Transparency framework and ratchet-up mechanism under the Paris Agreement

Presented at COP 22 Side Event on

Empowering the Ratchet-up Mechanism under the Paris Agreement 18 November 2016 10:30-12:30 Japanese Pavilion

Neha Pahuja

The Energy and Resources Institute, India Contact: neha.pahuja@teri.res.in



Existing MRV Under UNFCCC

Differentiated Reporting and Review

✓ Annual Inventory

Developed Countries

- ✓ NATCOM every 4 years
- ✓ Biennial Reports (BRs) every 2 years
- ✓ International Assessment and Reviews (IARs)
- ✓ Expert Review Team (ERT)
- Multilateral Assessment (MA)

Developing Countries

- ✓ National Communications (NATCOM)
- ✓ Biennial Update Report (BURs)
- ✓ International Consultation and Analysis (ICA)
- ✓ Facilitative Sharing of Views (FSVs)
- ✓ Technical Team of Experts (TTE)

✓ Reporting:

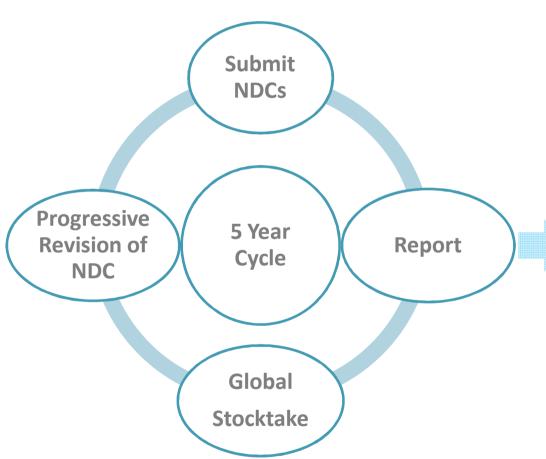
Differentiation

- Form: Differences in format; IPCC 2006 mandatory for AI; More similarities in content than diff
- Frequency: 2 year for BUR and BRs. 4 year for NATCOM and 1 year for inventory for AI
- ✓ Review:
- Form: In-Country, Desk, Centralised by ERT from roster of experts for developed country and centralised for BURs.
- Frequency: Ranging from Nil to 2 and 4 years
- Objective: Improved transparency for NAI; Improved transparency and Comparability for AI



What to report in the context of NDCs?

Apples Vs Oranges

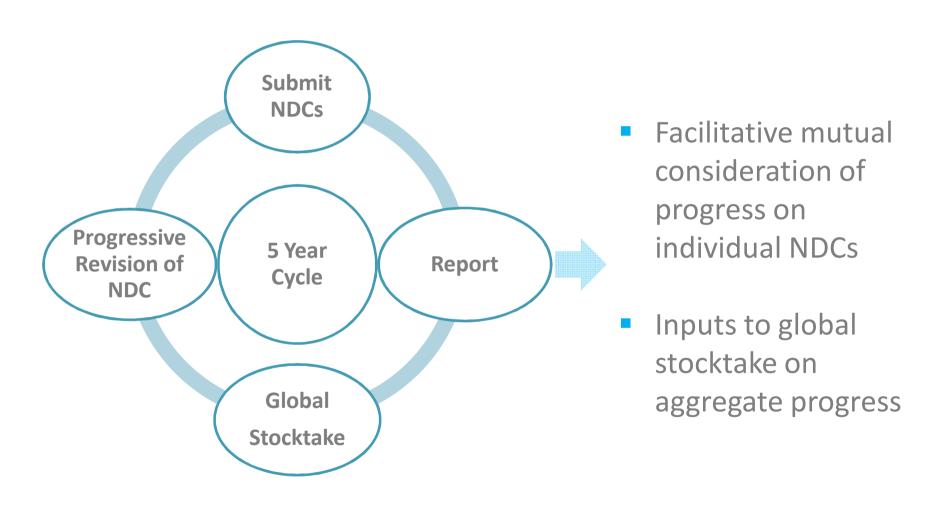


Information:

- Base year (Reference)
- Target year
- Target, including coverage and scope
- Data, methodologies used
- Means of implementation
- Support (finance, technology, capacity building)



How to review in the context of NDCs?





Enhanced Transparency Framework in Paris Agreement (PA)

Article 13.1: "In order to build mutual trust and confidence and to promote effective implementation, an enhanced transparency framework for action and support, with built-in flexibility which takes into account Parties' different capacities and builds upon collective experience is hereby established."

