

**Report on the Inception Workshop for Ghana's
Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Project**



**Held at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),
Millennium Block Conference Room, Accra**

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background Information

The Paris Agreement (PA) introduced the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) regime for climate action and support under Article 13. According to the UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2019, countries are far from reaching the global goal of 2⁰C if only the current levels of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are considered. Hence, the ETF under the PA is critical to enable all countries to track the progress of climate action and raise ambition. The Parties to the PA established Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of developing countries to effectively participate in the ETF.

Following this, the UNFCCC requested the Global Environment Fund (GEF) to support the implementation of CBIT through voluntary contributions during GEF-6 and future replenishment cycles; hence during COP 21, the GEF established CBIT. Globally, the CBIT programme aims to strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities; provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement and assist in the progressive improvement of transparency efforts.

So far, the GEF Secretariat has approved 61 CBIT projects and concepts after 3 years of its establishment, in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Ghana is part of the African countries to receive funding from the GEF. Ghana's CBIT project is a medium-sized GEF project which went through a two-and-half years preparatory work before receiving funding. The implementation period of the project spans from 2020 to 2022.

The objective of Ghana's CBIT project is to strengthen national systems to effectively and regularly track and report Ghana's NDC. The CBIT project will enable Ghana to enhance gaps in institutional arrangements, develop an effective data management system and integrate and/ mainstream climate change into Ghana's Medium-Term Development Framework. Considering the above, a one-day workshop was organised to officially launch Ghana's CBIT, introduce CBIT activities, its institutional arrangements and solicit feedback on the activities and implementation strategies.

1.2 Participation

The twenty-eight participants who attended the CBIT workshop were from stakeholder institutions in Ghana and a representative from UNEP. Participants were representatives from the Ministry of Transport, University of Ghana (ISSER), Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana Statistical Service, Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority, amongst others. The gender breakdown of participants revealed 29% women and 71% men (Appendix A).

1.3 Scope and Workshop Objectives

1.3.1 Scope of the workshop

The workshop was delivered through technical presentations, discussions, questions and answers. There were four technical presentations, followed by questions and answers. The participants discussed and deliberated on the project outputs, activities and work plan for the project period. More than ten questions were posed, six of them were on different aspects of the issues elicited from the presentations. As much as possible, the presenters answer to the questions have been documented in the relevant sections of this report.

1.3.2 Programme Outline and Output of the Workshop

1.3.2.2 Programme Outline

The UNFCCC Focal Person, Mr Opong Boadi, outlined the programme for the workshop as follows:

Non-technical pre-workshop section

The workshop was held on 10th March 2020 at the EPA Millennium Block Conference Room with the registration of participants. The workshop started at about 9:13 am with an opening prayer by Mr Felix Mote, EPA PPME Department, followed by self-introduction of participants. The programme was moderated by the UNFCCC Focal Person, Mr Opong Boadi. The session was concluded with a welcome address from the Deputy Executive Director, Technical Services Division/ Environmental Protection Agency.

Technical section

The technical section covered presentations capturing issues on;

- Project background, goal, objective(s), outcomes and outputs
- CBIT project components
- Status of Ghana's NDCs
- Project work plan
- Roles and responsibilities of the steering committee and technical teams
- Discussions on the presentations (involving contributions, Comments, Questions & Answers)
- Feedback from participants concerning the project and next steps

2.0 Statement/Remarks and Speeches

2.1 Welcome speech

The Deputy Executive Director (DED), Technical Services, EPA, Mr Ebenezer Appah Sampong, gave the welcome speech for EPA. In the statement, he welcomed the participants to the workshop, thanked them for honouring the invitation and expressed EPA willingness to lead in the implementation of the CBIT project. He also thanked GEF for supporting Ghana by providing funding on the CBIT project. Mr Appah Sampong stated that the Management of EPA supports such a great initiative and would ensure that it becomes successful.

The statement highlighted that CBIT project is the creation of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement with the goal is to support countries implement and report their climate actions. The Deputy Executive Director, EPA also mentioned that the workshop marks the beginning of Ghana's CBIT project hence stakeholders have met to officially launch the Ghana CBIT, introduce the CBIT activities and institutional arrangements and finally solicit feedback on the activities and implementation strategies. He concluded his welcome remarks by again thanking the GEF, the representative from UNEP and all stakeholders and collaborating institutions and wished all experts and stakeholders fruitful discussions and deliberations at the workshop.

2.2 Statement by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

UNEP statement was delivered by Ms Vieira Gomes Corrêa Moema and UNEP's happiness to be part of the launch of Ghana's CBIT. She thanked the EPA, the organising team and all participants for attending the project inception workshop. Ms Corrêa informed participants that UNEP is the GEF implementing agency working with the Government of Ghana in the CBIT project.

Ms Moema Corrêa indicated that the workshop is to shed light on climate transparency since the global community has agreed on a global goal under the PA to limit the average global temperature increase to well below 2⁰C to avoid the impact of climate change. This, she said, implies the need to measure all mitigation efforts and report them to verify the collective progress towards achieving the global temperature goal. She continued that each Party is expected to update its NDC every five years, and the information reported will inform a global "stocktake" that would assess collective progress towards achieving the referred goal. Also, she indicated that adaptation actions must be put in place and tracked to ensure the protection of livelihoods, ecosystems and economies receives adequate support.

Ms Corrêa continued that the ETF is very relevant to track the progress of climate action as the UNEP emission gap 2019 indicates the global goal of 2⁰C would not be reached if only NDCs are considered. Hence Parties are taking steps to comply with enhanced reporting requirements as per the modalities, procedures and guidelines of the ETF. She elaborated that the GEF supports CBIT activities in developing countries along with projects to fulfil reporting obligations under the UNFCCC, including National Communications and Biennial Update Reports.

The GEF Secretariat, she mentioned, has already approved 61 CBIT projects and concepts after 3 years of its establishment, in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Ms Moema Corrêa highlighted UNEP's role since it serves as one of the GEF accredited agencies in charge of implementing CBIT projects. UNEP, she said, has been supporting Ghana with its CBIT project since concept phase, throughout development and would continue to support

during implementation until the project is completed and evaluated. She went ahead and stated that 13 countries have CBIT project being implemented in the world with 5 in Africa. She continued that the CBIT programme aims to:

- Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities;
- Provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement;
- Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

Ms Corrêa lastly mentioned that a CBIT Global Coordination Platform had been established to support CBIT management and to enable coordination, maximize learning opportunities, and enable knowledge sharing among CBIT countries to facilitate transparency enhancements. This platform, she said, seeks to engage countries, agencies, and other relevant institutions to enhance the partnership of national, multilateral, and bilaterally-supported capacity-building initiatives. Ms Moema Corrêa concluded her statement by informing all stakeholders that the CBIT project would significantly contribute to the enhanced implementation and tracking of climate action by ensuring that NDC targets become a central part of Ghana's system for tracking and implementing progress towards its national development framework.

2.3 Statement by Ghana's UNFCCC Focal Point

A statement was given by the UNFCCC Focal Person, Ghana, Mr Yaw Opong Boadi Kyekyeku, who stated that Ghana is active in the international climate change arena and in negotiations. He mentioned that Ghana had received various supports ranging from small to large scale from various donor partners. Mr Opong explained that Ghana has been reporting on National Communications (NCs) and Biannual Update Report (BUR) amongst others since 1996 up to date and will continue to be compliant as far as it continues to be a Party to the UNFCCC. He further indicated that Ghana has prepared and submitted its NDCs for 7 sectors and has also received funding to implement the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) readiness project from the GCF. He informed stakeholders that national teams for the NAP had been set up and the project would be rolled out very soon. He further elaborated that the Low Emission Development Project with a focus on energy amongst others is being implemented in Ghana. Therefore, CBIT is another added value on climate change to enhance transparency. He concluded his statement by thanking all present and wished stakeholders fruitful deliberations.

