



## **Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II A: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement**

### **Part I: Project Information**

#### **GEF ID**

10128

#### **Project Type**

MSP

#### **Type of Trust Fund**

GET

#### **CBIT/NGI**

CBIT **Yes**

NGI **No**

#### **Project Title**

Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II A: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement

#### **Countries**

Global

#### **Agency(ies)**

UNDP, UNEP

#### **Other Executing Partner(s)**

UNEP DTU Partnership

#### **Executing Partner Type**

GEF Agency

#### **GEF Focal Area**

Climate Change

#### **Taxonomy**

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Climate Change, Focal Areas, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, Nationally Determined Contribution, Paris Agreement, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Influencing models, Type of Engagement, Stakeholders, Information Dissemination, Gender results areas, Gender Equality, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Knowledge Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Generation, Enabling Activities, Learning

**Rio Markers**

**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 2

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 1

**Submission Date**

7/5/2021

**Expected Implementation Start**

8/1/2021

**Expected Completion Date**

7/31/2024

**Duration**

36In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

190,000.00

**A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS**

<b>Objectives/Programs</b>	<b>Focal Area Outcomes</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b>
CCM-3-8	Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency	GET	2,000,000.00	400,000.00
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>			<b>2,000,000.00</b>	<b>400,000.00</b>

## B. Project description summary

### Project Objective

To provide global streamlined support, capacity building and coordination to help developing countries meet enhanced transparency requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

<b>Project Component</b>	<b>Financing Type</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Project Financing(\$)</b>	<b>Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)</b>
1. Streamlined knowledge development and delivery in support of Article 13	Technical Assistance	Developing countries and practitioners increasingly access and use information and knowledge on new and existing reporting requirements	1.1 Existing Global Support Program (GSP) and CBIT platforms merged and redesigned into an integrated web platform  1.2 Platform content and features maintained and updated regularly  1.3 Knowledge products on the Paris Rulebook and other reporting under the UNFCCC, including associated training modules, updated, developed, and customized	GET	794,091.00	350,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
2. Global stakeholder outreach and dissemination of best practices	Technical Assistance	Developing countries can document and share progress, support needed and received, and good practice on Article 13 implementation , including gender mainstreaming.	<p>2.1 Annual stocktaking of progress, capacity needs, and support to all non-Annex I countries conducted</p> <p>2.2 COP side events and outreach efforts organized to disseminate results</p> <p>2.3 Coordination among support providers facilitated</p> <p>2.4 Assistance provided to countries with integrating the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan into enhanced transparency frameworks</p> <p>2.5 Fostering of south-south peer exchange in climate transparency</p>	GET	994,091.00	

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
3. Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Technical Assistance	KM & M&E	KM & M&E	GET	30,000.00	
<b>Sub Total (\$)</b>					<b>1,818,182.00</b>	<b>350,000.00</b>
<b>Project Management Cost (PMC)</b>						
			GET	181,818.00	50,000.00	
			<b>Sub Total(\$)</b>	<b>181,818.00</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>				<b>2,000,000.00</b>	<b>400,000.00</b>	

**C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type**

<b>Sources of Co-financing</b>	<b>Name of Co-financier</b>	<b>Type of Co-financing</b>	<b>Investment Mobilized</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>
Other	UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	400,000.00
<b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b>				<b>400,000.00</b>

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

n/a

**D. Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>
UNDP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	1,015,000	96,425
UNEP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	985,000	93,575
<b>Total Grant Resources(\$)</b>					<b>2,000,000.00</b>	<b>190,000.00</b>

**E. Non Grant Instrument**

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

---

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

**F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)**

PPG Required **false**

**PPG Amount (\$)**

50,000

**PPG Agency Fee (\$)**

4,750

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programmin g of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>
UNDP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	50,000	4,750
<b>Total Project Costs(\$)</b>					<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>4,750.00</b>

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	<b>Number (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at TE)</b>
<b>Female</b>	30	150		
<b>Male</b>	30	150		
<b>Total</b>	60	300	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

In the context of this project, beneficiaries are understood as individuals in non-Annex I / Developing countries receiving nonmonetary, targeted capacity support in the form of skills and knowledge through the unified website and its materials, project staff and consultants, and through project events such as the annual meetings, side events, regional events, and virtual events. The project targets were developed by extrapolating from information on previous participation in GSP and CBIT Phase I events, user statistics for the GSP and CBIT Global Platform websites, and estimates of the numbers of existing and new country-level CBIT projects over the course of the Phase IIA project. The estimates assume continued participation from existing CBIT project countries.

## Part II. Project Justification

### 1a. Project Description

The project is still aligned with the project design proposed in PIF. Changes in the approach and activities can be summarized as follows: 1) Activities and deliverables have been modified to reflect decisions taken at COP 24 influencing the reporting requirements of developing country parties. For example, this project will provide methodologies and tools in support of the requirement to submit a BTR by December 31, 2024. 2) Some wording has been modified to reflect the need for the project to provide comprehensive support for transparency for countries that may go beyond Article 13 requirements to elements of other climate change reporting, such as National Communications and BURs; 3) In addition to creating a feature on the integrated platform to support regional peer-to-peer learning, the project will pilot a coordination initiative for climate-related networks in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC).

While the overall budget requested for the project remains the same, the distribution has changed slightly. As a result of discussions with country beneficiaries, UNEP, and the GEF Secretariat, USD 100,000 has been shifted from Component 1 to Component 2 in order to pilot regional collaboration among complementary transparency initiatives under Output 2.2. Finally, as UNDP will conduct the terminal evaluation, the totals for agency project financing and fee requested have been changed to reflect this change.

The following table summarizes changes that have been made in the wording of outcomes and outputs.

PIF stage	Proposal	Justification
-----------	----------	---------------

<p>Outcome 1. Developing countries increasingly access information and knowledge in support of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement</p> <p>Budget: USD 909,091</p>	<p>Outcome 1. Developing countries <u>and practitioners</u> increasingly access <u>and use</u> information and knowledge <u>on new and existing reporting requirements</u></p> <p>Budget: 794,091</p>	<p>Wording updated, as the project will provide support for existing reporting requirements (e.g. National Communications) along with new reporting (e.g. Biennial Transparency Reports)</p> <p>The budget change resulted from the re-allocation of USD 100,000 to Component 2 to cover activities under Output 2.5 (Fostering of south-south peer exchange in climate transparency actions in the LAC region piloted? as a pilot regional coordination initiative and reallocation of USD 15,000 to the M&amp;E budget under Component 3 (see below).</p>
<p>Output 1.1 Existing CBIT and Global Support Program (GSP) <u>web</u> platforms merged and redesigned into an integrated platform</p>	<p>Output 1.1 Existing Global Support Program (GSP) and CBIT platforms merged and redesigned into an integrated web platform</p>	<p>Wording updated to reflect broad nature of platforms and for consistency.</p>
<p>Output 1.3 Paris Rulebook knowledge products including training modules updated, developed, and customized</p>	<p>Output 1.3 <u>Knowledge products on the Paris Rulebook and other reporting under the UNFCCC</u>, including <u>associated</u> training modules, updated, developed, and customized</p>	<p>Wording updated, as the project will provide support for existing reporting requirements (e.g. National Communications) along with new reporting (e.g. Biennial Transparency Reports). ?Associated? is added to specify that the training modules would support the knowledge products rather than focusing on additional topics.</p>
<p>Component 2: Global stakeholder outreach and dissemination of best practices</p>		<p>The budget total for Component 2 is now USD 994,091, due to re-allocation of resources from M&amp;E activities in Component 3.</p>

<p>Activity 2.2.4 Fostering of south-south peer exchange in climate transparency actions in the LAC region</p>	<p>Output 2.5 Fostering of south-south peer exchange in climate transparency actions in the LAC region piloted</p>	<p>The peer exchange activities in the LAC region are now a distinct output, and the activities under this output are now described in detail.</p>
<p>Component 3: Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&amp;E)</p>		<p>A stand-alone component to support knowledge management and M&amp;E activities has been created and funding for these activities, which was allocated from the amounts budgeted for Components 1 and 2 in the PIF, is now USD 30,000.</p>
<p>Project Management</p>		<p>Co-financing in the amount of USD 50,000 has now been allocated to project management activities from the total co-financing amount in the PIF.</p>

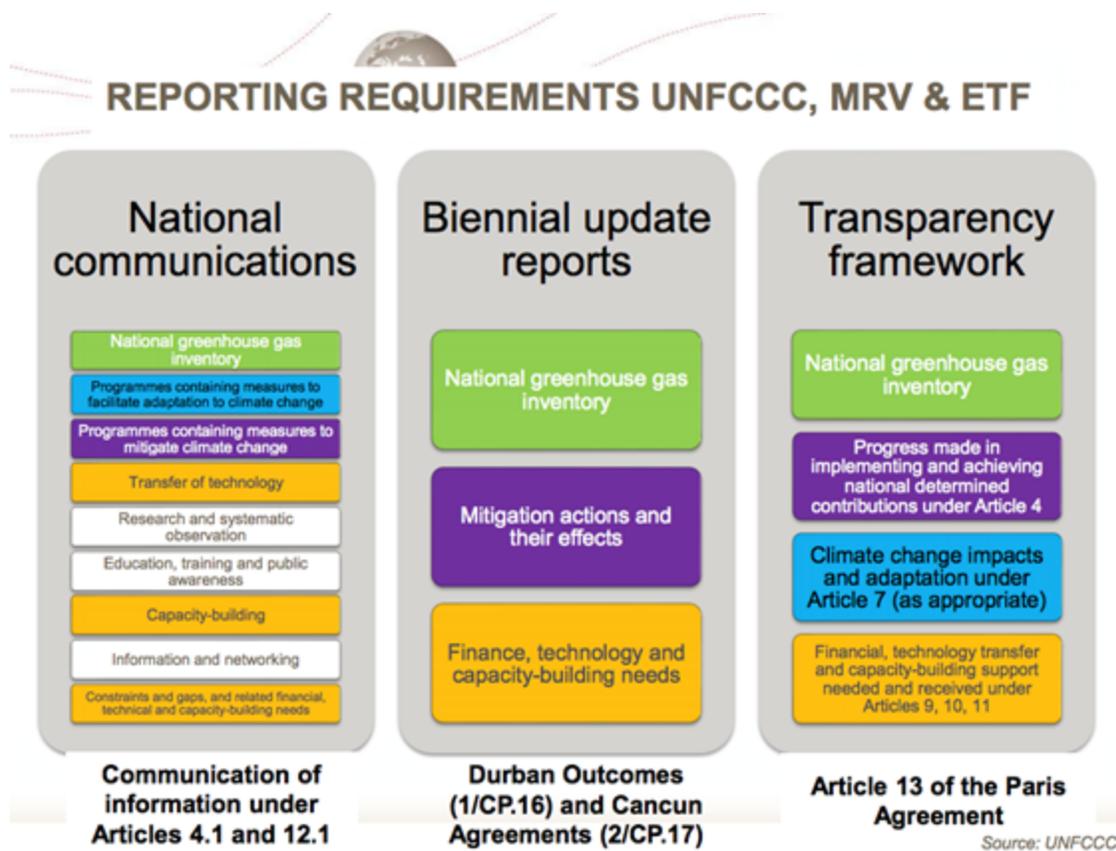
A.1. Project Description. Elaborate on: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing; 5) global

environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up. ?

## **Project Context**

The Paris Agreement signified an important turning point in the climate change negotiations as the global community recognized the urgency in facing climate change and agreed on a goal of "holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing significant efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels" (Article 2). Article 13 of the Paris Agreement is critical to implementation, as it provides the outline for an enhanced transparency framework (ETF) for countries through which they can report on the actions they take related to climate change and the support that they provide and receive. Since 2020, all Parties to the Paris Agreement both developed and developing, are expected to begin to comply with Article 13. The advent of enhanced transparency frameworks presents an opportunity to streamline measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) activities related to climate change by approaching the common elements of transparency activities in a holistic way. This approach can reduce the time burden and financial burden on developing countries. Figure 1 below provides an overview of current reporting requirements for Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. The figure highlights two elements: 1) The multiple sets of requirements; and 2) The common elements across these requirements.

Figure 1: Overview of Climate Change Reporting Requirements



In addition to these reporting commitments, countries were expected to submit a revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in 2020, followed by a subsequent revised NDC in 2025. It should be noted that progress in reporting under the UNFCCC and the Durban Outcomes and Cancun Agreements varies widely among developing countries. There are countries that have produced several national communications (NCs) and several biennial update reports (BURs), while other countries have yet to produce a BUR.

In the time since this PIF was submitted to the GEF Secretariat, requirements for developing countries have emerged. The Conference of Parties (COP) 24 held in December 2018 in Katowice, Poland reached a series of important decisions regarding transparency under Article 13, known collectively as the Paris Rulebook. The decisions outlined key commitments for all parties to the agreement and their timing during the 2020-2024 Preparatory Phase for reporting. Specifically, Parties are to submit a Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) by the end of 2024, which should include, among other items:

- ? A GHG inventory based upon the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) 2006 guidelines, which are themselves subject to recent refinement;
- ? Projections of GHG emissions and removals for a period of at 15 years beyond the next year ending in zero or five; and
- ? Reporting on progress towards achieving NDCs.

