

Sharing Lessons and Insights from the first Technical Expert Review Process of Countries' Biennial Transparency Reports

An overview: Technical Expert Review (TER) & Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress (FMCP)

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United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat



Objective

Strengthen the global response to the CLIMATE CHANGE CRISIS

Long-term temperature goal (2°C/1.5°C)

Climate resilient and low emissions development

Financial flows

Action

Adaptation

Mitigation

Means of implementation

Finance

Tech dev. & transfer

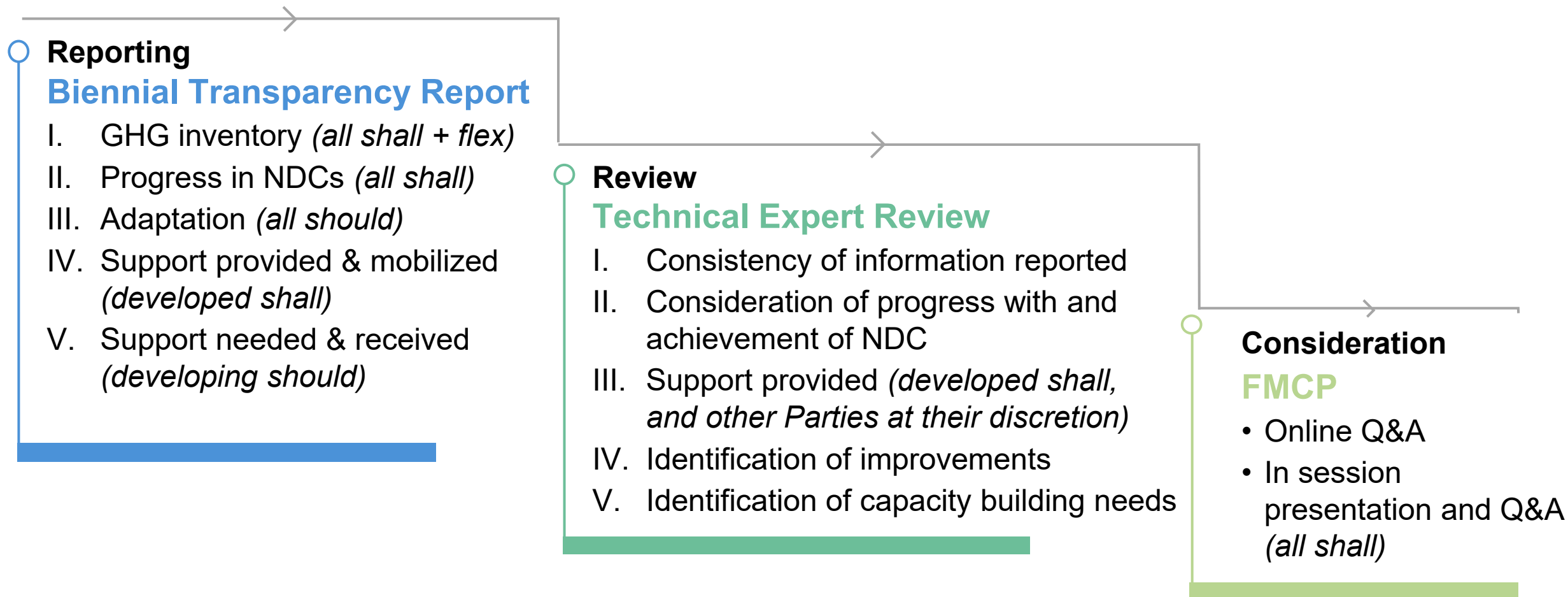
Capacity-building

Accountability

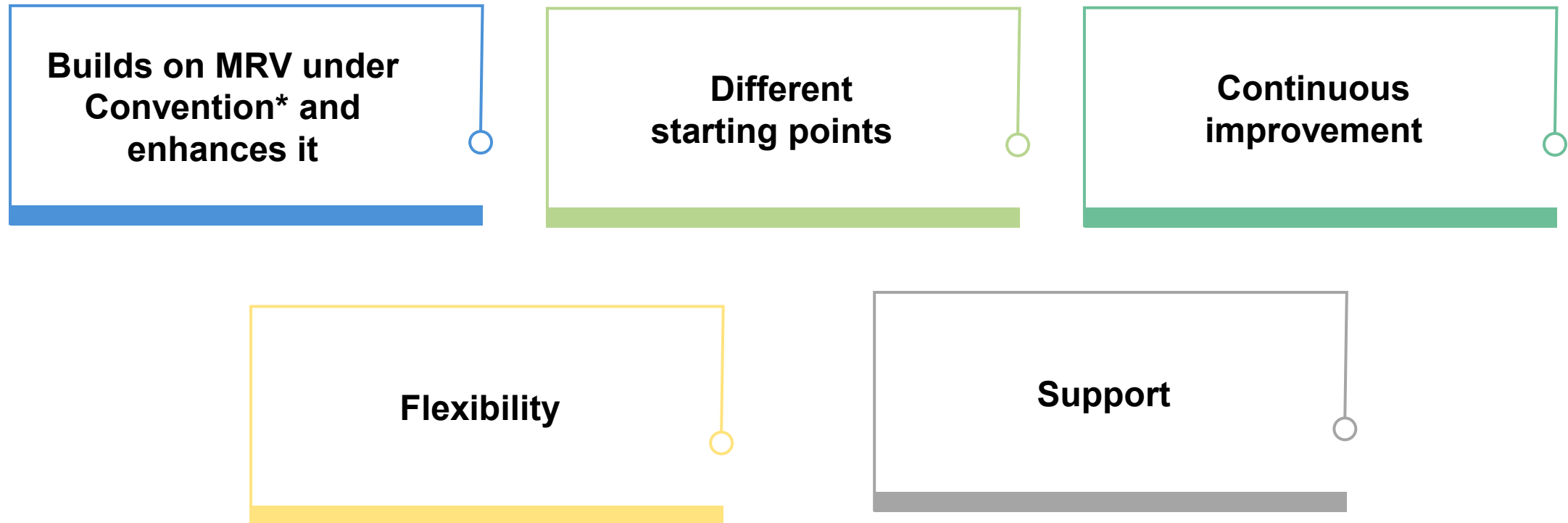
(Individual)
Transparency of action and support

(Collective)
Global stocktake
(collective progress)

Facilitating implementation and promoting compliance



- ✓ 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](#)



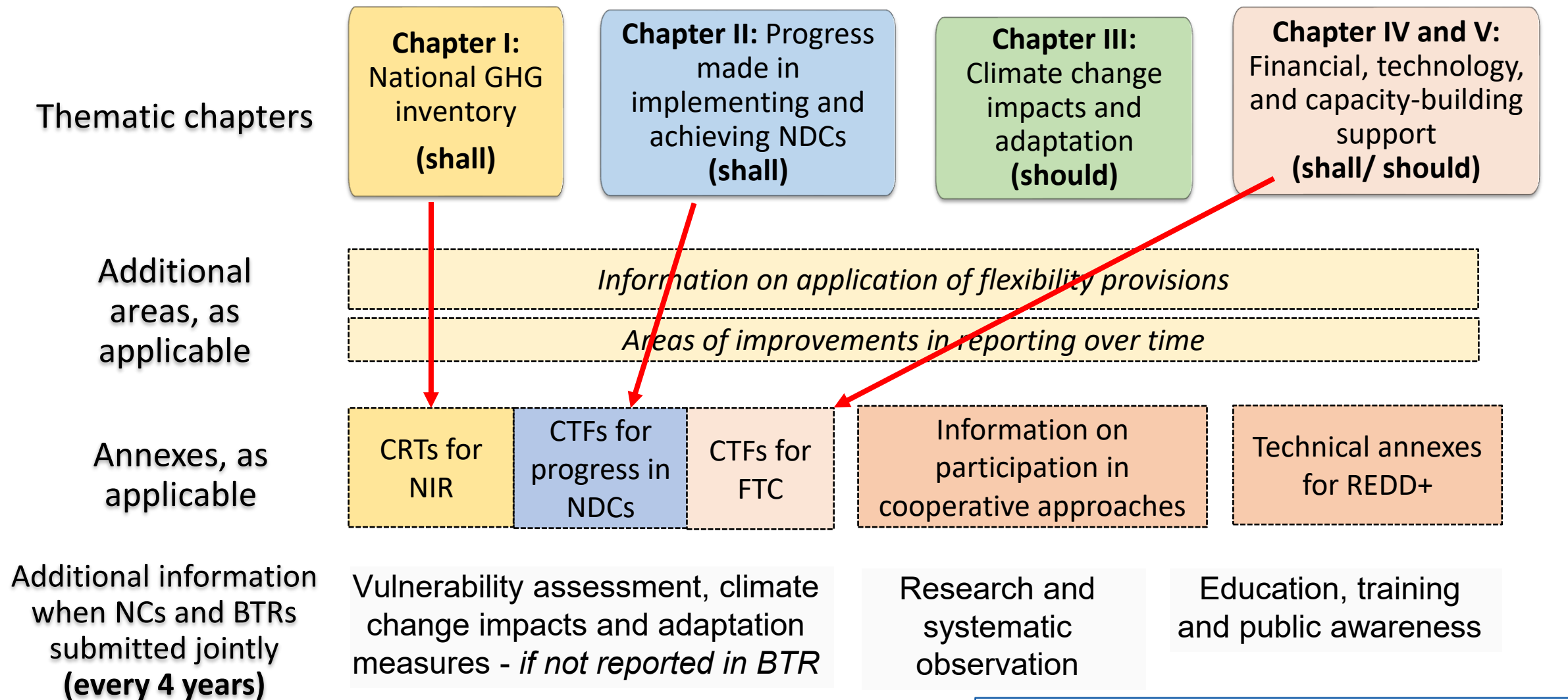
Building on and enhancing the transparency arrangements under the Convention; while **recognizing the special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS*