2.4 Statement by Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation

A short message was given by Mr Gyimah Mohammed on behalf of the Director of Environment, MESTI. In his statement, he indicated that since 2015, Ghana has been working on its NDCs, which has 31 mitigation and adaptation actions with a focus on 7 priority sectors. He continued that Ghana also submitted its Fourth National Communication, currently under review and its BUR, which are part of Ghana Climate Ambitious Reporting Programme. He mentioned that the CBIT project is another transparency programme, and this would enable Ghana to enhance its transparency.

2.5 Keynote Address from the Ag. Executive Director, EPA

The keynote address was presented by the Ag. Executive Director, EPA Mr John Alexis Pwamang. He, first, thanked all experts, stakeholders and participants for the opportunity to

address them at the inception meeting of the CBIT. He then extended a warm welcome to the UNEP Representative and all present.

Mr Pwamang indicated that Article 13 of the Paris Agreement establishes the ETF, and CBIT was introduced via the Paris Agreement to get countries ready to effectively participate in the enhanced transparency framework. He continued that the inception meeting kickstarts the implementation of Ghana's CBIT project after nearly two and a half years of preparatory work. The CBIT, he said, has an objective which aligns with the broad agenda to sharpen the functionality of national arrangement for climate reporting. He further elaborated that Ghana's CBIT project dubbed "strengthening Ghana's national capacity for transparency and ambitious climate reporting" would be implemented by EPA in close collaboration with other key stakeholders from 2020 to 2022.

Mr Pwamang in his speech informed stakeholders/ participants that as Ghana's CBIT project starts, the Agency hopes that this initiative would contribute to strengthen the national technical capacity and facilitate the integration of climate reporting into the governmental structures.

Mr. John Alexis Pwamang lastly mentioned that the CBIT project would focus on delivering results including:

- Strengthening institutional arrangements for the regular planning, implementation, and reporting of national climate actions;
- Operationalizing a national infrastructure to improve climate data management;
- The institutionalisation of climate change indicators into national planning; and lastly
- Piloting of domestic transparency for Ghana NDC.

He then concluded his speech by entreating everyone to contribute to the CBIT project implementation to make it a success.

3.0 Technical Session

The technical session was on presentations, discussions, questions, and answers. Below is a summary of the key highlights of the presentations.

3.1 Setting the Scene

This presentation was made by Dr Daniel Tutu Benefoh of the (EPA). He opened his presentation by introducing the stakeholders/ participants to the existing Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and getting ready for the ETF. In his presentation, he made known that there is a national plan to put in place and operate an “integrated national system” for (a) continuous data measurements and collection on GHG emissions, mitigation actions, climate support, track progress of NDC targets; (b) preparation and compilation; (c) domestic disclosure and international reporting and the (d) technical and “policy” reviews.

The presenter briefed the meeting on the national arrangement and procedures. He mentioned that 5 sectoral teams had been established with decentralised tasks to line Ministries guided by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). He highlighted the use of the EPA Act 490 and the Environmental Assessment Legislations 1999, (L1652) as the legal mandate for the EPA to coordinate the national exercise. On the data methods and IT systems, he mentioned that Ghana had established an online climate data hub and that Ghana employs the use of the IPPC 2006 Guidelines. He added that a National GHG Inventory plan with templates for data collection as well as a National Quality Assurance and Quality Plan had been established.

Dr Benefoh outlined the climate change reporting elements under the current MRV and future ETF regime. He mentioned that the first national reports under the Paris Agreement known as biennial transparency reports (BTRs) would be submitted by all countries by the end of 2024 as against the Biennial Update Report (BURs) that would be replaced by the BTRs. In terms of achievement, he mentioned Ghana had submitted its third NC as the Fourth NC is underway, while the second BUR has been submitted. He added that the third BUR is about to start with the first national REDD+ forest reference level (FRL) submitted. He continued that the ETF would require Ghana to report on the progress of NDC, climate impacts and adaptation as well as the support needed and received among others.

Dr Benefoh highlighted the BTRs (which will capture the GHGs, NDCs, Adaptation, Support) and NCs will go through technical expert reviews (TER) and multilateral facilitative consideration (MFC). The outcome of the review processes would contribute to the global stocktaking (GST) as well as the Improvements list and capacity building priorities for the country.

He then introduced the CBIT project in the Ghana context. He revealed that as per the global context of the CBIT project, 33 countries have their CBIT Project Concept Approved, 3 have their Projects Approved, 20 are under implementation, and 2 countries have concluded the project implementation. He gave an overview of the Ghana CBIT by stating that the project is of a medium-size which would be implemented from 2020 to 2022 with a GEF contribution of One million One Hundred thousand US Dollars (US\$ 1,100,000.00). He further mentioned that the GEF Implementing Agency for the project is the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). He added that it had taken about two and a half years of preparatory work

to get the CBIT project to be implemented in Ghana. The objective of the project he mentioned as “strengthening the national system to effectively and regularly track and report NDC”.

Moreover, he went on to describe the existing gaps of the existing MRV structure that is likely to cause Ghana not to meet ETF requirement under Article 13 of Paris Agreement as an institution with inadequate capacities and awareness, limited tools and capacity and inconsistent time series and use of defaults. He explained that the lack of knowledge on transparency, poor technical coordination and poor institutional funding results in inadequate capacities and awareness whereas the non-existing system for data sharing and unavailability of sector-specific data needs result in the gap of limited tools and capacity. It was established that the inconsistent time series and the use of defaults values is caused by the lack of established methodologies for data generation.

The project has four (4) outputs which are targeted at addressing the existing gaps relating to Institutions, Institutionalisation, Data management and Sector pilots (piloting the lessons in the Transport and Energy Sectors. The presenter went on to list the various institutions involved in the implementation of the CBIT project. The list included UNEP, MESTI, EPA Management, CBIT Delivery Team, a Project Steering Committee (PSC), three inter-institutional teams (MRV Governance Committee, Data Management Committee, and the MRV & M&E Integration Committee) and Consultants. He concluded his presentation by highlighting that the project has four outputs with sixteen activities and would be implemented for 36 months. The CBIT project is targeted at Institutions, Data management, Institutionalisation and integration to help in effective tracking and reporting of NDC progress and to above all help Ghana participate in the ETF.

3.2 CBIT: Project components

This presentation was delivered by Mrs Juliana Bempah, a Programme Officer with the Manufacturing Industries Department of the EPA. She introduced participants to the PA, stating that the PA adopted a bottom-up approach which allows countries to commit to specific national climate actions to reach the global warming goal of well below 2°C. She stated that the development objective of the CBIT project is to assist Ghana to strengthen its national capacity on transparency and ambitious reporting by improving on the functionality of the national system of the domestic MRV system (G-CARP) and further integrating into the national M&E framework having identified institutional capacities and gaps.

She introduced the meeting to the first output of the project, which involves the establishment of an effective institutional arrangement to plan, implement and report climate actions. She added that 7 activities would be undertaken under this output and these activities among others include organizing tailor-made training programmes for fresh entrants into the list of national experts, organizing refresher training for experienced national experts and organizing regular peer exchange programs for Ghanaian MRV experts.

Output 2 of the project, she said, would lead to the establishment of a centralized national infrastructure for improved data access and information management. She stated that the output would involve three activities, which are establishing a functional and centralised data-sharing network, the development of templates and guidance notes in five NDC sectors and developing a verification manual for MRV of NDC actions. The presenter continued that Output 3 would see five climate change indicators mainstreamed into the medium-term development framework from 2020 to 2022. She added that there would be four activities to generate such

output and these activities among others include the development of specific input/output indicators for selected sector NDC actions and incorporating them into the NDPC result framework for the 2018-2022 planning cycle and beyond.

Output 4 is the testing and piloting of domestic transparency framework in two (energy and transport) sectors. In concluding the presentation, she added that this involves two activities (testing and piloting the transparency measures in the Energy and Transport sectors as well as communicate key lessons and best practices from the implementation of the CBIT Project).

