GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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General Project Information

Project Title Climate Transparency Global Support Programme III (Climate Transparency-GSP III)	
Region Global	GEF Project ID 11880
Country(ies) Global	Type of Project FSP
GEF Agency(ies): UNEP UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID 210249 10292
Project Executing Entity(s) UNEP - CCC IGES UNDP	Project Executing Type Others Others GEF Agency
GEF Focal Area (s) Climate Change	Submission Date 5/22/2026
Type of Trust Fund GET	Project Duration (Months) 24
GEF Project Grant: (a) 9,000,000.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b) 0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c) 855,000.00	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d) 0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) 9,855,000.00	Total Co-financing 1,600,000.00
PPG Amount: (e) 145,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f) 13,775.00
Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f) 10,013,775.00	
Project Tags CBIT: Yes NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No Competitive Window: No	
Project Sector (CCM Only) Mixed & Others	

Taxonomy

Climate Change, Focal Areas, Type of Engagement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Equality, Gender-sensitive indicators, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, South-South, Knowledge Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Twinning, Field Visit, Peer-to-Peer, North-South, Exhibit, Conference, Master Classes, Knowledge Generation, Training, Course, Professional Development, Workshop, Seminar, Climate Change Mitigation, Climate Change Adaptation, Enabling Activities, Partnership, Stakeholders, Information Dissemination, Nationally Determined Contribution, Paris Agreement, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Gender results areas, Capacity Development

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1	No Contribution 0	No Contribution 0

Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

In recent years, the Climate Transparency Global Support Programme (GSP) has become a key mechanism for strengthening developing countries' capacity to implement the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement. Since its inception, the GSP has made substantial contributions to strengthening transparency capacities in developing countries. Across its previous phases, the programme has trained hundreds of national experts, supported more than 150 developing countries in strengthening transparency systems and preparing climate reports, including National Communications (NCs), Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and, more recently, Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). Through regional workshops, online knowledge-sharing platforms, and targeted technical exchanges, the GSP has contributed to South-South cooperation and established regional transparency networks for peer-learning and communities of practice that continue to grow in relevance.

The achievements of GSP-I and GSP-II demonstrate the value of combining global knowledge development with regional and national capacity-building efforts. The programme has helped countries strengthen climate reporting systems and improve their ability to meet evolving transparency requirements.

Experience from the first two phases generated important lessons that directly inform the design of the next stage of support. These include the importance of sustained peer learning, regional delivery approaches, practical hands-on training, continuous access to updated guidance, methodologies and tools, and strong coordination among transparency support providers. It also demonstrated the value of combining global knowledge development with regional and country-level delivery to ensure that technical guidance can be effectively applied in national contexts. These lessons underpin the design of GSP-III.

The complexity and ambition behind the ETF are often overlooked, as the ETF does not simply call on countries to report information they already have, but that they put in place -often for the first time- the transparency systems that produce reliable, consistent and useful climate data at the national level. By 2025, over 100 Parties submitted their BTR1 and among those, 50 Parties accounting for well over half of global emissions show initial progress toward their 2030 NDC targets. Parties reported nearly 5,000 policies and measures across all sectors, and adaptation is now featured in approximately 90% of submitted BTRs, thus reflecting progress in the operationalization of the ETF.

Despite this progress, structural challenges remain. Despite the growing ecosystem of initiatives supporting climate transparency, available financial and technical support remains insufficient relative to the scale and complexity of developing countries' needs. For developing countries, these difficulties are deepened by limited capacities: 47 of 66 developing country Parties applied at least one of the 12 flexibility provisions in the MPGs, reflecting capacity constraints rather than an absence of ambition.

Another challenge lies in ensuring effective coordination among international support providers. Although many organisations offer valuable assistance, their efforts frequently operate in parallel, leading to duplication in some areas and persistent gaps in others. Guidance materials and training resources, while extensive, require continuous updating to reflect the latest ETF modalities, IPCC methodologies, and emerging reporting requirements.

While Enabling Activities address immediate compliance needs and national CBIT projects target structural and institutional capacity within a single country, there remains a clear need for support at the global level. GSP III is designed to complement and reinforce these national investments by providing global public goods, technical methodologies, training resources, peer-learning opportunities, and coordination mechanisms that individual national projects cannot efficiently develop on their own. This creates a two-way flow of value: knowledge products, methodologies, and lessons generated at the global level feed directly into national CBIT projects and enabling activities, while country-level experience and demand inform the prioritization of global tools and guidance. This global-national architecture generates economies of scale, reduces duplication among support providers, and ensures that lessons learned in one country or region can be rapidly adapted and applied elsewhere.

GSP III builds on and scales up the results of previous phases by strengthening the linkages between global guidance, regional support structures and national implementation. Building directly on the tools, methodologies, and delivery approaches piloted and tested under GSP-I and GSP-II, GSP III scales these up through wider country coverage, deeper integration with national CBIT projects and enabling activities, and more systematic regional delivery mechanisms, moving from largely centralized, project-based support toward a more distributed, institutionalized model of technical assistance.

The project objective of the Climate Transparency Global Support Programme Phase III (GSP III) is to deepen developing countries' capacity to implement the ETF. GSP III's distinct added value lies in its ability to operate at a scale, and with a technical specialization, that no single national project can replicate; consolidating global expertise, harmonizing methodologies across countries, and sustaining institutional knowledge that would otherwise be lost between reporting cycles. This will be achieved by strengthening access to and use of global and regional climate transparency knowledge, tools, and networks; building inclusive and gender-responsive capacity to apply this knowledge; and improving the quality, consistency, and usability of climate reports and transparency frameworks, thereby supporting Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation, accountability, ambition and continuous improvement under the Paris Agreement. The next phase positions the GSP as a more integrated, system-level mechanism that helps connect global tools, guidance, regional delivery structures, and country demand into a coherent support architecture.

The GSP III project consolidates and expands the results of previous phases by enhancing global knowledge and coordination, strengthening regional transparency networks, and improving countries' ability to apply ETF-aligned methods and tools. It brings together the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in a reinforced partnership that enables broader reach, deeper technical traction, and closer alignment between global guidance development and in-country application. The project will be implemented through three mutually reinforcing components:

1. Coordinated knowledge development, management and dissemination (Component 1, C1) – Producing and updating gender-responsive, multilingual knowledge products and tools, including updates to the IPCC Inventory Software and the Climate Transparency Platform.
2. Building capacity to apply knowledge (Component 2, C2) – Providing targeted training, peer learning, regional coordination, direct support and reviews, and piloting a cooperation mechanism for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
3. Project monitoring and evaluation (Component 3, C3) - ensuring knowledge management and adaptive learning to ensure effectiveness and continuous improvement.

GSP III contributes to three GEF-8 Strategic Positioning Framework (2022) Levers for Systems Transformation: governance and policies, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and innovation and learning. The project, as global programme, will lead to global environmental benefits by enabling countries to improve the quality, completeness, and comparability of national transparency reporting. This in turn will lead to better-informed mitigation policies, enhanced adaptation planning, improved tracking of NDC implementation, stronger access to climate finance, and strengthened collective confidence among Parties of the Paris Agreement. The project is expected to benefit **8,623** individuals, with a strong focus on inclusivity, gender balance, and support to SIDS and LDCs.

Project Description Overview

Project Objective

To strengthen developing countries' capacity to implement the ETF by enhancing access to and use of global and regional climate transparency knowledge, tools, and networks; building inclusive and gender-responsive capacity to apply this knowledge; and improving the quality, consistency, and usability of climate reports and transparency frameworks.

Project Components

Component 1. Coordinated knowledge development, management and dissemination

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
3,356,381.00	580,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1. Developing country government officials and practitioners draw upon global platform knowledge products and tools for delivering on country ETF commitments

Output:

Output 1.1. New, updated and improved gender-responsive and socially inclusive guidance, tools and knowledge products on transparency are available to developing countries.

Output 1.2. Updated IPCC Inventory Software and associated IPCC gender-responsive knowledge products are made available to developing countries and practitioners

Output 1.3. An enhanced Climate Transparency Platform facilitates the use of climate transparency resources by developing countries and contributes to enhanced coordination and reach of support providers

Output 1.4. Programme identity, communication, advocacy and coordination mechanisms strengthened to support dissemination and accessibility of climate-transparency knowledge.

Component 2. Building capacity to apply knowledge on climate transparency

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
4,956,611.00	763,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2. Developing countries embed and apply lessons from regional transparency networks to improve the quality and inclusiveness of their climate reports and national transparency systems.

Output:

Output 2.1 Regional and language-based transparency networks sustained and strengthened to deliver online and in-person capacity-building, knowledge exchange, and coordination on climate transparency to developing countries

Output 2.2 A support package tailored to the specific needs of SIDS is piloted in the Pacific region, and documented for replication in other SIDS and LDCs

Output 2.3 Developing countries receive targeted gender-responsive technical assistance to improve the quality of their climate change reports and national climate transparency systems.

Component 3.Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
258,437.00	87,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3. Monitoring and evaluation results are used for adaptive management of the project.

Output:

Output 3.1 Project knowledge management strategy implemented, and Monitoring and evaluation products are delivered to inform adaptive management and learning.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
Component 1. Coordinated knowledge development, management and dissemination	3,356,381.00	580,000.00
Component 2. Building capacity to apply knowledge on climate transparency	4,956,611.00	763,000.00
Component 3.Project Monitoring and Evaluation	258,437.00	87,000.00
Subtotal	**8,571,429.00**	**1,430,000.00**
Project Management Cost	428,571.00	170,000.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**9,000,000.00**	**1,600,000.00**

Please provide Justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Introduction: climate transparency as a global system

The Paris Agreement, adopted at the 21st UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) sets out three long term goals: limiting the global temperature increase, strengthening climate resilience and aligning financial flows with these overall objectives. To contribute to the realization of these goals, Parties put forward their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), that must be updated at least every 5 years, reflecting increased ambition and progression over time. Article 13 of the Paris Agreement established the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), a common system through which all Parties report national climate data and information. The ETF aims to build trust and confidence amongst Parties, promote effective implementation, and foster a clear understanding of climate action. The Paris Agreement also establishes that support shall be provided to developing countries for continuously building their climate transparency capacities and the implementation of the ETF.[1][1] Decision 1/CP.21 operationalizes this through the creation of the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), discussed in more detail in the next section.[2][2]

The ETF is operationalized through its Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs)[3][3], which set out common rules, requirements, timelines, and review processes. Within the ETF, Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) constitute the primary reporting instrument through which Parties fulfil their transparency obligations[4][4], providing structured information on greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, mitigation actions and their effects, adaptation, and support provided, needed and received. BTRs provide fundamental data for the Global Stocktake[5][5] enabling assessment of collective progress towards the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Alongside the BTRs, Parties submit National Inventory Reports (NIRs), comprising the National Inventory Document (NID) and Common Reporting Tables (CRTs), detailing GHG emissions and removals, and report on support needed and received as part of their transparency obligations, together forming the full suite of reporting instruments under the ETF that developing countries must sustain on a recurring biennial cycle. Within this rule-based context, countries are the central actors, responsible for establishing and maintaining national transparency systems and for generating the information that feeds the global transparency cycle. The effectiveness of the ETF transparency architecture therefore depends on the functioning of national systems, while in turn shaping how transparency information is produced, reviewed, and aggregated to ensure the credibility, comparability, and completeness of the global stock of transparency information.

It is important to stress that reporting is not a goal in itself. Transparency information produced through BTRs is intended to inform and steer domestic NDC implementation, supporting evidence-based decision-making, tracking progress, and identifying areas where climate policies and measures (PaMs) should be adjusted and additional support is needed. For transparency to be meaningful under the Paris Agreement, the information produced must feed back into action — shaping the design, monitoring, and successive revision of NDCs and the policies through which countries operationalize their climate commitments.

National systems are tightly coupled to the global system through common rules, timelines, and review processes that link national efforts to collective global transparency objectives. A series of dynamic information flows and feedback loops connect the global and national transparency systems: data in BTRs generated at the national level feed into international review and assessment processes, including Technical Expert Review (TER) and the Facilitative, Multilateral Consideration of Progress (FMCP), both defined under the ETF; findings, recommendations, and lessons learned from these processes flow back to countries and support providers, informing the refinement of methods, systems, and capacities; and successive reporting cycles drive incremental improvements over time. At the international level, in turn, the Global Stocktake (GST) assesses collective progress toward the goals of the Paris Agreement every five years, relying heavily on information generated by national climate transparency systems and reported through the BTRs. The insights generated through the BTR-to-GST pipeline are designed to catalyse the ratcheting up of global ambition, directly informing the development of subsequent, more ambitious NDCs. As a result, the performance of the global transparency system is determined not only by the strength of individual national systems, but by the coherence, coordination, and adaptability of the macrosystem as a whole.

The complexity and ambition behind the ETF are often overlooked. The framework requires countries to produce information that cuts across an extraordinarily broad range of domains such as energy, land use and forestry, infrastructure, and public finance. Much of this information is not yet fully developed: inventories face data gaps, risk assessments are still being methodologically established, existing sectoral data is fragmented across institutions that do not necessarily have the capacity or mandate to share it. Moreover, NDCs are forward-looking instruments, and the transparency systems that support them must not only be able

to collect and produce historical data, but also credible projections linked to different policies and measures at the national and sectoral level. Thus, **the ETF does not simply call on countries to report information they already have, but that they put in place -often for the first time- the systems that produce reliable, consistent and useful climate data at the national level.**

Countries face the additional challenge of building these information systems while simultaneously being expected to use them. This permanently concurrent process demands institutional capacity that most countries are still developing and that is not accumulated in a straight line. In many cases, BTR and NDC calendars and processes remain largely disconnected from each other, with most developing countries still in the process of integrating transparency systems with domestic policy planning and budgeting.[6][6] Moreover, administrations change, priorities shift, dedicated staff move on, and institutional memory dissipates. Progress built painstakingly over years can stall or reverse within a single electoral cycle. National climate transparency is therefore as much a political and institutional challenge as a technical one. As a result, national transparency systems across the globe are heterogeneous, evolving, and situated at different levels of maturity. Furthermore, the expected revision of the MPGs in 2028[7][7] presents both an opportunity and a challenge for the transparency support ecosystem. On the opportunity side, the first round of BTR submissions and related review processes provides a rich empirical basis for the revision process — and the GSP, having worked across all regions and engaged with the full diversity of national contexts, is uniquely positioned to contribute to it. By bringing together regional and national perspectives on where countries have struggled and why, the GSP III can help ensure that the revised framework better reflects countries' actual capacities and data realities, strengthens support provisions, and addresses the ambiguities that currently make consistent capacity-building harder to deliver.

At the same time, the revision introduces a layer of complexity and uncertainty that will run through much of the project's implementation period. Countries will face new or updated reporting requirements before many of their systems are fully consolidated, and methodological changes may require rapid updates to tools, software, and knowledge products already under development. Support providers will need to adapt their capacity-building content to a moving target — a demanding prospect during an already intensive implementation phase. To mitigate the risks associated with this transition, the GSP III project is positioned as a key mechanism for helping countries navigate methodological changes. Sustaining the GSP's targeted technical support will be essential to guide countries through this revision process and prevent delays in their critical transparency investments.