- **1st BTR and NIR** (if submitted as a stand-alone document), in accordance with the MPGs (decision 18/CMA.1) was due **at the latest by 31 December 2024**
 - **LDCs and SIDS** may submit BTRs **at their discretion**
- **Flexibility provisions** are specified in MPGs, for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities → application of the flexibility is **self-determined**
- **Information on flexibility and improvements** in reporting over time **is mandatory**, to be provided as part of the BTR
- If **adaptation communication** is submitted as a component of BTR, Party should clearly identify the relevant part of the BTR
- All Parties, except LDCs and SIDS, shall submit BTRs, **no less frequently than on a biennial basis** (1/CP.21, para.90)
- Secretariat will produce **BTR & NIR synthesis reports**, and an **annual report on TER**

Closer look to the BTR: Report Outline



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

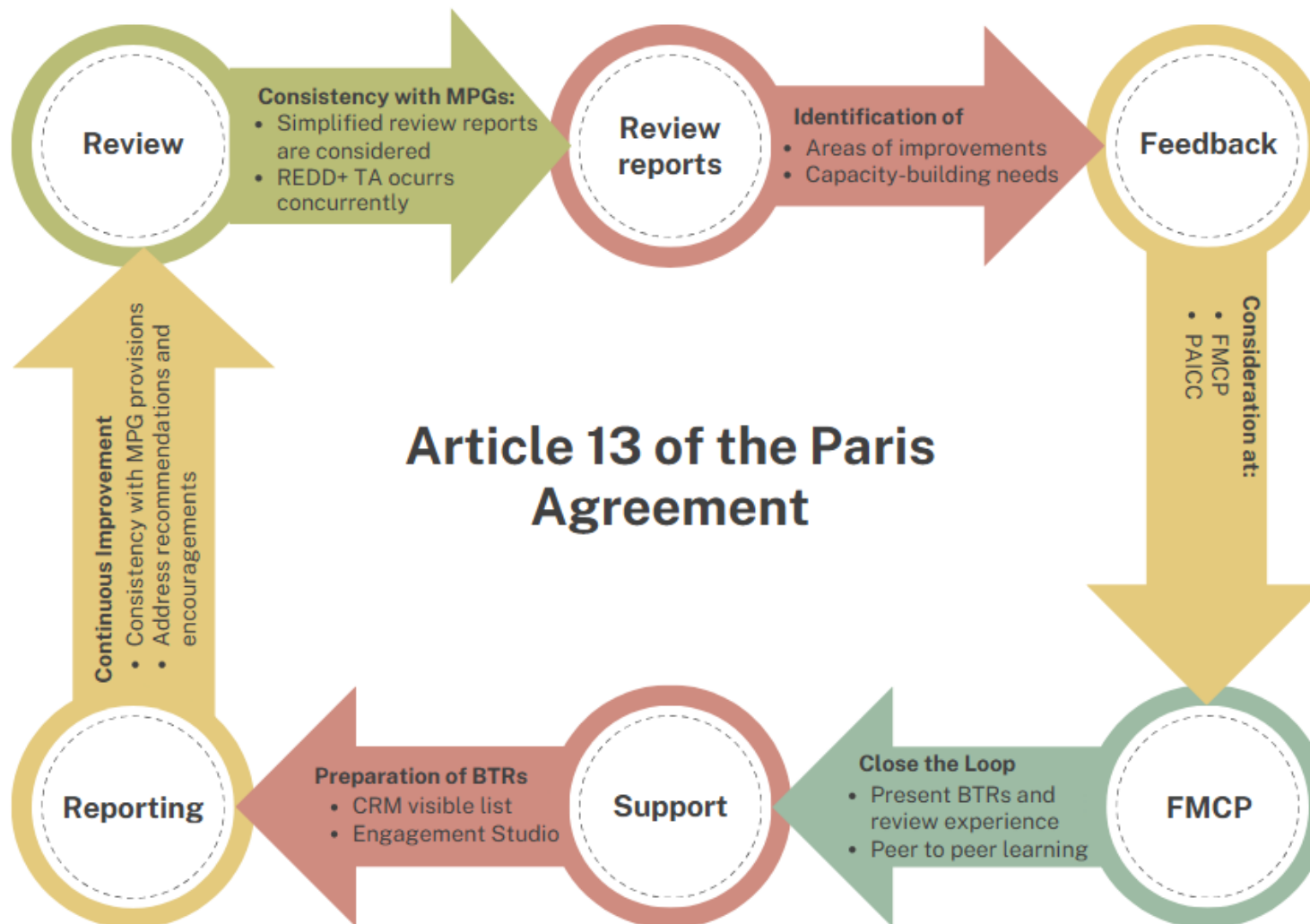
What comes after the BTR submission?