3.3 Status of Ghana's Nationally Determined Contributions

This presentation was given by Dr Daniel Tutu Benefoh. The presenter informed participants that NDCs are development pledges or actions with climate imperatives targeted at reducing national emissions which adapt to climate change impacts. He added that NDCs are medium-term (10-year outlook) in nature and can be updated every 5 years. He added that the NDC is a global climate policy which takes its mandate from the Paris Agreement.

The overview of Ghana's NDCs revealed that there are thirty-one (31) mitigation and adaptation actions with 7 priority areas which are expected to cost \$22.6 billion over a 10-year period starting from 2016 to 2030. He added that the MESTI had initiated processes to conduct the second update of Ghana's NDCs, which covers a period of 2020 to 2025. Dr Benefoh stated that, under the NDCs, the public and the private sector leverage on coherent policies which are global, national, regional or district in nature to deliver multiple outcomes such as adequate clean and affordable energy for all, resilient food systems, decent jobs, emission reduction among others.

He added that Ghana estimates her GHG emissions to be 75 MtCO_{2e} by 2030 as per the business as usual scenario. The 31 mitigation and adaptation actions (NDCs) seek to conditionally cut emissions by GHG 23MtCO_{2e} and unconditionally by 11MtCO_{2e} by 2030. The presentation further noted that Ghana has already incorporated NDC into the current national development policy framework. He mentioned that indicators for tracking NDC had been developed jointly with the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC). He added that the draft NDC implementation plan had been finalised and Ghana is preparing its her national adaptation framework to support the NDC. He informed that Ghana reports the progress of its NDCs in Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC.

He concluded his presentation by summarising some of the actions on the ground, which include the lowering of deforestation through the engagement of 20,000 youth to plant 10 million trees as a way to increase the carbon sinks and promote climate-smart cocoa production under REDD+, among others.

3.4 Project work plan

This presentation was given by Mr Daniel Akwetey Lamptey, a Programme Officer with the Built Environment Department of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He started his presentation by drawing the synergies between the earlier presentations delivered, setting the Scene and the CBIT Project Components. He mentioned that the 3-year project would start in 2020 and end by 2022. He itemised the sixteen activities to be undertaken in the project. The presenter used Gantt charts to explain the Outputs, Activities, Deliverables and Timelines for the project. He indicated that Output 1, which has 7 Activities, is expected to start in February 2020 and end by April 2021. He added that the 3 Activities that would lead to the establishment

of a centralized national infrastructure for improved data access and information management are expected to cover one year (from November 2020 to November 2021).

On Output 3 of the project (“Five climate change indicators mainstreamed into the medium-term development framework”), he mentioned that the four activities would be undertaken from May 2021 to November 2022. However, four Activities will result in 3 Deliverables, he added. He ended his presentation by informing participants that the two Activities under output 4 will be conducted to ensure that a full version of the domestic MRV will be tested and piloted in two (2) selected NDC sectors (Energy and Transport sectors). He mentioned that these two activities would have components implemented in each year of the project lifespan (2020, 2021 and 2022).

3.5 Roles, responsibilities of the steering committee and technical teams

This presentation was delivered by Dr Daniel Benefoh. His presentation highlighted the arrangement for the management of the project. He started his presentation by introducing participants to the structure of the Project Steering Committee as well as the various Technical Teams or inter-organisational teams. He indicated that the PSC, which is referred to as the Project Advisory Board (PAB) in the project document, would be chaired by the Executive Director of the EPA and co-chaired by a representative from the MESTI. He added that the PSC is made of competent institutional representatives at senior level from state and non-state actors who have been carefully selected from the national climate change committee.

The PSC is tasked with the responsibility of approving annual work plans with budget lines as well as supervising the project progress and implementation of outputs. The PSC is expected to provide overall guidance and strategic direction to ensure management decisions lead to the timely delivery of quality outputs. Also, the PSC would provide strategic policy direction to the CBIT project delivery team (hosted by the Climate Change Unit of the EPA), which would serve as the secretariat to the PSC. Dr Benefoh presented the Technical team responsible for coordinating the outputs of the project. The technical team is made of three (3) Inter-institutional teams which are the MRV Governance Committee, Data Management Committee and the MRV & M&E Integration Committee. He concluded his presentation by listing the members of the three inter-institutional technical working groups or committees.

4.0 Discussions

Stakeholders/participants discussed and reviewed the membership of the committees and agreed on the membership of the PSC and the Technical Teams to be composed of various relevant institutions.

Project Steering Committee

The meeting agreed on the membership of the Project Steering Committee as:

- Executive Director, EPA
- Deputy Executive Director, EPA
- Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation
- National Development Planning Commission
- Ministry of Transport
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Energy
- Ghana Statistical Service
- Forestry Commission
- Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
- Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Ghana, Legon
- Ministry of Food and Agriculture
- Land Use & Spatial Planning Authority
- United Nations Environment Programme

The review of the membership of the technical teams are composed of the following institutions:

A. MRV Governance Committee

- Environmental Protection Agency
- MESTI
- NDPC
- The University of Ghana, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research
- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
- Land Use & Spatial Planning Authority
- Ministry of Gender and Social Protection

B. Data Management Committee

- EPA
- Ghana Statistical Service (GSS)
- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA)
- National Petroleum Authority
- Energy Commission

- Forestry Commission
- Ministry of Water and Sanitation
- Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet)
- CSO
- Ministry of Gender and Social Protection
- Private Sector: Volta River Authority
- Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA)

C. MRV & M&E Integration Committee

- EPA (PPME)
- Private Sector
- NDPC
- MESTI (PPME)
- Forestry Commission
- Ministry of Energy (PPME)
- Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (PPME)
- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (PPME)
- Ministry of Transport (PPME)

4.1 Comments, suggestions and questions and answers

Question 1: What are the roles of the National Climate Change Committee and the different committees in CBIT?

Response: *The National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) is the “mother” climate change Committee at the national level with different sub-committees operating under it. The National Climate Change Committee oversees climate change-related issues in Ghana and is hosted at the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI). Hence the CBIT committees would operate under the NCCC and report to it as and when required.*

Question 2: Why is the Ghana Meteorological Agency not included in any of the committees and they are relevant in the implementation of the project?

Response: *This would be included in the Data management Committee/ working group.*

Question 3: What happens after the 36 months of implementation of the project?

Response: *The PSC should ensure that the project is owned by institutions to ensure continuity. Also mainstreaming the project activities into national planning and budget is key for sustainability. The policy should be influenced once there is mainstreaming*

Comments: The NDPC should ensure that actions implemented in climate change on various sectors are captured in the Medium-term development framework

Suggestion: Institutions should propose another nominee for the PSC so that, in the event a nominee is not available, there would be a replacement.

Question 4: How will the CBIT assist Ghana to bridge the gap in terms of capacities of institutions to report on climate-related issues?

Response: Reference was made to the Activities under Output 1, and categorical statements were made that some of the activities are focused on undertaking a situational analysis of the institutions involved in climate reporting to enable us to identify the gaps to develop measures to address them.

Question 5: Will Activity 1.6 of Output 1 (review methodology for the preparation of energy, transport, agriculture and waste statistics) lead to harmonised data sets or methodology.

Response: An extensive analysis of the existing or current data platforms would be conducted to allow for the harmonisation of the new data requirements under the ETF.

Question 6: What informed the selection of the Energy and Transport Sectors for the testing and piloting of the transparency measures?

Response: Many initiatives are targeted at the Forestry and Agriculture sector, such as the REDD+. Energy is huge and therefore was selected with the Transport Sector as it has not received much attention over the period. Also, these sectors were chosen to avoid duplication with efforts that are ongoing in the other sectors.