It is important to note that even countries that have not yet submitted a BUR must submit a BTR by December 31, 2024; therefore, the early phase of BTR compilation should be a key focus for technical support. Likewise, National Communications are still part of the UNFCCC reporting process, including when submitted as a single report with the BTR in accordance with decision 1/CP24, and the additional NC chapters required will continue to require support. In addition, there is an even greater need to avoid overlap with other reporting exercises, such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) monitoring, and to centralize the data collection and analysis for National Communications, BURs, BTRs, and NDCs.

At present, these multiple commitments represent a serious challenge to developing country Parties. While developing countries have an increasing number of methodological and informational resources at their disposal, many of them face persistent challenges in their capacity to monitor and report on climate change: a lack of data, staff shortages and turnover, a lack of individual capacity to conduct certain transparency-related activities, and others (see Table 1).

Table 1: Barriers to Compliance with Enhanced Transparency Framework Requirements

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Description
Limited or non-existent country-level institutional frameworks for reporting on mitigation, adaptation, and financial resources needed and received	Institutional	Many developing countries have some information systems that contribute to reporting in their National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs); however, these systems are often incomplete and unconnected. Countries often lack the legislative and regulatory mandates to obtain data from sectoral ministries or from the private sector on an ongoing basis, and the data received may not be properly formatted or vetted for quality.

<p>Limited or weak technical capacities to prepare solid quality reports</p>	<p>Organizational / Individual</p>	<p>Government agencies that are currently responsible for reporting and transparency are understaffed, and frequent turnover and administrative reorganization cause disruptions in the continuity of employees working on the reports. When staff are available, they may lack particular methodologies that would allow them to undertake impact assessments of mitigation and adaptation measures and vulnerability to climate change. In other cases, staff are fully occupied with current reporting obligations and lack the time and resources to interpret new developments related to Article 13. Furthermore, training materials may not be available in a format or language that is accessible to staff. Finally, some countries rely on external consultants for their inventories, leading in some cases to ?implementation without internalization.? In all of these cases, reports may then fail to address previous gaps, much less build upon previous results. These barriers are often symptomatic of an underlying problem: insufficient funding in governments to support staff who carry out transparency-related activities.</p>
<p>Absence of data and/ or difficulties in accessing data</p>	<p>Organizational /Procedural</p>	<p>Lack of activity data and/or data quality continue to be the biggest barriers to robust inventory compilation. New methodologies and reporting platforms being developed in many countries are limited in their effectiveness by an underlying lack of good-quality data. While data gaps and uncertainties have improved in the past few years in many countries, they continue to be a very important barrier to the quality and comprehensiveness of the NC reports, and the sustainability of the NC and BUR processes. These gaps will also hinder the robustness of NDCs. This barrier is closely related to the lack of harmonized institutional frameworks, as in some cases data are available but are not consistently shared, as described above.</p>
<p>Limited stakeholder consultation processes</p>	<p>Institutional / Organizational/ Cultural</p>	<p>Many countries lack the tools for broad consultative processes that include a wide variety of sectoral agencies and civil society, including the private sector and disadvantaged groups. A consultative approach is seldom part of the organizational culture of institutions leading those processes.</p>

Lack of integration of gender considerations	Organizational/Procedural	Although gender is mentioned in a number of NDCs, evidence in the form of national reports suggests that developing countries' capacity to support gender mainstreaming or to integrate gender-related climate change findings into sectoral policies needs to be strengthened.
--	---------------------------	---

Although countries face serious barriers to effective transparency activities, the introduction of enhanced transparency frameworks presents an opportunity to streamline MRV activities by approaching the common elements of transparency activities in a holistic way. This approach can reduce the time burden and financial burden on developing country Parties. Furthermore, there is an opportunity to share experiences and good practice across Parties, avoiding the need to devote valuable time and scarce expertise and funding to elaborate unique structures and approaches for each developing country Party.

## 2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects;

### Associated Baseline Support for MRV Activities

Developing country Parties have forged networks and relationships to support their MRV work that flow from the original UNFCCC reporting requirements. The National Communications Support Programme (NCSP), a UNDP-GEF project that was launched in 1997 to support non-Annex countries in the preparation of their Initial National Communications to the UNFCCC, piloted a number of activities?regional workshops, expert rosters, networking among country teams and thematic experts, and peer assistance?that are still considered good practices. In the area of developing country reporting, UNDP and UNEP have served and continue to serve as GEF Implementing Agencies for Enabling Activity projects that have supported numerous National Communications and ? following the Durban Outcomes and Cancun Agreements ? Biennial Update Reports.

The Global Support Programme (GSP), which is jointly implemented by UNEP and UNDP, was initiated with the objective of providing support to non-Annex I Parties in their preparations of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports. Since 2015, GSP has been providing technical support to all developing countries, complementing the work of other supporting bodies such as the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention. In the framework of the GSP, UNEP and UNDP have conducted national and regional training workshops and dialogues on issues of NCs, BURs and their components. Guidance documents were prepared and published, including translation of existing guidelines into other United Nations languages. To date, thirteen regional workshops (with 87 countries participating), 14 national workshops (in 12 countries), and six webinars have been organized, co-organized and/or co-funded by the GSP. The GSP has also assisted 32 countries in reviewing 25 GHG inventories, 10 NCs, and two BURs. Three regional networks have been established, and 16 countries have received request-based support, where GSP has reviewed technical terms of reference for experts.

In addition to a high level of activity, the GSP has had a truly global reach: it has engaged 113 non-Annex I parties, and 73% of all non-Annex I parties, 74% of all least developed countries (LDCs), and 71% of all small island developing states (SIDS) have participated in GSP activities. It has also been able to respond to all country requests to date.

In the course of the mid-term evaluation of the GSP, stakeholders interviewed uniformly expressed an appreciation of GSP support in terms of relevance, quality, and utility. With the advent of the Paris Agreement, UNDP and the GSP provided support to 32 countries compiling their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) from 2015 to 2017. That initiative included the development of an INDC portal, which served as a helpdesk for developing country Parties.

Collaboration between UNEP and UNDP in providing technical support to developing countries was further enhanced with the approval of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform (GCP) (GEF ID 9675) and its launch in 2017. The CBIT was established "to support developing country Parties, upon request, in meeting enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Agreement." The primary problem it was designed to address was the lack of a global coordination platform for information sharing and knowledge management on the enhanced transparency framework, as defined by the article 13 of the Paris Agreement. In the framework of the Global CBIT Support Platform, three global meetings have been organized so far in Copenhagen (April 2016), Berlin (April 2017), and Rome (May 2019) on the implementation of ETFs by countries with GEF-funded CBIT projects. Participants have included numerous developing countries along with a number of donors, developed country parties, and civil society organizations (CSOs). At the same time, both UNEP and UNDP have begun to assist countries in the implementation of national CBIT projects.

At the 2018 Berlin meeting, the global CBIT project launched the CBIT Global Coordination Platform (<https://www.cbitplatform.org/>). This web-based platform was established to promote peer learning among countries receiving CBIT support. CBIT projects in the GEF pipeline have country profiles on the platform, including key information about the projects, implementation progress, and the status of CBIT project activities and other transparency support initiatives. In addition, CBIT country-level projects have completed transparency self-assessments and have identified a CBIT focal point. Countries designing CBIT projects can use this assessment to guide the project design process and countries implementing projects can use it to track progress in building capacity and to inform design of additional transparency projects. The platform is also issuing bi-monthly status updates on the CBIT through the Transparency Snapshot.

During Phase I of the CBIT platform, it was primarily being used by potential CBIT applicant countries to design projects, rather than for sharing lessons learned. Initial activities on the platform included a series of articles interviewing country focal points. In addition, several webinars have been held to facilitate peer learning at the design stage, and that activity has continued during 2020. Peer learning activities will be designed to fit the needs of countries that have started the implementation phase of their CBIT projects (more than 20 countries as of November 2020).

Other Baseline Projects

Two types of baseline projects: GEF-funded CBIT projects at the country and global level; and donor-funded country and regional projects that are funded by sources other than GEF.

GEF-Funded Projects: More than 40 CBIT projects were approved during the GEF-6 funding cycle, including more than 10 projects from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and more than five from Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A GEF progress report released in May 2019 on the CBIT initiative found that the most common project activities in country-level projects fell into eleven groups:

- ? Enhancement and/or establishment of new institutional arrangements;
- ? Use of NDC transparency activities to inform policy design;
- ? Accounting and measurement, review and verification (MRV) methodologies for mitigation actions;
- ? Accounting and MRV methodologies for adaptation actions;
- ? Economic and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions scenario modelling;
- ? GHG inventory data collection and management tools;
- ? Enhancement and/or establishment of new MRV systems;
- ? GHG inventory improvements including development of country-specific emission factors and activity data;
- ? Capacity building, training, and knowledge sharing;
- ? Tracking climate finance, and;
- ? Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use (AFOLU) focused activities.

In addition to these country-level projects, there are two global GEF-funded CBIT projects implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO): CBIT-Forestry (GEF ID 10071) and CBIT-AFOLU (GEF ID 9864). The CBIT-AFOLU project is expected to produce methodologies and tools for tracking progress towards NDCs in the AFOLU sector, and knowledge products developed under that project will be relevant to many developing country Parties.

Other donor-supported initiatives: A 2019 analysis by the MRV Group of Friends identified 475 MRV / transparency activities undertaken by 21 donors. Several bilateral donors have initiatives to support MRV in climate change, such as the "Information Matters" project for ambitious climate reporting that has been managed by GIZ (2013-2019).

In addition to bilateral donors, several multilateral coalitions have emerged to support transparency. For example, the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) is currently developing an integrated suite of 10 guidance documents on various aspects of transparency, ranging from sectoral guidance in renewable energy and forestry to reporting on non-state action and sustainable development and transformational impact assessment. ICAT also provides capacity building for MRV systems for transparency in 35 partner countries, working very closely with developing countries to strengthen their capacity to assess climate actions and report their progress in line with the Paris Agreement, based on individual country needs. Furthermore, the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA), which describes itself as a semi-formal forum, has had more than 100 countries participate in its activities, which include regional technical workshops and knowledge sharing. The Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB), although not an implementing body, focuses on capacity gaps and needs. The PCCB relies on volunteers, and its activities have included

support for NDC implementation and cross-cutting issues, including gender equality. They have undertaken a six-country pilot exercise, and they have a web-based capacity-building portal. The Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for co-Innovation (PaSTI) was established in 2017 at COP23 as an initiative of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) in collaboration with the World Resources Institute (WRI). PaSTI is designed to provide value-added activities to existing initiatives on transparency, and it promotes engagement of the private sector and local government by identifying incentive mechanisms and developing critical tools. PaSTI has held several webinars on topics such as enhancing MRV in the private sector, and it held a side event at COP24. The EU-funded EU4Climate project implemented in the Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine) and supporting above all enhanced MRV systems and NDC implementation in the beneficiary countries. EU4Climate supports the development and implementation of climate-related policies which contribute to their low emission and climate resilient development and their commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. It identifies key actions and results in line with the Paris Agreement, the "20 Deliverables for 2020", and the key global policy goals set by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Furthermore, country cooperation has taken place at the regional level. For example, in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), country-level CBIT projects facilitated by UNEP and UNDP, PATPA activities, and the Latin American Network for GHG Inventories (RedINGEI), and the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (CCMRVH) have all supported regional exchanges of knowledge and experience.

Information on how these baseline projects and initiatives will be involved in project implementation is provided in Table 2 of this document and in the description of activities under Output 2.3, which is explicitly designed to enhance the coordination of support providers.

#### Baseline Scenario

Under the baseline scenario, the CBIT Global Coordination Platform (GEF ID 9675) will provide targeted report on transparency issues until approximately December 2019, when it will end. The GSP will continue to provide support for sub-regional networks and for reporting under NCs and BURs until December 2020, when it will also end. However, the need for country support will not end; on the contrary, developing country Parties will be grappling with new regulations under the Paris rulebook as Article 13 is operationalized through the implementation of the modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs).

As the GSP mid-term review found, "The global functions carried out by GSP as well as consolidation and sustainability of the regional networks beyond 2020 depends on further funding, e.g. from the GEF. There is a potential risk of a gap which could threaten the networks and partnerships established, since GSP is scheduled for completion in 2020". The GSP mid-term review also made several strategic recommendations for the development of GSP activities over the medium term; i.e., a subsequent phase that would depend upon additional funding. They include establishing one or more regional networks in Asia and providing staffing support within Asia to strengthen engagement; and strengthening the voice of developing countries in project oversight by including a representative on

the Project Steering Committee. These elements are all included in proposed Phase II activities, but in the absence of funding support for Phase II, they will not be realized. In summary, there is an acute need to ensure sustainability and combined implementation of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and the Global Support Programme beyond 2019 and 2020, respectively. This need is clearly stated under Paragraph 14 of Article 13 itself, which states that "Support shall also be provided for the building of transparency-related capacity of developing country Parties on a continuous basis."

At the same time, UNEP and UNDP are aware that continuation of both the GSP and Global CBIT Support Platform as separate initiatives under the Paris Agreement is likely to create a duplication of effort. GSP was launched under the UNFCCC Convention, whereas the Global CBIT Support Platform was launched under the Paris Agreement. This fact is acknowledged in the Paris Agreement, whereby Paragraph 74(a) of the Paris Agreement clearly states that part of the 2016-2020 work plan should assess how to increase synergies through cooperation and avoid duplication among existing bodies [or initiatives] established under the Convention. Countries will be best able to address reporting requirements through unified tracking systems, and as they move towards unified frameworks, they will best be supported by a unified web platform.