Existing support

The transparency support and facilitation subsystem[8][8] has grown considerably since the Paris Agreement entered into force, with a range of actors — the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its implementing agencies, the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE), the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA), and numerous bilateral and multilateral initiatives — providing financial and technical assistance to developing countries.

t the core of the ecosystem, GEF-funded instruments - Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) and Enabling Activities (EAs) - form a functional continuum. EAs address immediate compliance needs by financing inventories, reports, and foundational institutional arrangements, while CBIT targets the structural bottleneck of sustainability by investing in permanent systems, institutional arrangements, data platforms, and

human capital. When sequenced effectively, these instruments support transition from report production to durable system operation.

nited Nations agencies, including UNEP, UNDP and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) have a long, demonstrated, and successful history of supporting countries in implementing GEF and related projects to advance climate transparency on the ground. UNEP — particularly through its Copenhagen Climate Centre — brings extensive technical expertise in transparency systems, climate data, mitigation assessment, and capacity-building for developing countries, including through earlier phases of the GSP. UNDP, through its Planet Hub, manages a climate portfolio spanning over 140 countries. Building on the mandate recognized by the UN Secretary-General at COP30 for UNDP to accelerate NDC implementation, the Planet Hub deploys extensive transparency expertise; currently supporting more than 80 countries to deliver high-quality BTRs and establish robust MRV and REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) infrastructure. Together, UNEP and UNDP account for over 60 CBIT projects and approximately $109 million, with UNEP leading the portfolio as the single largest CBIT implementing agency by both project count and resources, and UNDP contributing a complementary presence across Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe. In turn, FAO is the second largest CBIT implementing agency by resources, with 26 projects totalling over $41 million across developing countries, with particular strength in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector — which accounts for nearly 40% of all CBIT project activities globally — and through dedicated global programmes including CBIT-Forest and CBIT-AFOLU.[9][9]

he IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI) plays a foundational role in the global transparency system by providing the scientific and methodological backbone on which all ETF-related reporting rests. The IPCC's influence is exercised through the provision of scientifically robust reporting guidance and an IPCC Inventory Software tool, rather than through direct implementation. As of 13 January 2026, a review of BTR submissions available on the UNFCCC website indicates that over 75% of developing countries that submitted a GHG inventory used the IPCC Inventory Software in some capacity, rising to 83% when considering only LDCs and SIDS. To meet the ETF reporting requirements, countries rely on this IPCC Inventory Software and a broader suite of technical tools and knowledge products (KPs) designed to ensure transparency, completeness, consistency, accuracy, and comparability. These tools cover a broad spectrum of issues, from GHG inventory compilation to tracking climate finance and reporting on adaptation. Many are provided or endorsed by the UNFCCC and IPCC, while others come from other initiatives within the global transparency support subsystem. To meet the ETF reporting requirements, countries rely on this IPCC Inventory Software and a broader suite of technical tools and knowledge products (KPs) designed to ensure transparency, completeness, consistency, accuracy, and comparability. These tools cover a broad spectrum of issues, from GHG inventory compilation to tracking climate finance and reporting on adaptation. Many are provided or endorsed by the UNFCCC and IPCC, while others come from other initiatives within the global transparency support subsystem.

he CGE is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) primary body for providing technical assistance and support to developing country Parties in meeting their reporting obligations under both the Convention and the Enhanced Transparency Framework. Established under decision 3/CP.8 and progressively strengthened through subsequent COP decisions, the CGE's mandate was most recently renewed and expanded at COP24 in Katowice, where it was formally renamed and tasked with supporting the transition to BTR-based reporting under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Its functions include facilitating the provision of technical advice, supporting developing country Parties to prepare their biennial transparency reports, and providing technical advice to the secretariat on the implementation of the training of technical expert review teams.

ther initiatives such as ICAT, PATPA, the Global Climate Action Partnership (GCAP), the Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for co-Innovation (PaSTI), the Baku Platform and the NDC Partnership operate as horizontal connectors across the ecosystem. ICAT and PATPA strengthen methodological convergence and peer learning; GCAP and the NDC Partnership link transparency to sectoral transformation and investment; PaSTI uniquely bridges public transparency frameworks with private-sector MRV. The ETF Group of Friends on Transparency is an informal network of stakeholders providing financial, technical, and capacity-building support to developing countries on MRV and transparency issues. While it does not deliver technical assistance directly, it plays an important role in enhancing coordination of support, avoiding duplication of efforts and promoting collaboration and partnerships.[10][10]

Despite the growing ecosystem of initiatives supporting climate transparency, the level of available financial and technical support remains insufficient relative to the scale and complexity of the needs faced by developing countries.

ETF: progress and outstanding challenges

Continuous improvement is a foundational principle of the Paris Agreement's architecture. Rather than setting static obligations, the Agreement establishes a dynamic cycle in which countries are expected to progressively strengthen their climate action over time, allowing developing country Parties that need flexibility to apply tailored provisions in light of their capacities, with the expectation that these will be progressively reduced as their systems mature.

Two recent UNFCCC Secretariat reports provide a timely and authoritative assessment of where the world stands in implementing the ETF. The report “Progress, best practices and remaining challenges related to implementing Article 13 of Paris Agreement” (FCCC/SBI/2025/10, published May 2025) synthesizes views submitted by Parties and groups of Parties on their experience implementing Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.[11][11] The report ”Biennial transparency reports and national inventory reports“ (FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16, published October 2025, for CMA 7 in Belém) provides a comprehensive synthesis of the 101 BTR1 submissions received as of April 2025, covering GHG trends, NDC implementation, adaptation, and support flows across both developed and developing countries.[12][12]

Taken together, the two reports confirm that a meaningful first step has been taken. Over 100 Parties submitted their BTR1 — a historic milestone in the ETF — and among those, 50 Parties accounting for well over half of global emissions show initial progress toward their 2030 NDC targets.[13][13] Parties reported nearly 5,000 policies and measures across all sectors, and adaptation is now featured in approximately 90% of submitted BTRs. These figures represent genuine progress in operationalizing the Paris Agreement's transparency architecture.

Yet the same reports make clear that the structural challenges facing the ETF remain significant, and are in many respects more visible now than before, precisely because the first reporting cycle has brought them into the open. As mentioned earlier, the ETF is an unprecedented global effort, and even developed countries with advanced institutional systems are still learning to navigate it. FCCC/SBI/2025/10 documents that developed country Parties reported ongoing difficulties coordinating across subnational levels of government,

standardizing data collection methodologies, and tracking private finance flows. Applying the MPGs has been a learning experience across the board.

For developing countries, these difficulties are deepened by limited capacities. FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16 documents the scale of the challenge across the 101 BTR1 submissions covered: 47 of 66 developing country Parties applied at least one of the 12 flexibility provisions in the MPGs, reflecting genuine capacity constraints rather than an absence of ambition. Data gaps remain widespread — particularly in the IPPU, LULUCF, and agriculture sectors — and most developing country Parties relied on tier 1 IPCC methodologies, primarily due to the absence of country-specific emission factors and reliable activity data. Adaptation reporting, while included in nearly 90% of BTR1s, is frequently limited by a lack of standardized metrics, monitoring and evaluation systems, and tools for assessing climate risks. Loss and damage reporting is nascent, with no common methodological basis yet established. Institutionally, most developing country Parties still report weak inter-agency coordination, high staff turnover, and insufficient human and technical resources to sustain reporting on a continuous basis — constraints that directly affect their ability to produce and submit climate transparency reports.[14][14] These findings were formally acknowledged by Parties at CMA.7 (Belém, 2025), which in Decision 15/CMA.7 recognized the ongoing challenges faced by developing country Parties in implementing the ETF.[15][15]

The support available to developing countries, while growing, has been neither easy to access nor sufficient to meet the scale of what is needed. FCCC/SBI/2025/10 records that most developing country Parties flagged the inadequacy, unpredictability, and fragmentation of available financial and technical support as structural problems undermining their ability to meet ETF obligations. This complexity reflects the broader transparency support landscape, which remains fragmented across multiple providers and initiatives. Combined with capacity and coordination constraints within national institutions, this has at times affected the continuity of national technical teams and the pace of BTR preparation. Parties also noted that available resources remain largely insufficient to cover the full costs associated with establishing, maintaining, and continuously improving national transparency systems. It is against this backdrop of a fragmented support landscape and persistent national capacity constraints that the next phase of the Climate Transparency Global Support Programme is positioned, offering a coordinated, sustained mechanism to help countries navigate the transparency support ecosystem and build lasting institutional capacity.

The Climate Transparency Global Support Programme

The case for a Global Support Programme

The need for dedicated support at the global level has been explicitly recognized at the highest political level. Decision 21/CMA.6, adopted at CMA.6 (Baku, 2024), welcomed the support provided by the GEF and its implementing agencies through national CBITs and the Global Support Programme — recognizing the GSP's role in addressing developing countries' transparency challenges.[16][16] Building on this, Decision 15/CMA.7 (Belém, 2025) highlighted the benefits of a programmatic approach to transparency support and reaffirmed the importance of adequate, predictable, and timely capacity-building on a continuous basis.[17][17] This continuous, programmatic model of support reflects a broader shift the GSP is designed to help advance: moving developing countries' transparency arrangements away from ad hoc, project-based reporting efforts

and toward institutionalized, sustainable national transparency systems capable of enduring beyond individual funding cycles.

The three support modalities provided by the GEF respond to different but mutually reinforcing needs. Enabling Activities support countries in meeting immediate reporting obligations and national CBIT projects strengthen country specific institutional and technical capacities needed to establish sustainable national transparency systems.

The Global Support Programme, in turn, addresses needs that are inherently regional and global and therefore cannot be efficiently delivered through individual country projects. It complements national investments by developing common methodologies and technical guidance, translating lessons from BTR implementation and Technical Expert Reviews into global knowledge products, facilitating peer learning and South-South cooperation, coordinating transparency support providers, maintaining communities of practice, and providing targeted technical support that complements Enabling Activities and national CBIT projects by helping countries address specific technical challenges encountered during report preparation and project implementation.

This global-level support is particularly critical for the subset of developing countries that do not have a dedicated national CBIT project or enabling activity currently under implementation, for whom the GSP often represents the only accessible source of technical support to fulfil their ETF obligations. Together, these three modalities form an integrated support architecture that combines country ownership with collective learning and global coordination.

By operating across multiple countries simultaneously, a global programme generates economies of scale and improves cost efficiency through the development of shared methodologies, tools, training materials, and technical resources that can be adapted to different national contexts. It also creates a platform for South-South cooperation and peer learning, enabling countries facing similar challenges to exchange practical experiences, lessons learned, and innovative solutions. Beyond the provision of templates and support for preparing BTRs, CRTs, and CTFs, a global programme promotes greater consistency in the implementation of the ETF, fostering common understanding and more harmonized, coordinated approaches across countries and regions.

A global programme will serve as a central hub for knowledge management — a one-stop platform for guidance documents, technical resources, communities of practice, expert networks, events, and capacity-building opportunities. This approach enables gaps and emerging challenges to be identified and addressed in a more systematic manner, allowing scalable solutions developed in one context to benefit many countries.

In a context of shifting donor priorities and political uncertainty around multilateral climate commitments, a well-established, institutionally anchored global programme can also bring continuity of support beyond individual project cycles, preserving institutional knowledge and maintaining long-term engagement with countries as their transparency systems mature. By leveraging a broad pool of international and regional expertise and facilitating stronger coordination among transparency support providers, a global programme reduces duplication, enhances complementarity, and maximizes the overall effectiveness and coherence of support for implementing the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement transparency requirements.

Likewise, coordination challenges among support providers — duplication of effort, inconsistent guidance, perceptions of unequal treatment — require a convening mechanism that operates above individual initiatives and serves the ecosystem as a whole, rather than a single mandate or funding window.

Through their combined portfolio of national CBIT projects and Enabling Activities, UNEP and UNDP work directly with countries across every region and accumulate a depth of on-the-ground evidence that no other actor in the transparency support ecosystem — including the UNFCCC Secretariat and the CGE — is

positioned to match. The GSP was conceived to translate this unique vantage point into global public goods, regional coordination, and systemic learning that benefits the entire transparency community.

The GSP: brief history and context

The 'Global Support Program for Preparation of National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) for non-Annex I Parties under the UNFCCC' was established in 2015 by the GEF (GEF ID 5141) in partnership with the UNDP and UNEP, to strengthen developing countries' capacity to meet climate reporting requirements under the UNFCCC, at the time, consisting mainly of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports (BURs).[18][18] Under execution until 2021, this was the first forerunner of the current programme.

In 2018, already in the context of the Paris Agreement ETF, the CBIT Global Coordination Platform (CBIT GCP), was designed to provide a platform for information sharing and knowledge management to support CBIT projects and countries in their transition to the ETF. Like the original GSP, the GCP was jointly implemented by UNEP and UNDP, and funded through the GEF (GEF ID 9675).[19][19] This project corresponds to 'Phase I' of the current programme.

A subsequent phase aimed at unifying both initiatives was launched in 2022 under the name "CBIT Global Support Programme" (CBIT-GSP), consisting of two GEF projects: phase II-A (GEF ID 10128) and phase II-B (GEF ID 10088).[20][20]

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[1] Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, para. 14-15.

[2] Decision 1/CP.21 para. 85-86 (https://unfccc.int/files/home/application/pdf/decision1cp21.pdf)

[3] Decision 18/CMA.1 (https://unfccc.int/resource/tet/0/00mpg.pdf)

[4] UNFCCC BTR registry: https://unfccc.int/first-biennial-transparency-reports

[5] Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, operationalized through Decision 19/CMA.1

(https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2018_3_add2_new_advance.pdf)

[6] OECD, UNDP (2025) *Investing in Climate for Growth and Development - The Case for Enhanced NDCs*, p. 220. Available at https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2025/06/investing-in-climate-for-growth-and-development_9ce9b093/16b7cbc7-en.pdf

[7] Decision 18/CMA.1 requests the first review and update, as appropriate, of the MPGs no later than 2028, based on experience gained through reporting, technical expert review, and facilitative multilateral consideration of progress.

[8] Also referred as 'support ecosystem' throughout the document.

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[9] GEF (2025) *Progress Report on the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency*, p. 5. Available at https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-c-69-inf-07

[10] A detailed description of each of these programmes, as well as how the project intends to interact with each, is provided in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex L).

[11] FCCC/SBI/2025/10. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbi2025_10.pdf

[12] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/651012

[13] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16, p.5.

[14] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16 pp. 59-62.

[15] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/19/Add.2; Decision 15/CMA.7, para. 4.

[16] FCCC/PA/CMA/2024/17/Add.3; Decision 21/CMA.6, para. 2.

[17] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/19/Add.2; Decision 15/CMA.7, para. 6.

[18] Available at https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/5141

[19] Available at https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/9675

[20] 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 (discontinued) CBIT set-aside under GEF-6. In contrast, Phase II B is funded through the regular GEF Trust Fund.

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[1] Available at https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/5141

[2] Available at https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/9675

[3] 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 (discontinued) CBIT set-aside under GEF-6. In contrast, Phase II B is funded through the regular GEF Trust Fund.

Table 1. History of the GSP

GEF ID	Period	Title	Scope
5141	2015 - 2021	Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports of Non-Annex I Parties under the UNFCCC (GSP)	To enable Non-Annex I Parties to prepare and submit in a timely manner quality NCs and BURs to the UNFCCC.
9675	2017 – 2019	Capacity building initiative for transparency (CBIT) Global Coordination Platform	The project had the objective to establish an online platform supporting countries to understand and implement the transparency framework of the Paris Agreement. The platform provided development partners with an overview of

			existing initiatives to coordinate support efficiently and countries with knowledge and information forums for sharing best practices.
10128	2020 – 2025	Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II A: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement	Phase II A focused on a streamlined platform for knowledge delivery, support for knowledge products, and global stocktaking and dissemination of best practices, effectively merging GSP and CBIT GCP platforms.
10088	2022 – 2027 (on-going)	Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform Phase II B: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement	Phase II B added targeted technical support and training for developing country parties through south-south regional networks.
11880	2027 – 2029 (this project)	Climate Transparency Global Support Programme III (Climate Transparency-GSP III)	Provides continuity and enhances support with the aim of accelerating and improving developing countries' transition to the ETF.