5.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

As part of the Paris Agreement, an Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of climate action was established as one of the mechanisms to ensure the realisation of a global goal of limiting the average temperature increase to 2 degrees Celsius. The ETF under the PA is key to enable countries to track the progress of climate action. Based on this, under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, a Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency was established to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of developing countries to meet the enhanced transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement.

The Global Environment Fund (GEF) has been requested to support the establishment of CBIT through voluntary contributions, and this was established during COP 21. Ghana's CBIT project is a medium-sized GEF project which went through a two- and a half year's preparatory work to receive funding from 2020 to 2022. The objective of Ghana's CBIT project is to strengthen national systems to effectively and regularly track and report Ghana's NDC.

The project would enable Ghana to enhance gaps in institutional arrangements, develop an effective data management system and integrate and/ mainstream climate change into Ghana's Medium-Term Development Framework. Based on the above, the Agency invited representatives (twenty-eight participants) drawn from Ministries, Departments, Agencies, academia, private sector amongst others for an inception workshop on the 10th of March 2020 and discussed: (a) Project Background, Goal, Objective(s), Outcomes and Outputs; (b) Project Components; (c) Status of Ghana's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs); (d) Project Work plan and; (e) Roles, Responsibilities of the Steering Committee and Technical Teams.

Stakeholders/ participants discussed, reviewed and agreed on the membership of the committees, which included the Project Steering Committee and three working groups/ technical committees: (a) MRV Governance Committee (made up of 7 Institutions); (b) Data Management Committee (made up of 12 Institutions) and (c) MRV and M&E integration Committee (made up of 11 institutions). It was recommended that copies of workshop presentations should be sent to participants via email and the Final project Work plan should be completed and shared with the Project Steering Committee (PSC) for approval.

Appendix B: Photo Gallery



Appendix C: Presentations

Presentation 1

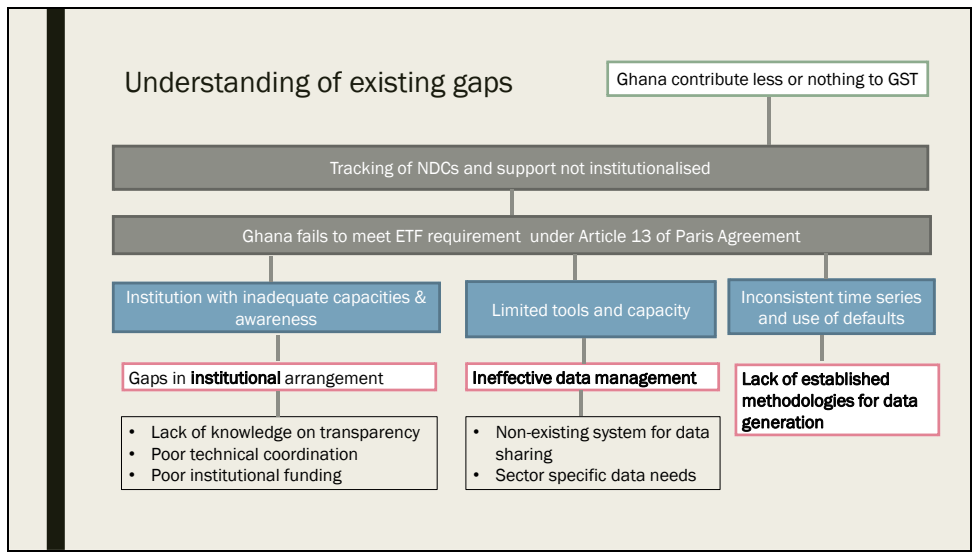
Setting the scene – CBIT context

Daniel Benefoh
Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana

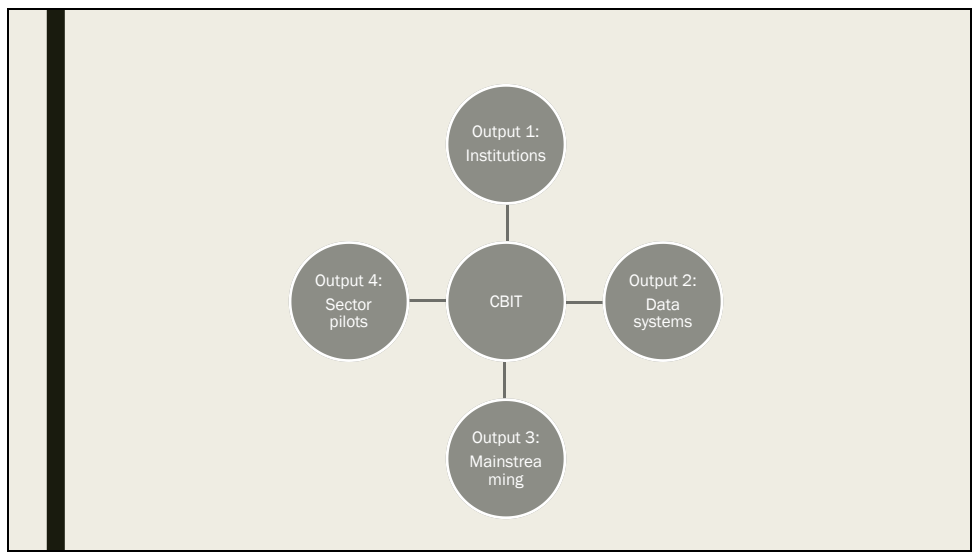


Overview of Ghana's CBIT

- Medium-size GEF project
- 2.5 years preparatory work
- Implementation period – 2020 to 2022
- GEF contribution – US\$ 1.1 million
- Objective: strengthen national system to effectively and regularly track and report NDC
- UNEP – GEF implementing partner



- ### CBIT outputs
- Four main outputs
 - Seeking to address the following aspects of the existing gaps
 - Institutions
 - Institutionalisation
 - Data management
 - Sector pilots



Institutional involvement

- UN Environment
- MESTI
- EPA Management
- CBIT delivery team
- Steering committee
- Inter-ministerial team
 - MRV governance committee
 - Data management committees
 - MRV & M&E integration committee
- Consultants

Quick stats

- 36 month implementation period
- 4 outputs
- 16 activities
- 3 technical committees
- Key words
 - Institutions
 - Data management
 - Institutionalisation and integration
 - Effective tracking and reporting NDC progress
 - Enhanced Transparency Framework

Thank you

Presentation 2

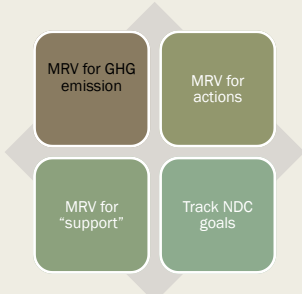
Existing MRV and getting ready for ETF

Daniel Benefoh
Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana

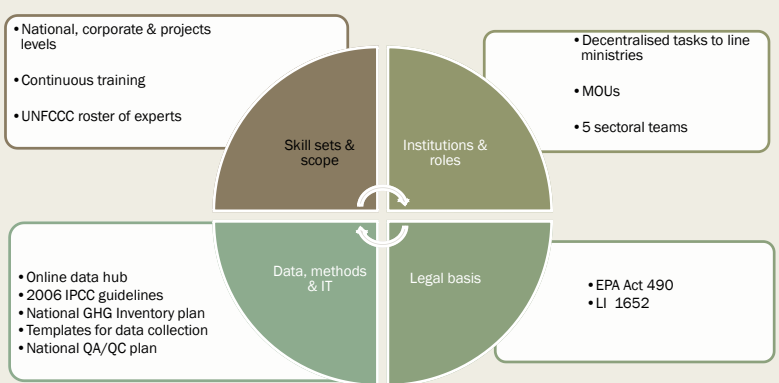
State of domestic MRV - GCARP

National plan to put in place and operate an "integrated national system" for:

- ✓ Continuous data measurements & collection on
 - GHG emissions (in place)
 - mitigation actions (new)
 - climate support (new)
 - track progress of NDC targets (new)
- ✓ Preparation & compilation
- ✓ Domestic disclosure and international reporting
- ✓ Technical and "policy" review (verifications)

