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Good Practice Series on Transparency

Morocco's First Sub-National MRV System for the Souss-Massa Region

Background

Morocco's Climate Change Policy, within its advanced regionalization strategy, promotes the local implementation of the National Plan to Combat Global Warming through Territorial Plans (PTRC) to address specific regional characteristics.

The Souss-Massa region, as part of its PTRC, developed a GHG emissions inventory, identifying the Energy and Agriculture sectors as major contributors. Subsequently, in collaboration with the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC), the Ministry of Environment and its Souss-Massa Regional Directorate initiated a project in 2018 aimed at consolidating GHG inventory results and establishing an online sub-national MRV system, initially focusing on the Energy and Agriculture sectors. This system includes a data collection platform equipped with Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) measures. To ensure the effective operation of this MRV system, an institutional and legal framework was proposed for the region in the form of a gubernatorial decree. This decree formalizes the functioning of the various bodies and stakeholders involved in the MRV rollout.

Challenges addressed

The system is addressing numerous challenges in the region, with one major issue being the absence of an institutional body tasked with establishing a climate transparency framework. This has led to a lack of ownership and insufficient coordination and collaboration among stakeholders, particularly regarding the sharing, collection, and management of data. Additionally, the lack of a data verification and QA/QC undermines the reliability and accuracy of data provided by partners. Notably, the online system has addressed the complexity of the data collection process, which previously required the involvement of national consulting services.

Country Transparency at a Glance

Responsible Institution: Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development - Regional Directorate of Environnement (DRE)

NCs: 4

BURs: 3

Approach

Through a decree, **institutional arrangements** for the implementation of the regional MRV system of Souss-Massa have been established. This **governance framework** aims to operationalize cooperation and coordination between different institutions involved in data collection. It defines the responsibilities and methodologies for sharing information and data on greenhouse gases. Governance committees, including regional and sectoral committees are set up to ensure the system's sustainability. These committees include stakeholders from the public, private, and financial sectors, as well as civil society. Notably, five sectoral departments constitute the principal sectoral coordinators for the sectors of Energy, Agriculture, Industry, Forestry and Land Management, and Solid Waste Management.

The architecture of these arrangements was based on the National Inventory System (NIS-GHG) which is constructed in line with the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for the sectors Energy, IPPU, Agriculture, LULUCF and Waste. Within this framework, the **Regional Directorate for the Environment (DRE)** oversees the entire MRV system, including actions and support. Similar to the Department of the Environment at the national level, the DRE coordinates regional MRV efforts, compiles data in collaboration with the 5 sectoral coordinators, and produces final reports. These reports are then reviewed and validated by the **Regional MRV Committee**. The DRE is structured into three units corresponding to the MRV components: an **Inventory Unit**, a **Mitigation Actions Unit**, and a **Support Unit** for PTRC implementation.

A	Institutional Arrangements	GHG Inventory	Loss & Damage
R	Information Systems & Technologies	Mitigation Tracking	Support Tracking
E	Data Collection & Management	Adaptation	Gender
A			

Success Factors

- The ownership of a territorial climate-relevant policy relevant by the regional decision-makers, as well as the establishment of institutional arrangements, endorsed by the gubernatorial decree, for the implementation of the MRV system reinforces its success and sustainability.
- The presidency of the Regional Committee (main governance body) by the Wilaya (Governorate of the region) in collaboration with the DRE provides substantial support in terms of governance, ensuring the ownership and commitment of stakeholders, within the Regional MRV Unit and the thematic working groups, in data collection, processing and reporting.
- The availability of a regional inventory has enabled access to the data needed to feed the MRV system and ensure its operationalization, especially for the two sectors emitting the most greenhouse gases, namely Energy and Agriculture.
- Piloting MRV in the Energy and Agriculture sectors initially aims to ensure simplicity, stakeholder control, and ownership before including other sectors (Industry, LULUCF and Waste).
- The set up of an online MRV system ensures streamlining of the process of collecting, managing and tracking data in order to guarantee the system's relevance and sustainability.
- The establishment of the QA/QC system enhances the accuracy and reliability of data.
- The alignment of the regional MRV system with the national MRV for Inventory, Mitigation and Support is also one of the main success factors.

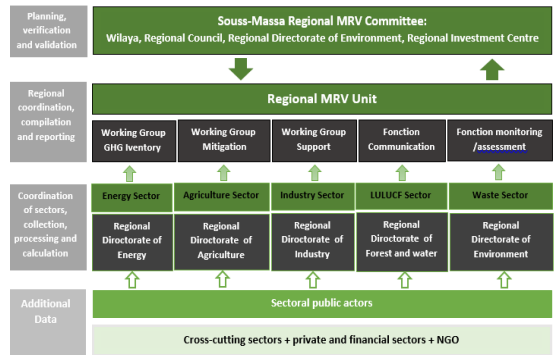
Further Areas of Improvement

To ensure effective alignment of the Regional MRV System with the National Platform, further system development is crucial. This includes covering the support component (finance, technology transfer, and capacity building) and adaptation, in addition to the inventory and mitigation actions. The platform needs to cover all the 7 mitigation and 8 adaptation sectors of the NDC.

For adaptation monitoring indicators are currently under development in the context of the implementation of the National Strategic Plan for Adaptation at the regional level. This will facilitate the integration of the adaptation component into both the national and regional MRV Platform.

In addition, stakeholders' capacities need to be strengthened in terms of planning and monitoring mitigation and adaptation measures, as well as improving access to climate finance and tracking financial flows.

Institutional Arrangement of the Souss-Massa MRV System



Read More

Institutional Arrangements

- [Proposal for an institutional and legal framework for the regional MRV system \(ICAT/UNEP-CCC\)](#)
- [Decree of the National GHG Inventory System in Morocco](#)

MRV System

- [Morocco starts first subnational monitoring, reporting and verification system \(UNEP-CCC\)](#)
- [Roadmap for the implementation of an MRV system in the Souss-Massa region \(ICAT/UNEP-CCC\)](#)

NDC Tracking

- [National Transparency System](#)
- [Summary of the PTRC for the Souss-Massa Region](#)