### **3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project;**

#### Proposed Alternative Scenario

The proposed approach consists of two sequential projects that will merge the management and delivery of capacity development for transparency: this CBIT Phase II MSP (IIA) and a Full-Sized Project (IIB). Originally designed as a single Phase II project, the project was divided into two parts in order to ensure the allocation of funding that was available through the CBIT set-aside under GEF-6. Phase IIA focuses on a single, streamlined platform for knowledge delivery, support for knowledge products, and global stocktaking and dissemination of best practices—all elements that require funding early in Phase II. Phase IIB will continue support for the integrated web platform after the Phase IIA project finishes, but it will also provide targeted technical support and training for developing country parties and south-south sub-regional networks and learning.

CBIT Phase II, comprised of the Phase IIA and IIB projects, will use three main strategies in its approach. First, it will build on the successful foundation of ongoing delivery models and leverage long-standing South-South networks and relationships with developing countries. Its activities will draw upon successful approaches that have been identified and refined over time through feedback from consultations and external evaluations.

Second, CBIT Phase II will use an agile approach to address new issues related to Article 13 as they arise. As with Phase I, it will maintain flexibility to be responsive to, and integrate, evolving COP guidance related to the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) for the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement. Because the project emphasizes stakeholder participation, it will be able to mobilize experts and respond to changes in the climate policy landscape as they emerge. It is assumed that guidance regarding the MPGs will continue to develop, and the global program will

be well positioned to disseminate information and provide support in complying with additional guidance from the COP.

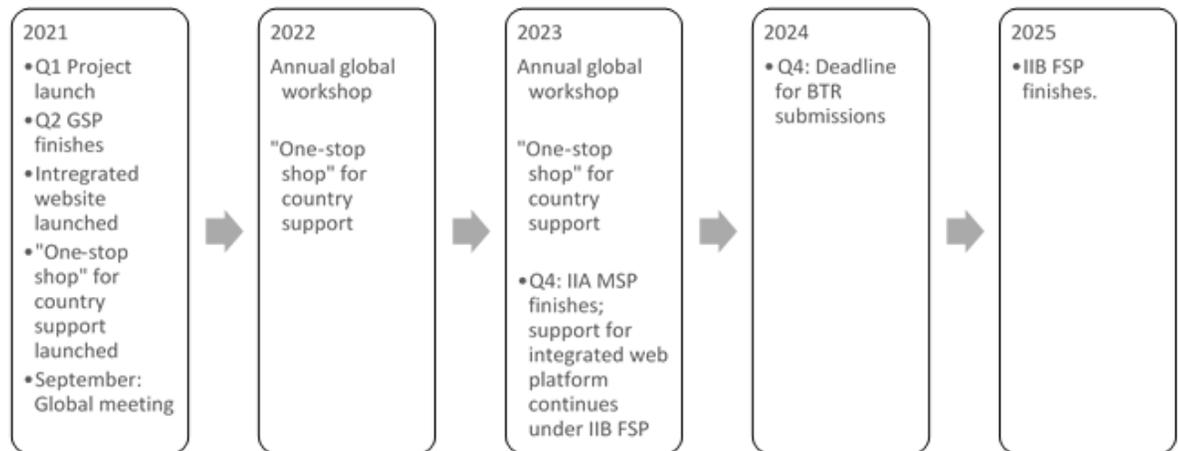
Third, CBIT Phase II will utilize a partnership model for delivery. The integration of the GSP and CBIT support to countries will utilize the combined expertise and country networks of UNEP and UNDP under a common initiative with joint management, which will simplify country participation. The project will also continue to provide facilitation support for the delivery of the UNFCCC Secretariat work programmes and the work of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE).

The CBIT Global Coordination Platform project (Phase I) finished in February 2020, and it is currently undergoing an external terminal evaluation, which is expected to be completed by the end of December 2020.

The integration is designed to provide continuous support for countries through the end of 2025 while avoiding overlap in activities. It should be noted that the website maintenance and support activities in IIA and IIB will be sequential; i.e., IIB will begin to support these activities following the closure of IIA.

Figure 2 provides an overview of the envisaged integration of the provision of information and technical assistance currently being carried out by CBIT Phase I and the GSP into the unified global coordination platform.

Figure 2: Proposed Timeline of Project Coordination



Due to the current timing of the project inception, UNDP and UNEP will be able to manage IIA and IIB as they were originally conceived; i.e., as a single initiative. The IIA MSP will merge the website and support global stocktaking and other side events, while the IIB FSP will merge the provision of services to countries. A single project management arrangement for both projects will ensure continuity and avoid overlap.

This proposed approach will be increasingly important as the size of the GEF portfolio of CBIT-funded projects grows. In addition to the CBIT projects that have already been approved, USD 164 million is earmarked for CBIT projects and enabling activities under GEF 7. However, many more developing countries will not have a CBIT project but will nonetheless be required to submit a BTR in 2024. Phase II outputs and outreach strategies will be designed to maximize outreach and support to all developing country Parties.

### **Project Strategy**

The overall objective of the project is to provide streamlined support and capacity building at the country, regional, and global level to improve reporting capacity of countries and enhanced transparency frameworks to allow developing countries to meet commitments under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The outcomes of the project are as follows: 1) Developing countries and practitioners increasingly access and use information and knowledge on new and existing reporting requirements; and 2) Developing countries can document and share progress, support needed and received, and good practice on Article 13 implementation, including gender mainstreaming.

The project is composed of two components: 1) Streamlined knowledge development and delivery in support of Article 13; and 2) Global stakeholder outreach and dissemination of best practices.

### **Component 1: Streamlined development and delivery of knowledge in support of Article 13**

Component 1 seeks to provide developing countries with a holistic source of information and knowledge related to transparency and a web platform for online peer learning. It focuses on merging two existing web platforms related to transparency—CBIT and GSP—and maintaining the core services provided under those web platforms while expanding the resources and learning materials available through the development of new guidance publications and training modules. In this way, the new transparency web platform will become a “one-stop shop” for information related to Article 13 and transparency more broadly.

The requirements in the “Paris Rulebook,” or the detailed rules and procedures that will govern the implementation of the Paris Agreement, will continue to evolve over time, providing guidance to countries on how to report on their efforts related to climate change and the commitments that they have made in the form of Nationally Determined Contributions. In addition, the release of the rules provides an opportunity to structure country-level transparency frameworks in such a way as to optimize reporting under other UNFCCC commitments. However, in both cases, developing countries will require additional support and guidance on interpreting the rulebook and implementing it with the least additional time and expense possible. The structure of BTRs, the introduction of the IPCC 2006 guidelines for national GHG inventories (or their modification according to the 2019 refinement), and reporting on progress towards NDCs necessitate new guidance and knowledge for all Parties. Under this project component, the web platform will accommodate resources related to the Paris rulebook through a designated knowledge base area as they become available and will develop its own

knowledge products, including the associated training modules and best practice case studies, as necessary.

Finally, specific activities will also support women's active participation in knowledge generation and active use of the integrated platform.

Component 1 will be implemented by UNEP and executed by the UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP).

Output 1.1 Existing CBIT and GSP platforms merged and redesigned into an integrated web platform

UNDP and UNEP currently provide transparency-related information to developing countries and other stakeholders through two internet websites. The first, the Global Support Programme website ([www.un-gsp.org](http://www.un-gsp.org)), provides information and resources designed to strengthen capacity related to the preparation of NCs and BURs. The second website, the CBIT Global Coordination Platform ([cbitplatform.org](http://cbitplatform.org)) through UDP, focuses explicitly on strengthening capacity to undertake transparency arrangements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement and provides information on and support to countries that are implementing projects under the GEF CBIT funding mechanism.

The integrated web platform will initially contain five modules:

- 1) Information on ongoing and upcoming in-country, regional and global transparency initiatives through a project database, mailing list, events forum, analytics, and a global snapshot with certain periodicity;
- 2) Country profiles with information on progress on NCs and BURs, self-assessed needs, and CBIT national projects;
- 3) A library of practices, methodologies, and guidance, including guidance materials on the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the Paris Rulebook and archived materials from the previous websites;
- 4) Information exchange and on-line tools for peer learning, including a feature that will allow the platform to serve as a point of coordination for regional MRV and transparency networks; and
- 5) A "one-stop shop" for requesting assistance with country-level reports and transparency issues.

In subsequent phases, these modules can be expanded, institutionalizing the platform as the go-to destination for transparency practitioners as an all-encompassing information source. However, key features of each site will remain: for example, the self-assessment tool and self-progress reporting for CBIT participant countries will remain in place based on the roadmap for platform developed under CBIT Phase I or the audiovisual resources developed under the GSP.

MRV experts in developing countries are often involved both in reports to the UNFCCC and in current discussions on Article 13. Therefore, the merger of the websites will simplify their searches for information and resources on transparency issues. In cases where users are familiar with only one of the websites, the merger will increase the resources that they access. In summary, an integrated platform will establish a unified virtual space for all national and international stakeholders interested in gathering information on MRV and the enhanced transparency framework and in following the implementation status of NCs, BURs, BTRs, and CBIT projects and practices.

Activities under this output will include the following:

- 1.1.1 Conduct requirements elicitation, including focus groups or surveys with different user groups and analyze usage patterns (disaggregated by gender)
- 1.1.2 Review and analyze existing, relevant climate change information portals and user traffic on the two current websites and propose a re-branding strategy, including a new logo, for the unified website
- 1.1.3 Design integrated website, evolving the existing features and the additional features, and conduct a usability study and beta testing at the prototype stage
- 1.1.4 Program the integrated platform, including search engine optimization
- 1.1.5 Conduct functional, performance, and integration tests on the integrated platform
- 1.1.6 Develop and implement a website maintenance plan, including continuous software updates, data privacy and data security issues, regular backups, code repository and software version controls
- 1.1.7 Develop and implement a communications/re-branding strategy to inform users and potential users about the merge and publicize the launch of the integrated website
- 1.1.8 Survey users periodically after the website becomes operational and incorporate their feedback into the site design and features

Deliverables under Output 1.1 consist of the operational integrated platform and corresponding reports on website analytics every six months following the launch of the platform; a maintenance plan for the platform; a branding strategy and vision for the integrated platform; a website area for on-line regional transparency initiatives and corresponding reports on its use every six months; and a "one-stop shop" interface for requesting assistance with country-level reports and transparency issues, including reports on its usage every six months.

Output 1.2 Platform content and features maintained and updated regularly

Both existing websites contain content and features that are directly relevant to users seeking information and resources related to transparency. At present, the GSP website contains information by topic, and it also provides recent topical documents, resources such as infographics and video clips, good practice country reports, materials and information from past training and networking events, and country information pages. In addition, the website maintains a roster of experts on various aspects of NCs and BURs who can provide support to countries. Finally, the GSP produces a newsletter that circulates to interested countries and to other stakeholders. The CBIT website maintains a project database of CBIT projects, and it provides news and interviews on transparency issues. It also contains a library for information and materials from global and regional meetings.

Good knowledge management of the integrated web platform created under Output 1.1 will ensure that it is a valuable resource for countries seeking information and support. There will be a need to edit and curate content, and to draft case studies and project summaries when necessary. Content development will be managed by the global level of the web platform, which will allow it to disseminate results from countries without adding to the time burden of country experts related to writing up results and sharing

information. Other content will be developed by countries within the framework of their GEF CBIT projects.

The coordination and capacity-generating efforts of the integrated website will be made easily digestible for all practitioners through a regular output: the "transparency snapshot." This knowledge will be disseminated through a factsheet, providing a regular summary of needs and gaps in line with information available in the platform's database. The website will also facilitate peer-to-peer discussions among developing country parties with common interests through a platform moderated by project experts.

Finally, the management of the platform will also take steps to encourage active engagement by women users: e.g., support articles and content written by women; encourage women's participation in peer learning exchanges and events such as webinars. It will also track platform engagement by gender where possible.

Activities under this output will include the following:

- 1.2.1 Develop a knowledge management workplan for regular content creation, maintenance, and curation on the integrated platform, including the progress reporting tool for participating CBIT countries
- 1.2.2 Maintain and update the technical content of the website, including search engine optimization
- 1.2.3 Track and analyze country queries, downloads, etc. in order to inform future content.
- 1.2.4 Facilitate expert-moderated online peer learning / knowledge sharing through the regional network coordination feature
- 1.2.5 Track platform engagement by gender where possible

Deliverables under Output 1.2 consist of a knowledge management plan for updating content on the integrated website and content that is maintained and updated over the course of the project.