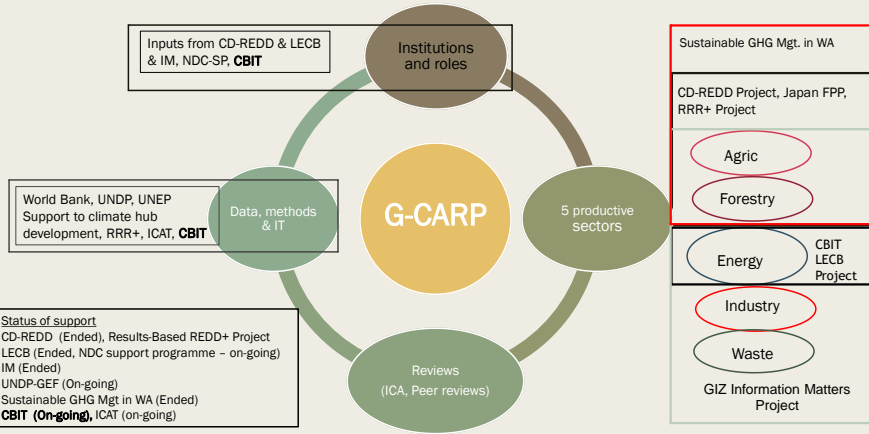


National arrangement and procedures



- National, corporate & projects levels
- Continuous training
- UNFCCC roster of experts
- Decentralised tasks to line ministries
- MOUs
- 5 sectoral teams
- Online data hub
- 2006 IPCC guidelines
- National GHG Inventory plan
- Templates for data collection
- National QA/QC plan
- EPA Act 490
- LI 1652

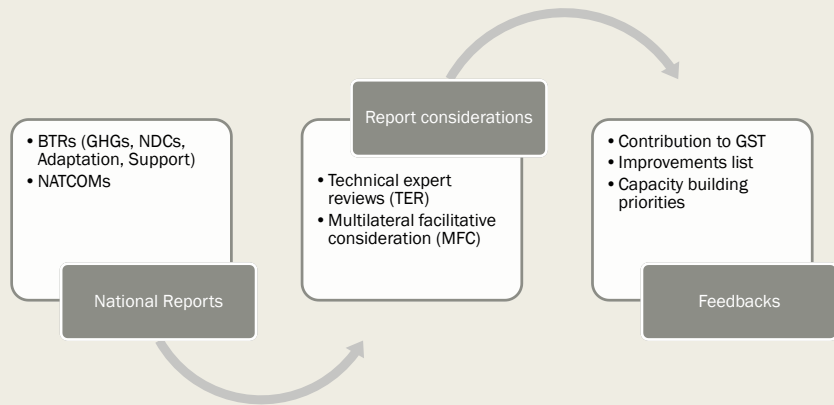
Capacity received with the aim to strengthen nation



Climate change reporting elements under the current MRV and future ETF regime

Items	UNFCCC Reporting			Paris Agreement Reporting
Type of reports	NATCOM	BUR	REDD+ National Reference Level	BTR
Frequency	Four years	Two Years		
Status	On-going	On-going	On-going	2023
Achievements	The third NATCOM submitted. Fourth NATCOM underway	Second BUR submitted. Third BUR about to start	First national REDD+ FRL submitted.	
Reporting elements	National GHG Inventory			NDC Progress
	GHG mitigation assessments	Mitigation actions and effects		Climate impacts and adaptation
	Vulnerability and adaptation assessment			
	Financial, technical and capacity needs	Domestic MRV		Support needed and received
Report consideration	Information on technology transfer, education, and awareness	Support needed and received	Technical Annex to BURs	
	No reviews or analysis	Technical Analysis	Technical Assessment of FREL	Technical Reviews
Post-report utility	No multilateral consideration	Facilitative sharing of views workshop		Multilateral, facilitative, consideration of progress
				Implementation and compliance Global stocktaking

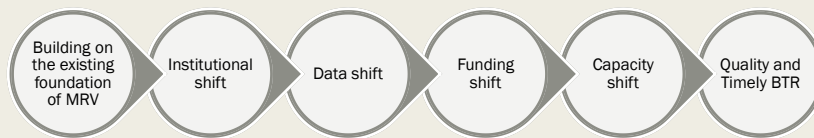
What is stake under ETF and the Convention?



What is new or not new

- **Content (rigorous and greater transparency)**
 - What to report – GHG, NDC implementation and achievements, support & adaptation.
 - In-depth report, justification for not being able to report elements, plans to fix them, progress in fixing them and positive impacts on reporting.
 - Links to Article 6 (Corresponding adjustment)
 - Links to GST or Periodic Reviews and Raising Ambition of NDCs ????
- **Frequency of submission of report (continuous reporting)**
 - 2 years (BTR, Adaptation Communication – Paris Agreement reporting)
 - 4 years (Convention reporting)
- **Considerations (stricter scrutiny)**
 - Technical reviews (will check beyond capacity needs and transparency.....???)
 - Multilateral Facilitative Consideration

Reporting under ETF require a shift by 2021



Ghana's approach – big, meaningful but gradual shift

- Government-wide system to deliver relevance, high-quality reports on time.
- Leverage on existing workable systems
- Capable, well-coordinated and functional institutions.
- Adequate funding
- Simple but workable data management systems
- Quality data
- Capacity development plan

Involve all

Share

Automate

Integrate

Embed

Value-addition

Example of institutional approaches

Public institutions (streamlining, new law on right to information law is game changer)

- Central government-sanctioned (legitimacy and authority)
- Staff appraisal (staff time on ETF must account)
- Career development (incentive).
- Workplans and strategic plans of institutions involved in ETF.
- Annual budget of institutions involved in ETF
- MoUs? Agreement? Or simply invoke institutional legal authority of EPA
- Involvement of local governments and the Academia (research data is key)

Other institutions (EPA Act 490 deals with them)

- Involvement of industry or facility level or corporation
- Access to research data need relook (cost and sharing research data, publication of research data)

Lessons from the existing MRV arrangement

- Full implementation of “domestic MRV” can be a **slow and “tough” endeavor**.
- Limited funds (**donor-dependent and no/low national budgetary allocation**)
- **Low visibility of MRV results** for policy decision-making.
- Inadequate access to good quality data (missing data, non-existing data)
- Capacity gap (involvement local government and private sector)
- General lack of awareness
- **Slow operationalisation** of planned institutional arrangement (it takes time to get what is on paper to become a reality).

Lessons from existing MRV arrangement

- MRV in practice works better with M & E systems.
- It is expensive and difficult to start all afresh by introducing new data collection regimes.
- There is **no need to reinvent the wheel**, what is needed is a **sustained orientation and continuous capacity**.
- What is important is to **pay attention to existing data systems** that are already working and strengthen it to work better.
- **Involving the national statistics offices** in data collection is a crucial success factor but there are real challenges with this approach (periodicity of data collection, entry points, gaps, cost, legal mandate.....).
- **Continuous investment in data collection** and putting in place data exchange system is indispensable.

