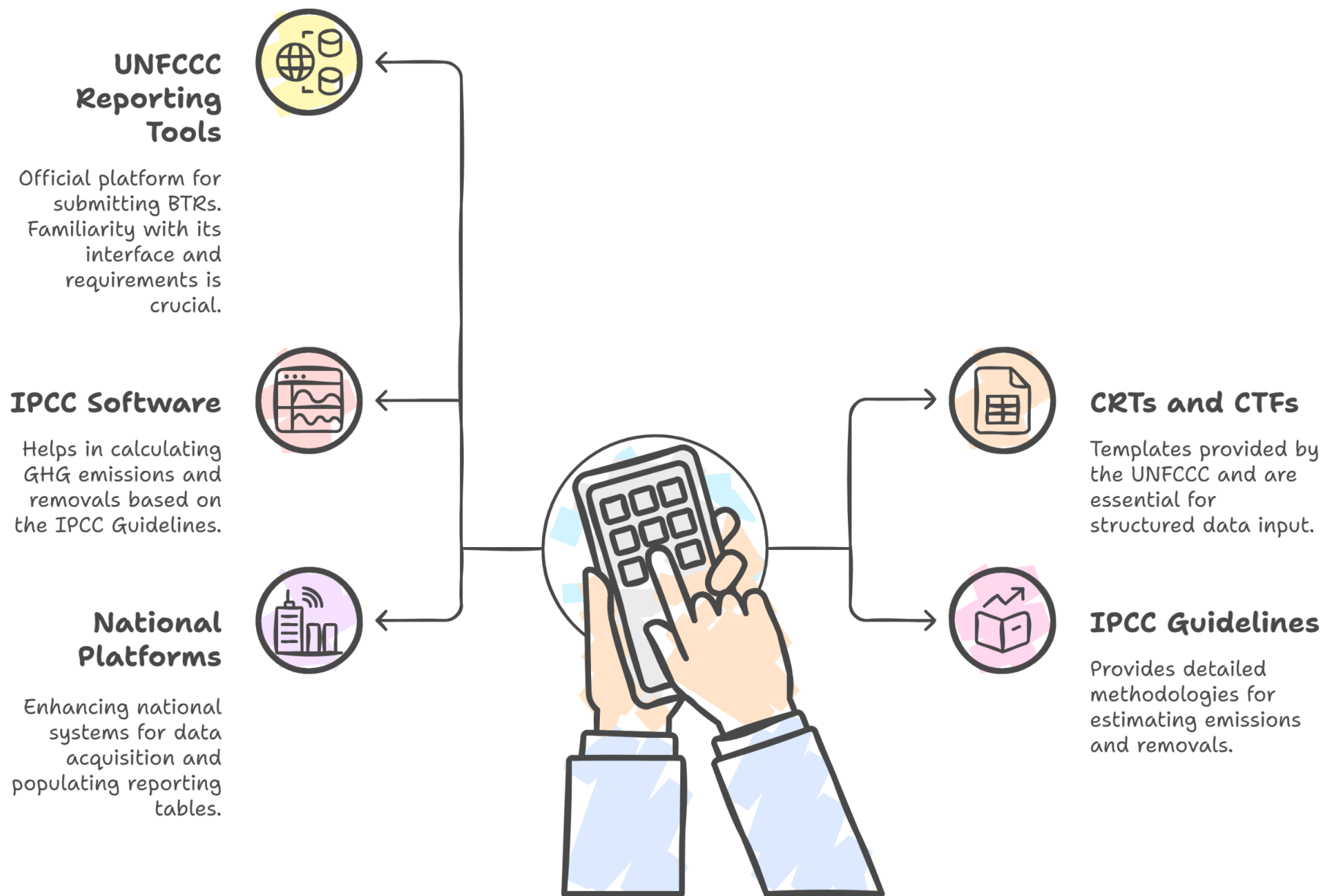
- Conduct pilot reporting exercises or mock submissions using the UNFCCC reporting tools to identify and resolve issues before the actual submission.

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## Case Study 1: Streamlining GHG Inventory Data Flow

- *Challenge:* Decentralized data collection for the national GHG inventory led to inconsistencies and delays.
- *Solution:* Implementation of a national "Data Focal Point Network" across key ministries and a centralized online data submission platform.
- *Lesson Learned:* Clear data governance and a unified platform drastically reduce data inconsistencies and improve efficiency.



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## Case Study 2: Enhancing Transparency in NDC Tracking

- *Challenge:* Difficulty in disaggregating data to show progress against specific NDC targets, particularly for cross-sectoral mitigation actions.
- *Solution:* Development of a national "NDC Tracking Matrix" linked to existing sectoral databases and the introduction of new data collection points for specific indicators.
- *Lesson Learned:* Proactive identification of data needs for NDC tracking and integration with existing national statistical systems is key.



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## Case Study 3: Overcoming Data Deficiencies for Support Reporting

- *Challenge:* Incomplete data on financial, technological, and capacity-building support needed and received.
- *Solution:* Establishment of a national mechanism to track international climate finance and support, involving both government agencies and implementing partners.
- *Lesson Learned:* Robust internal coordination and engagement with all relevant actors are crucial for comprehensive reporting on support.

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



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