Output 1.3 Knowledge products on the Paris Rulebook and other reporting under the UNFCCC, including associated training modules and best practice case studies, updated, developed, and customized

With the decisions undertaken at COP 24 in December 2018 on reporting under the Paris Agreement, countries must align their current climate change-related MRV systems with the requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework envisioned under Article 13. The advent of new requirements represents a serious time and resource burden for developing countries, particularly in smaller countries or least developed countries, which are already stretched thin in their efforts to comply with existing reporting under the UNFCCC and other COP decisions. However, because the rulebook is new to all parties, there is an opportunity to align enhanced transparency frameworks and to benefit from the structures and approaches that will be identified by developed country and "first mover" developing country parties for their reporting. It is expected that knowledge products developed under this output will be particularly valuable for developing countries in the preparation of BTRs, including countries

that do not have a GEF CBIT project. As a part of BTR guidance, it will be necessary to support various aspects of the BTR. These include inventories, for which countries must use the IPCC 2006 guidelines, take into account the 2019 modification, and report consistent annual time series from 1990 with the latest reporting year no more than two years prior to the BTR. They also include NDC tracking and projections of GHG sources and sinks at least 15 years into the future. In addition, the 'preparatory' phase for BTRs, which will take place during the implementation of the Phase II project, will allow countries that are interested to begin to incorporate BTR elements into their BUR reporting. Most countries with GEF CBIT projects have requested support for inventory improvements and inventory tools (73% and 70%, respectively); however, only 18% have requested support for scenario modeling, indicating that there may be an increased need for support from the global program in this area.

Knowledge products will be coordinated closely with stakeholders in the donor community (see Section II.2) in order to avoid overlap. The selection of topics will also be influenced by demand as expressed in feedback from CBIT project countries, other developing country Parties, and the pilot peer-to-peer learning network, and they may include different areas of reporting, such as systematic reporting on needs and gaps or financial resources received.

Activities under this output will include the following:

- 1.3.1 Survey existing awareness-raising and training materials related to the Paris Rulebook to identify needs
- 1.3.2 Develop a work plan for producing new reports and training modules on emerging issues (enhanced transparency frameworks and the Paris rulebook, gender mainstreaming) and updates of existing handbooks and associated training modules on climate change MRV, including a plan for translation of all guidance into key participant languages as needed
- 1.3.3 Refine the CBIT Phase I self-assessment tool
- 1.3.4 Integrate good-practice templates and successful approaches to reporting issues from participating countries into training materials and other knowledge products (webinars, audio briefings, web content, etc.)

Deliverables under Output 1.3 consist of at least three guidance documents on climate transparency, a report on the updated results from self-assessment questionnaires, reports from at least three annual webinars, and at least three good practice briefs.

## **Component 2: Global stakeholder outreach and dissemination of best practices**

In the framework of the Global CBIT Support Platform, three global meetings have been organized so far (see description under Output 2.1). Future events will serve several purposes. First, they will allow the project to present a real-time 'transparency snapshot' of how countries are progressing in establishing transparency frameworks. Second, they will provide a forum for disseminating good practice in MRV systems and transparency to donors and to countries. Third, they will provide an

opportunity for south-to-south peers, mentors, and staff of twinned projects to spend time meeting face to face to discuss key issues of mutual interest. Finally, they will increase donor coordination, which will allow the project to leverage other resource and reach the maximum number of stakeholders possible while avoiding duplication of effort.

It should be noted that scheduling, travel, and logistics for all in-person meetings, including global stocktaking meetings, side events, and regional events, will adhere to any relevant GEF, UNDP, and UNEP guidance regarding the COVID-19 global pandemic. The safety of project staff, contractors, beneficiaries, other stakeholders, and hosts will be paramount in any decisions regarding in-person meetings and travel.

Component 2 will be implemented by UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (New York) and executed by UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) with the support of UDP as responsible party, as presented in Annex J, with the exception of 2.5, which will be implemented by UNEP and executed by UNEP's regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC).

Output 2.1: Annual stocktaking of progress, capacity needs, and support to all non-Annex I countries conducted

This output will build on the CBIT Phase I project annual technical meetings, which have been held three times: in 2017 in Copenhagen; in April 2018 in Berlin; and in May 2019 in Rome. The most recent workshop was the largest to date: it involved 100 attendees from 7 donor countries, 36 program countries, international organizations, and CSOs engaged in supporting transparency frameworks.

Annual global stocktaking meetings under this component will be aimed at strengthening national transparency capacities by presenting objectives and results from national CBIT projects, by identifying common approaches to existing challenges to transparency, and by presenting opportunities for actors from different initiatives to meet and coordinate their work. In addition, meetings may organize some outreach efforts by baseline country capacity; i.e., countries with experience with the IPCC 2006 guidelines could discuss common challenges, while countries that are just starting to create MRV frameworks and consider the 2006 guidelines could receive targeted information. In other cases, experienced countries can mentor neighboring countries that need more capacity support. Ideally, these meetings should provide participants with information that can strengthen their reporting efforts.

Note: Due to the current COVID-19 global pandemic, the initial stocktaking meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 2021. In the interim, the project will support a one-day virtual workshop, as the inception workshop, in the first quarter of 2021 in order to convene stakeholders.

Activities under this output may include the following:

2.1.1 Organize three annual global stocktaking meetings and one virtual workshop, including the selection of topics and participants and encouraging representation and active involvement by women participants

2.1.2 Disseminate findings and materials shared at the meetings and workshops through various communication channels, including the integrated web platform

Deliverables under Output 2.1 consist of three annual global stocktaking meetings, a virtual workshop and at least four meeting summaries and stocktaking briefs.

Output 2.2: COP side events and outreach efforts organized to disseminate results

This output will maintain the practice developed under the GSP and the CBIT global platform of presenting results from selected countries and regions at UNFCCC events in order to reach the widest possible audience of climate change decision-makers from both developed and developing countries. These events will support information exchange among developed and developing country Parties and will contribute to increased donor coordination. They may include events that are organized in conjunction with another meeting (e.g. a regional climate week) in order to minimize time and travel burdens for participants.

Activities under this output may include the following:

2.2.1 Organize at least three side events for upcoming COPs and subsidiary body (SB) meetings (likely to be COP26, COP27 and COP28, and SB54 and SB56) and/or regional climate weeks, including the selection of topics and participants and encouraging representation and active involvement by women participants

2.2.2 Provide logistical support for the side events

2.2.3 Disseminate meeting summaries through various communication channels, including the integrated web platform

Deliverables under Output 2.2 consist of meeting summaries on at least three side events at COPs, SB meetings, and/or regional climate weeks.

Output 2.3: Coordination among support providers facilitated

This output will focus on maintaining and expanding the communication among support providers that has been developed through the GSP and CBIT Phase I, such as the May 2019 'Enhancing Coordination on Climate Transparency' meeting, which was held in tandem with the GEF Technical workshop in Rome. The approximately 45 participants of that meeting included representatives of Parties that contributed to the CBIT Trust Fund, international organizations, and other institutions involved in providing support to enhanced transparency frameworks.

The project will communicate regularly with support providers (a broadly-defined group that includes any entity providing support, such as government donors, UN agencies, developing country governments where applicable, think tanks, and formal and informal groups of providers) to exchange information regarding activities. This output will also focus on continuous improvement in the quality of technical backstopping provided to recipient countries. This output is designed to complement activities under Component 1 that will collect training materials and transparency-related information,

including program descriptions, for the CBIT global platform, making these materials available to countries through the integrated website.

Activities under this output may include the following:

2.3.1 Organize at least one coordination meeting per year for support providers to map current activities and to identify regions and sub-regions that are in need of assistance and potential areas for combined service delivery.

2.3.2 Conduct a dialogue with support providers to determine ways to leverage their activities for the regional climate transparency networks that have been supported under the GSP to date.

Deliverables under Output 2.3 consist of reports from three coordination meetings with support providers.

Output 2.4: Assistance provided to countries with integrating the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan into enhanced transparency frameworks

While the Paris Agreement has highlighted gender equality and women's empowerment as a guiding principle, countries will require assistance to operationalize these principles in their transparency activities. Therefore, this output focuses on supporting countries with integrating the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (GAP) and associated decisions such as Decision 21/CP.22, which extended the Lima work plan on gender to COP25 in 2019, into transparency activities. The UNFCCC process continues to move to integrate gender-sensitive education and increase participation by women in UNFCCC processes and decisions, most recently with a draft gender action plan commissioned by COP22. This action plan is designed to address gender sensitivity in all mitigation and adaptation activities, including the NDCs and low-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies. In addition to materials that focus explicitly on gender in MRV and Article 13, CBIT Phase IIA training and supporting knowledge products will incorporate the areas of the UNFCCC gender action plan that are targeted for attention: A) Capacity-building, knowledge sharing and communication; B) Gender Balance in Participation, and Women's Leadership; C) Coherence across UNFCCC bodies and other UN entities; D) Gender-responsive Implementation and Means of Implementation; and E) Monitoring and Reporting on gender-related mandates under the UNFCCC.

While the UNFCCC provided training at COP24 in conjunction with WEDO and UN Women for UNFCCC Gender Focal Points, it will be important for focal points and project teams to continue to receive information and guidance, particularly in the priority area of monitoring and reporting. While all project components will take gender equality issues and women's participation into consideration (e.g. women's active participation in the integrated platform under Component 1), this output focuses on integrating the GAP into enhanced transparency frameworks at the country level with a special emphasis on national reports. It also represents an opportunity to disseminate results under the GSP, which has supported two regional workshops on supporting the integration of gender considerations into MRV/transparency processes in the Western Balkan countries and Lebanon. These GSP activities, however, have concluded in third quarter of 2020.

Activities under this output will also support the exchange of information on gender considerations related to NDC tracking. Finally, it will provide support for the update and expansion of the gender-responsive national communications toolkit used by many countries to include recommendations on integrating gender considerations into BTRs and ETFs more generally.

It is noted that women face special challenges in the face of threats such as the COVID-19 global pandemic. As Inger Andersen, the Executive Director of UNEP, noted upon the release of a 2020 report on women, climate, and security, "Unequal access to land tenure, financial resources, and decision-making power can create economic stress for entire households in times of crisis, leaving women disproportionately exposed to climate-related security risk." Activities under this output will consider the effect of the pandemic as it relates to integrating gender considerations into reporting.

Activities under this output may include the following:

2.4.1 Provide and coordinate reviews of national reports and supporting documentation by gender experts in response to country requests.

2.4.2 Provide an updated toolkit on integrating the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan into national transparency frameworks that will build upon the current GSP toolkit (Gender Responsive National Communications and BURs).

2.4.3 Conduct at least four regional workshops (at least one workshop in each of four regions) on integrating gender analysis and the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan into national reporting and transparency. Workshops will be scheduled in conjunction with other CBIT-related meetings and workshops where possible to use resources efficiently.

2.4.4 Collect and analyse country reporting with regards to gender mainstreaming and integration of the Gender Action Plan in support of the annual stocktaking under Output 2.1.

Deliverables under Output 2.4 consist of on-demand gender reviews of national reports, an updated gender toolkit, and workshop reports from four regional workshops.

Output 2.5: Fostering of south-south peer exchange in climate transparency actions in the LAC region piloted

As Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) countries have begun executing national CBIT projects, with some projects moving into their second year, most countries will benefit from peer to peer exchanges. While many challenges are general to developing countries (and thus global), each region also faces challenges that are of a regional nature. Through peer-groups, countries will be able to draw on the experiences of the ones that are more advanced with their transparency efforts, to accelerate their own.

This output will develop and implement a pilot for a 'peer-exchange' in the LAC region. The experiences, lessons learned and good practices from this pilot will inform the development of similar peer to peer exchanges in other regions around the world as part of the upcoming Phase IIB, thus ensuring continuity and consistency of the initiatives of the CBIT Global Platform. Countries will take the center stage in the governance structure of this peer-exchange, an approach that was implemented by UNDP/UNEP in the GEF-funded RedINGEI. Under this modality, countries will play a lead role in establishing an annual workplan, identifying gaps and needs and ensuring an effective implementation of network activities. This involvement will increase country-ownership of the network and its activities, with members having a direct responsibility in the establishment of the information sharing requirements. Thus, the rationale behind any requests for data is better understood, creating a more organic environment for the sharing of data and knowledge. In designing and implementing workplans, a regional coordinator and the countries will ensure that activities create synergies and avoid duplication. This way, existing efforts such as the RedINGEI can both provide inputs to the network and benefit from the latter's outputs.

Countries participating in the peer-exchange will share knowledge and experiences that they have gained from participation in transparency support activities, such as existing CBIT and ICAT projects at the national level, and the Caribbean MRV Hub at the sub-regional one. As some developing countries may not be recipients of transparency support but nonetheless will be required to submit a BTR in 2024, the network will ensure the sharing of good practices, experiences and lessons-learned to all the region's countries. Such information will also be shared through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform for dissemination to other developing countries.

Activities under this output will include the following:

- 2.5.1 Conduct a high-level assessment of regional capacity and knowledge gaps and needs, and summarize experiences and lessons learned to date to address such gaps and needs, on implementing the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.
- 2.5.2 Organize peer to peer activities through annual work plans based on the regional assessment (2.5.1).
- 2.5.3 Capture knowledge generated by the peer-exchange with a view to making it available to other regions and stakeholders in the form of webinars, audio briefings, web content, and other knowledge products.

Activities under 2.5.2 and 2.5.3 can take the form of plenary sessions, workshops and webinars, , including the identification of workshops that can be arranged as back-to-back activities that fit within the context of other planned events, such as the annual CBIT global technical workshops, or the LAC Climate week.