COP Serving as MoP to the PA at its first session to adopt modalities, procedures and guidelines

Purpose and linkages (Art 13.5 and 13.6)

- ✓ To provide clear understanding of climate action
- ✓ Tracking of progress on NDCs under Art.4 and adaptation under Art 7
- ✓ Inform global stocktake under Art14
- Support provided and received in the context of climate actions

Modalities and guidelines

- ✓ Facilitative, non-intrusive, non-punitive, respectful of national sovereignty and avoid placing undue burden on Parties (Art. 13.3)
- ✓ Build on existing experience from NATCOMS, BRs, BURS, IARs, ICAs (Art. 13.4)
- ✓ To be developed through first COP/MOP of PA

Flexibility (Art 13.2)

- ✓ Shall provide flexibility in the implementation of the provisions.... In light of their capacities
- Modalities to reflect such flexibility
- Review process to give attention to respective national capabilities and circumstances
- Review process to provide assistance in identifying capacity building needs



Avenues for Flexibility

Reporting

- Scope and level of details in reporting
- Frequency of reporting

Review

- Format of review (in-country, centralised, desk)
- Scope and level of detail of review
- Frequency of review



1

Same as existing: GHG Inventory, BR and NATCOM for developed countries

BUR and NATCOM for developing countries

Same as exiting: ERTs, IAR, MA, Incountry Review for developed countries

ICA,FSV for developing countries

Option 1: Carry forward of existing elements

- Why it is the best option?
- Being practiced currently, considers differences in capacities and capabilities of Parties
- Collective and individual past experience exists



- Why it is not the best option?
- What is enhanced in this option
- How does it link with NDCs and its progress



2

Same as existing: GHG Inventory, BR and NATCOM for developed countries

BUR and NATCOM for developing countries

Same as exiting: ERTs, IAR, MA, Incountry Review for developed countries

ICA,FSV for developing countries

Option 2: Carry forward, step up and gradually converge

- Why it is the best option?
- Considers differences in capacities and capabilities of Parties
- Allows for gradual building of capacities and convergence of all Parties
- Collective and individual past experience exists
- Ensures flexibility on when to step-up and how much
- Why it is not the best option?
- How does it link with NDCs and its progress
- Uncertainty in estimates



3

Same as existing plus NDC:

GHG Inventory, BR and NATCOM for developed countries; BUR and NATCOM for developing countries

Plus progress metrics on NDCs

Same as exiting: ERTs, IAR, MA, Incountry Review for developed countries

ICA,FSV for developing countries

Option 3: Bottom-up determination of flexibility (plus NDC)

- Why it is the best option?
- Links with the NDCs and its progress
- Considers differences in capacities and capabilities of Parties and allows for Parties to assess their own capacities



- Why it is not the best option?
- Uncertainty in estimates
- There is limited importance of capacitybuilding and enhancing capacities



4

Same as existing plus NDC:
GHG Inventory, BR and NATCOM for developed countries; BUR and NATCOM for developing countries
Plus progress metrics on NDCs

Same as exiting: ERTs, IAR, MA, Incountry Review for developed countries; ICA,FSV for developing countries; gradually converging

Option 4: Bottom-up determination of flexibility (plus NDC) and converging review

- Why it is the best option?
- Links with the NDCs and its progress
- Considers differences in capacities and capabilities of Parties and allows for Parties to assess their own capacities
- There is past experience with can be used
- Why it is not the best option?
- Reduced uncertainty in estimates



5

Flexibility in reporting form and frequency on pre-determined criteria. Eg. Different for LDCs and SIDCs Vs others.

Converging review for all

Option 5: Pre-determined flexibility and convergence

- Why it is the best option?
- Links with the NDCs and its progress
- Considers differences in capacities and capabilities of Parties and allows for Parties to assess their own capacities
- There is past experience with can be used
- Why it is not the best option?
- Reduced uncertainty in estimates
- What pre-determination criteria to use?



Summary of Possible Options

1Carry forward

Same as existing

Same as existing

2

Carry forward, Step-up and convergence

Same & converging

Same &

converging

3

Bottom up determination of flexibility

Same + NDC progress metrics

4

Bottom up determination of flexibility and converging

> Same + NDC progress metrics

5

Predetermined flexibility, convergence in reporting

Different groups

Same as existing

Same & converging

Converging



Key Messages

- ✓ Different capacities and national circumstances
- ✓ Lack of domestic infrastructure and technical capacity to MRV
- ✓ Capacity building on MRV is the key to enhanced transparency
- ✓ Flexibility needed and to be in-built to bridge the capacity gap
- ✓ Various ways in which flexibility can be in-built
- ✓ Can be introduced into scope, form, frequency and level of detail of reporting and scope, frequency and form of review



Thanks

neha.pahuja@teri.res.in