Technical Expert Review (TER) & Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress (FMCP)



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Under the ETF, information submitted by each Party under Article 13, paragraphs 7 and 9, of the Paris Agreement shall undergo a technical expert review consistent with the MPGs.

Consistency of
information submitted
with MPGs

Consideration of
implementation and
achievement of NDC

Consideration of
support provided

Identification
of areas of
improvement

Identification of
capacity
building needs

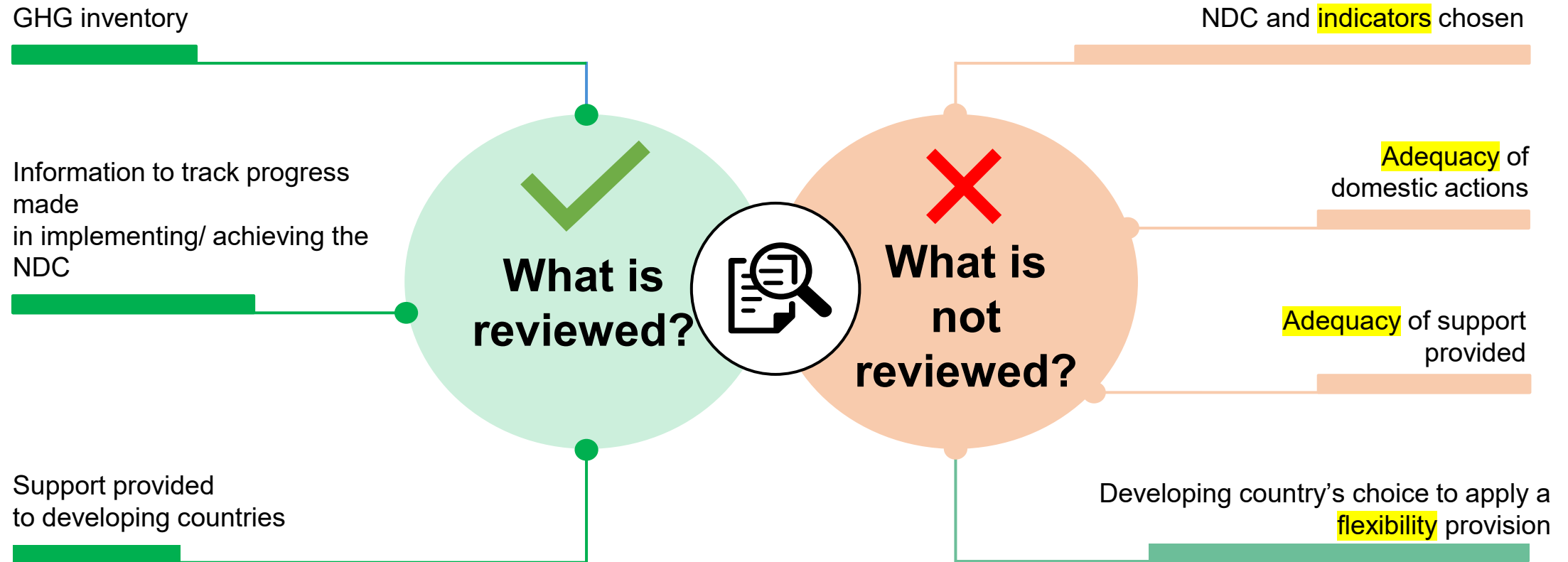
Attention to
the respective
national circumstances

Facilitative, non-intrusive, non-
punitive, respectful of national
sovereignty, avoiding placing undue
burden on Parties

Overview of the technical expert review (TER) process



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Special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS in the TER process - LDCs and SIDS may choose to participate in the same centralized review as a group.



- ✓ **The technical analysis of REDD+ results takes place concurrently with BTR reviews:** Access to REDD+ results-based finance requires completion of the review process
- ✓ **Consistency:** REDD+ results need to maintain consistency with GHG inventories, making REDD+ activities together with the ETF a driver of quality and accuracy
- ✓ **Tracking progress:** NDC tracking progress can show progress in halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030
- ✓ **Article 6.4:** Projects under the scope of REDD+ need to demonstrate link with national REDD+ activities