Deliverables under output 2.5 consist of (i) annual work plans of regional activities, (ii) regional activities undertaken as per the workplans; and (iii) six-monthly reports on capacity and knowledge gaps and needs identified, and experiences and lessons learned in addressing these gaps and needs. These reports will include recommendations and lessons learned for the replication of this approach under Phase II-B.

#### **4) alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies;**

The project is primarily aligned with GEF Focal Area CCM-3-8, "Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency." However, it will also play an important role in advancing progress in GEF Focal Area CCM-EA, "Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through enabling activities," through the integrated web platform. In addition, the knowledge products developed, global stakeholder outreach, and dissemination of best practices will directly support CCA-2, "Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective climate change Adaptation," as many developing countries have included an adaptation component in their NDCs and in GEF-funded CBIT projects.

#### **5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing;**

The underlying incremental reasoning for a global CBIT platform has not changed from the design of the CBIT Phase I program. The CBIT Phase II proposal maintains the same focus of the Phase I project: the generation of global public goods in form of coordination, knowledge generation, and the creation of a public knowledge repository, which by definition is free of access but still associated with a cost for the goods. In absence of CBIT funding, it is highly likely that no funding will be made available for these global public goods despite the imminent need for them. Moreover, donor initiatives and country-level projects are generating useful, albeit dispersed, capacities. By emphasizing coordination, this proposal will be able to leverage individual ongoing and future initiatives by centralizing knowledge and making it broadly available. Consequently, this proposal provides an incremental value to a wide-ranging number of initiatives and efforts.

In the absence of the Phase II project, most developing countries would lack a single, reliable source of information on transparency issues. At the same, their reporting and transparency obligations would increase. Selected countries would receive support through the GEF CBIT window, and others might benefit from bilateral donors or CSOs, but this support would target national transparency initiatives, and expertise and good practice developed through these projects would not be shared at the global level. As a result, many developing countries would be slow to receive this information, and they might lack the support to apply it. Overall, developing countries would have fewer resources with which to address increasing transparency demands and could consume them in an effort to essentially "reinvent the wheel" with transparency activities, consuming valuable expertise and financial support that could be dedicated to furthering in-country mitigation and adaptation efforts.

The CBIT programme is designed to improve mandatory reporting of signatories of the UNFCCC. As such, this project is financed on full agreed cost basis. In the case of this programme, eligible activities have been described in the GEF document Programming directions for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (GEF/C.50/06). The activities of this project are consistent with the scope of the programming directions. Co-financing is not a necessary requirement for this project; however, a total in-kind contribution of USD 400,000 has been leveraged.

## **6) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF);**

### Global environmental benefits

This project will ultimately contribute to enhanced ambitions in reducing GHG emissions. Improved coordination will generate synergies and avoid duplication across support initiatives and efforts, freeing resources for additional efforts in the global aim to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius. Similarly, the enhanced availability of knowledge through a centralized coordination platform will help countries increase their transparency capacity and, as a result, their capacity to report progress on their NDCs and long-term policy planning, providing for increased ambition.

In the area of climate change, the project will increase climate-related knowledge through improved GHG inventories and transparency frameworks and will disseminate good practice to developing countries, which will in turn allow them to undertake more robust mitigation activities. Furthermore, capacity improvements related to climate change adaptation and guidance on including robust adaptation goals in NDCs will generate adaptation-related benefits, but they may also generate benefits in other global environmental areas, such as biodiversity and land degradation through improved REDD+ capacity.

## **7) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up;**

### **Innovation**

The proposed Phase II project presents an innovative approach to support to developing country parties through its unified structure that combines support for multiple Convention-related commitments in a single "one-stop shop." The organization of the integrated web platform and supporting knowledge products will also allow the project to be flexible and address issues related to Article 13 as they arise. Early phase support for BTR preparation and for integrating gender equality considerations into ETFs is also highly innovative, as is the approach of working with countries on request to incorporate elements of the BTRs into their current reporting.

In addition, the project is innovative in its use of south-south learning. The pilot regional network for GHG inventories in LAC will allow countries to exchange relevant tools and experiences and also allow for some mentoring by developing country Parties with more experience in national reporting on climate change. The regional network will also feed good practice upstream to the global platform, where it can be shared with developing country Parties and support providers in other regions.

Indeed, this project has a unique multi-level approach. At the global level, it provides information and knowledge to all interested developing country Parties. At the same time, it also fosters regional exchanges and support to specific CBIT project countries. It then uses the knowledge gained from these interactions to contribute to the global platform. Finally, it encourages individual countries to share transparency-related knowledge and experience with their peers directly through the platform.

## **Sustainability**

The focus of project support is a sustainable approach to transparency activities by supporting capacity strengthening in CBIT countries and other developing country Parties to the Paris Agreement. One key element of the streamlined platform established in this project is the preservation of the platform under the proposed Phase IIB, which will extend its life through the 2019-2024 'preparatory phase' for Article 13 reporting. This arrangement will maintain continuity and allow countries access to valuable transparency-related information beyond the conclusion of this project.

Furthermore, it directly encourages countries to enhance and embed enhanced transparency frameworks into their institutional frameworks, which will put procedures into place that will last long after this Phase IIA project finishes. This project also engages other stakeholders in fulfilling the provisions of the Paris Agreement, including senior policy-makers and CSOs. Ideally, this CBIT project will increase the ownership role that national institutions play in MRV and transparency activities, which increases the likelihood that countries will support continuous MRV systems and will move towards the utilization of the information they generate for national policy-making purposes.

The project approach also emphasizes sustainability by capturing transparency-related knowledge and experience that is generated by experts both globally and in individual countries and regions and sharing it through long-term information platform. The pilot regional peer-to-peer learning network on GHG inventories will build formal and informal ties among countries in the LAC region, which should provide benefits that extend beyond this project.

### **Potential for Scaling up ?**

The project itself represents the scaling up of activities implemented under the GSP and CBIT global platform projects, but it also has strong potential to expand. For example, the number of sub-regional networks can increase as additional countries identify areas for cooperation. It will also address other Convention-related requirements or initiatives as they arise. Finally, the knowledge products and support for CBIT program countries will be highly relevant to the many developing country Parties who will not receive CBIT funding from GEF but who will still need to meet reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement. There will be a significant demand for the tools and methodologies developed under the national projects, the global project, and other global CBIT projects, such as the FAO-GEF global project on AFOLU and the Conservation International (CI)-GEF project on forestry. Knowledge products from all of these projects will be shared through the new streamlined platform, creating synergies and optimizing available resources.

#### **1b. Project Map and Coordinates**

**Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.**

The proposed project is a global project, and it will involve the participation of developing countries around the globe.

### **1c. Child Project?**

**If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.**

Not applicable.

### **2. Stakeholders**

**Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:**

**Civil Society Organizations** Yes

**Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**

**Private Sector Entities**

**If none of the above, please explain why:** No

**Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.**

Civil society will be involved in the project in several ways. First, the integrated platform will share best practices from CBIT national projects on how to integrate CSOs into national transparency activities. In addition, international NGOs (INGOs) such as the World Resources Institute, have participated in CBIT technical workshops to contribute expertise and serve as a resource for country participants. The project intends to encourage the continued participation of relevant INGOs in technical workshops, COP side events, and other project-related meetings. Finally, the project will support the two-way exchange of information with regional and international CSOs that support gender equality and women's participation, such as the European Institute for Gender Equality, to inform the deliverables under Output 2.4.

Avoiding duplication with other initiatives will be key to using project resources efficiently. Meetings and workshops conducted over the course of the CBIT Phase I project have provided ample opportunity to consult with project stakeholders regarding Phase II of the project. In addition, two other GEF Implementing Agencies and several CSOs (with equal participation by women and men) were consulted in August 2018 specifically regarding the design of the Phase II project. These consultations affirmed the proposed project activities and provided information on current donor and CSO activities. No objections to any proposed activities or approaches were raised.

The GEF Technical Workshop and accompanying donor coordination forum (Rome, May 2019) and the accompanying meeting on enhancing donor coordination in transparency provided an additional opportunity to solicit feedback from CBIT project countries, donors, and representatives of CSOs. General themes in consultations included a high interest in information exchange both among donors and participating developing countries. Other indications of country interests and priorities were

gathered from the GEF 2018 analysis of CBIT country projects, in which 100% of participating countries sought support for capacity building and training, 88% for transparency policy design, and 80% for MRV systems. These priorities will be taken into consideration during the development of work plans for knowledge products, including the associated training modules, under Output 1.3.

Table 2 provides an overview of the anticipated project stakeholders and their envisioned role in the project.

*Table 2: Key Stakeholders*

Name of Institution	Type of Stakeholder	Role in the Project
UNDP	Implementing and Executing Agency for the project	UNDP is a GEF implementing agency that will also serve as the lead implementing agency for this project and an executing agency for Component 2 of the project (with the exception of Output 2.5). It will be responsible for appointing a project coordinator. UNDP will also play a key role in facilitating coordination and knowledge sharing among the national CBIT projects in its GEF portfolio.
UNEP	Implementing Agency for the project	UNEP is a GEF implementing agency that will also serve as the implementing agency for Component 1 of the project and for Output 2.5. It will play a key role in facilitating coordination and knowledge sharing among the national CBIT projects in its GEF portfolio.
UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP)	Executing Agency for the project	UDP will serve as an executing agency for selected project outputs implemented by UNEP. UDP will also act as responsible party for execution of some activities of Component 2, as clarified in Annex J. UDP will also provide co-financing for capacity building and analytical support related to transparency, particularly in the area of adaptation, and for project management. UDP will also host the Project Coordinator.
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Conservation International (CI), and others	Other GEF implementing agencies	Other GEF implementing agencies will share materials developed through other global CBIT projects and will coordinate on training. The CBIT Phase II project will serve as a means of disseminating information resources, guidance, and good practice from the FAO-GEF project on agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) following that project's scheduled conclusion and will include a dedicated space where pilot countries can interact. Finally, the project will provide a broader means of distribution for training materials developed under country-level CBIT project implemented by other agencies (i.e. CI) and will involve those project managers and experts in global platform meetings and activities.

<p>Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA), International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV, Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB), Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for co-Innovation (PaSTI)</p>	<p>Other transparency support initiatives</p>	<p>The information available through the library and other sections of the integrated web platform and the development and content of training modules will be coordinated with a network of existing transparency support initiatives.</p> <p>The integrated web platform will contain links to the platforms, databases, and on-line tools that have been developed through these partnerships. For example, ICAT will share its series of guidance documents on transparency with the project beneficiaries. The CBIT integrated web platform and newsletter will also provide information on learning events sponsored by these initiatives, such as PCCB capacity building forums and PaSTI webinars.</p>
<p>Countries with GEF-funded CBIT projects</p>	<p>National governments</p>	<p>Participating countries will provide information regarding their national CBIT project, participate in knowledge exchange, collaborate in the creation of content for the platform.</p>
<p>Development Partners</p>	<p>International Organisations and developed country governments</p>	<p>These partners will coordinate existing and upcoming support to develop national capacity globally to support countries meeting the Paris Agreement Article 13 requirements.</p>
<p>Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)</p>	<p>NGOs (national, sub-regional, regional, and international) and research institutes</p>	<p>International NGOs such as the World Resources Institute (WRI) participated in CBIT technical workshops under Phase I, contributing their expertise, and they are expected to continue to do so. In addition, the project will exchange information with CSO partners; e.g. the BUR database to be maintained by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). The project will also exchange information with regional and sub-regional CSOs; e.g., with Fundacion Bariloche for the Latin America and Caribbean region. Non-governmental actors at the country level are expected to benefit through the increased availability and quality of climate change information and through more robust NDCs.</p> <p>In addition, the project will support the two-way exchange of information with regional and international CSOs that support gender equality and women's participation, such as the European Institute of Gender Equality, to inform the deliverables under Output 2.4.</p>

UNFCCC	International organization	The UNFCCC and its secretariat will play three important roles in project implementation. First, the secretariat will serve as a provider for capacity building related to the UNFCCC. Second, the Secretariat, which houses the 24-member Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and its e-Network, will exchange information with the project. Third, it will play a facilitating role in the implementation of the Convention.
UNFCCC Parties	All countries	All parties to the UNFCCC are expected to provide information and participate in discussions and information exchanges.  A representative of one developing and one developed country government will serve on the Project Steering Committee (see Section II.6).

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

**Select what role civil society will play in the project:**

**Consulted only;**

**Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;**

**Co-financier;**

**Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body;**

**Executor or co-executor;**

**Other (Please explain) Yes**

Information exchange; training provision; consultation; work planning, participation in meetings and workshops.

### **3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

**Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.**

Developing country parties of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement vary in terms of gender equality and women's empowerment. According to the Gender Development Index (GDI) data for 2017, the global GDI value is 0.941, while the average value for least developed countries is 0.868. It should be noted some countries with national CBIT projects have GDI values higher than the global average, while others have values that are lower.

According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2018, the global gender gap score, another measure of parity, is currently 68%. The 2018 report notes that "Across the four subindexes, on average, the largest gender disparity is on Political Empowerment, which today maintains a gap of 77.1%. The Economic Participation and Opportunity gap is the second-largest at 41.9%...." Again, developing country Parties vary widely in their scores and in some cases have achieved high levels of parity by global standards; for example, Nicaragua and Rwanda are fifth and sixth in the global rankings, respectively.