The objective of the currently on-going Phase II is to provide a one-stop source of support and streamlined website, as well as capacity building at the country, regional, and global level to enable developing countries under the Paris Agreement to better respond to reporting requirements and to catalyse increased ambition in NDCs to contribute to the stated temperature goals of the Paris Agreement. Components of CBIT-GSP Phase II comprise streamlined knowledge development and delivery in support of Article 13; global stakeholder outreach and dissemination of best practices; and capacity strengthening for developing countries through customized support and South-South sub-regional peer networks and learning to support current and future reporting requirements. Through such components, multiple support modalities are in place, at the global, regional, and national level.

Governance and structure of the on-going phase

Phase IIB is the on-going phase at the time of preparing this proposal, running from June 2022 to March 2027. UNEP's Climate Change Mitigation Division serves as the GEF Implementing Agency, with UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC), administered by UNOPS, as the Executing Agency. UNDP coordinates two of the ten regional language networks. Governance is provided through a Project Steering Committee (PSC), which includes representatives from UNEP, UNDP, UNEP-CCC, the UNFCCC Secretariat, the GEF Secretariat, other GEF Implementing Agencies working on transparency[1], Non-Annex I Parties, and Annex I Parties or development partners. An Executive Meeting Group (EMG), composed of senior managers from the implementing agencies, oversees programme implementation.

Ten regional networks provide technical support to countries and help coordinate regional-level activities. Each network is led by a dedicated coordinator, under the following coordination arrangements: i) eight networks (Anglophone Africa, Anglophone Caribbean, Asia, Central Asia and Caucasus, Eurasia, Middle East and North Africa, the Pacific, and Spanish-speaking Latin America and the Caribbean) are managed by

coordinators contracted under CBIT-GSP II; ii) two networks (the Francophone and Lusophone clusters) are coordinated by UNDP Climate Promise staff funded through a Belgian contribution. Despite the different funding sources, these language clusters participate in and report to CBIT-GSP II in the same way as the other networks.

The CBIT-GSP Phase II maintains a roster of experts that can be mobilised to conduct desk reviews of transparency reports, provide targeted on-demand support to countries conduct regional training, and provide follow-up support.

[1] At the time of preparing this proposal, assigned to FAO.

Key achievements and areas of improvement

Since its inception, the GSP has made substantial contributions to strengthening transparency capacities in developing countries. Hundreds of national experts have been trained in GHG inventory preparation, MRV systems and reporting under the UNFCCC and the ETF. The programme has supported more than 150 countries in preparing and submitting NCs and BURs, while ensuring continuity during the transition to BTRs. Through regional workshops, online knowledge-sharing platforms, and targeted technical exchanges, the GSP has contributed to South-South cooperation and created regional networks for peer-learning and communities of practice that continue to grow in relevance. In complementarity with national CBIT projects, the GSP provides training, quality reviews, and technical backstopping to strengthen institutional arrangements, build capacity, enhance data collection, and improve reporting over time. While CBIT and national projects are essential for building country-level capacities, the GSP, as a global programme can address systemic challenges, promote consistency, and generate efficiencies that are difficult to achieve through fragmented or isolated interventions that focus specifically at national level.

The integration of the original GSP and the CBIT GCP into CBIT-GSP has enhanced coordination across the global transparency support ecosystem and responded directly to COP decisions on transparency. According to the CBIT-GSP II Mid-Term Review (MTR) conducted in December 2024, the programme's partnership-based implementation model and co-financing arrangements have delivered strong cost-effectiveness, with most output targets achieved or exceeded at mid-term. The MTR also confirms that governance arrangements are inclusive and participatory, with strong representation of key stakeholders, demand-driven country support, and gender-balanced participation, including in project management and oversight.

The CBIT-GSP Phase II launched the Climate Transparency Platform in June 2023. The Platform serves as a one-stop hub for information on ETF-related initiatives, country reporting efforts, support providers and knowledge products. It enables peer exchange through a Global Forum and ten Network Forums, supports country requests for targeted assistance, and facilitates coordination among major transparency actors, including the UNFCCC Secretariat, CGE, ICAT, PATPA and FAO.

The Programme also develops and disseminates a wide range of knowledge products—case studies, tools and guidance—shared through the Platform's Knowledge Centre, creating synergies across national and global CBIT projects. Regular global and regional events, including annual Global Forums, strengthen learning, identify common challenges, and promote coordination.

Experiences reported by Parties in the SB62 synthesis report highlight the importance of regional exchanges and peer-to-peer learning as effective mechanisms for strengthening national transparency systems.[1] Through its ten transparency networks, the GSP has delivered over 100 trainings, workshops and webinars, supporting South-South cooperation and peer learning, particularly for countries without CBIT funding. At the country level, CBIT-GSP Phase II has responded to more than 100 requests for targeted assistance and reviewed over 100 transparency reports, including NCs, BURs and BTRs. Over the course of implementation, the GSP has also generated important operational lessons on how transparency support works most effectively

in practice. Experience has shown, for example, the value of organizing support through regional and language-based networks, which facilitate more frequent interaction among practitioners facing similar challenges. Peer-to-peer learning modalities have proven particularly effective in enabling countries to exchange practical solutions and methodologies, while on-demand desk reviews during the preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) have provided targeted support at critical moments in the reporting process. Similarly, the programme's hybrid delivery model—combining virtual engagement with in-person regional workshops—has helped balance accessibility with the depth of interaction required for technical collaboration.

The MTR for CBIT-GSP Phase II also highlights room for improvement. For instance, the Climate Transparency Platform[2] illustrates a broader challenge facing the global transparency support ecosystem: the absence of a clear, shared identity across initiatives and implementing partners. While the Platform was designed as a collective hub for transparency stakeholders, it is often perceived as the tool of a single institution rather than as a neutral, jointly owned asset of the wider system.[3] This perception limits not only the Platform's uptake and effectiveness, but also its ability to function as a unifying entry point for countries seeking support. Addressing this challenge requires more than technical improvements to the Platform itself; it calls for a coherent, common identity that clearly signals collective ownership, shared accountability, and delivery as one programme.

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[1] FCCC/SBI/2025/10 para. 16. Many developing country Parties emphasized that regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing platforms have proven particularly valuable for identifying practical solutions to common challenges in implementing the ETF, including the development of national reporting systems, data management approaches and institutional arrangements. Such exchanges enable countries facing similar circumstances to share lessons learned, methodologies and tools, helping to accelerate progress and avoid duplication of efforts. Through workshops, technical dialogues and communities of practice, regional collaboration has also been identified as an important channel for strengthening technical capacity and fostering innovation in transparency-related practices.

[2] https://climate-transparency-platform.org/the-platform

[3] UNEP (2024) *Mid-Term Review of the UNEP Project Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, Phase II (CBIT-GSP II) GEF ID #: 10088 + 10128*, pp. 55-56.

Strategic evolution of the GSP

For its next Phase, the GSP is shifting in its conception and role within the global transparency support ecosystem. Rather than serving primarily as a coordination umbrella for national CBIT projects and related enabling activities, the next phase positions the GSP as a more integrated, system-level mechanism that helps connect global tools, guidance, regional delivery structures, and country demand into a coherent support architecture. In the context of fragmented support provided by multiple entities and programmes across the transparency support ecosystem, the GSP can play a critical role not only in supporting countries but also in strengthening the effectiveness of the support architecture itself—by facilitating more accessible, coordinated and sustained technical assistance, and by helping respond to countries' calls for simpler access to funding, more streamlined processes and greater coherence across the modalities and procedures of different support providers.

Unlike other initiatives, the GSP has a broad and truly global coverage and reach and is capable of supporting all countries in navigating the transparency landscape, strengthening national systems and translating

international reporting requirements into practical implementation. Thus, the GSP is strategically positioned to help bridge persistent gaps between available support and the operational needs of developing countries implementing the ETF. Rather than addressing transparency challenges in isolation, the GSP seeks to stregthen key linkages across the global transparency system—supporting countries at different stages of system maturity, aligning support efforts and tools, facilitating learning and feedback, and enhancing the overall effectiveness, resilience, and sustainability of the global climate transparency ecosystem.

This systemic role carries significance beyond the technical — climate transparency is also an enabler of the universal right to access environmental information, anchored in international human rights law from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) to the Aarhus Convention and affirmed most recently by UN General Assembly Resolution 76/300.[21][21] By strengthening developing countries' capacity to produce and disseminate high-quality climate information, the GSP III actively contributes to translating this right into practice, serving as a tool for public accountability and social inclusion.

This strategic evolution and positioning is also reflected in the programme's naming: while the currently on-going phase was framed as the "Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform", the next phase (i.e. this project) was titled "Climate Transparency Global Support Programme", signaling a stronger emphasis on integrated, system-level support for global climate transparency that extends beyond any single funding modality, implementing agency, or support instrument, and reflects the GSP's role as a central enabler within the broader transparency ecosystem.

[22][22]

Barrier analysis

Overview and problem statement

Climate transparency operates as a global, multi-level system, comprising national transparency systems managed by countries, a shared rule-based architecture under the Paris Agreement, and a broader ecosystem of support and facilitation. The effectiveness of this architecture depends not only on the strength of individual components, but on how well they interact, evolve, and reinforce one another over time. Building on this system perspective, this section expands on the key barriers presented in the previous sections, and that this project seeks to address.[1]

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[1] Mainly, refer to FCCC/SBI/2025/10 and FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16 (both discussed above in the section "ETF: progress and outstanding challenges").

Beyond compliance and reporting under international obligations, robust national transparency systems inform domestic climate governance, support better investment decisions, align national development planning with mitigation and adaptation goals, and strengthen public trust in climate policies.

However, the current system is not yet performing to its full potential, particularly in responding consistently and effectively to country needs. In this context, the current global landscape of transparency support remains limited in comparison to the complexity of the task and countries need continuing support. Although over the past decade, multiple organizations—ranging from the UNFCCC secretariat and the IPCC to UN agencies,

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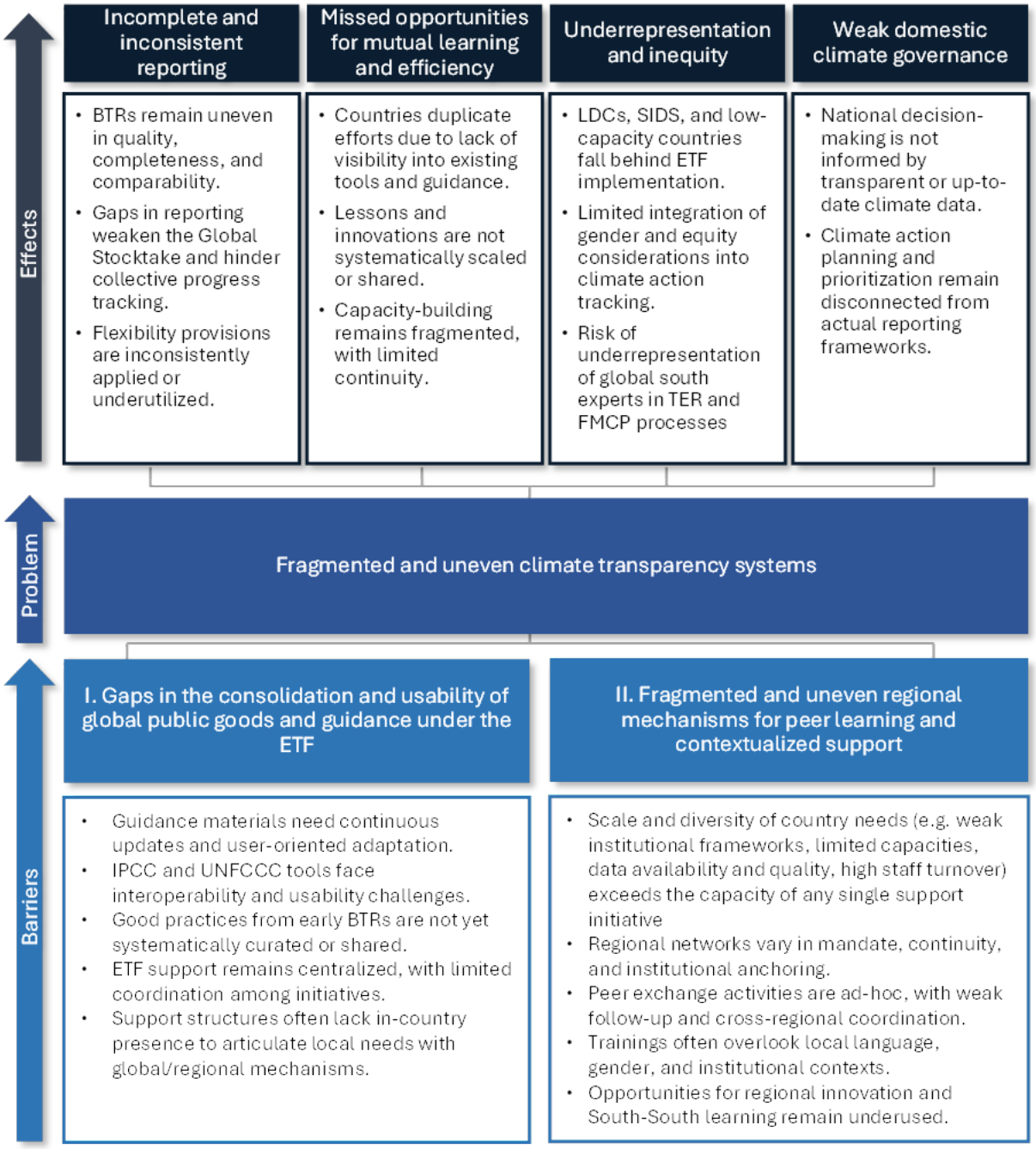
bilateral programs, and academic initiatives—have developed a vast array of methodological, institutional, and digital resources to support national transparency systems, these resources are often scattered across projects, platforms, and formats, without a central mechanism to consolidate, update, or ensure interoperability. These are the central problems that the GSP has sought to address since its inception, and which the next phase aims to tackle with greater institutional permanence and systemic reach, building on the lessons learned during the previous phases.

The above-mentioned challenges stem from two broad and interrelated categories of underlying barriers, at the global and regional levels, both described in greater depth in the following subsections and summarized in the project's Problem Tree (Figure 1 below). Note however that while these two barrier categories are presented as analytically distinct to improve clarity, in practice they are deeply interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Weaknesses at the global level—such as lack of up-to-date and harmonized tools or coordination among initiatives—translate into uneven regional implementation, while gaps in regional cooperation prevent country feedback and innovation from informing global guidance. Together, they form a self-reinforcing cycle of fragmentation that undermines the full potential of the ETF as both a reporting framework and a driver of effective, evidence-based climate action.

Figure 1. Project problem tree



Barrier I. Gaps in the consolidation and usability of global public goods and guidance under the ETF

ETF-related resources have expanded significantly yet remain highly fragmented and unevenly curated. Different organizations and initiatives produce valuable guidance, training materials, and data platforms; yet these are often designed in isolation, reflecting distinct institutional mandates, methodologies, and terminologies. A core aspect of this fragmentation is the lack of systematic consolidation and continuous maintenance of global public goods. Many early CBIT tools and templates have not been consistently updated to reflect evolving ETF modalities, methodological refinements or lessons from first BTR submissions. For transparency teams with limited human and financial capacity - particularly in a context where transparency systems must adapt rapidly to new ETF requirements or increased data granularity – this fragmentation creates confusion, duplication of efforts, and underutilization of available support. Thus, countries struggle to

understand how existing tools relate to each other, and how they can effectively link to their own institutional arrangements and national circumstances. An overview of the key knowledge products and reporting tools for climate transparency is provided in Annex S.