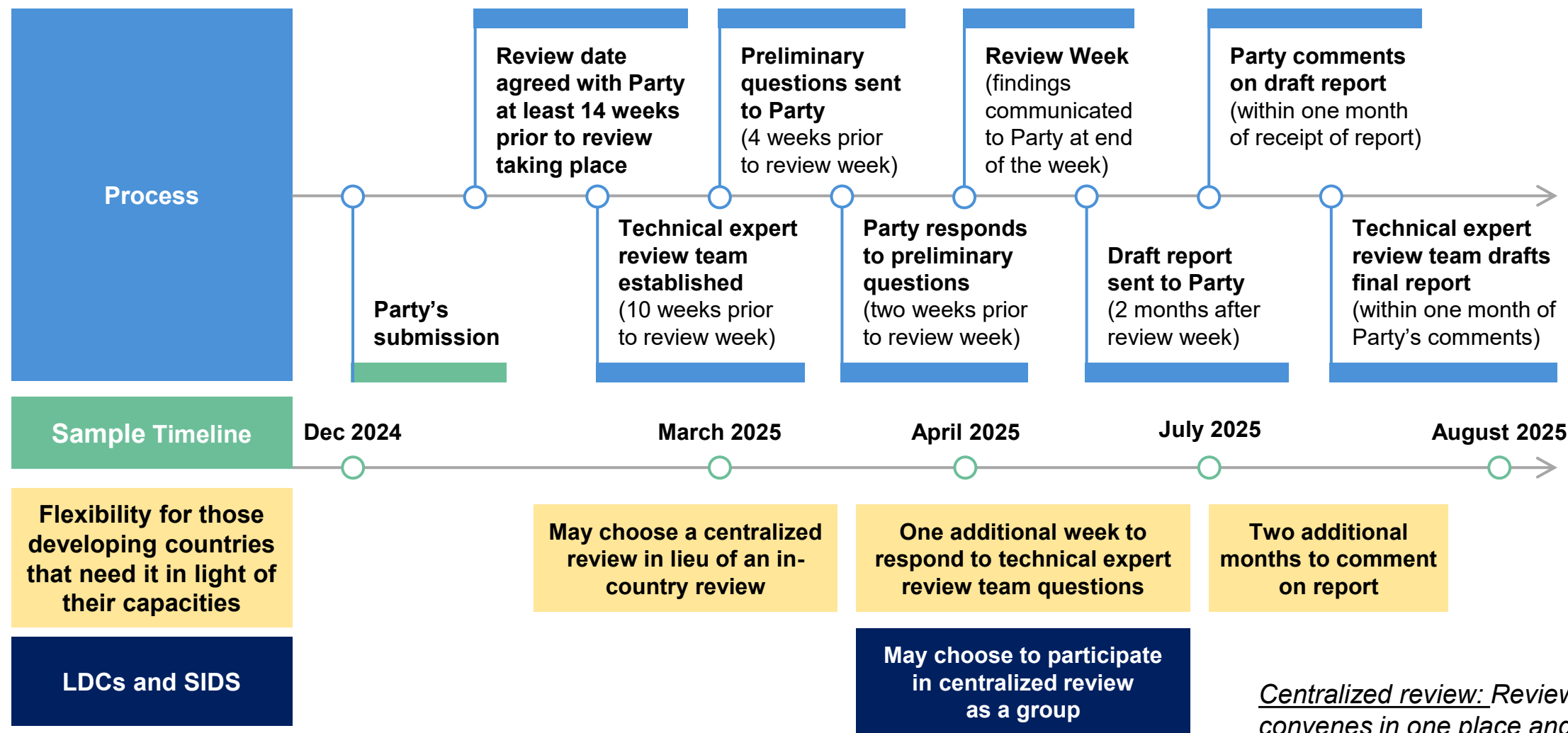
SCAN ME!
REDD+ Web
Platform

Courtesy of Transparency division ETF Review Coordination Unit

TER procedures and timelines



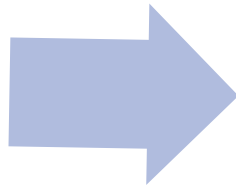
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Centralized review: Review team convenes in one place and reviews BTRs of several Parties.

- Occurs as soon as possible **following the publication of a Party's TER report.**

How FMCP works?



Step 1: Q&A phase

- Other Parties send questions through an online platform
- Party responds to these questions
- Q&As compiled and published on webpage