Developing country Parties that have signed the 2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have committed to progress under SDG 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." Under this goal, countries are to achieve nine specific targets that include the following relevant targets for this project: "Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life;" and "Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women." Countries also commit to monitor progress towards the targets that have been established.

As the introduction to the 2017 UN Women guidebook Leveraging Co-Benefits between Gender Equality and Climate Action notes, "Gender mainstreaming is not simply about adding a 'women's component.' Gender mainstreaming is about thinking differently, modifying climate and development interventions so that they will benefit men and women equally. It is about transforming social, economic and institutional structures towards gender equality and women's empowerment in climate action and resilience building. " The impacts of climate change, including on access to productive and natural resources, amplify existing gender inequalities. Climate change affects women's and men's assets and well-being differently in terms of agricultural production, food security, health, water and energy resources, climate-induced migration and conflict, and climate-related natural disasters. " At the same time, women are powerful change agents to address climate change at scale. They are key actors in building community resilience and responding to climate-related disasters. Women tend to make decisions about resource use and investments in the interest and welfare of their children, families, and communities."

The UNFCCC Gender Action Plan was established under UNFCCC 3/CP.23 Section E of the Action Plan specifically focuses on monitoring and reporting, and it states that "The GAP seeks to improve tracking in relation to the implementation of and reporting on gender-related mandates under the UNFCCC." The Paris Agreement has highlighted gender equality and women's empowerment as a guiding principle and called for adaptation and capacity-building actions to be implemented in a gender-responsive manner.

In 2016, 40% of the (I)NDCs mentioned women and/or gender in the context of their national priorities and ambitions for reducing emissions. However, developing countries will require support in monitoring progress regarding these ambitions. In the area of reporting, a number of developing countries do not mention gender equality issues/ priorities in their National Communications and BURs. Revised NDCs and the advent of BTRs will necessitate capacity strengthening in developing countries related to gender equality and women's empowerment as they relate to reporting and transparency. At the same time, a number of developing country Parties have experience in improving gender parity at a national level that is relevant to others.

The proposed project incorporates these elements and addresses gender equality issues across its components and in a dedicated output designed to support countries in mainstreaming gender equality into transparency activities. The current project will be able to draw on existing resources and networks to support capacity strengthening related to gender equality and climate change. For example, the Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit developed under the GSP could serve as a foundation for the development of gender mainstreaming in transparency activities. This toolkit makes the process of reporting more transparent in terms of those involved, whose views are represented, gender-differentiated risks, and the types of support men and women need to influence climate adaptation, mitigation, policymaking and reporting. It can also be used to build capacity for gender analysis of key climate change issues that are reported on in NCs.

Several CBIT country projects to be financed under GEF-6 include targeted outputs related to gender mainstreaming. In addition, the project will build upon gender-mainstreaming activities undertaken through GSP support for regional networks, such as the "Supporting the integration of gender considerations into MRV/transparency processes in the Western Balkan Countries" sub-regional workshops, which took place since December 2017. This project will draw from their experiences and allow the dissemination of good practices. As well as, promoting women as role models in climate action in the professional areas where there are underrepresented, or eventually engage and showcase feminist climate change specialist, leaders, thinkers in the activities where women tend to be understated. This will be promoted via the CBIT web platform, peer learning activities and workshops.

Activities under Output 2.4 of the proposed project focus directly on gender mainstreaming in Article 13. In addition, activities in each component include explicit language on supporting women's

meaningful participation in project activities. Content and materials that are developed under this output will be made available to a broad audience in several ways. First they will be disseminated through the annual stocktaking meetings conducted under Component 2. They will be available on the integrated web platform established under Component 1.1. Finally, they may be shared through the pilot south-south learning network for Latin American countries that is established under Output 2.2. Several activities also support the collection of gender-disaggregated data and knowledge that includes gender considerations.

In the area of project management, gender equality and balance will be promoted during all project's recruitment of personnel/consultants and related activities. All advertised positions will be equally opened to both genders and the text on term of references will be carefully checked to avoid any gender stereotypes. M&E activities will request gender dis-aggregated data and will consider whether project activities and/or benefits have had differentiated results by gender. Furthermore, gender sensitive/responsive indicators will be monitored at the objective level as part of the monitoring of GEF streamlined indicators and also as part of the stocktaking exercise so that this can inform the design follow up interventions.

Finally, the project will adopt guidance resulting from the recommendations that will be prepared for consideration by UNFCCC Conference of the Parties at its 25th session (November 2019) on the basis of the synthesis report to be prepared by the UNFCCC Secretariat for the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on the implementation of the gender action plan, identifying areas of progress, areas for improvement and further work to be undertaken in subsequent action plans.?

**Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?**

Yes

**Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;**

**Improving women's participation and decision making** Yes

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women**

**Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?**

Yes

**4. Private sector engagement**

**Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.**

As the project is focused on improving the capacity of governments to undertake transparency obligations, the private sector will not be directly engaged in the project. However, indirect engagement of the private sector will take place in three ways: 1) knowledge sharing from GEF-CBIT project countries related to activities they undertake to involve the private sector in mitigation activities; 2) the dissemination of methodologies and tools for engaging the private sector; e.g., in ETFs and in national GHG inventories using IPCC 2006 guidelines (industry surveys for activity data, etc.); and 3) the identification investment priorities for private sector climate change actions and green portfolios.

#### 5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

**Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):**

The following table provides an overview project-related risks and how they will be addressed.

Risk	Level of Risk	Approach to Risk Mitigation
The integrated platform is not perceived as relevant by users and fails to attract traffic	Low/Moderate	The number of internet platforms dedicated to climate change transparency continues to increase. The GSP and CBIT-GCP platforms already have a specific audience, and the integrated platform will continue to provide content (e.g. the expert roster) that is not available elsewhere. The project will also undertake specific activities to drive traffic to the new website, including continuous communication with other platforms.
Stocktaking workshops and side events fail to attract sufficiently high-level decision-makers and practitioners	Low	Experience with these events to date has indicated that high-level decision-makers and practitioners will attend when the topics are relevant and emerge from ongoing dialogue. The project will communicate with other support providers to avoid scheduling conflicts and to schedule back-to-back workshops when possible, reducing the need for participants to travel.

High turnover of participants due to high turnover of political appointees and civil servants in participating countries	Moderate	<p>1) The availability of strong documentation and codification of knowledge in regional languages under the project. will ease the transition between experts and decision-makers.</p> <p>2) Stocktaking meetings and side events will be scheduled throughout the project implementation period, exposing new participants to resources and contacts without a long waiting period.</p> <p>3) Knowledge products that support country-level MRV systems will encourage countries to centralize and archive data, which will preserve institutional memory and minimize disruption from staff turnover.</p>
Project delays, constraints, or capacity-related risks related to the COVID-19 global pandemic	Moderate	<p>Short-term constraints on travel and group gatherings will be taken into account in project planning, and on-line or remote learning and communication options will be used where necessary.</p> <p>Countries will be supported in considering longer-term economic impacts of the pandemic in the analysis that underpins their reporting. Disproportionate impacts on women and vulnerable groups will be monitored.</p>

COVID-19: The project itself will not directly generate risks as described in the UNEP Environmental, Social And Economic Review Note (ESERN) or under UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. However, there is a risk that travel to or from areas where COVID-19 is prevalent could pose a risk to project staff, consultants/contractors, and beneficiaries.

The project team will take active steps to mitigate this risk, including familiarization with and adherence to any relevant pandemic-related guidance for projects that is issued by GEF or either GEF implementing agency. The Project Coordinator will report on compliance to the Project Steering Committee and Executive Management Group and will take any necessary steps to protect the health of staff, consultants/contractors, and beneficiaries required by the situation.

In addition to monitoring and mitigating risks related to the pandemic, the project will also support pandemic-related analysis as it relates to transparency efforts in developing countries. For example, countries will be supported in considering longer-term economic impacts of the pandemic in the analysis that underpins their reporting. Information and tools may also support efforts to integrate climate concerns

into 'green recovery' and 'build back better' initiatives that may be included in reporting on support provided / support received and on gender.

## **6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination**

### **Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.**

UNDP and UNEP will be the GEF Implementing Agencies (IAs) for this initiative and are responsible to the GEF for the use of project resources as written in the project document, or any amendments agreed. UNEP is the implementing agency for Component 1 and Output 2.5, and these portions of the project will be implemented by the UNEP Climate Change Mitigation (CCM) Team appointed Task Manager (TM). UNDP is responsible for Component 2 (2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4) and Component 3 (which includes the terminal evaluation), and these portions of the project will be implemented by the Nature, Capital, and Energy Vertical Funds (NCE-VF) unit in the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) at UNDP using Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). Executing Arrangements: For the UNEP portion, Component 1 will be executed by UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP), and Activity 2.5 will be executed by UNEP's regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), in Panama. Most project funds will be executed by the UDP, with an exception of \$100,000 going to the UNEP regional office under the management of the Project Management Unit (PMU) for this activity. The UNDP portion will be executed by the Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) using a DIM modality where some of the funds will be managed by UDP as responsible party for selected outputs. For the project as a whole, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will decide when a cash advance request is needed and will prepare and submit it to both implementing agencies. The PMU will also prepare a complete project-level workplan and budget revisions to be approved by the Executive Management Group (EMG) and any other document to fulfil the legal requirements of both agencies. A detailed description of the implementing and executing arrangements is included in Annex J of this document. Project Management: The Project Coordinator will function within an executive management group (EMG), which will be composed of representatives from UNEP (the Project Director, the Task Manager, and the Head of Energy and Climate Branch), UNDP (the Head of Climate Strategies and Policy and a representative of IRH), and UDP (the Head of Transparency and Accountability). The EMG will oversee the implementation of the project through half-yearly meetings. Its main functions will be to take management decisions (including approving budget and workplan revisions). It will also provide high level guidance on and ensure full coordination between UNEP, UNDP and UNEP DTU Partnership of the project and other relevant initiatives. In addition, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will be responsible for day to day management of the project and ensure timely delivery of quality outputs, will prepare budgets and workplans revisions for review and will track project progress and prepare reports. It will be composed by one representative from each institution: UNDP, UNEP and UDP, as follows: ? UNDP will appoint the Project Coordinator (PC), co-located in Copenhagen with UDP, to be partially funded from project resources. The PC will coordinate a team of technical experts and administrative staff from UDP, UNDP and UNEP ROLAC, including activities to be carried out by UDP's personnel. ? UNEP will appoint the Project Director (PD), co-located in Copenhagen with UDP, funded from UNEP's resources other than the project funds. The PD's tasks are among others to a) provide operational and political guidance b) to work with the PC to achieve project outcomes c) to support linkages with other Transparency initiatives d) to review budget and workplan revisions as

required as per CEO Endorsement request and annexes and e) to co-sign Project Half Yearly Progress reports, Project Implementation Reports and procurement plans. ? UDP will appoint a Focal Point, whose working time dedicated to the project will be partially covered by the management budget (up to \$30k/year). The UDP Focal Point will ensure execution of the UNEP and UNDP contracts signed by UDP, jointly with the Project Coordinator and will facilitate coordination with UDP technical team and UDP finance-administrative team. The UDP Focal point will provide support to the PC for the secretariat role during the meetings. Project Oversight: The project will utilize a project steering committee (PSC), which will be composed of representatives from the following organizations: UNEP ( the Project Director and the Task Manager), UNDP (the Head of Climate Strategies and Policy and the IRH Manager), UDP (Head of Transparency and Accountability), the UNFCCC, the GEF Secretariat, one developed country (on a rotating basis); and two developing countries. The committee will be responsible for reviewing project progress, annual work plans and budget and providing strategic guidance for successful project implementation. The PSC will meet annually, unless one of the committee members calls for ad hoc interim meeting. Developing country representation on the PSC will provide a voice for project beneficiaries. The PSC meetings will be scheduled concurrently with other workshops or side events organized by the project to minimize travel costs and will follow all agency guidance from UNDP and UNEP relating to staff travel during the COVID-19 global pandemic, which may entail necessitate meetings. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Coordination: Project?level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in the framework of the United Nations Evaluation Group 2016 Norms and Standards and, within that framework, UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP Program and Operations Policies and Procedures and UNEP requirements for project monitoring and evaluation. Additional mandatory, GEF?specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies. Detailed M&E arrangements and a budget for those activities are provided in Annex J of this document. Coordination with other GEF-funded projects that focus on transparency: The proposed project is designed to prevent a gap in support to developing countries on transparency issues. Project activities are therefore scheduled to transition from the CBIT Phase I project and the GSP into a unified Phase II support program. Figure 2 in Section II.1.a provides an overview of the timing of this process. The proposed project will also liaise with the planned CBIT projects to maintain an overview of the work being done in the sector. Furthermore, the project will maintain contact with country-level projects under the CBIT funding window and country-level climate change enabling activities due to their focus on GHG inventories and reporting. Coordination with other stakeholders is outlined in Table 2.

**Implementing Arrangements:** UNDP and UNEP will be the GEF Implementing Agencies (IAs) for this initiative and are responsible to the GEF for the use of project resources as written in the project document, or any amendments agreed. UNEP is the implementing agency for Component 1 and Output 2.5, and these portions of the project will be implemented by the UNEP Climate Change Mitigation (CCM) Team appointed Task Manager (TM). UNDP is responsible for Component 2 (2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4) and Component 3 (which includes the terminal evaluation), and these portions of the project will be implemented by the Nature, Capital, and Energy?Vertical Funds (NCE-VF) unit in the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) at UNDP using Direct Implementation Modality (DIM).