A barrier to participation in the ETF is inherent in the system design, which requires countries to operate within a framework adopted by the IPCC for calculating emissions and removals and one by the UNFCCC dedicated to reporting results and aggregating global information. While both institutions promote methodological rigor and consistency, differences in data structures, terminology, and digital formats make it challenging for countries to independently navigate, align, and integrate the two frameworks coherently, as needed for BTR reporting. Recent years have seen technical interoperability established between the IPCC Inventory Software and the UNFCCC reporting tools, but gaps remain — both IPCC Inventory Software-related and in countries' capacity to fully absorb and benefit from its use. Refer to Annex R for further details on the adoption of the IPCC Inventory Software for Paris Agreement reporting, including both the benefits and barriers to its use.

Additionally, experiential knowledge from early BTRs — on institutional coordination, QA/QC systems, and gender integration — is not systematically translated into actionable guidance for practitioners. While UNFCCC synthesis reports document what Parties have reported, and individual CBIT and enabling activity projects accumulate valuable operational lessons, the architecture for aggregating this knowledge across the broader project portfolio and converting it into practitioner-facing tools is not yet systematically embedded across the broader transparency support landscape. How countries structured inter-institutional coordination resolved data gaps, or mainstreamed gender into reporting workflows is rarely extracted from project-level documentation and made accessible to transparency teams preparing their next cycle. The consequences are visible in the first wave of BTR submissions, reflecting differences in the interpretation of the MPGs. The UNFCCC's synthesis of BTR1 submissions found that 20 Parties submitted blank or incomplete structured summary tables and 11 could not be assessed for NDC progress due to missing or inconsistent information — despite all Parties operating under the same common reporting formats.[1] Without structured feedback loops to convert this dispersed experience into shared practice, the gap between well-supported and under-supported countries will persist.

Furthermore, coordination among transparency initiatives remains intermittent, and project-driven, resulting in overlap in training topics, duplication of effort, and occasional inconsistencies in guidance. Each initiative typically operates with its own mandates, procedures, timelines, and reporting requirements, which can create duplication of efforts, inconsistencies in guidance, perceptions of unequal treatment, and confusion for countries attempting to navigate available support.[1] The GSP has already demonstrated the value of a joint platform to convene and align actors around the ETF; its continuation and strengthening are therefore essential to sustain coherence and transform the current mosaic of efforts into a coordinated ecosystem of global transparency support.

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[1] FCCC/SBI/2025/10 para. 47 (b) and (c).

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[1] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16, paras. 138–139.

Barrier II. Fragmented and uneven regional mechanisms for peer learning and contextualized support

The GSP has already played a central role in fostering regional exchange and collaboration among transparency stakeholders. Through its thematic dialogues, technical workshops, and regional networks, it has helped countries share experiences and build the human and institutional foundations needed for ETF implementation. However, the scale and diversity of country needs (e.g. weak or fragmented institutional frameworks, limited technical and human capacity, data availability and quality challenges, and high staff turnover) exceed the capacity of any single support initiative, making coordination and efficient use of available support essential. The next phase presents an opportunity to consolidate and build upon lessons learned, moving from project-based cooperation toward sustained regional ecosystems for learning and support.

In the absence of the GSP, the mechanisms that should facilitate contextualized learning, South–South cooperation, and peer-to-peer support remain weakly institutionalized and unevenly distributed. Some regions have established networks that periodically convene technical dialogues or training workshops, but these are often dependent on specific donor projects and have a more limited scope and coverage of beneficiaries, whereas the GSP works across all regions and with all developing countries. Other regions lack any regular platform for transparency collaboration, resulting in isolation and duplication of efforts among neighbouring countries facing similar challenges. Other than the current GSP efforts, existing regional initiatives frequently operate without stable institutional anchoring or predictable financing, leading to discontinuities in engagement. Once external funding ends, the momentum of cooperation often dissipates, and accumulated knowledge or regional coordination structures are lost. The absence of dedicated coordination nodes makes it difficult to sustain communities of practice or manage regional data and knowledge products in the long term. This lack of predictability and sustainability are even more impactful under an ETF requiring continued biennial engagement.

Likewise, in the absence of the GSP, capacity-building activities at the regional level also tend to remain too generic or detached from local institutional and linguistic realities. Trainings and workshops often emphasize the global architecture of ETF reporting but overlook region-specific needs—such as integrating national transparency systems into existing statistical frameworks, aligning with sectoral ministries, or addressing language barriers that hinder access to technical documentation. Previous GSP activities have generated a strong base of trained experts and national focal points, creating the opportunity to improve the continuity and depth of capacity-building. There is scope to enhance contextualization and inclusiveness, especially for SIDS and LDCs: the GSP can build on past experience by tailoring regional interventions to local languages, institutional settings, and gender dynamics. This would mean developing region-specific toolkits and guidance, fostering partnerships with local universities and training institutions, and systematically integrating gender and equity considerations into curricula, ensuring that transparency capacity is both relevant and socially embedded.

Furthermore, cross-regional collaboration and knowledge exchange outside the GSP remain limited. Innovations and success stories from one region - such as the establishment of multi-institutional MRV platforms or participatory QA/QC procedures - rarely reach other parts of the world. Without systematic coordination across regional hubs, opportunities for replication and collective learning are lost, reinforcing the asymmetry of capacities across regions. The GSP has already demonstrated its convening power through inter-regional dialogues and exchange sessions; scaling these up can enable replication of successful models - such as data-sharing platforms or institutional arrangements - across regions. Structured channels for documenting and disseminating innovations can transform regional experiences into global public goods, feeding directly into the continuous improvement of ETF guidance.

In summary, the challenge for regional transparency support is not the absence of initiatives, but the need to sustain, connect, and enhance existing ones. Building on the achievements of previous GSP phases, Phase III can provide the continuity, institutional maturity, and cross-regional integration required to transform regional peer learning into a permanent driver of collective improvement under the ETF.

Effects of the problem and its underlying barriers

These barriers result in uneven quality, timeliness and comparability of BTRs. This persists despite the standardization provided by the common reporting tables (CRTs) and common tabular formats (CTFs), which structure how Parties report quantitative and qualitative information. CRTs and CTFs standardize the format of reporting, but comparability of the underlying content still depends on data quality, institutional capacity, and methodological choices — such as reliance on Tier 1 IPCC methodologies or the use of MPG flexibility provisions — which continue to vary across countries. While some countries produce robust reports, others struggle to meet minimum requirements, weakening inputs to the Global Stocktake and limiting collective assessment of progress. Low-capacity countries - particularly LDCs and SIDS - remain at a structural disadvantage, lacking dedicated transparency teams and digital infrastructure, sustained institutional arrangements, or access to specialized expertise. The resulting asymmetry perpetuates a cycle of dependency and under-representation, where the perspectives and needs of these countries are insufficiently reflected in global guidance and negotiations.

The fragmentation of knowledge and weak regional collaboration also hinder collective learning and innovation. Lessons from pioneering countries - whether on institutional coordination, data governance, or the integration of adaptation, mitigation and support reporting - are not systematically disseminated, preventing other countries from benefiting from tested approaches. Similarly, the lack of consolidated feedback loops between the national and global levels limits the adaptability of global tools and methodologies.

These inefficiencies have broader implications for climate governance and policy coherence. Weak transparency systems reduce the availability of reliable data for national planning, monitoring, and attracting finance to support investment decisions. They also constrain countries' ability to link transparency with NDC implementation, long-term strategies, or sectoral policies - thereby weakening the transparency–ambition feedback loop that the ETF was designed to enable. Finally, the persistence of gender and equity gaps within transparency support mechanisms risks not only reproducing structural imbalances in access to capacity-building and decision-making but also undermining climate action and ambition. Without deliberate efforts to mainstream gender and inclusiveness in transparency systems, the ETF's promise of universal participation and fairness remains only partially fulfilled.

In sum, while the foundations of global and regional transparency support have been firmly established—particularly through initiatives such as the Global Support Programme, and the CBIT and Enabling Activities portfolio— overcoming the remaining barriers will require interventions that build upon the GSP's achievements and are anchored in system-level coordination, regional empowerment, and adaptive global mechanisms. By deepening collaboration among existing initiatives and ensuring continuity across phases, these efforts can transform today's patchwork of valuable activities into a coherent, enduring architecture of transparency support capable of driving long-term progress under the ETF and ultimately the Paris Agreement.

Project objective

Building on its achievements to date, the GSP is evolving in response to the growing scale and complexity of transparency implementation under the Paris Agreement. As the ETF moves from early adoption to sustained implementation, the main constraints are increasingly systemic in nature—linked not only to country capacity gaps, but also to fragmentation across support initiatives, uneven coverage, and limited mechanisms to consolidate, update, and operationalize global transparency guidance and tools across diverse contexts.

Addressing the challenges depicted in the previous section requires more than incremental or isolated interventions; it calls for a system-level response that strengthens linkages across global, regional, and

national levels, improves the accessibility and usability of transparency support, and enables countries to translate reporting requirements into sustained institutional capacity and decision-relevant information. Against this backdrop, the following Project Objective articulates how the next phase of the Climate Transparency Global Support Programme is designed to respond to the diagnosed barriers and to reposition transparency as a driver of effective, inclusive, and continuously improving climate action:

The Objective of the Climate Transparency Global Support Programme III (GSP III) is **to strengthen developing countries' capacity to implement the ETF by enhancing access to and use of global and regional climate transparency knowledge, tools, and networks; building inclusive and gender-responsive capacity to apply this knowledge; and improving the quality, consistency, and usability of climate reports and transparency frameworks.**

The next sections of the document depict how this objective will be achieved.

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[1] Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, para. 14-15.

[2] Decision 1/CP.21 para. 85-86 (https://unfccc.int/files/home/application/pdf/decision1cp21.pdf)

[3] Decision 18/CMA.1 (https://unfccc.int/resource/tet/0/00mpg.pdf)

[4] UNFCCC BTR registry: https://unfccc.int/first-biennial-transparency-reports

[5] Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, operationalized through Decision 19/CMA.1

(https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2018_3_add2_new_advance.pdf)

[6] OECD, UNDP (2025) *Investing in Climate for Growth and Development - The Case for Enhanced NDCs*, p. 220. Available at https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2025/06/investing-in-climate-for-growth-and-development_9ce9b093/16b7cbc7-en.pdf

[7] Also referred as ‘support ecosystem’ throughout the document.

[8] GEF (2025) *Progress Report on the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency*, p. 5. Available at https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-c-69-inf-07

[9] A detailed description of each of these programmes, as well as how the project intends to interact with each, is provided in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex L).

[10] FCCC/PA/CMA/2025/16. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/651012

[11] FCCC/SBI/2025/10, available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbi2025_10.pdf

[12] FCCC/SBI/2025/10 para. 47 (a).

[13] FCCC/SBI/2025/10 para. 47 (b) and (c).

[14] Available at https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/5141

[15] Available at https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/9675

[16] 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 (discontinued) CBIT set-aside under GEF-6. In contrast, Phase II B is funded through the regular GEF Trust Fund.

[17] At the time of preparing this proposal, assigned to FAO.

[18] FCCC/SBI/2025/10 para. 16. Many developing country Parties emphasized that regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing platforms have proven particularly valuable for identifying practical solutions to common challenges in implementing the ETF, including the development of national reporting systems, data management approaches and institutional arrangements. Such exchanges enable countries facing similar circumstances to share lessons learned, methodologies and tools, helping to accelerate progress and avoid duplication of efforts. Through workshops, technical dialogues and communities of practice, regional collaboration has also been identified as an important channel for strengthening technical capacity and fostering innovation in transparency-related practices.

[19] https://climate-transparency-platform.org/the-platform

[20] UNEP (2024) *Mid-Term Review of the UNEP Project Global Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform: Unified Support Platform and Program for Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, Phase II (CBIT-GSP II) GEF ID #: 10088 + 10128*, pp. 55-56.

[21] Resolution 76/300 affirmed the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, explicitly recognizing that the exercise of the right to access information is vital to environmental protection. Document available at https://docs.un.org/en/a/res/76/300.

[22] This re-branding of the GSP is one of the key elements in Output 1.4, presented further below.

[23] FCCC/SBI/2025/10 para. 47 (b) and (c).

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

From outputs to outcomes to impact: a theory of change

Overview

Building on established operational and institutional infrastructure, the project aims to ensure that developing countries have continued access to high-quality knowledge, technical resources, and peer-learning opportunities that enhance the quality, timeliness, comparability, and gender-responsiveness of their transparency reports and frameworks. GSP III will sustain and expand the global and regional mechanisms that allow developing countries to access, apply, and continuously improve their transparency systems in line with the ETF modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs), but also as a strategic enabler of effective and inclusive climate action.

To address the two set of barriers presented in the previous sections (i.e. at a global and at a local level), the project has two mutually reinforcing components, each leading to a specific outcome:

- **Component 1** (C1) focuses on *coordinated knowledge development, management, and dissemination*, by curating, updating, and disseminating ETF-aligned tools, guidance, and knowledge products; improving existing tools (namely the IPCC GHG Inventory Software); enhancing the Climate Transparency Platform; and strengthening the programme's identity, as well as advocacy, communication, and coordination across the global transparency ecosystem.

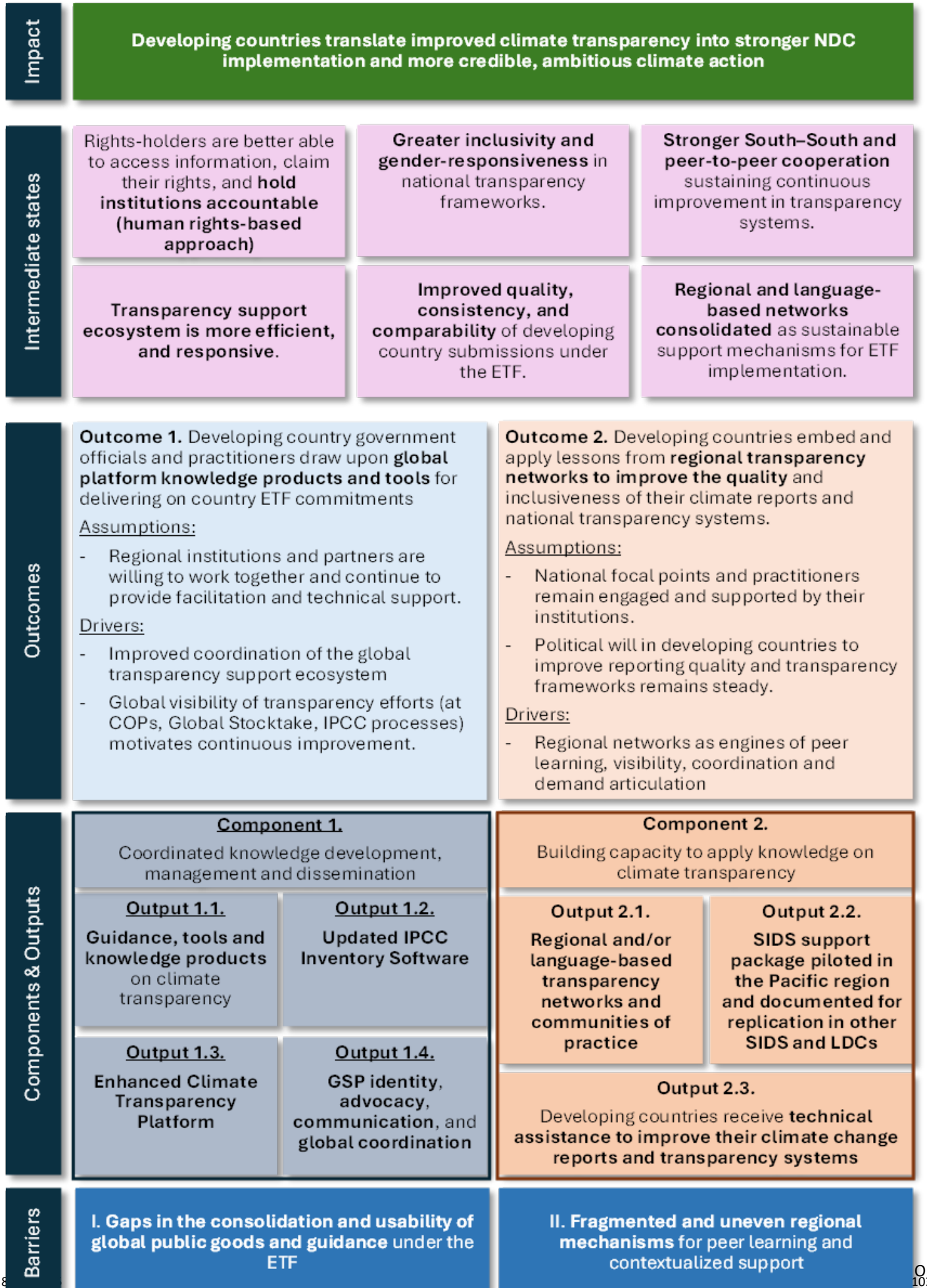
- **Component 2** (C2) focuses on *building capacity to apply knowledge*, by consolidating and expanding regional transparency networks and language-based communities of practice, providing direct and on-demand technical support, and promoting cross-regional learning and collaboration.