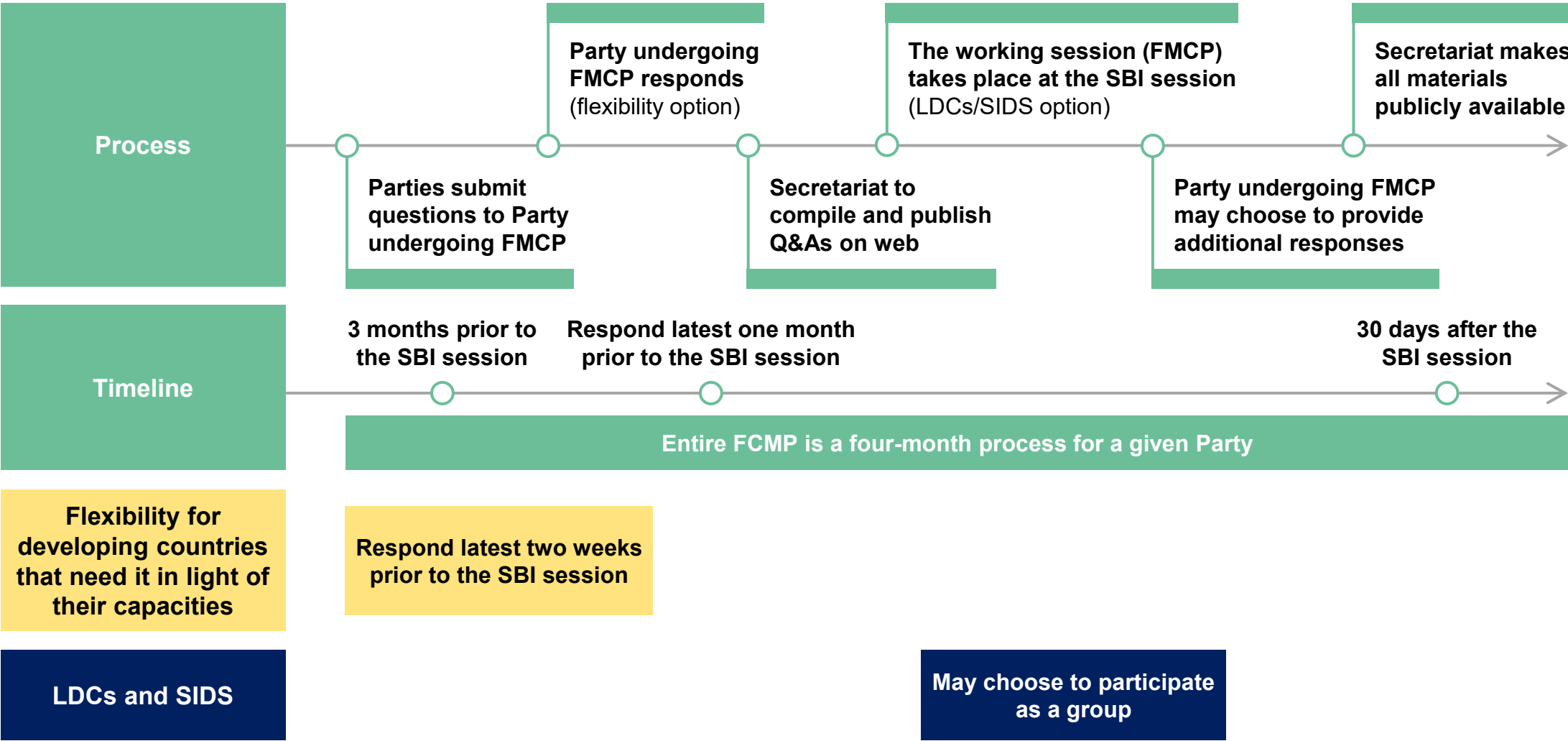
Step 2: Working group session phase

- Takes place at the SBI session
- Presentation by the Party
- Discussion by all on the presentation and information considered

→ All records will be made available on the secretariat's webpage



FMCP procedures and timelines



TER

- Produces an independent assessment of BTRs, demonstrating a commitment to accountability.
- Informs the global community on progress made towards commitments under the Paris Agreement.
- Enhances the understanding of domestic climate actions. Strengthens institutions and builds capacities of national experts.
- National experts gain access to best practices, innovative solutions and lessons learned from other Parties.

FMCP

- Allows a glimpse into the actions, successes and challenges on climate action and support.
- Builds confidence that all are doing their part.
- Provides a neutral platform for the country to show its efforts and challenges.
- Provides a platform to call for increased support for capacity building needs and to engage with other countries/support providers.
- Facilitates increase in overall ambition.