Critical success factors

- Integration approach – build MRV into existing M&E system
- Phase-out approach – progressive improvements
- Decentralisation of MRV tasks to line ministries (long-term sustainability & ownership)
- Incentive for career development (acquire new skills)
- Continuous training of team members
- Dedicated team (leadership, commitments, motivation, consistent team)

Thank you

Presentation 3



CBIT Project Components


Juliana Bempah, EPA
EPA Millennium Conference Room
10th March 2020

Background

- Paris Agreement (PA) adopted bottom-up approach that allows countries to commit to specific national climate actions (Nationally Determined Contributions) → Global warming below 2°C
- Article 13 of PA → ETF of climate action → towards 2°C
- Article 13 applicable to all Parties but different compliance for developed and developing countries (period, scope and coverage of reporting)
- Developing countries → ETF mechanism envisages the need to build on existing MRV systems at the national level
- Existing MRV system (National Communications, BUR- ICA, **Establishing domestic MRV system**) → Bali Action Plan


Description of expected outcome of the project

- The development objective of the CBIT project is to
 - assist Ghana to strengthen its national capacity on transparency and ambitious reporting by improving on the functionality of the national system of the domestic MRV system (G-CARP) and
 - integrate into national M&E framework having identified institutional capacities and gaps
- Through this project, line Ministries will effectively coordinate and will be able to integrate NDC targets 2°C
- In order to achieve the stated outcome, the project focuses on four main outputs: -



Output 1: An effective institutional arrangement to plan, implement and report climate actions established.

- *Activity 1.1: Conduct Initial assessment of all institutions involved in the G-CARP and compile and rate related works, using the scale of 1-4*
- *Activity 1.2: Review institutional roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders and streamline the coordination functions; expanding the scope and number of institutions involved in the MRV work.*
- *Activity 1.3: Organize tailor-made training programmes for fresh entrants into the list of national experts*
- *Activity 1.4: Organize refreshers trainings for experienced national experts*
- *Activity 1.5: Organize regular peer exchange programs for Ghanaian MRV experts*
- *Activity 1.6: Review methodology for the preparation of energy, transport, agriculture and waste statistics*
- *Activity 1.7: Organize focus-group discussion (FGD) with the key national data providers on ways to improve preparation and publication of the statistics*



Output 2: A centralized national infrastructure for improved data access and information management established.

- *Activity 2.1: Establish functional & centralized data sharing network*
- *Activity 2.2: Develop templates and guidance notes in five NDC sectors*
- *Activity 2.3: Develop a verification manual for MRV of NDC Actions*

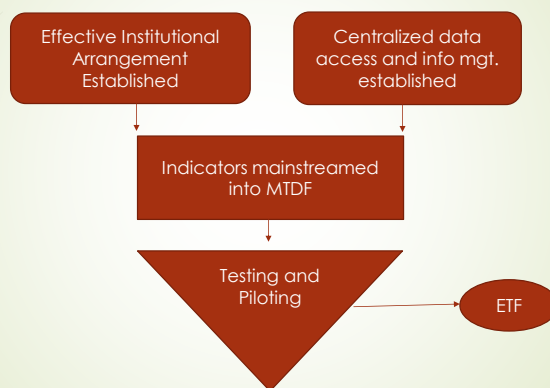
Output 3: Five climate change indicators mainstreamed into the medium-term development framework (Yr. 2020-2022)

- Activity 3.1: Develop indicators for NDC actions and incorporate into national M&E framework (APR) for long-term monitoring of sector-led climate actions
- Activity 3.2: Develop specific input/output indicators for selected sector NDC actions and incorporate them into the NDPC result framework for the 2018-2022 planning cycle and beyond.
- Activity 3.3: Organize three workshops on the development of climate-specific indicators for NDC sectors and the assessment of NDC policy interventions.
- Activity 3.4: Organize two consultative meetings for planning and coordination for key stakeholders in the NDC sectors to promote its visibility; stocktaking of achievements and evaluation of progress

Output 4: Testing and piloting of domestic transparency framework in Energy and transport sectors.

- Activity 4.1 Test and pilot transparency measures in the Energy and Transport sectors
- Activity 4.2. Communicate key lessons and best practices from the implementation of the CBIT Project

Conclusion



Presentation 4: Status of Ghana's NDCs

Status of Ghana's nationally determined contributions

Daniel Benefoh
Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana

Structuring, definition) (input, outputs, impacts, process, NDPC M&E, sector APR

- Global
 - *Continental*
 - Sub-Region
 - *National*
 - CPESDP (Agenda for Jobs 36 (5))
 - *MDTPF (4 years)*
 - SDGs
 - *Sector policy*
 - NCCP
 - a. 31 NDC Actions
 - b. 7 sectors

Our strategic interest

.....transition to "the" "sustainable prosperous future all Ghanaians want"

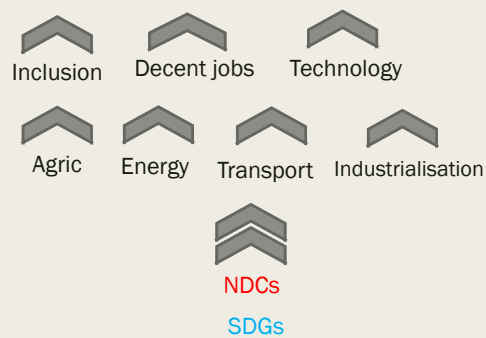
We determine:

the pace

how do it

What to do

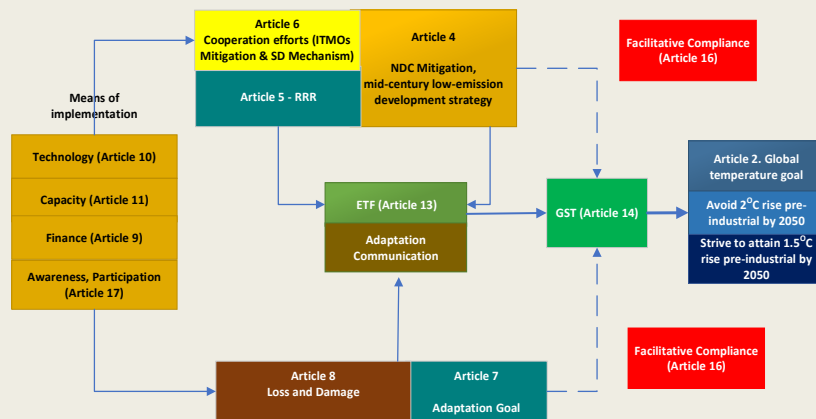
How to monitor and tell our story



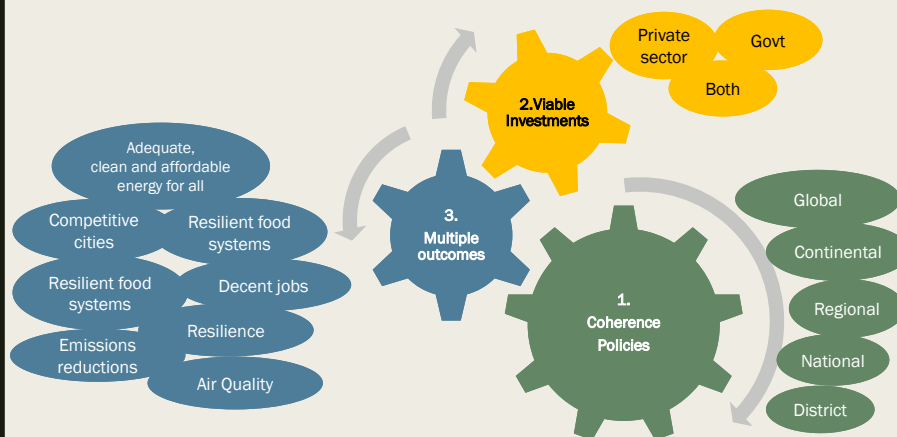
What are they? NDCs

- Development actions with climate imperatives
- Country pledges to reduce national emission and;
- Adapt climate change impacts toward;
- Achieving the long-term global 2 degree temperature goal;
- Contained in the Paris Agreement (PA)
- Features of NDCs:
 - Bottom up
 - Medium-term in nature (10 year outlook)
 - Option for 5-year update and submission
 - Linked to the mid-century low emission plan
 - Wide diversity in scope, theme and starting point
 - Nationally determined (national priorities, circumstances, capabilities)