Together, these components aim to create a more coherent, adaptive, and equitable transparency architecture, ensuring that global knowledge informs regional practice, and that regional innovation and country experience feed back into global learning. A third component (C3) supports monitoring and evaluation (M&E), knowledge management, planning and continuous improvement.

Theory of change

The project's Theory of Change (ToC, summarized in Figure 2 below) operationalizes the objective by linking targeted global and regional interventions to tangible outcomes and long-term impacts. It builds on the cumulative achievements of GSP Phases I and II and aims to consolidate the ETF support architecture into a coherent, adaptive, and equitable system.

Figure 2. Project's theory of change



Impact

Developing countries translate improved climate transparency into stronger NDC implementation and more credible, ambitious climate action

Intermediate states

Rights-holders are better able to access information, claim their rights, and **hold institutions accountable (human rights-based approach)**

Greater inclusivity and gender-responsiveness in national transparency frameworks.

Stronger South–South and peer-to-peer cooperation sustaining continuous improvement in transparency systems.

Transparency support ecosystem is more efficient, and responsive.

Improved quality, consistency, and comparability of developing country submissions under the ETF.

Regional and language-based networks consolidated as sustainable support mechanisms for ETF implementation.

Outcomes

Outcome 1. Developing country government officials and practitioners draw upon **global platform knowledge products and tools** for delivering on country ETF commitments

Assumptions:

- Regional institutions and partners are willing to work together and continue to provide facilitation and technical support.

Drivers:

- Improved coordination of the global transparency support ecosystem
- Global visibility of transparency efforts (at COPs, Global Stocktake, IPCC processes) motivates continuous improvement.

Outcome 2. Developing countries embed and apply lessons from **regional transparency networks to improve the quality** and inclusiveness of their climate reports and national transparency systems.

Assumptions:

- National focal points and practitioners remain engaged and supported by their institutions.
- Political will in developing countries to improve reporting quality and transparency frameworks remains steady.

Drivers:

- Regional networks as engines of peer learning, visibility, coordination and demand articulation

Components & Outputs

Component 1.

Coordinated knowledge development, management and dissemination

Output 1.1.

Guidance, tools and knowledge products on climate transparency

Output 1.2.

Updated IPCC Inventory Software

Output 1.3.

Enhanced Climate Transparency Platform

Output 1.4.

GSP identity, advocacy, communication, and **global coordination**

Component 2.

Building capacity to apply knowledge on climate transparency

Output 2.1.

Regional and/or language-based transparency networks and communities of practice

Output 2.2.

SIDS support package piloted in the Pacific region and documented for replication in other SIDS and LDCs

Output 2.3.

Developing countries receive **technical assistance to improve their climate change reports and transparency systems**

Barriers

I. Gaps in the consolidation and usability of global public goods and guidance under the ETF

II. Fragmented and uneven regional mechanisms for peer learning and contextualized support

The project is structured to directly address the barriers presented in the previous section. By providing developing countries with coordinated, coherent, high-quality, and gender-responsive global guidance and tools (C1), and ensuring their sustained application through regional networks and peer learning (C2), the project will strengthen the quality, inclusiveness, and comparability of transparency reports. This will foster a more coordinated, efficient, and responsive global transparency support ecosystem, enabling developing countries to participate effectively in the ETF and to use transparency as a powerful foundation for more ambitious, evidence-based climate action, with robust national transparency systems as an essential means of informing domestic climate governance, support better investment decisions, align national development planning with mitigation and adaptation goals, and strengthen public trust in climate policies.

Under Component 1, the project strengthens the *supply side* of global transparency support by:

- Updating, curating, and disseminating ETF-aligned guidance and multilingual knowledge products for both countries and support-providers (Output 1.1), as well as enhanced IPCC GHG inventory tools (Output 1.2);
- Upgrading the Climate Transparency Platform to enhance access, searchability, and interoperability (Output 1.3); and
- Implementing a global communication and coordination strategy to strengthen the GSP's identity as a central actor in the global transparency, contributing towards consistency, visibility, and alignment among partners (Output 1.4).

Thus, C1 strengthens the global knowledge infrastructure that underpins ETF compliance, producing a comprehensive, multilingual suite of guidance and tools covering all BTR thematic areas, with dedicated knowledge products designed to help both countries and implementing agencies better interpret and apply financing modalities, and strengthening the GSP's coordination role within the broader support ecosystem, one of the key demands flagged by developing countries as per FCCC/SBI/2025/10.[1][23]. Component 1 will therefore lead to developing country government officials and transparency practitioners increasingly accessing and using global knowledge products made available through the transparency platform (**Outcome 1**).

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[1] Summarized in the section "ETF: progress and outstanding challenges".

Under Component 2, the project enhances the *application side* by:

- Maintaining and institutionalizing regional and language-based transparency networks, and facilitating cross-regional cooperation and South–South exchange (Output 2.1);
- Delivering a support package tailored to the specific needs of SIDS is piloted in the Pacific region, and documented for replication in other SIDS and LDCs (Output 2.2);
- Providing quality reviews and in-country support for BTR preparation (Output 2.3).

Component 2 channels global knowledge through predictable, demand-driven, regional networks with yearly capacity needs assessments, online and in-person workshops, a pilot focused on SIDS and LDCs, and direct technical assistance that help countries improve the completeness and consistency of their reports, targeting the conditions that lead to the use of flexibility provisions. Following interventions under Component 2, developing countries are expected to embed and apply lessons from global and regional networks to enhance the quality and inclusiveness of their climate reports and frameworks (**Outcome 2**). The project's outcomes are expected to generate a set of **intermediate system-**

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level changes that collectively enable progress toward long-term climate impact. Increased access to, and use of, global transparency knowledge and tools (Outcome 1), combined with stronger regional capacity to apply and adapt this knowledge in national contexts (Outcome 2), are expected to improve the quality, consistency, and comparability of countries' submissions under the ETF. At the same time, the consolidation of regional and language-based transparency networks strengthens South–South and peer-to-peer cooperation, supporting continuous learning, institutional memory, and more inclusive participation—particularly for women, youth, and underrepresented groups. Together, these changes contribute to a more efficient, responsive and equitable transparency support ecosystem.

These intermediate changes create the conditions through which strengthened transparency contributes to higher ambition and more effective climate action. Improved transparency frameworks provide decision-makers with more reliable, timely, and policy-relevant information, enabling countries to better track progress, assess the effectiveness of policies and measures, and align NDC implementation with long-term strategies and sectoral planning. Enhanced transparency also supports accountability, facilitates access to climate finance, and builds trust among stakeholders, reinforcing the transparency–ambition feedback loop under the ETF. While the project does not directly implement mitigation or adaptation actions, it enables the systemic conditions under which countries can better achieve their NDCs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase resilience over time.

The project's primary **drivers of change** are:

regional networks as engines of peer learning and demand articulation,

progressive coordination of the global transparency support ecosystem.

Regional networks have become the backbone of the GSP, generating growing technical demand and political visibility for transparency. As they mature, they not only disseminate knowledge but also identify emerging needs, shaping the evolution of global tools and guidance. By positioning regional networks as both implementers and feedback providers, the GSP can ensure that lessons from national and regional practice inform the design and refinement of global methodologies, while global updates are more rapidly translated into actionable regional support. In doing so, the programme would turn regional mechanisms into a dynamic interface between global policy and local implementation. The project is also expected to play an increasingly catalytic role—helping organize, connect, and give coherence to the multiple actors and initiatives that make up the transparency support landscape, while remaining a facilitative and collaborative hub.

This dynamic is reinforced by broader drivers such as the heightened global attention to transparency through the Global Stocktake, COP processes, and IPCC assessments, which amplify the value of credible, high-quality reporting. The gradual institutionalization of gender-responsive and inclusive practices within transparency work is also reshaping participation, helping countries translate data into equitable policy action and reinforcing the legitimacy of the ETF. Together, these drivers are shifting transparency from a fragmented field of practice into an increasingly connected and strategic domain of climate governance.

The TOC **assumptions** are:

sustained political will of countries to remain committed to the Paris Agreement and the NDCs

national focal points and technical practitioners will remain engaged and institutionally supported;

regional partners will continue to provide the facilitation, trust, and technical depth that give regional networks their strength.

adequate connectivity, language accessibility, and inclusiveness will enable all countries - particularly LDCs and SIDS - to participate equitably in global and regional processes, ensuring that the ETF continues to evolve as a truly universal and participatory framework.

In essence, the GSP III project consolidates years of transparency support by aligning global knowledge generation with regional capacity application. It seeks to ensure that transparency under the Paris Agreement functions as both an *instrument of accountability* and a *catalyst for ambition*—empowering developing countries to measure, manage, and communicate progress toward a more resilient and low-emission future.

Global Environmental Benefits

The project delivers global environmental benefits by strengthening the effectiveness, coherence, and equity of the global climate transparency system under the Paris Agreement. By improving countries' ability to generate, report, and use high-quality transparency information through the ETF, the project enhances the completeness, consistency, and comparability of climate data at the global level. This, in turn, strengthens key international processes such as the Technical Expert Review, the facilitative multilateral consideration of progress, and the Global Stocktake, enabling a more accurate assessment of collective mitigation efforts, adaptation progress, and support flows. By reinforcing transparency as a shared global public good, the project contributes to increased trust, accountability, and ambition across Parties, supporting more effective collective action to address climate change.

Beyond mere reporting, the project's global environmental benefits arise from its role in enabling better-informed climate action and sustained emissions reductions over time. By strengthening national transparency systems and linking transparency outputs more directly to domestic decision-making, the project supports countries in tracking the effectiveness of policies and measures, identifying implementation gaps, and aligning NDCs with long-term low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways. System-level improvements in transparency—particularly in countries with limited capacity—help unlock access to climate finance, reduce investment risk, and support the scaling up of mitigation and adaptation actions with global impact. Through its focus on coordination, learning, and inclusiveness, the project also contributes to more equitable participation in the global transparency system, ensuring that LDCs, SIDS, and other capacity-constrained countries are better able to contribute to—and benefit from—collective global climate outcomes.

Innovativeness, cost-effectiveness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

This project is designed to be **cost-effective and synergistic**, maximizing the use of existing global and regional structures for transparency support, while avoiding duplication and fragmentation of efforts. It builds directly on the strong institutional foundations established through the two previous phases, as well as on complementary initiatives led by partner organizations, thereby ensuring that lessons learned and prior investments are fully leveraged. UNEP, UNDP, and FAO collectively implement almost 90% of the entire CBIT portfolio, among national, regional and global projects.[1] By consolidating these three agencies under a shared governance structure, alongside the IPCC as a strategic technical partner and the UNFCCC as a key institutional reference point, this project captures a combination of technical depth, operational reach, and institutional legitimacy.[2][24] This partnership allows for greater territorial presence, the mobilization of a wide network of experts and institutions, and the creation of synergies across existing transparency initiatives, resulting in higher cost-efficiency and long-term sustainability.

The **innovative character** of phase III lies in its dual focus on (a) enhancing coordination within the global transparency support ecosystem, and (b) generating embedded knowledge products and services that

strengthen the support ecosystem itself. Rather than simply providing discrete capacity-building activities, the project aims at establishing itself as a systemic enabler—identifying, organizing, and connecting ongoing efforts by a diverse range of international, regional, and national actors. By embedding coordination and learning tools directly into its activities, the project reduces transaction costs and enhances the collective efficiency, coherence, and responsiveness of the global transparency landscape. Another particularly innovative feature of the project is the piloting of a partnership model with a regional university in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), designed to mainstream transparency education and training into academic and professional curricula. This approach not only enhances local ownership and sustainability but also provides a scalable model that can be replicated in other SIDS, LDCs, and developing regions worldwide. By linking transparency capacity development to higher education systems, the project anchors the ETF implementation process in a long-term human-capital development strategy.

From a **sustainability and scaling-up** perspective, GSP III is conceived as a catalyst for future investments and cooperative initiatives. Through its emphasis on partnership, interoperability, and structured learning mechanisms, the project will enable a more strategic and efficient use of future resources by all members of the transparency community. The strengthened coordination among support providers, coupled with improved access to information, tools, and regional expertise, will facilitate the design and implementation of subsequent transparency projects in an orderly, cost-effective, and demand-responsive manner. Pilot activities in the Pacific region—where countries often face limited capacity to absorb and sustain external support—will serve as a testing ground for integrated, regionally tailored approaches, generating practical lessons and replicable models to inform scaling-up in countries with similar constraints.[3][25] The GSP's structured, system-based approach will not only improve global effectiveness and equity in transparency support but also enhance the overall attractiveness and visibility of the transparency agenda within the broader climate finance and policy community.

Project structure

The project is structured into three technical components, one focused on global production of knowledge and coordination (C1), one focused on the strengthening of regional networks (C2), and a third component (C3) dedicated to the project's own monitoring and evaluation (M&E), knowledge management and planning. As mentioned in the previous section, each of the project's three components is designed to deliver a specific outcome.

Components are further organized into a series of **outputs**, each grouping activities and deliverables that share a common scope. Each output description in the following sub-sections identifies the key stakeholders of relevance for the interventions grouped under it. Additionally, for each output, a list of minimum expected deliverables is presented and described, serving as the basis for the workplan presented in **Annex J**. The narrative under each output also identifies relevant procurement processes, aligned with the project contracting plan in **Annex I** and budget in **Annex G**.

The project's overall performance will be evaluated based on the output- and outcome-level indicators presented in **Annex C** ('Results Framework'), with progress reported yearly through Project Implementation Reports (PIRs); evaluation of overall performance for these indicators will also take place at mid-term and terminal reviews/evaluations. Note that targets for indicators at the output level are mostly within the project's control and represent the minimum expected performance standards for the base team in charge of project operations ('the Project Technical Unit', PTU).[4][26] While the achievement of outcome level targets depends

on external factors beyond the project's full control, the PTU is mandated to make all reasonable efforts to accomplish them.