**Executing Arrangements:** For the UNEP portion, Component 1 will be executed by UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP), and Activity 2.5 will be executed by UNEP?s regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), in Panama. Most project funds will be executed by the UDP, with an exception of

\$100,000 going to the UNEP regional office under the management of the Project Management Unit (PMU) for this activity. The UNDP portion will be executed by the Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) using a DIM modality where some of the funds will be managed by UDP as responsible party for selected outputs. For the project as a whole, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will decide when a cash advance request is needed and will prepare and submit it to both implementing agencies. The PMU will also prepare a complete project-level workplan and budget revisions to be approved by the Executive Management Group (EMG) and any other document to fulfil the legal requirements of both agencies. A detailed description of the implementing and executing arrangements is included in Annex J of this document.

**Project Management:** The Project Coordinator will function within an executive management group (EMG), which will be composed of representatives from UNEP (the Project Director, the Task Manager, and the Head of Energy and Climate Branch), UNDP (the Head of Climate Strategies and Policy and a representative of IRH), and UDP (the Head of Transparency and Accountability). The EMG will oversee the implementation of the project through half-yearly meetings. Its main functions will be to take management decisions (including approving budget and workplan revisions). It will also provide high level guidance on and ensure full coordination between UNEP, UNDP and UNEP DTU Partnership of the project and other relevant initiatives.

In addition, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will be responsible for day to day management of the project and ensure timely delivery of quality outputs, will prepare budgets and workplans revisions for review and will track project progress and prepare reports. It will be composed by one representative from each institution: UNDP, UNEP and UDP, as follows:

? UNDP will appoint the Project Coordinator (PC), co-located in Copenhagen with UDP, to be partially funded from project resources. The PC will coordinate a team of technical experts and administrative staff from UDP, UNDP and UNEP ROLAC, including activities to be carried out by UDP's personnel.

? UNEP will appoint the Project Director (PD), co-located in Copenhagen with UDP, funded from UNEP's resources other than the project funds. The PD's tasks are among others to a) provide operational and political guidance b) to work with the PC to achieve project outcomes c) to support linkages with other Transparency initiatives d) to review budget and workplan revisions as required as per CEO Endorsement request and annexes and e) to co-sign Project Half Yearly Progress reports, Project Implementation Reports and procurement plans.

? UDP will appoint a Focal Point, whose working time dedicated to the project will be partially covered by the management budget (up to \$30k/year). The UDP Focal Point will ensure execution of the UNEP and UNDP contracts signed by UDP, jointly with the Project Coordinator and will facilitate coordination with UDP technical team and UDP finance-administrative team. The UDP Focal point will provide support to the PC for the secretariat role during the meetings.

**Project Oversight:** The project will utilize a project steering committee (PSC), which will be composed of representatives from the following organizations: UNEP ( the Project Director and the Task Manager), UNDP (the Head of Climate Strategies and Policy and the IRH Manager), UDP (Head of Transparency and Accountability), the UNFCCC, the GEF Secretariat, one developed country (on a rotating basis); and two developing countries. The committee will be responsible for reviewing project progress, annual work plans

and budget and providing strategic guidance for successful project implementation. The PSC will meet annually, unless one of the committee members calls for ad hoc interim meeting. Developing country representation on the PSC will provide a voice for project beneficiaries. The PSC meetings will be scheduled concurrently with other workshops or side events organized by the project to minimize travel costs and will follow all agency guidance from UNDP and UNEP relating to staff travel during the COVID-19 global pandemic, which may entail necessitate meetings.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Coordination: Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in the framework of the United Nations Evaluation Group 2016 Norms and Standards and, within that framework, UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP Program and Operations Policies and Procedures and UNEP requirements for project monitoring and evaluation. Additional mandatory, GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies. Detailed M&E arrangements and a budget for those activities are provided in Annex J of this document.

Coordination with other GEF-funded projects that focus on transparency: The proposed project is designed to prevent a gap in support to developing countries on transparency issues. Project activities are therefore scheduled to transition from the CBIT Phase I project and the GSP into a unified Phase II support program. Figure 2 in Section II.1.a provides an overview of the timing of this process. The proposed project will also liaise with the planned CBIT projects to maintain an overview of the work being done in the sector. Furthermore, the project will maintain contact with country-level projects under the CBIT funding window and country-level climate change enabling activities due to their focus on GHG inventories and reporting.

Coordination with other stakeholders is outlined in Table 2.

## **7. Consistency with National Priorities**

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

This CBIT Phase II project is consistent with the Paris Agreement, and with national priorities, such as national communications, BURs, and NDCs tracking, as it will support countries in obtaining the necessary additional capacities and tools to track the progress in climate change mitigation and adaptation and, more specifically, the enhanced transparency framework's modalities procedures and guidelines (MPGs). Also, this project is in line and will contribute to the UNDP Climate Promise, which aims to help ensure countries' new climate action pledges better align their national sustainable development priorities through a wide range of thematic technical support. It will be instrumental in particular to the Climate Promise Service Line 5 "Monitor Progress and Strengthen Transparency", since it will support for capacity strengthening related to monitoring and tracking progress on key climate-related indicators. At the same time, it will also support data collection and analysis that can in turn inform other policy exercises, such as Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Capacity Self Assessments (NCSAs), and others.

This project will also contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 13 and 17. The platform will serve as an underlying mechanism for tracking progress towards the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (SDG 13) and the specific target of 13.3 'Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning' and its indicator 13.3.2 'Number of countries that have communicated the strengthening of institutional, systemic and individual capacity-building to implement adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer, and development actions'. At the same time, it will provide a forum encouraging partnerships among relevant actors (SDG 17) and the specific target of 17.9 'Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation' and its indicator 17.9.1 'Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries'.

## **8. Knowledge Management**

**Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.**

As in the ongoing CBIT project, knowledge management is at the core of the proposed CBIT Phase II. Special attention has been given in CBIT Phase II to knowledge accessibility in all project components. Steps to increase accessibility will include distributing information from sub-regional workshops and networks to other regions, identifying low-bandwidth and off-line approaches to knowledge sharing for the many parts of the world that face connectivity issues, translating relevant materials guidance into multiple languages so that more experts can use them easily, and encouraging countries to utilize open-source solutions to data management. Knowledge generated under both Phase II projects will be distributed free of charge.

All components involve capturing knowledge and disseminating it in such a way as to reach the largest global audience. The project will also capture and share knowledge from country-level projects and from other transparency-related initiatives, and it will develop a long-term data management plan in order to ensure that information and knowledge gathered during the project will continue to be accessible to those who need it.

Component 1 of the project (Streamlined knowledge development and delivery in support of Article 13) will focus on generating knowledge products and maintaining a web platform to allow knowledge sharing and dissemination. The streamlined platform is also consistent with the recommendation of the 2015 GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) interim report on knowledge management in the GEF to provide enhanced support for South-South exchanges. Component 2 explicitly supports learning from other relevant initiatives through the stocktaking in 2.1, information dissemination through a pilot regional coordination initiative in 2.2, and coordination with support providers in 2.3.

Table 4 provides an overview of the knowledge management approach for Phase IIA.

Table 4: Knowledge Management Approach for CBIT Phase IIA

	Key Deliverables	Timeline
Project Component 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>? Unified project website</li> <li>? Data management plan</li> <li>? Webinars, audio briefings, articles</li> <li>? Survey of website users</li> <li>? KM plan for information from individual country CBIT projects and the self-assessment tool</li> <li>? Facilitated peer learning / knowledge sharing through website</li> <li>? At least two knowledge products (website content, webinar, etc.) from emerging good practice in participating CBIT countries.</li> <li>? Knowledge inventory of guidance documents and training modules with a view to updating and/or replacing them</li> <li>? Handbook for countries on sustainable data management</li> <li>? Training modules</li> <li>? Fact sheets on emerging issues related to the the Paris Rulebook and COP24, particularly BTRs</li> </ul>	<p><i>Website: Y1</i></p> <p><i>Website Maintenance: Ongoing</i></p> <p><i>KM Plan: Y1</i></p> <p><i>Knowledge Inventory: Y1</i></p> <p><i>Fact sheets: Ad hoc</i></p> <p><i>Knowledge products: Ongoing</i></p>
Project Component 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>? Global stocktaking reports and dissemination of findings from country-level annual self-assessments</li> <li>? COP side event summaries</li> <li>? Guidance on integrating gender into reporting and transparency</li> </ul>	<p><i>Reports and summaries: Annually</i></p> <p><i>Gender guidance: Y1-2</i></p>
Project Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>? Project brochure</li> <li>? Final Report, summary of achievements</li> </ul>	<p><i>Brochure: Y1</i></p> <p><i>Report/summary: Y3</i></p>

Project M&E and Learning	? Annual Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) and half yearly progress reports	<i>M&amp;E reports:</i> see Section 9 and Annex I  <i>LLN:</i> ad hoc
	? Inception report, terminal evaluation	
	? Reports on training participation by gender and gender mainstreaming in other activities, including website usage	
	? Lessons learned note(s)	

## 9. Monitoring and Evaluation

### Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results.

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP (Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) and UNDP Evaluation Policy. While these UNDP requirements are not outlined in this project document, the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub will work with the relevant project stakeholders to ensure UNDP monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. This will include the exact role of project target groups and other stakeholders in project M&E activities. M&E activities will incorporate any relevant UNDP guidance regarding adopting remote monitoring approaches and for M&E procedures as a whole during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Detailed M&E arrangements and a budget for those activities are provided in Annex I, detailed implementation arrangements including distribution of budgetary resources and internal reporting requirements are provided in Annex J.

#### M&E Oversight and monitoring responsibilities:

**Project Coordinator:** The Project Coordinator is responsible for day-to-day project management and regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks. The Project Coordinator will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results. The Project Coordinator will inform the EMG and

the Project Board of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

The Project Coordinator will develop annual work plans based on a multi-year work plan, including annual output targets to support the efficient implementation of the project. The Project Coordinator will ensure that the standard GEF IA and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the results framework indicators are monitored annually in time for evidence-based reporting in the GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR), and that the monitoring of risks and the various plans/strategies developed to support project implementation (e.g. gender strategy, KM strategy, etc.) occur on a regular basis.

**Project Steering Committee:** The Project Steering Committee will take corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The Project Steering Committee will review project progress to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. In the project's final year, the Project Steering Committee will hold an end-of-project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to highlight project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences. This final review meeting will also discuss the findings outlined in the project terminal evaluation report and the management response.

**Project Implementing Partners:** The initiative will be jointly implemented by UNDP and UNEP, and it will be promoted as an integrated UDP/UNDP/UNEP/GEF collaborative effort, with the four logos to be used in all documents, activities and material. UNDP will be responsible for compiling and submitting the annual PIRs with inputs from UDP and for initiating and managing the Terminal Evaluation for the whole project.

The UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub is responsible for complying with all UNDP project-level M&E requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP. This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment during implementation is undertaken annually; that annual targets at the output level are developed, and monitored and reported using UNDP corporate systems; the regular updating of the Atlas risk log; and, the updating of the UNDP gender marker on an annual basis based on gender mainstreaming progress reported in the GEF PIR and UNDP Results-Oriented Annual Reporting (ROAR). Any quality concerns flagged during these M&E activities (e.g. the annual GEF PIR quality assessment ratings) must be addressed by the Project Coordinator and the EMG.

The UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub will retain all M&E records for this project for up to seven years after project financial closure to support ex-post evaluations undertaken by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office and/or the GEF Independent Evaluation Office.

Additional M&E and implementation quality assurance and troubleshooting support will be provided by BPPS NCE-VF as needed.

**Audit:** The project will be audited according to UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies on projects using Direct Implementation (DIM).

GEF monitoring and reporting requirements:

**Kick-off Meeting and Inception Report:** A project kick off meeting will be held immediately as the project is approved. The Project Coordinator will prepare the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop. The inception report will be cleared by the EMG and will be approved by the Project Board.

**GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR):** UNDP will assume overall responsibility for and submit the reports to the GEF. PIRs will be drafted by the PMU and the ratings will be agreed between the UNDP's Head of Climate Strategies and Policy and UNEP Task Manager. The annual GEF PIR will cover the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) for each year of project implementation. The Project Coordinator will ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the PIR. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Steering Committee.

**Lessons learned and knowledge generation:** Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to the project. The project will identify, analyse and share lessons learned that might be beneficial to the design and implementation of similar projects and disseminate these lessons widely. There will be continuous information exchange between this project and other projects of similar focus in the same country, region and globally.

**GEF Focal Area Core Indicators:** The following GEF core indicator will be used to monitor global environmental benefit results: number of beneficiaries, and of that, number of women. This indicator will be monitored by the Project Coordinator/Team and shared with the consultant(s) conducting the terminal evaluation before the required evaluation mission takes place. The core indicator numbers will be submitted to the GEF along with the completed Terminal Evaluation report.

**Terminal Evaluation (TE):** An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities, and it will be implemented by UNDP.