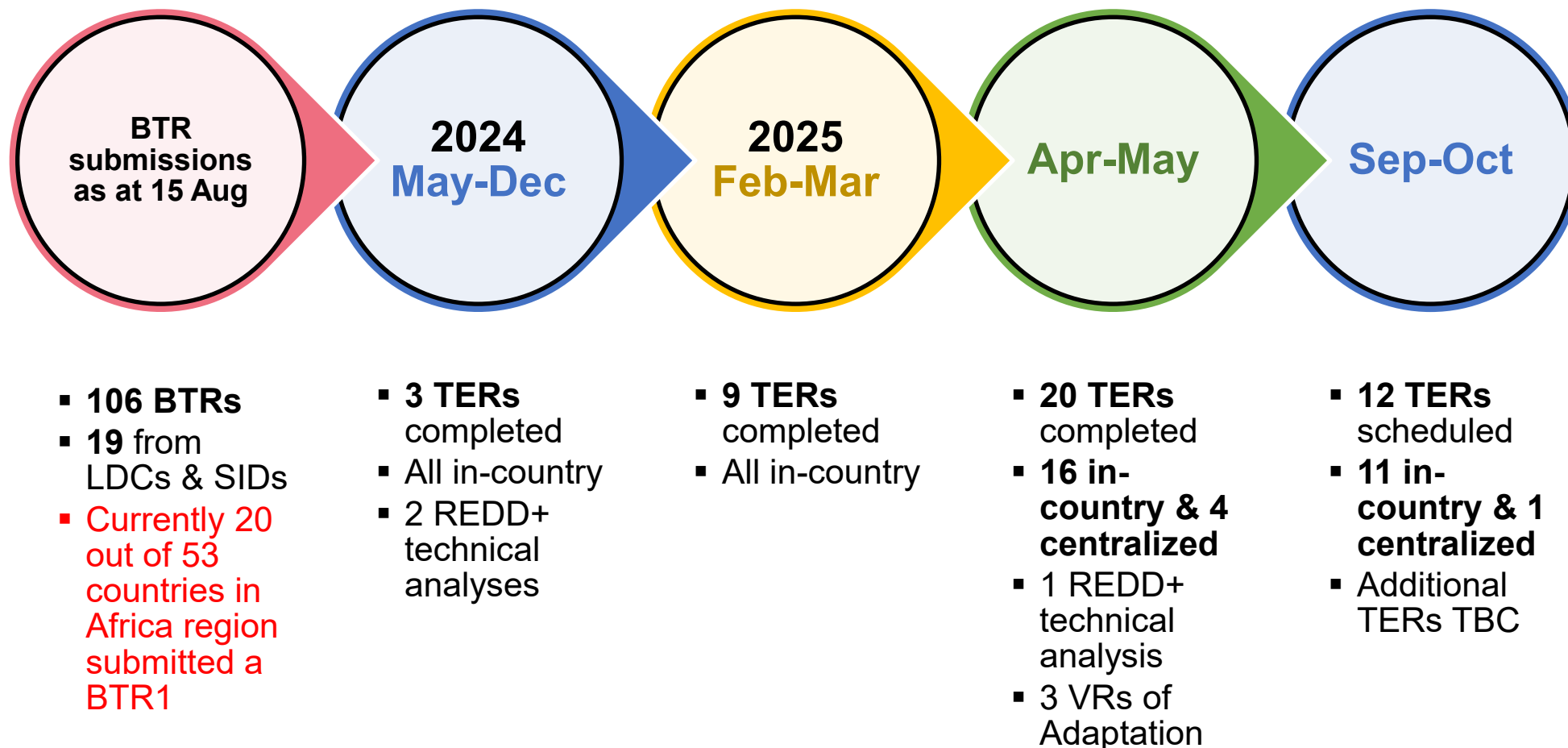
What other benefits can you think of?

Implementation update - technical expert reviews (TER) of BTR1 in 2024-2025



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Past Technical
Expert Reviews





The MPG determines that the secretariat conduct simplified reviews for National Inventory Reports submitted in a year when a BTR is not due (e.g. 2025, 2027)



41 submissions of 2025 NIRs by Annex I Parties were subject to Simplified Reviews during May-June 2025



The reviews were conducted by the secretariat using automated approaches, following what was agreed at the first lead reviewers meeting of BTRs (April 2024)



Simplified Review Reports will be made available at the UNFCCC website



Findings of the simplified review will form **part of the technical expert review**

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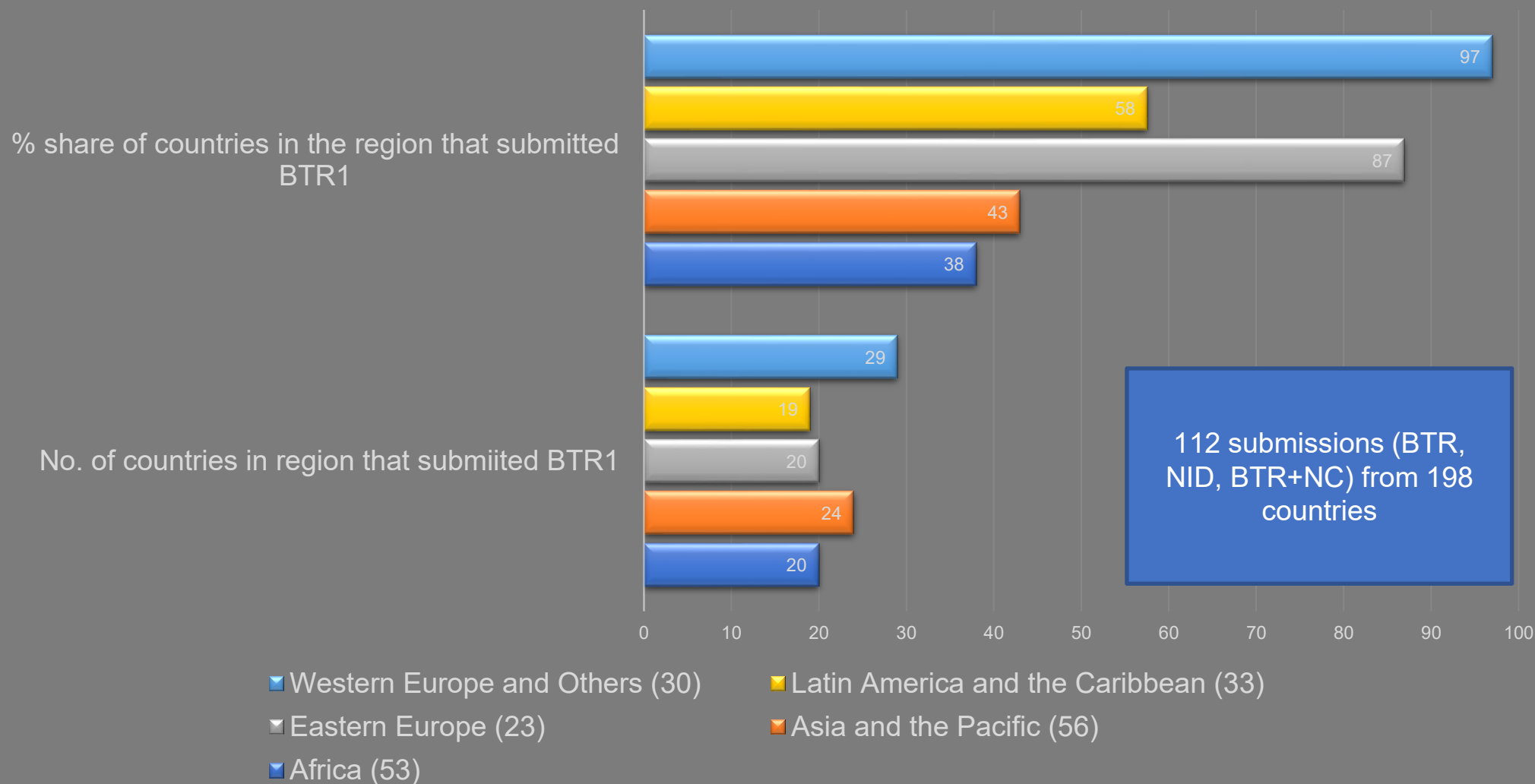
Simplified Review
Reports 2025 page