Component 1. Coordinated knowledge development, management and dissemination

Overview

Component 1 focuses on strengthening the global knowledge infrastructure for climate transparency by enhancing the development, accessibility, and dissemination of ETF-aligned tools, software, and resources. It addresses information fragmentation and limited usability of existing transparency materials (**Barrier I**). The component will:

prepare, publish, and maintain a curated suite of gender-responsive guidance, tools, and knowledge products, available in multiple languages and tailored to the needs of countries, support providers, and regional networks **(Output 1.1)**.

support the IPCC in updating and maintaining the IPCC Inventory Software and associated guidance, ensuring interoperability with the UNFCCC reporting systems and continuous alignment with methodological updates **(Output 1.2)**.

launch an enhanced version of the Climate Transparency Platform, to improve functionality and user experience as a global coordination and discovery tool for transparency resources **(Output 1.3)**.

strengthen the identity, visibility, communication, and coordination of the project, positioning the GSP as a central hub within the global transparency ecosystem through targeted outreach, advocacy, and participation in major international for a **(Output 1.4)**.

Together, these outputs will ensure that developing countries and practitioners draw upon global platform knowledge products and tools for delivering on country ETF commitments (**Outcome 1**).

Output 1.1: New, updated and improved gender-responsive and socially inclusive guidance, tools and knowledge products on transparency are available to developing countries.

Outline:

his output will prepare, publish, and maintain a curated suite of ETF-aligned guidance, tools, and knowledge products (KPs), ensuring that gender-responsive and socially inclusive approaches are systematically integrated across their design, content, and application:

- **Country-facing KPs:** These are designed for national transparency teams and focal points. They will include technical guidance documents, training materials, templates, and other institutional tools aimed at strengthening national capacities for the preparation and improvement of BTRs, GHG inventories and emission projections, tracking of mitigation actions and alignment with the NDC, adaptation, loss and damage, and support needed and received. Gender-responsive and socially inclusive considerations will be integrated into these products through practical guidance on incorporating gender across ETF components (e.g. adaptation, reporting, mitigation tracking, and institutional arrangements), the use of sex-disaggregated data where available, and the inclusion of inclusive stakeholder engagement approaches. They can also include topics beyond the drafting of ETF-related reports. e.g. to

support the integration of transparency data into national planning processes or the design or strengthening of national transparency systems (often facilitated through CBIT projects).

- **Provider-facing KPs:** These will target implementing agencies, bilateral programmes, and other technical partners that provide support to countries. They may include analytical reports, methodological papers, good practice compilations, and standardized templates and tools to promote greater coherence, efficiency, and quality in the technical assistance delivered under the CBIT and other transparency-related initiatives. These products will include guidance on how to integrate gender-responsive and socially inclusivez approaches into technical assistance, including methodologies, case studies, and good practices that support partners in delivering inclusive and context-responsive transparency support. This work will enhance consistency and coordination across the support ecosystem, ultimately facilitating country access to inclusive and equitable support.
- **Internal KPs:** These will comprise operational protocols, procedural guidelines, and internal GSP coordination tools to ensure coherent approaches and consistent treatment across regions and thematic areas. They will incorporate gender-responsive and socially inclusive principles into internal processes, including guidance on inclusive participation, gender-balanced representation, and the systematic tracking of gender-related indicators, contributing to improved reporting, streamlined internal management, and more efficient coordination among implementing partners.

- **Region-specific KPs:** Tailored to the specific contexts, languages, and needs of a given regional network(s). They encompass thematic dialogues reports, peer-learning materials, case studies, and other KPs designed to strengthen mutual learning, enhance coherence, and promote regionally relevant applications of transparency guidance. These products will reflect regional gender dynamics, linguistic diversity, and inclusion challenges, and will incorporate locally relevant examples and approaches to support gender-responsive and inclusive transparency systems across different contexts.

- Refer to **Annex O** for a taxonomy and examples of eligible knowledge products, as well as roles and responsibilities for their preparation and dissemination.

- A yearly KP development strategy and workplan - based on a knowledge gap analysis and transparency product catalogue - will guide prioritization. All KPs will be made available to relevant stakeholders through the GSP platform.
- **Annex C** sets a target for the number of KPs of each category that are to be produced throughout the project.
- **Output 1.3** will support coordination to avoid duplication and enhance synergies with the rest of the actors in the transparency support and facilitation ecosystem.

Key stakeholders:

- Focal points and government teams involved in transparency (via regional network coordinators).
- Transparency support ecosystem, including the GEF, GEF agencies, members of the Group of Friends on Transparency, representatives from other support programmes and institutions (e.g., ICAT, PATPA, GHGMI, World Resources Institute (WRI), Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), NDC Partnership, others), mainly for potential collaboration, coordination, dissemination, peer reviews and other knowledge exchange modalities.

Key procurement processes

- KPs to be prepared mainly by the Project Technical Unit, following guidance from the Joint Project Management Unit.
- Services for translation, editing, graphic design, and publication (digital and print) may be required depending on the case.
- Possible engagement of thematic experts for product preparation, peer review, content validation and other forms of technical support.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
1.1.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 1.1	Planning and supervision work for this Output, involving the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
1.1.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 1.1.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
1.1.3	Transparency product catalogue	A searchable inventory of guidance, templates, and tools from all institutions producing relevant content (e.g. CGE/UNFCCC, IPCC-linked resources, ICAT, PATPA, and others) tagged by scope, audience, language, format, and license. The catalogue will inform the gap analysis and development plan in the next deliverable. Updated every 6 months. A navigable version will be available on the Climate Transparency Platform.
1.1.4	Yearly knowledge product development strategy and workplan	Annual gap analysis and prioritized development plan, with clear criteria (demand, feasibility, impact), dependencies, and indicative release windows for planned KPs. Informed by inputs from the regional needs assessment (see Output 2.1) as well as from the Gender Action Plan and inputs from other implementing partners, and endorsed by the Project Steering Committee, mapped to available resources, and used to drive procurement and sequencing decisions. Brings predictability as a risk mitigation measure to avoid scope overlaps with other projects/programmes.
1.1.5	Full suite of knowledge products, tools and other material (country-facing KPs)	Compilation of all country-facing KPs. Annex O contains definitions, examples, and roles and responsibilities for the preparation of each type of KP. To be made available online through the Climate Transparency Platform.

1.1.6	Full suite of knowledge products, tools and other material (provider-facing KPs)	Compilation of all provider-facing KPs. Annex O contains definitions, examples, and roles and responsibilities. To be made available online through the Climate Transparency Platform.
1.1.7	Internal manuals, procedures and knowledge catalogue	Compilation of all internal KPs. Annex O contains definitions, examples, and roles and responsibilities for the preparation of each type of KP.
1.1.8	Full suite of knowledge products, tools and other material (regional KPs)	Compilation of all regional KPs. Annex O contains definitions, examples, and roles and responsibilities for the preparation of each type of KP. To be made available online through the Climate Transparency Platform.

Output 1.2: Updated IPCC inventory software and associated IPCC gender-responsive knowledge products are made available to developing countries and practitioners

Outline:

- This output focuses on providing an IPCC Inventory Software Support Package designed to **upgrade and enhance the IPCC Inventory Software,** a freely available tool allowing countries to prepare a GHG inventory aligned with Paris Agreement reporting requirements.
- Providing targeted support for updating the IPCC Inventory Software in GSP III provides added value by responding directly to Parties' expressed needs for continued alignment between inventory preparation and the ETF reporting tools. It operationalizes SBSTA's request to maintain the valuable link between the software and ETF reporting tools for all countries (paragraph 94 of FCCC/SBSTA/2024/10), helping ensure consistent, efficient, and transparent reporting under the ETF.
- Upgrades will follow a defined improvement plan, informed by known issues, feedback from regional activities in Component 2 and the broader transparency ecosystem, as well as annual analytics reports. Updates made will be fully aligned with the relevant IPCC Guidelines and the MPGs, with a view to enhancing user experience.
- Upgrades will be made to ensure uninterrupted access to the Software for users and maintaining interoperability with the UNFCCC ETF Reporting tool.
- Gender-responsive technical documentation (e.g. updated user manuals and guidebooks) will be produced for each release.
- More details on the IPCC Inventory Support Package are provided in **Annex R**.

Key stakeholders:

- Focal points and government teams involved in transparency (via regional coordinators).

- The GSP-III's transparency officers and regional coordinators, who both train countries on the use of the *Software* and provide feedback on its needed enhancements.

roader transparency support ecosystem, including the GEF, GEF agencies, members of the Group of Friends on Transparency, representatives from other support programmes and institutions (e.g., ICAT, PATPA, GHGMI, WRI, GGGI, NDC Partnership, others), mainly as a source of input for needed *Software* improvements and dissemination of updated *Software* versions and knowledge products.

he IPCC TFI TSU /IGES as the owner of the IPCC Inventory Software will coordinate with the rest of the PSC to ensure Software improvements are in line with the budget and the workplan.

Key procurement processes

This output will be executed through an agreement with **the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES),** to support the work of the IPCC TFI TSU on the *Software.* Day-to-day work will be conducted by the IPCC TFI TSU in coordination with the GSP's base team and joint management unit (JPMU). Refer to **Annex R** for further information on the relationship between IGES and the IPCC TFI TSU.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
1.2.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 1.2	Planning and supervision work for this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
1.2.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 1.2.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
1.2.3	Virtual technical support sessions	At the start of the project, the IPCC TFI TSU will coordinate delivery of a series of sessions offering technical support to transparency officers, regional coordinators and other interested CBIT project staff. The purpose of the series is to familiarize participants with the latest available version of the *Software*, answer questions, and strengthen shared understanding of both the *Software's* capabilities and users' needs for preparing and reporting a GHG inventory. This technical support series is envisioned as a means of "training the trainers" and enhancing the ability of the network coordinators to support countries in use of the IPCC Inventory Software under Component 2. Topics covered may include: • Introduction to download and use of the *Software* • Using the *Software* for the Energy Sector • Using the *Software* for the Industrial Processes and Product Use Sector • Using the *Software* for the Agriculture Sector • Using the *Software* for the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry Sector • Using the *Software* for the Waste Sector

		The content of the series could be carried out in-person if anticipated timing coincides with an already scheduled event.
1.2.4	IPCC Inventory Software improvement and release plan	This deliverable will assess feedback from current users, the IPCC TFI TSU and the broader ecosystem of climate transparency support providers to identify missing *Software* elements and functionalities needed to meet international reporting needs and enhance user experience. It will include direct consultations with the IPCC TFI TSU / IGES (as owner of the IPCC Inventory Software), UNFCCC (based on experiences during the BTR reporting and review processes), regional coordinators, national focal points, and partner institutions to ensure a representative understanding of user experiences. Based on the findings, this deliverable will construct an overall roadmap for Software upgrades, timing and scope. It will outline proposed functionalities, and technical and user-interface improvements, for the two-year project, with an annual update. Eligible improvements include enhancements related to: - Uncertainty analysis - Generation of time series of data, including for QA/QC - Architectural enhancements to improve performance - Enhancement of user friendliness The plan will ensure maintenance of interoperability with the UNFCCC ETF Reporting tool remains a high priority.
1.2.5	IPCC Inventory Software update specifications	Specifications are internal documents submitted to the IPCC Inventory Software developer in preparation for each Software release. This deliverable includes consultation with the IPCC TFI TSU and subsequent drafting of technical specifications for submission to the developer in preparation for each Software upgrade and release.
1.2.6	IPCC Inventory Software internal test version	This deliverable results in an updated beta version of the Software, available prior to each planned release, for internal testing of adherence to the specifications and avoidance of regressions. A consolidated “bug” report will be drafted and submitted to the developer for resolution prior to final user acceptance by IPCC TFI TSU and project inventory specialists.
1.2.7	IPCC Inventory Software updates final release	This deliverable marks the completion and public deployment of the upgraded IPCC Inventory Software, following satisfactory resolution of issues identified in the bug report and acceptance by the IPCC TFI TSU. The Software will be launched with updated manuals and guidebooks as outlined in Deliverable 1.2.7 and notice made through the Climate Transparency Platform described in Output 1.3.
1.2.8	Updated guidance materials (User Manual and Sector	The user manual and sector Guidebooks will be updated and published, as needed, reflecting each updated release of the IPCC Software, and in a gender-responsive manner.

	Guidebooks)	
1.2.9	User feedback and annual analytics report	Working with the IPCC TFI TSU, network coordinators (e.g. Regional coordinators calibration workshop described in Output 2.1.6), the Project Technical Unit and country representatives, user statistics (e.g. Software downloads, use for BTR submissions) and feedback will be monitored, collected and collated annually into a user feedback and annual analytics report. These analytics will feed relevant outcome indicators in Annex C, as well as half-yearly and annual project reporting, providing empirical evidence of knowledge uptake and informing activities under Component 2, as well as the updated IPCC Software improvement plan outlined in deliverable 1.2.3 and the continuous improvement plan outlined in deliverable 1.2.10.
1.2.10	Updated IPCC Software continuous improvement plan	At the end of the project, an updated improvement plan will be developed to provide a forward-looking framework for the IPCC Inventory Software's continued evolution. It will outline architectural enhancements that could be pursued through complementary initiatives or subsequent phases of the GSP, offering a clear sense of direction for how the Software may best support the accuracy and completeness of national inventory submissions. The plan will detail development phases, responsible parties, cost estimates, and expected outcomes for each enhancement, building on user needs documented through activities undertaken in Component 2.

Output 1.3: An enhanced Climate Transparency Platform facilitates use of climate transparency resources by developing countries and contributes to enhanced coordination and reach of support providers.

Outline:

- This output will **upgrade the Climate Transparency Platform**, from a static information repository into a dynamic coordination and learning hub that connects global guidance with regional and national action.

ligned with the project's theory of change, the upgraded platform will enhance the accessibility, usability, and interoperability of ETF-related resources, thereby strengthening the coherence and responsiveness of the global transparency support ecosystem. Improved user experience, AI-powered features (e.g. pattern recognition, summarization, anomaly detection, natural-language processing, and data harmonization), advanced search and tagging functions, multilingual and gender-responsive features, and interactive regional spaces will enable practitioners and support providers to more easily discover, apply, and exchange knowledge. The platform will also amplify the visibility of developing countries' progress and lessons learned, reinforcing South–South cooperation, inclusivity, and continuous improvement across transparency systems.

- The work will follow an improvement plan (see 'Platform improvement plan' under 1.3.4 below) aligned with the new GSP III vision and branding (established in Output 1.4), resulting in the launch of version 2.0 of the platform. Targets in terms of usage are set in Annex C (Results Framework – see outcome-level indicators 1 to 6).

Key stakeholders:

- Regional network coordinators and country champions as curators and providers of feedback.
- Project Steering Committee (GEF, UNEP, UNDP, UNFCCC, CGE, IPCC) will provide feedback and approval of the improvement plan in line with the budget and the workplan.
- Broader transparency support ecosystem, including the GEF, GEF agencies, members of the Group of Friends on Transparency, representatives from other support programmes and institutions (e.g., ICAT, PATPA, GHGMI, WRI, GGGI, NDC Partnership, others), will be involved both in the preparation of the improvement plan and in the joint efforts to explore the full potential of the Climate Transparency Platform as a shared knowledge hub and enhanced coordination tool.