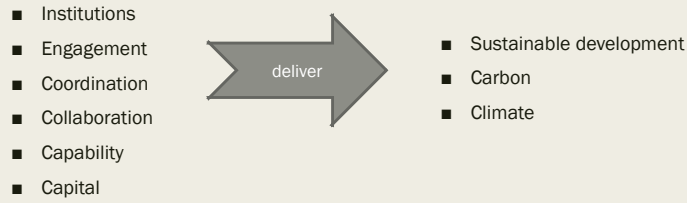
NDC is a global climate policy - mandate from the Paris Agreement



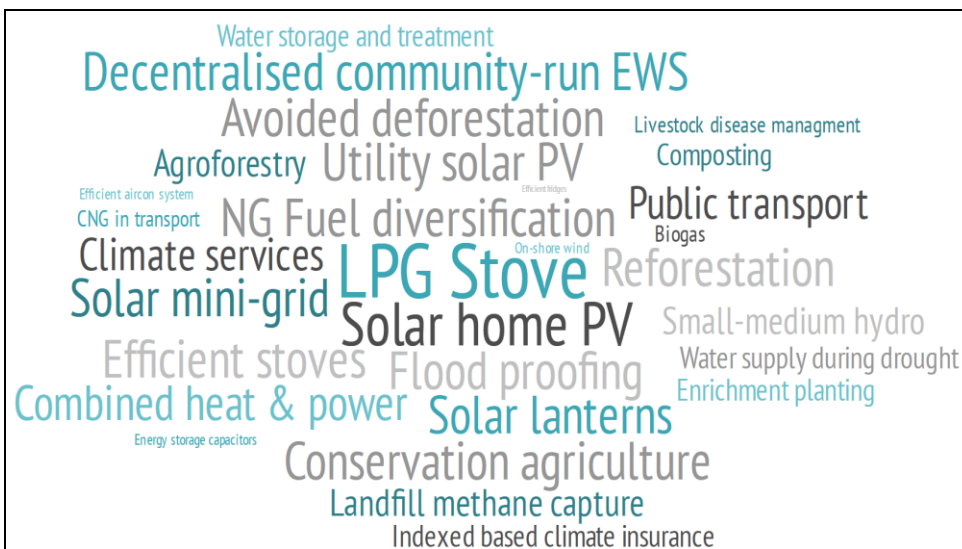
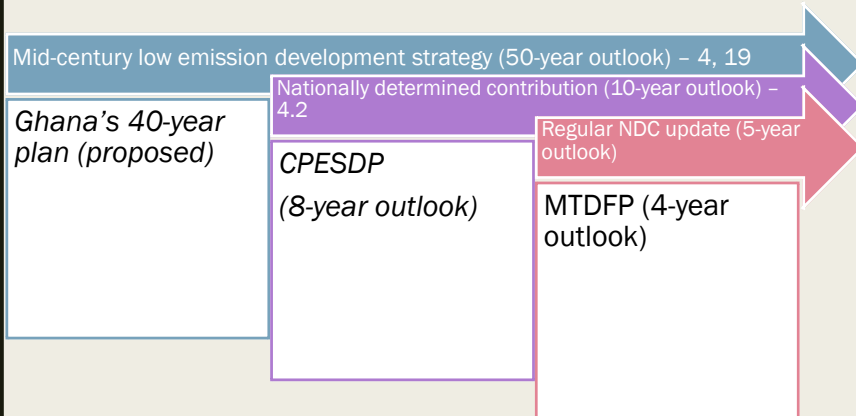
Our perspective of the big picture



Enablers – whole-government, whole-society

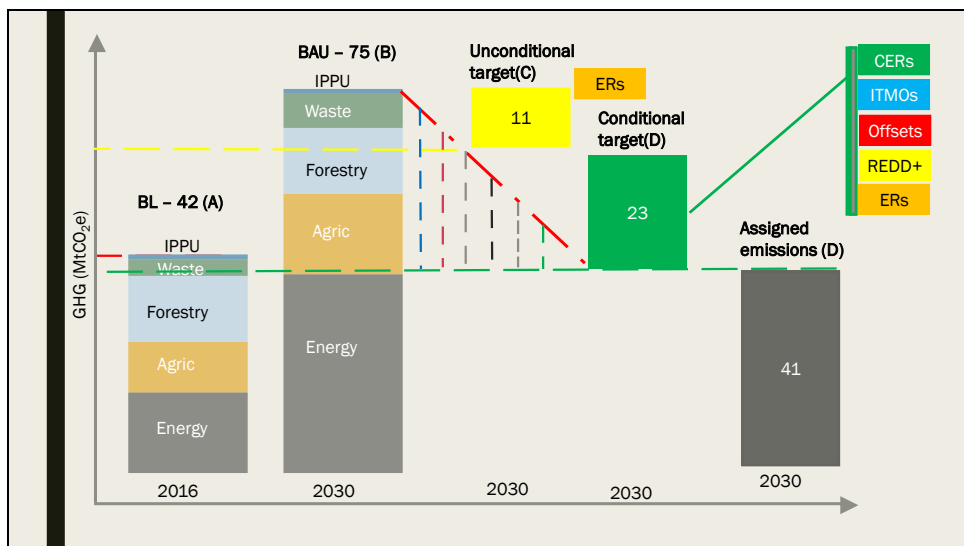


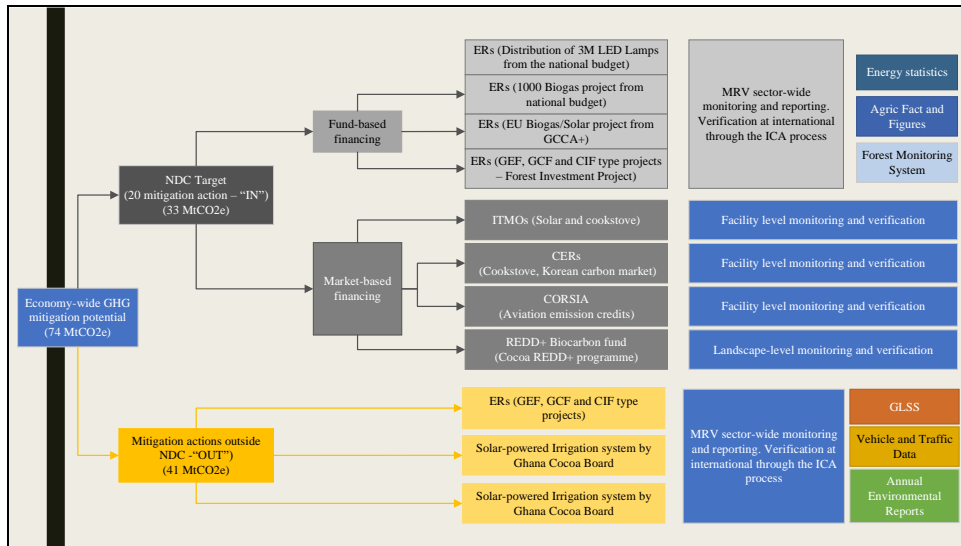
Alignment of PA to Ghana's national policy development



Overview of Ghana's NDCs

- 31 mitigation and adaptation actions
- 7 priority areas
- Cost \$22.6 billion over 10 years
 - \$ 6.3 billion mobilise domestically (including existing public investments)
 - \$16.3 billion international funding
 - Adaptation share (\$ 13 billion) and Mitigation share (\$ 10 billion)
- Timeline - 2016-2030
 - Pre-2020: 2016 to 2020 (first update)
 - First period: 2020-2025 (second update)
 - Second period: 2025-2030 (true-up period)





Implementation status – cross-cutting

- Incorporated NDCs into Agenda for Jobs
- Briefed inter-ministerial committee on SDGs
- Finalised draft NDC implementation plan
- Jointly developed indicators for tracking NDC with NDPC.
- Reporting progress of NDCs in Biennial Update Report to the UN
- Preparing national adaptation framework to support NDC
- Mobilising investments
- Implementing actions on the ground



Investments on the ground (government-wide - examples)

Low-carbon electricity, promoting renewable energy, adoption of clean cooking

- Invested \$13.2 billion in natural gas infrastructure (gas supply) in the 10 years.
- Increased annual installed capacity of renewable energy from 2.9 MW in 2013 to 42.7MW in 2017.
- Distributed more than 1 million improved cookstoves to households.