Collective progress as at 15 August: completed and planned reviews



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Global perspective of submissions towards BTR1



Opportunities/Gains

- **Efficiency Gains:** Streamlined review processes can reduce duplication of effort and speed up reporting cycles.
- **Collaboration:** Reviews bring together experts from diverse backgrounds, fostering peer learning and knowledge exchange and builds regional expertise.
- **Enhanced Coordination and Cooperation:** Strengthened links among Parties, technical teams, and UNFCCC bodies improve consistency and comparability of reporting
- **Innovative Approaches:** Opportunity to introduce digital tools, remote collaboration platforms, and adaptive methodologies for greater efficiency.
- **Value Added and Continuous Improvement:** Technical reviews help developing country Parties identify capacity-building needs, enhance data quality, and foster trust and partnerships.

Challenges

- **Surge in Review Volume:** Unprecedented workload as all Parties must now submit reports biennially, creating tight timelines for coordination.
- **Limited Expert Resources:** Difficulties in mobilizing sufficient numbers of qualified experts and support staff for concurrent reviews.
- **Data Complexity:** BTRs include broader and more detailed data (GHG inventories, NDC progress, support provided/received, adaptation), making reviews technically demanding.
- **Need for Efficiency and Innovation:** Traditional review methods are not sustainable in terms of time, cost, and human resources, requiring new solutions
- **Sustaining Value Added:** Ensuring the review process continues to deliver meaningful insights without overburdening Parties or reviewers.

Additional resources



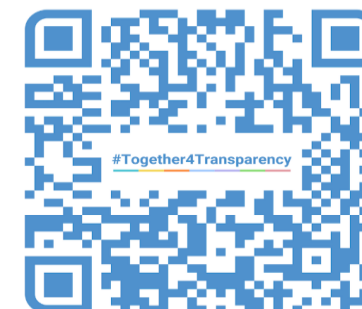
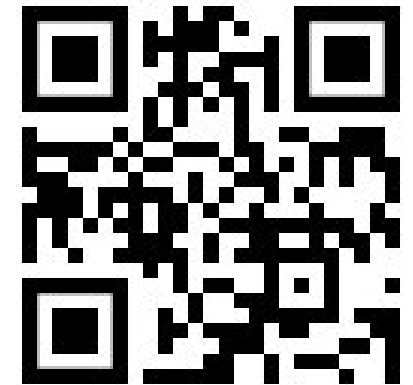
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MRV/Transparency Helpdesk
<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/transparency/>



ETFsupport@unfccc.int
www.unfccc.int/CGE



UN Climate Change
Transparency LinkedIn
Group

Thank you

Questions and reflections?



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How to become a review expert?

Training programme for reviewers and the certification process



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Training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review of the BTR



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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 →**

	1 st period	2 nd period	3 rd period	4 th period
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

Steps to become eligible as a member of the TER team



REGISTRATION

Registration to the UNFCCC
Roster of Experts (RoE)



NOMINATION

Nominated to
the UNFCCC ROE



APPROVAL BY NFP

Nomination approval by
National Focal Point (NFP)



EXAMINATION

PASS

Eligible to participate in the
Technical Expert Review Team
to review BTRs

- <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/training-programmes-for-expert-reviewers#PA-review-training-programme>