Key procurement processes

- Contract for web development and platform upgrade.
- Services for hosting and usage analytics.
- Content update and moderation will be provided by the Project Technical Unit.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
1.3.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 1.3	Planning and supervision work in the context of this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
1.3.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 1.3.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
1.3.3	Platform feedback compilation, functionality and gap analysis	Consolidates user feedback and performance data from the existing Climate Transparency Platform to identify strengths, weaknesses, and unmet needs. It will include direct consultations with regional network coordinators, national focal points, and partner institutions to ensure a representative understanding of user experiences. The analysis will assess usability, accessibility, and technical functionality, comparing current features with international standards and comparable global platforms. It will identify specific design, content, and governance gaps to inform the subsequent platform improvement plan. The exercise will also take into account the vision and branding work conducted under Output 1.4 (see below), so that the proposed improvements reflect the platform's renewed purpose, positioning, and visual identity within the broader transparency support ecosystem.
1.3.4	Platform improvement plan	Based on the findings of the gap analysis, this deliverable will define the overall roadmap for the platform's upgrade. It will outline proposed functionalities, including potential AI powered features, user-interface improvements, and governance

		mechanisms for content management, including multilingual and gender-responsive considerations. Eligible improvements include: - Enhancements related to knowledge integration, linking guidance, regional data, and training resources through interactive dashboards; - Improvements in user experience and discoverability through redesigned navigation, advanced search, metadata tagging (including on gender) and AI-powered features (e.g. pattern recognition, summarization, anomaly detection, natural-language processing, and data harmonization); - New community and coordination tools, including regional spaces, event calendars, and forums for peer learning; - Integration of gender and inclusivity features, such as resource tagging, multilingual access, and low-bandwidth versions; - Strengthened analytics and monitoring functions to track use, engagement, and knowledge uptake; and - Increased interoperability with external transparency systems and data sources. In addition to guiding the upgrades supported under CBIT funding, the improvement plan will provide a **forward-looking framework** for the platform's continued evolution. It will outline strategic enhancements that could be pursued through complementary initiatives or subsequent phases of the GSP, offering a clear sense of direction for how the platform may continue to expand its scope, functionality, and partnerships beyond the life of the current project, as well as how it could benefit from further integrating AI powered features. The plan will detail development phases, responsible parties, cost estimates, and expected outcomes for each enhancement, ensuring alignment with the vision and branding exercise in Output 1.4.
1.3.5	Climate Transparency platform 'Version 2' mock-up and test versions	Design and prototyping of the upgraded platform, including mock-ups of user interfaces, navigation structures, and functional prototypes for testing. Selected users—regional coordinators, technical partners, and country focal points—will participate in user-acceptance tests to validate the design, accessibility, and workflow improvements. Feedback collected at this stage will guide the final refinements before full release.
1.3.6	Climate Transparency platform 'Version 2' final release	Completion and public deployment of the upgraded Climate Transparency Platform. The final release will include the agreed improvements to usability, multilingual access, and content governance, as well as any new interactive features identified in the improvement plan. The platform will be launched with updated branding and communication materials under Output 1.4 and will serve as the main digital gateway for global transparency knowledge, coordination, and peer exchange.
1.3.7	Climate Transparency platform content update schedule	Procedures and frequency for uploading, reviewing, and refreshing platform content. It will specify responsibilities across the project team and partners, including protocols for translation, metadata tagging, and quality assurance. The schedule will ensure the regular addition of new knowledge products, event materials, and country case studies, maintaining the platform's relevance and reliability as a living knowledge base.

1.3.8	Climate Transparency platform content update report	This report will summarize content updates implemented within a given reporting period, detailing new uploads, revisions, or retirements of outdated materials. It will provide an overview of thematic and regional coverage, and language distribution. The report will also serve as a management tool to verify compliance with the established update schedule and to plan forthcoming content cycles.
1.3.9	Climate Transparency platform monthly analytics report (design)	Design of a standardized analytics dashboard and reporting template to monitor platform usage. Indicators will include visits, active users, downloads, geographic and sectoral breakdowns, user satisfaction, and engagement metrics for specific features (knowledge products, newsletter, etc.). The design will align with the project's monitoring and evaluation framework (Output 3.1) and facilitate automated generation of regular usage summaries for decision-making and adaptive management.
1.3.10	Climate Transparency platform monthly analytics report	Produced on a regular basis following the approved design, this report will track trends in platform use and engagement. It will present insights into knowledge-product demand, active user profiles, newsletter subscribers and the effectiveness of communication and outreach actions. These analytics will feed relevant outcome indicators in Annex C, as well as half-yearly and annual project reporting, providing empirical evidence of knowledge uptake and informing adjustments to platform content, training priorities, and communication strategies.
1.3.11	Climate Transparency platform user survey	User satisfaction survey, embedded in the platform itself and/or conducted online or over in-person events in Output 1.4 and Output 2.2.

Output 1.4: Programme identity, communication, advocacy and coordination mechanisms strengthened to support dissemination and accessibility of climate-transparency knowledge.

Outline:

- In a global context marked by shifting political priorities, the visibility, coherence, and credibility of the climate transparency system are more critical than ever. As domestic agendas increasingly compete with international climate obligations, strong programme identity, strategic advocacy, and proactive communication serve as essential safeguards to ensure that the GSP III and the broader transparency support ecosystem remain recognized, trusted, cohesive and politically resilient, and that developing countries retain sustained access to the knowledge and support they need to meet their ETF obligations.
- This output strengthens GSP III's shared programme identity and its role as a central convening and coordination mechanism within the global climate transparency support ecosystem, ensuring that the project is recognized and accessed as one integrated programme—rather than a set of agency-specific or fragmented initiatives.

he project will support the implementing agencies in defining and operationalizing a **common vision**, **unified programme narrative**, and **coordinated rebranding for the GSP III**, underpinned by a comprehensive stakeholder engagement and communication strategy that guides outreach, alignment, and visibility efforts across all regions and partners. This common identity will also support harmonized delivery across agencies (UNEP and UNDP) by reinforcing a single outward-facing interface for countries and partners. This strategy

will be aligned with the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and Gender Action Plan (GAP), ensuring that outreach and engagement efforts are inclusive, gender-responsive, and tailored to women, youth, and underrepresented groups across regions.

- A targeted **communication campaign** will translate technical results into accessible, multilingual, and visually engaging knowledge products, stories, and communication materials for use in global and regional fora as well as online channels. These actions will amplify the reach and uptake of project outputs and lessons learned, reduce duplication, and support consistent access to GSP resources across countries and regions. Specific efforts will be made to promote underrepresented groups (women, youth and others) involvement and participation, including through communication products and events that highlight gender-responsive transparency practices. Annex C sets targets for the number of global events organized (Indicator 1.4.a) and communication and outreach materials produced and disseminated (Indicator 1.4.b) under this output.
- This output will strengthen **high-level advocacy and coordination**, including through the hosting of the Global Transparency Forum and participation in COPs and subsidiary body sessions, to reinforce coherent messaging, improve alignment among transparency support actors, and consolidate the GSP III's positioning as a collective platform serving the broader transparency landscape. Outreach and participation in these events will follow inclusive and gender-responsive approaches, in line with SEP and GAP provisions.

Key stakeholders:

ue to its cross-cutting nature, all stakeholders in the stakeholder engagement plan (Annex L) are relevant and will be prioritized for engagement.

- In terms of coordination, all entities and organizations in the transparency support ecosystem, including e.g. the GEF, UNFCCC, CGE, FAO, IPCC, PATPA, ICAT, the Baku Platform, WRI, NDC Partnership, development banks, and other regional partners.
- Country transparency focal points, as content sources but also as target audience. By showcasing tangible national achievements and success stories, and by communicating how transparency data and reporting processes directly inform allocation of international support, but also national planning, budgeting and sectoral decision-making, the GSP's advocacy efforts will help governments and institutions recognize the practical value of robust transparency systems—thereby fostering stronger domestic ownership and sustained investment in their improvement.
- As the project is focused on improving the capacity of governments to undertake transparency obligations, it doesn't seek to engage the private sector directly. Nevertheless, the private sector will be indirectly engaged through the dissemination of guidance, methodologies and tools for engaging the private sector in the development of national transparency frameworks and in the preparation of climate reports (as data providers, members of project steering and Climate Change committees, key stakeholders consulted and trained at the country level, as well as potential investors)

Key procurement processes

- This output will be mainly led by the Project Technical Unit. Procurement to include communication materials, event organization, and travel and logistics for participation in major events and coordination meetings.
- The Global Transparency Forum (1.4.9) brings together an estimate of 160 climate transparency officials from all over the world, as well as experts from the GSP team for an intensive working and networking session. All logistics required for this event are included under this output.

- GSP III will cover the participation costs of one country representative. Countries will be encouraged to support the participation of a second representative through other available funding sources, including national CBIT projects, where approved budget allocations exist and permit participation in regional and/or global workshops.
- GSP III will pursue technical and financial collaboration with relevant partners for regional/global events. This collaborative approach will help avoid duplication and reduce the burden on transparency focal points from multiple overlapping events. Where feasible, joint financing arrangements will be pursued to share travel costs and enable broader participation.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
1.4.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 1.4	Planning and supervision work for this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
1.4.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 1.4.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
1.4.3	Project database of transparency initiatives (global)	A monthly updated online database compiling global initiatives related to climate transparency. It will capture who is doing what and where—facilitating coordination, reducing duplication, and improving knowledge exchange among actors. The database will be hosted within the Climate Transparency Platform and structured to allow filtering by geography, thematic area, institution, and funding source. It will also serve as an analytical resource for mapping gaps, informing coordination meetings, and guiding advocacy and communication actions across project components.
1.4.4	GSP Strategic Vision	A clear and forward-looking vision for the GSP III, articulating its long-term purpose, comparative advantage, and strategic direction within the global transparency support ecosystem. The vision will define what the GSP III aspires to achieve beyond the duration of the project—its role as a convener, knowledge broker, and technical reference for transparency implementation under the Paris Agreement. The vision will be developed through consultative workshops with UNEP, UNDP, IPCC, UNFCCC, GEF Secretariat, and key partners, to ensure shared ownership and alignment with the evolving ETF landscape. It will directly inform the project's communication, branding, and coordination actions, ensuring coherence across Components 1 and 2 and a consistent message on the GSP III added value and future trajectory.
1.4.5	Branding, communicati	Building on the agreed vision, this deliverable will define a comprehensive strategy for stakeholder engagement, communication, and external positioning of the GSP

	on and positioning strategy	III. It will identify target audiences, key messages, communication channels, and coordination mechanisms among partners to ensure catalytic and coherent outreach and visibility. The strategy will include refreshed visual identity and brand guidelines, as well as shared corporate identity elements and common operating conventions to be applied consistently across the Climate Transparency Platform, publications, events, and day-to-day external engagement. This will include, inter alia, the potential introduction – where feasible and in alignment with agency policies - of common digital identifiers—such as a unified programme e-mail domain (e.g. @gsp…), consistent titles for regional network coordinators, and standardized contact points—for teams operating under both implementation streams,[5][27] alongside harmonized templates, signatures, and presentation materials. The strategy shall include concrete elements to promote underrepresented groups (women, youth and others) involvement and participation, including through communication products and events that highlight gender-responsive transparency practices. Together, these measures will provide a practical framework for internal and external coordination of messaging, reinforce delivery as one integrated programme, and ensure that the GSP III is recognized as a central, neutral, and collectively owned hub for global climate transparency support, rather than as a set of agency-specific initiatives.
1.4.6	Communication materials	Design and production of communication materials that translate technical results into accessible and engaging content. It will include factsheets, success stories, infographics, videos, and digital artifacts prepared in multiple languages for dissemination through the Climate Transparency Platform, social media, and major transparency events. All materials will reflect the GSP III branding and follow the inclusive communication standards defined in the strategy, emphasizing gender-responsive narratives and practical examples of how transparency data supports national decision-making.
1.4.7	Yearly event planner	Annual overview of global and regional events relevant to transparency, including COPs, SB sessions, regional dialogues, and technical workshops. The planner will serve as a coordination tool to align participation across UNEP, UNDP, and project partners, identify opportunities for joint advocacy, and ensure consistent messaging throughout the year. It will be updated monthly and cross-referenced with the communication calendar and regional workplans, helping the project anticipate key milestones for visibility and engagement.
1.4.8	High-level coordination meeting (inc. meeting agenda & minutes)	Structured coordination among implementing agencies and key partners through high-level half-yearly meetings. Meetings will review progress in communication, advocacy, and global coordination activities, agree on joint messages for upcoming international events, and identify synergies with other transparency initiatives.

		High-level coordination meetings may be organized as part of in-person events (see next deliverable) or online. Agendas, background notes, and minutes will be prepared and archived as part of the project's knowledge-management system, ensuring institutional memory and continuity across project phases.
1.4.9	Event hosting (in-person)	Organization of in-person advocacy and coordination events. Specifically, this includes the Global Transparency Forum as well as any other major events that are funded depending on the availability of resources. Activities will include venue coordination, agenda development, participant outreach, and logistical support, including striving to facilitate online attendance/webcast whenever possible to enhance reach and inclusivity. These events will showcase the GSP III results, foster partner coordination, and promote policy dialogue around transparency implementation, providing a visible platform for developing countries to share experiences and lessons learned. GSP III will cover the participation costs of one country representative. Countries will be encouraged to support the participation of a second representative through other available funding sources, including national CBIT projects, where approved budget allocations exist and permit participation in regional and/or global workshops. GSP III will pursue technical and financial collaboration with relevant partners for regional/global events. This collaborative approach will help avoid duplication and reduce the burden on transparency focal points from multiple overlapping events. Where feasible, joint financing arrangements will be pursued to share travel costs and enable broader participation. As stated in Annex C, a minimum of one global event is expected over the duration of the project. More events could be undertaken depending on the availability of additional co-financing.
1.4.10	Event hosting (online)	Organization of virtual events and webinars to maintain regular engagement at the global level and between major in-person meetings. Online events will complement the broader communication campaign, extending the GSP's reach and ensuring inclusivity for SIDS, LDCs, and stakeholders unable to participate in physical events.
1.4.11	Surveys (global events)	User satisfaction / feedback surveys for global events. This deliverable informs results in Annex C.
1.4.12	Attendance in global-level events	GSP III participation in high-level international fora—such as COPs, SB sessions, and other global transparency or climate-policy events—to represent the Programme, present results, and engage with partners. Participation will ensure visibility of project outcomes, strengthen institutional relationships, and enable alignment between the GSP III activities and emerging global policy developments under the ETF.

Component 2. Building capacity to apply knowledge on climate transparency

Overview

Component 2 focuses on strengthening the regional and in-country capacities of developing countries to apply transparency knowledge and tools in practice, thereby addressing limited institutional readiness and uneven access to technical support (**Barrier II**). It operationalizes the project's regionalization strategy by bringing learning, peer exchange, application of tools and other knowledge products developed in Component 1, and direct assistance closer to where countries operate and better able to reflect national circumstances while addressing potential language barriers. The component will:

sustain and strengthen regional and language-based transparency networks, building on the peer-to-peer learning model established under GSP II. It will deliver online and in-person technical workshops and knowledge exchange sessions based on yearly capacity needs assessments at the regional level. **(Output 2.1)**.

pilot a highly targeted, time-bound **support package for SIDS and LDCs**, to remove immediate specific barriers to ETF reporting and unlock quick, visible results. By concentrating expertise, tools, and short bursts of hands-on assistance where absorptive capacity is lowest, the pilot aims to demonstrate how intensive, well-structured support can rapidly improve readiness and generate momentum for sustained transparency efforts. **(Output 2.2)**.

provide targeted technical assistance and quality review services to help developing countries improve the accuracy, completeness, and gender-responsiveness of their transparency reports and frameworks **(Output 2.3)**.

Together, these actions will enable developing countries to embed and apply lessons learned through regional networks and peer learning to produce higher-quality, more inclusive climate reports and transparency systems (**Outcome 2**).

Note: Deliverables marked '(per region)' indicate that **one deliverable will be produced for each of the ten regions**, resulting in a total of ten deliverables for that item.

Output 2.1: Regional and language-based transparency networks sustained and strengthened to deliver online and in-person capacity-building, knowledge exchange, and coordination on climate transparency to developing countries

Outline:

- This output sustains and strengthens regional and language-based transparency networks, building on the peer-to-peer learning model established under GSP II. It will deliver **online and in-person technical workshops and knowledge exchange sessions** based on yearly **capacity needs assessments** at the regional level.
- Support planning and coordination among regional networks. This includes knowledge product development, data collection and training plans.
- **Annex C** sets a target for the minimum number of trainings to be undertaken through this output. **Annex P** presents the full list of countries assigned to each of the project's regional networks.