The terminal evaluation process will begin six months before operational closure of the project allowing the evaluation mission to proceed while the project team is still in place, yet ensuring the project is close enough to completion for the evaluation team to reach conclusions on key aspects such as project sustainability. The Project Coordinator will remain on contract until the TE report and management response have been finalized. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by UNEP Evaluation Office and UNDP. As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be "independent, impartial and rigorous". The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The draft TE report will be sent by implementing agencies and their evaluation offices to project stakeholders for comments. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. The project performance will

be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the report is finalized and further reviewed by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office upon submission. The evaluation report will be publicly disclosed and may be followed by a recommendation compliance process. The management response and the evaluation will be uploaded to the GEF, UNEP, and UNDP corporate systems, which include the Project Information Management System (PIMS) and the UNDP Evaluation Office Evaluation Resource Centre in the case of UNDP.

Final Report: The Final Report will be a comprehensive report summarizing all activities, achievements, lessons learned, objectives met or not achieved structures and systems implemented, etc. It will make recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure the sustainability and replication of project activities. It is to be completed not more than three months following the technical closure of the project. This report, along with the project's terminal PIR, the terminal evaluation (TE) report, and the corresponding management response will comprise the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Steering Committee during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lessons learned and opportunities for scaling up.

A summary of M&E activities envisaged is provided in Annex I. When relevant, M&E activities will assess gender mainstreaming. The GEF contribution for M&E activities is USD 30,000.

## **10. Benefits**

**Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?**

The socioeconomic benefits of improved MRV in the area of climate change are while indirect potentially significant. As an International Energy Agency (IEA) report on the socioeconomic issues related to the low-carbon transition states, "It is a multifaceted challenge in which the actors are inter-dependent and for whom the solutions have immediate local benefit (e.g. improved quality of life, employment, investments) as well as long-term global benefits, such as reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>. For the transition to be a success, a variety of stakeholders representing socio-economic sectors will need to actively participate: policy makers, energy planners, the research community, academia, businesses and industry, and individuals."

Under Outcome 1 of the project, "Developing countries and practitioners increasingly access and use information and knowledge on new and existing reporting requirements," the unified website will provide information and tools will support streamlined transparency activities, which will result in a more efficient use of public funds in the countries that utilize them. In addition, support for aligning policies and measures with action to address climate change will lead to efficiencies and increased uptake of policies with low-carbon benefits. The same IEA report states that "A virtual knowledge centre where theory, practice, case studies and experiences can be shared across various cultures and programmes was found to be particularly effective."

Under Outcome 2 of the project, "Developing countries can document and share progress, support needed and received, and good practice on Article 13 implementation, including gender mainstreaming," countries will gather the information necessary to set more robust and meaningful targets. Current research shows the need for improved MRV in key sectors such as agriculture that would allow countries to align their policies and measures with commitments under their NDCs. Strong transparency frameworks will allow countries to identify cost-effective means of mitigation and adaptation and to understand the co-benefits, including socio-economic benefits, of action to address climate change.

Finally, a stronger transparency framework would provide countries with the information necessary to undertake more ambitious targets, which would contribute at the global level to meaningful action against climate change.

### 11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

#### Overall Project/Program Risk Classification\*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Low			

#### Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

#### Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
10128 CBIT Phase II A ESS	CEO Endorsement ESS	

**ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).**

<p><b>This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s):</b> SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</p>					
<p><b>This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document:</b> Global program ? Not applicable.</p>					
<p><b>This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan (2018-2021):</b> Output 1.4: Scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation cross sectors which is funded and implemented.</p>					
<p><b>This project will be linked to the following Climate Change Outcome Map Objective of the UNEP Medium-Term Strategy (2018-2021):</b> Countries increasingly transition to low-emission economic development and enhance their adaptation and resilience to climate change.</p>					
	<p><b>Objective and Outcome Indicators</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline</b></p>	<p><b>End of Project Target</b></p>	<p><b>Sources of Verification</b></p>	<p><b>Assumptions</b></p>
<p><b>Project Objective:</b></p> <p>To provide streamlined support and capacity building at the country, regional, and global level to improve reporting capacity of countries and enhanced</p>	<p>A) GEF-7 Tracking Tool Indicator: Objective Indicator 1 (GEF-7 Streamlined Monitoring Indicator): Number of direct project beneficiaries (<i>and, of that group, number of women</i>)</p>	<p>150</p>	<p>At least 300 people will utilize support for transparency and reporting from project outputs and activities, <i>and at least 150 of them will be women.</i></p>	<p>Reporting by CBIT Project Countries and project documentation that includes registration lists for webinars, trainings, and other in-person or on-line gatherings or discussion.</p>	<p>Participating countries will continue to use the tracking tool indicator.</p>

<p>transparency frameworks to allow developing countries to meet commitments under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.</p>	<p>B) % of the users surveyed who consider the platform (website, its features, and knowledge products) very useful or useful for their purposes</p>	<p>0 (the unified platform has not yet been created)</p>	<p>70% of users surveyed consider the platform to be very useful or useful for their purposes (measured as a score of 4 or 5 on a 5-point satisfaction scale)</p>	<p>Pop-up survey conducted on the streamlined website.</p>	<p>Partners will have sufficient time and interest to utilize the project's resources.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Developing countries and practitioners increasingly access and use information and knowledge on new and existing reporting requirements.</p>	<p>Knowledge demand / uptake: i.e., number of countries and practitioners using the platform's services and knowledge products every quarter (on average)</p>	<p>At least 40 countries and practitioners use the CBIT Global platform's services and knowledge products every quarter (on average).</p>	<p>At least 60 stakeholders use the platform's services every quarter (on average).</p>	<p>Website analytics.  Country and practitioner feedback collected in the course of the Terminal Evaluation by the evaluator(s).</p>	<p>The unified website will simplify requests and searches for users and increase user interest.</p>

<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Developing countries can document and share progress, support needed and received, and good practice on Article 13 implementation, including gender mainstreaming.</p>	<p>Number of developing countries with beneficiaries who have shared their lessons (progress, support needed and received, and/or good practice) through project activities.</p>	<p>Experiences from more than 40 countries have been documented by developing country beneficiaries through annual self-reporting exercises, such as questionnaires in advance of technical workshops and implementation reports and / or through workshops supported by CBIT Phase I.</p>	<p>Experiences from more than 60 developing country beneficiaries have been documented through annual self-reporting exercises, such as questionnaires in advance of technical workshops and implementation reports and / or through workshops and regional meetings supported by this project.</p>	<p>Lists of countries participating in regional and global workshops based on registration data; information from questionnaires collected in advance of technical workshops and other content on the streamlined platform; and Project Implementation Reports for country-level CBIT projects.</p> <p>Structured interviews conducted in the course of the terminal evaluation by the evaluator(s).</p>	<p>New CBIT program countries will see value added in contributing information to the platform.</p>
	<p>Number of developing countries<sup>[1]</sup> sharing good practice in gender mainstreaming on the streamlined platform</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>Good practice in gender mainstreaming from at least 15 developing countries is shared on the streamlined platform.</p>	<p>Review of project documentation and platform content in the course of the Terminal Evaluation by the evaluator(s).</p>	<p>Developing country experts will have time and interest in participating in gender mainstreaming training.</p>

[1] Under the current CBIT global platform, countries select a CBIT focal point who has the authority to post content on behalf of the country.

**ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).**

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion	IA Response
<p>?Not at this time. After a call with the agencies, it was decided that the proposal would be broken up into two projects, an MSP that would request resources from the CBIT Trust Fund and an FSP that would request resources from the GEF Trust Fund. This will allow the CBIT Trust Fund resources to be programmed before the Council deadline of October 31, 2018 and ensure the continued support to the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, of which Phase I will end by June 2019.? (<a href="https://gefportal.worldbank.org/App/#/gefsecrevie/w/agency/reviewsheet/e888add2-d7c7-e811-813e-3863bb2e1360/edit">https://gefportal.worldbank.org/App/#/gefsecrevie/w/agency/reviewsheet/e888add2-d7c7-e811-813e-3863bb2e1360/edit</a>. GEF Sec Decision Recommendation.)</p>	<p>Project has been divided into two projects, and the MSP submitted here requests funds from the CBIT Trust Fund as per the decision taken.</p>

**ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:**

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: <b>USD 50,000</b>			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>

Component A: Preparatory Technical Studies & Reviews -	19,500	14,250	1,480
Component B: Formulation of the UNDP-GEF Project Document, CEO Endorsement Request, and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes	20,000	5,314.65	1,685.35
Component C: Travel, Validation Workshop and Report, miscellaneous	10,500	4,075.80	2,194.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>23,640.45</b>	<b>5,359.55</b>

#### **ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates**

**Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.**

The proposed project is a global project, and it will involve the participation of developing countries around the globe.

## ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)					Total (USD)	Responsible Entity
		<i>Component 1</i>	<i>Component 2</i>	<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>M&amp;E</i>	<i>PMC</i>		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)
		<i>Sub-component 1.1</i>	<i>Sub-component 2.1</i>					
Contractual Services - Company	Programming support to merge GSP/CBIT platform (UDP staff) - Support to Activities 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3	89,273.00		89,273.00			89,273.00	UDP
Contractual Services - Company	Maintain and update content on the GSP/CBIT platform (UDP staff) to support to Activities 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 1.2.5	269,118.00		269,118.00			269,118.00	UDP

Contractual Services - Company	Knowledge dissemination and communication (UDP staff) to support to Activities 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.4	96,700.00		96,700.00			96,700.00	UDP
International Consultants	Graphic designer to support to Activity 1.1.3	25,000.00		25,000.00			25,000.00	UDP
International Consultants	Software programmer - Support to Activity 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.1.6, 1.1.8, 1.3.3	202,000.00		202,000.00			202,000.00	UDP
International Consultants	Climate Transparency Expert to support to Activity 1.3.1, 1.3.4	40,000.00		40,000.00			40,000.00	UDP
International Consultants	Communication Expert to support to Activity 1.1.2, 1.1.7	12,000.00		12,000.00			12,000.00	UDP
Trainings, workshops, meetings	Meetings and workshops (UDP) - Support to activities under Output 2.5	9,000.00		9,000.00			9,000.00	UDP
International Consultant	Translation of regional materials for platform under Output 1.2	15,000.00		15,000.00			15,000.00	UDP

Contractual Services - Company	Domain hosting in support of Output 1.2	6,000.00		6,000.00			6,000.00	UDP
Travel	Travel for UDP focal point for workshops and international meetings	30,000.00		30,000.00			30,000.00	UDP
Salary and benefits/staff costs	Salary of Project Coordinator - Technical support of the Project Coordinator in strengthening gender and transparency synergies globally		89,000.00	89,000.00			89,000.00	UNDP

International Consultants	Resources for workshop facilitator (\$10,000 per workshop/year for a total of \$30,000), travel assistant (up to a total of \$50,000), update of the gender toolkit (\$40,000) ? \$120k going to be executed by UDP as Responsible Party. The \$124 will be executed by UNDP in collaboration with Country Offices mainly for gender mainstreaming activities (Output 2.4).		124,000.00	124,000.00			124,000.00	UNDP
---------------------------	---	--	------------	------------	--	--	------------	------

International Consultants	Resources for workshop facilitator (\$10,000 per workshop/year for a total of \$30,000), travel assistant (up to a total of \$50,000), update of the gender toolkit (\$40,000) ? \$120k going to be executed by UDP as Responsible Party. The \$124 will be executed by UNDP in collaboration with Country Offices mainly for gender mainstreaming activities (Output 2.4).		120,000.00	120,000.00			120,000.00	UDP
International Consultants	Peer exchange and capacity building in the LAC region - consultant for support to activities under Output 2.5.		100,000.00	100,000.00			100,000.00	UNEP
Travel	Travel for Project Coordinator and for UNDP COs/national experts for gender activities		30,000.00	30,000.00			30,000.00	UNDP

Travel	Travel executed by UDP		17,000.00	17,000.00			17,000.00	UDP
Training, workshops, meetings	Workshops to be held under outputs 2.1 and 2.4 (annual stocktaking with developing countries (around \$135k each) and gender workshops (around \$35 each), approx. \$510,091 in total), \$510k or the full amount to be executed by UDP as Responsible party.		510,091.00	510,091.00			510,091.00	UDP
Goods	Audio-visual and print production costs to be executed by UDP as Responsible Party as part of outreach activities (2.2 and 2.3)		3,000.00	3,000.00			3,000.00	UDP
Office supplies	Sundry expenses for workshops under Outputs 2.1 and 2.4		1,000.00	1,000.00			1,000.00	UNDP
International Consultants	IC for Terminal Evaluation				30,000.00		30,000.00	UNDP

Contractual Services - Individuals	Part-time salary of UDP Focal point					90,909	90,909.00	UDP
Salary and benefits/staff costs	Cost-shared salary of Project Coordinator for support to all activities and for general coordination and monitoring duties					63,909	63,909.00	UNDP
International Consultants	Annual audit of project (@ USD 3,000 / year)					9,000	9,000.00	UNDP
Other operating costs	UNDP support services for a part-time Financial Specialist (12% time) based in UNDP Regional hub for financial management and payments facilitation					18,000	18,000.00	UNDP
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>794,091.00</b>	<b>994,091.00</b>	<b>1,788,182.00</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>	<b>181,818.00</b>	<b>2,000,000.00</b>	

**ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet**

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

**ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows**

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

**ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows**

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies' capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).

N/A