Lowering deforestation

- 20,000 youth to plant 10 million trees as way to increase the carbon sinks in Ghana.
- Invested More than US\$ 52 million in 192, 253hatree plantation development.
- Promoting climate smart cocoa production under REDD+ (\$ 50m result-based payment)

Alternative waste management (expanding composting capacity)

- Installed 600 tonnes/day capacity compost facility for the production of average 8,545.4 tonnes of compost

Investments on the ground (government-wide - examples)

Building resilience in vulnerable landscapes

- Investing US\$ 30 million of GEF and Adaptation funds grants to build resilience of smallholder farmers in the savannah drylands.

Coastal protection

- Invested nearly US\$ 670 million in 7 sea defense projects across the 560km coastline.

Tackling flooding

- Seeking \$200 million under the Greater Accra Resilient Integrated Development Project to improve flood risk and solid waste management in the Odaw River

NDC-related investments – Gov't flagship programmes

- Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ) - MoFA Linked to SDG1 and SDG3
 - Supplied 577,000 farmers with subsidised fertilizers and high-quality seeds for the 2018 cropping season.
 - 2,700 extension agents being recruited to support dissemination of climate-smart technologies.
- Ministry of Special Development Initiative
 - One district one Warehouse (1D1W) –50,000t warehouse capacity added in 2018
 - 570 small dams and dugout constructed or rehabilitated in Northern (310), Upper East (150) and Upper West (110) Regions in 2018
 - 1,000 biogas across the country.

Mobilising funds from the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

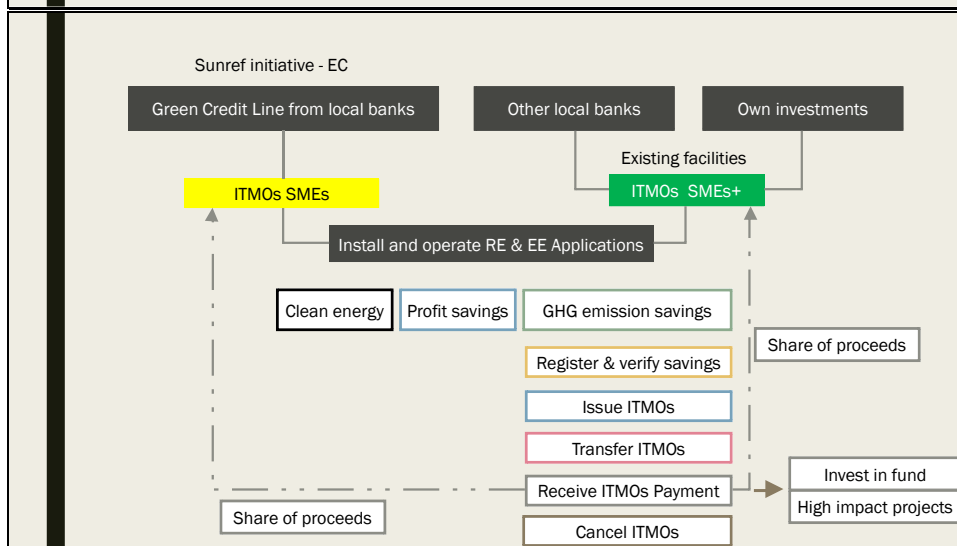
- Since 2016, the GCF pipeline at the Ministry of Finance has recorded 34 projects, all of which are aligned with the nationally determined contributions.
- *Three of them have been developed into full proposal and submitted to GCF secretariat.*
- *The total investment budget for the three projects US\$ 130 million. The projects are:*
 - *resilient landscape for sustainable livelihoods led by MoFA and EPA;*
 - *Shea landscape for sustainable livelihood REDD+ led by Forestry Commission and*
 - *Sustainable Energy Access led by Energy Commission.*
- Pipeline – Accra City Electric Bus Project (being designed with AfDB) led by MOT

Mobilising finance –market-based mechanism under Articles 6 &5

- Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs)
 - Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement
 - Country-to-country cooperation
 - Ghana- Switzerland Clean Energy ITMOs project being developed
- Mitigation and sustainable development mechanism
 - Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement
 - CDM-like projects will be rolled under this mechanism
 - Regional or international carbon markets
- Results-based REDD+
 - Article 5 of Paris Agreement
 - World-Bank FCPF (Agreement signed yesterday) to purchase REDD+ credits from Ghana

ITMOs with Switzerland Government (Pilot Article 6)

- Switzerland Government has expressed interest to get ITMOs from Ghana.
- Results-based payment model at commercial price.
- Ghana team has put forward renewable energy projects to generate ITMOs
- Draft concept approved by the Switzerland Government
- Working out detailed project document
- Developing bilateral agreement to guide generation, transfer and acquisition of ITMOs
- **Issues to resolve:**
 - Legal status of entity to issue and transfer ITMOs
 - Commercial Partner
 - Share of proceeds
 - Project design document and negotiate commercial terms



RRR – Forest Commission and World Bank (FCPF)

- Focus on promoting climate smart cocoa production.
- FCPF Carbon Fund commits to making initial results-based payments for reductions of 10 million tons of CO₂ emissions (up to US\$50 million).
- Covers almost 6 million hectares (ha) including 1.2 million ha of forest reserves and national parks and is home to 12 million people.
- <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/07/09/ghana-signs-landmark-deal-with-world-bank-to-cut-carbon-emissions-and-reduce-deforestation>

Hotpot intervention area - 3

Private sector, CSO, Govt

Hotpot intervention area - 2

Private sector, CSO, Govt

Hotpot intervention area - 1

Private sector, CSO, Govt

REDD+ ER
Issued

Emission reductions
Transferred to FCPF

Temporal Emission
cancellation

EU Biogas/Solar Project

- Focus on 20 public hospital and senior high schools in Eastern, Greater Accra, Ashanti and Western Regions.
- Energy Commission and EPA
- Agreement signed by the Minister of Finance
- Implementation modalities being developed
- Selection of facilities (not finalised)
- Pre-feasibility (completed based on 28 facilities visited)
- Feasibility study (yet to be done)
- Emission reduction intended to be retired on the national emission reduction target
- Key issue (risk issues)
 - *Design and management risk*
 - *Monitoring and trouble-shooting*
 - *Long-term sustainability*



How are we're monitoring



What are we to monitor?

- NDC Progress (baselines, GHG, targets, reduction)
- Investments (financial support – private, government and international)
- **Non-finance support (awareness, capacity, technology transfer, partnerships etc)??**
- GHG inventory
- Adaptation

- Our approach
 - *Integration (government M&E structures) and automation*
 - *Indicators*
 - *Matrix (deal with the matrix politics)*
 - *Show example*

Presentation 5: Project Workplan





Workplan for The Ghana Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Project

Tuesday, 10 March, 2020

Daniel Akwetey Lamptey
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Ghana CBIT Project Summary

3 year Project
(2020 to 2022)

| | |
|---|--|
|  | <p><i>Output 1:</i> An effective institutional arrangement to plan, implement and report climate action established.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 activities</p> |
|  | <p><i>Output 2:</i> A centralized national infrastructure for improved data access and information management established.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 Activities</p> |
|  | <p><i>Output 3:</i> Five climate change indicators mainstreamed into the medium-term development framework (Yr. 2020-2022)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 Activities</p> |
|  | <p><i>Output 4:</i> Full version of domestic MRV tested/piloted in 3 selected NDC sectors (Energy, Agriculture and Transport sectors).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 Activities</p> |

Outcome: NDC targets become a central part of Ghana's system for tracking and implementing progress towards its national development framework

Thank You

P