



**Webinar report:
Quality assurance (QA)/ Quality control (QC)
within the greenhouse gas inventory cycle
and the need for an improvement plan**

24 November 2020

QA/QC and verification activities improve the transparency, accuracy, completeness, consistency and comparability of national GHG inventories and inventory systems.

KEY MESSAGES

- ▶ Parties to the Paris Agreement are required to elaborate a quality assurance (QA)/quality control (QC) plan. This plan is a fundamental element of the QA/QC and verification system.
- ▶ They also are required to perform QA/QC and verification (V) activities within the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory cycle and develop an improvement plan.
- ▶ Meeting QA/QC requirements and increased accuracy in GHG inventories should be balanced against the need for timely reporting and cost-effectiveness.
- ▶ Parties can prioritize the QA/QC and V activities to be applied in their national GHG inventories based on criteria such as: key category and uncertainty analysis; methodological changes implemented; source/sink category characteristics; and GHG trends.
- ▶ All information, including the QA/QC plan and activities, should be documented and archived to foster transparency.
- ▶ Parties should report summary information on implemented QA/QC and V activities, key findings and planned improvements, along with their national GHG inventories.
- ▶ The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat, in collaboration with FAO, provides a new capacity building activity to support the QA of GHG Inventory Management Systems and national GHG inventories before their submission. Developing countries can participate in this capacity building activity, by requesting technical assistance through their national UNFCCC focal point.
- ▶ The QA capacity building activity organized by the UNFCCC secretariat is voluntary. It consists of an in-country workshop fully funded by the UNFCCC secretariat.
- ▶ The capacity building activity aims to support countries' national GHG management systems on a totally confidential basis as the QA results are not made public. Results can inform the national inventory improvement plan.
- ▶ It also supports the current measurement, reporting and verification system and prepares developing countries for the full implementation of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (by building technical capacity for the use of 2006 IPCC guidelines and Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines).
- ▶ It does this by helping countries set up and maintain sustainable GHG inventory systems. It also facilitates coordination and dialogue between institutions and key stakeholders involved in the national GHG inventory development.

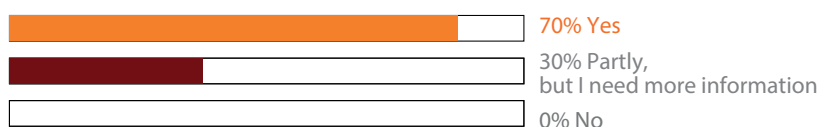


WEBINAR OBJECTIVES

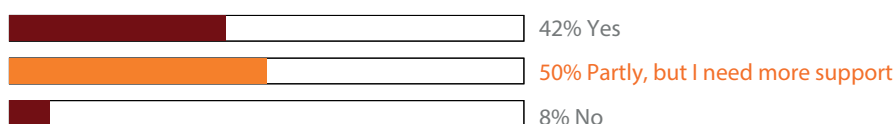
- ▶ Highlight the importance of the QA/QC as an integral part of a national GHG inventory management system.
- ▶ Present the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) requirements for developing and maintaining a national QA/QC system, including the development of an improvement plan.
- ▶ Present the QA activity organized by the UNFCCC secretariat upon request from developing countries, including its goals and benefits for countries and how they can participate.
- ▶ Present a country perspective on the QA activity based on the feedback from countries that have already undertaken the UNFCCC Secretariat's QA.
- ▶ Stimulate interaction between countries on their QA systems, their preparedness level and their challenges.

POLLS

- ▶ Do you have a clear understanding of what the procedures of the "Quality Assurance (QA), Quality control (QC), Verification (V) and Improvement Plan" within the GHG inventory preparation entail?



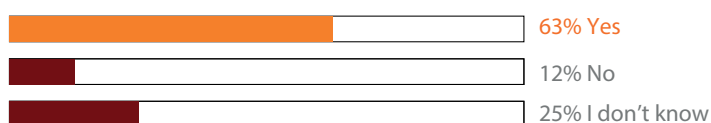
- ▶ Do you have enough knowledge about the new QA/QC & V requirements under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)?



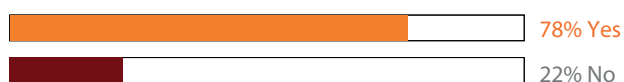
- ▶ Are you directly involved in the design and/or development of the national GHG inventory?



- ▶ Does your country have and implement a QA/QC & V plan as part of its GHG inventory system activities?



- ▶ Is your country utilising an improvement plan when preparing the national GHG inventory?



SUMMARY

The webinar focused on the QA capacity building activity on the national GHG inventory management system and GHG inventories. The QA activity is organized by the UNFCCC secretariat, with the support of FAO, upon request from developing countries.

The webinar covered QA and Quality Control (QC) within the national GHG inventory management system; the UNFCCC secretariat's QA activity; and how developing countries can participate in the latter. Developing countries can request technical assistance from the UNFCCC secretariat through their national UNFCCC focal point.

During the country experience sessions, Ghana (a country that participated in the QA activity organized by the UNFCCC secretariat) highlighted the importance of GHG emissions and removals information for informing policy. It noted the need for raising the visibility of the GHG inventory process and results among decision makers. Some internal challenges were faced when preparing for the QA voluntary activity. Nonetheless, Ghana recognized the benefits of participating in the QA activity.

EVENT OUTLINE

Moderated by Ms Alina Gerke, FAO
Technical support from Mr Nicolás Cenzano, FAO

TIME ON RECORDING	TITLE	SPEAKER
0:00	Welcome and introduction	Ms Alina Gerke <i>Climate change knowledge management specialist, FAO</i>
16:12	The main aspects of the QA/QC within the GHG inventory cycle and the need for an improvement plan	Mr Iordanis Tzamtzis <i>Climate change mitigation specialist, FAO</i>
28:39	QA activity organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat upon requests from developing countries Q&A (52:16)	Mr Dominique Revet <i>Team lead, GHG inventory support unit, UNFCCC secretariat</i>
1:06:09	UNFCCC Secretariat QA country perspective from Ghana Poll (1:21:49)	Mr Daniel Tutu Benefoh <i>UNFCCC focal point, Ghana</i>
1:25:27	Group exercise	
1:38:33	Conclusion	Ms Alina Gerke

See also

Video recording of the webinar:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rdGgdB1ymog&feature=youtu.be>