Key stakeholders:

- National focal points and transparency practitioners, as key beneficiaries of the regional networks.
- UNEP and potentially UNDP country offices, which will be informed of all activities and ready to provide support, as needed.
- The 'transparency support ecosystem', mainly for coordination, potential collaborations and to avoid duplication. Coordination instances are explicitly included within the scope of Output 1.4 (global and high-level) and this Output (regional level).
- Other locally relevant groups from civil society, including youth and women associations, private sector representatives, academia and underrepresented or vulnerable groups, as appropriate to the regional and national context. Each regional network will map regional level stakeholders and initiatives (see Deliverable 2.1.7 below).

Key procurement processes

- Travel, daily subsistence allowance (DSA), and venue and catering for event organization and facilitation, both for workshops with national officials (2.1.10) and internal calibration (2.1.13).
- For budgeting purposes, this output considers a minimum of 1 in-person regional event per region. Considering 15 participants per event, this covers a total of 300 participants over the 2-year duration of the project.
- Likewise, for in-country support, this output will cover the logistics for a minimum of 8 missions per network, i.e. a minimum of 160 missions for the entire duration of the project. At 25 local participants per mission, this output will reach 4,000 persons. A small amount to cover internal travel costs to the venue has been considered for the budget.
- GSP III will cover the participation costs of one country representative. Countries will be encouraged to support the participation of a second representative through other available funding sources, including national CBIT projects, where approved budget allocations exist and permit participation in regional and/or global workshops.
- GSP III will pursue technical and financial collaboration with relevant partners for regional/global events. This collaborative approach will help avoid duplication and reduce the burden on transparency focal points from multiple overlapping events. Where feasible, joint financing arrangements will be pursued to share travel costs and enable broader participation.
- Communication materials, and software licenses for on-line and hybrid events.
- Ad-hoc experts to support the base team and regional network coordinators (if necessary) for preparation and delivery of trainings.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
2.1.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 2.1	Planning and supervision work in the context of this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
2.1.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.

	under Output 2.1.	
2.1.3	Regional Networks Operation Procedure	A consolidated procedure describing how regional networks operate under GSP III, including roles and responsibilities, minimum service standards, workflows for planning and running events, protocols for coordination with UNEP/UNDP country offices, and integration with the project's M&E and Knowledge Management System. Includes onboarding guidance for regional coordinators.[1] This also links with output 1.4 in terms of unified branding, e-mail addresses, signatures and messaging of the regional coordinators.
2.1.4	Capacity needs assessment (per region)	Yearly assessment of regional and country-level capacity needs for ETF implementation - reporting, review and FMCP - based on input from focal points, previous year's activities, the Annual Reporting Survey conducted through Enabling Activities, lessons learned, and sectoral challenges. Includes identification of priority themes for technical workshops, clinics, and the SIDS/LDCs support package (see Output 2.2). Informs the yearly workplan (see next deliverable).
2.1.5	Yearly regional workplan (per region)	Annual plan detailing the schedule and thematic focus of online and in-person technical workshops, clinics, knowledge exchange sessions, and regional events. Includes: yearly knowledge product calendar (aligned with Output 1.1); data collection plan on regional transparency data (see Deliverable 2.1.8 below); training plan covering both online training events and in-person events; and the calendar of regional communication, coordination, and engagement activities, aligned with the global 'Branding, communication and positioning strategy' under Output 1.4.
2.1.6	Regional knowledge products (per region)	Short, region-specific, and as needed language specific, knowledge products (briefs, checklists, FAQs, case studies) developed based on regional network activities, aligned with the global KP strategy in Output 1.1. Includes gender-responsive content and SIDS/LDCs-focused variants where needed.[2]
2.1.7	Regional transparency data (per region)	This deliverable compiles structured information on the transparency status of countries within each regional network, collected regularly by the regional coordinators. The data provides a consolidated picture of where each country stands in terms of ETF readiness, institutional arrangements, reporting cycles, and existing support—allowing the project to identify gaps, prioritize efforts, and monitor progress across regions. It also informs coordination at the regional level and provides essential inputs for global advocacy, planning, and M&E. Illustrative, non-binding examples of the type of data to be collected include: • the status of NC/BUR/BTR submissions, reviews and upcoming reporting deadlines; • institutional arrangements for inventory, NDC tracking, adaptation components, and FTC support needed and received; • availability of national systems (e.g., data management setups, QA/QC protocols); • existence and scope of past or ongoing CBIT/GEF support; • degree of alignment with ETF requirements and use of flexibility provisions; • capacity building needs identified in published review reports, • national transparency focal points and teams; • transparency-related projects and initiatives, ensuring systematic mapping of the transparency support ecosystem across all regions; • key stakeholders, including women, underrepresented or vulnerable groups;

		This dataset helps the project maintain a clear, region-by-region baseline and track how countries' transparency systems evolve over time.
2.1.8	Roster of local experts (per region)	Creation and upkeep of a regional roster of service providers and local experts, catalogued region by region using the template and parameters defined in Deliverable 3.1.7 (M&E framework). Identifies technical specialists, institutions, and organizations capable of supporting transparency activities, strengthening regional coverage and enabling targeted deployment of expertise.
2.1.9	Regional level communication actions (per region)	All communication and advocacy activities at the regional level, including production of regional communication materials, dissemination of project updates, engagement with regional stakeholders, and amplification of key messages in coordination with Output 1.4. Actions are tailored to each region's context and integrated into the annual regional communication plan.
2.1.10	Hosting of regional level events (per region)	Organization and delivery of regional-level in-person events according to the annual regional plan. Events follow the minimum number and types specified in Annex C, and include the preparation of scope documents, agendas, participant lists, and post-event summaries/minutes. These events serve as key touchpoints for technical exchange, partner engagement, communication, advocacy and visibility at the regional scale. GSP III will cover the participation costs of one country representative; countries will be encouraged to support a second representative through other funding sources, including national CBIT projects. GSP III will pursue technical and financial collaboration with relevant partners for regional/global events to avoid duplication and enable joint financing arrangements.
2.1.11	On-line training events (per region)	Specialized technical sessions delivered by the regional network coordinators with support from the base team and ad-hoc experts (when needed), on topics arising from the capacity needs assessments (e.g., uncertainty analysis for inventories, NDC tracking methodologies, QA/QC workflows, adaptation risk mapping, and monitoring of losses and damages). Includes design, facilitation, and participation reports. **Annex C** sets a target for the minimum number of trainings to be undertaken through this output.
2.1.12	Surveys (regional in-person and on-line events)	User satisfaction / feedback surveys for regional events. This deliverable informs results in Annex C.
2.1.13	Regional coordinators calibration workshop	Internal coordination and coherence. A half-yearly internal workshop (one in-person, one on-line) to align network coordinators on methodologies, workflows, messaging, and quality standards. Includes harmonization of approaches across regions, updates on new tools from Component 1, and regional feedback loops to inform all project interventions.
2.1.14	Regional level coordination meetings (per region)	External coordination and alignment. Covers all coordination meetings at the regional level to ensure alignment with the global coordination and advocacy efforts under Output 1.4. Aims to support two-way communication among efforts from different entities in the transparency support ecosystem, help synchronize regional activities, and ensure timely documentation through agendas, minutes, and follow-up actions.
2.1.15	Participation in regional	Participation of the project's technical units in regional events organized by partners, networks, or regional institutions. This includes preparing contributions

	level events (per region)	(e.g., presentations, technical inputs), coordinating roles for project team members, and ensuring systematic documentation of the project's participation and follow-up.

[1] This deliverable can be counted among the **internal knowledge products** and the Annex C target for Output 1.1.

[2] This deliverable can be counted among the **regional knowledge products** and the Annex C target for Output 1.1.

Output 2.2: A support package tailored to the specific needs of SIDS is piloted in the Pacific region, and documented for replication in other SIDS and LDCs

Outline:

- This Output will pilot a highly targeted, time-bound **support package for SIDS and LDCs**, to remove immediate specific barriers to ETF reporting and unlock quick, visible results. By concentrating expertise, tools, and short bursts of hands-on assistance where absorptive capacity is lowest, the pilot aims to demonstrate how intensive, well-structured support can rapidly improve readiness and generate momentum for sustained transparency efforts.
- The pilot will focus on the Pacific network, as it is the only region composed entirely of countries that are either SIDS or a combination of SIDS that are also LDCs, making it the most representative setting for testing an intensive support model. Once validated, this model can be replicated and adapted across other developing-country regions, offering the GSP a scalable approach to accelerate ETF implementation where it is most needed.
- The pilot comprises two complementary instruments that address different timescales and types of support needs:
  - Pacific Islands **Transparency Cooperation Mechanism** - A structured partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP) - a regional, country-owned university network— to deliver coordinated training, professional development, and regional convening that strengthens national transparency systems.
  - **Rapid Response Support Stream for Transparency** (RRST) - A dedicated budget line within the project used to rapidly procure short-term technical support services that help SIDS in the region to overcome immediate obstacles to timely, high-quality ETF submissions.

  Together, these two instruments ensure the project can tackle both urgent technical needs and deeper, structural investments required to build sustainable transparency systems in the specific context of these countries.

- **Annex Q** provides more details on both instruments of the LDC/SIDS 'Support Package'.

Key stakeholders:

- All countries in the Pacific regional network, which will host the pilot.
- The University of the South Pacific (USP), as the implementing partner for the Technical Cooperation Mechanism for LDC/SIDS.
- Other actors in the support ecosystem that are active in the region.

Key procurement processes

- Agreement with the USP
- Engagement of regional experts for facilitation and rapid response.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
2.2.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 2.2	Planning and supervision work in the context of this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
2.2.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 2.2.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
2.2.3	Workplan for the SIDS and LDCs technical cooperation mechanism (USP)	Detailed yearly workplan for the SIDS/LDCs support mechanism implemented with the University of the South Pacific, covering all activities supported by the project. More details are provided in **Annex Q**.
2.2.4	Deliverables for the SIDS and LDCs technical cooperation mechanism (USP)	All 'products' generated under the USP mechanism, as per the workplan in the previous deliverable. including training materials, technical notes, country-specific deliverables (where applicable), short-term barrier-removal interventions, and documented cases of support. Refer to **Annex Q** for more details on the type and scope of interventions.
2.2.5	Workplan for the 'Rapid Response Support Stream'	Operational plan defining triggers, procedures, staffing, service standards and timelines for rapid-response support. Includes templates for requests, prioritization logic (aligned with the capacity needs assessment), and coordination arrangements with the Pacific network. More details are provided in **Annex Q**.
2.2.6	Rapid Response Support Stream	Actual support provided. All interventions will be documented in a final report summarizing requests received, response actions taken and results achieved. More details are provided in **Annex Q**.
2.2.7	Pilot SIDS/LDCs support mechanism: lessons learned, recommendations and replication	Final report assessing the effectiveness of the pilot SIDS/LDCs support package (initially focusing on the Pacific), covering both the USP technical cooperation mechanism and the Rapid Response Support Stream. Includes success factors, absorptive-capacity insights, case studies, gender considerations, and a replication / scaling-up roadmap for other regions.

Output 2.3: Developing countries receive targeted gender-responsive technical assistance to improve the quality of their climate change reports and national climate transparency systems

Outline:

- This output focuses on **country-specific, demand-driven support to strengthen the quality, completeness, and usability of national climate transparency systems and reports**. Assistance will be tailored to each country's needs and capacities and delivered through a combination of direct technical support, targeted backstopping in prioritized thematic areas, and structured quality reviews of transparency reports.
- Prioritization of countries and thematic entry points will be guided by annual regional assessments, country requests, and close coordination with partners, ensuring complementarity with ongoing initiatives (CBIT, EAs but also from other support providers, where applicable) and efficient deployment of technical resources. Support will explicitly integrate gender-responsive considerations across key components of transparency systems. This includes:
    - supporting the integration of gender considerations into BTR components (e.g. adaptation reporting, mitigation actions, and support needed and received);
    - promoting the use and improvement of sex-disaggregated data where available;
    - strengthening institutional coordination between climate transparency teams and gender-related ministries or units;
    - applying the Gender-Responsive BTR Toolkit in training and in-country technical support;
    - supporting inclusive stakeholder engagement processes in transparency-related activities.
- Knowledge and lessons generated through this country-level engagement will be synthesized and fed back into regional networks and the Global Transparency Platform, helping countries learn from each other, strengthening peer-to-peer exchange, and informing continuous improvement of transparency actions across regions.

Key stakeholders:

- National focal points and national transparency teams under each of the regional networks.
- UNEP and UNDP country offices, which will be informed and providing support, as needed, mainly for technical country missions.
- Officials from other regional transparency initiatives and donors, as well as other relevant stakeholders (data providers/users, technology providers, government officials, civil society, and other potential partners), as per the respective region's Project and Stakeholder Database (described in the previous output, see 2.1.7).

Key procurement processes

- Travel and DSA for experts participating in missions. A small allocation is included in the budget for venue, catering and logistics for event organization and facilitation.
- Ad-hoc experts to support the base team and regional network coordinators (if necessary).

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities

2.3.1	Planning & Follow-up meetings for Output 2.3	Planning and supervision work for this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).
2.3.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 2.3.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
2.3.3	Prioritization criteria	Development of clear and transparent criteria to prioritize countries for support under this output. Criteria will draw on regional assessments, country requests, readiness levels, upcoming reporting deadlines, and complementarity with partners. The criteria will guide annual planning and ensure fair, needs-based allocation of technical resources.
2.3.4	Support Outreach and Communication Package	Communication package summarizing the types of country-level support available, eligibility considerations, timelines, and points of contact, enabling regional networks to proactively inform countries and facilitate requests for assistance.
2.3.5	Regional workplans	Each regional network will prepare one structured regional annual workplan detailing the countries scheduled to receive support and specifying, for each country, the type of assistance to be delivered, timelines, required inputs, and expected outputs. The regional workplan consolidates priorities emerging from regional assessments and country engagement and serves as the operational basis for planning and deploying technical support across all countries in the region.
2.3.6	QA/QC protocols: inventories, NDC tracking, adaptation, support needed and received	Protocols for reviewing transparency reports, underlying systems, and thematic components (GHG inventories, mitigation/NDC tracking, adaptation, and support needed/received), ensuring that countries supported by different regional networks receive consistent and harmonized support. The protocols define quality standards, review steps, documentation requirements, and feedback loops to help countries strengthen their QA/QC systems over time.[8][28]
2.3.7	Direct support (per region)	All direct country-specific support delivered according to the annual workplan. This may include technical backstopping, troubleshooting, guidance on methodologies, system strengthening, or targeted capacity-building. Each instance of support includes a brief report documenting the request, actions taken, and outputs delivered.
2.3.8	Quality reviews (per region)	Structured country-specific quality reviews of transparency reports or underlying components, delivered as per the annual workplan. Reviews assess completeness, consistency, methodological choices, and alignment with ETF requirements. Each review includes a short written report summarizing findings and recommended improvements.

2.3.9	Lessons learned (per region)	Synthesis of country-level experiences into actionable lessons learned that can inform support to other countries and regions. This includes identifying common bottlenecks, effective approaches, and good practices. Outputs feed into regional exchanges and the Global Transparency Platform to support continuous improvement.

Component 3. Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Overview

Component 3 ensures that GSP III operates as a learning organization, capable of adapting and improving based on evidence and stakeholder feedback. Through **Output 3.1**, the project will implement a comprehensive Knowledge Management (KM) and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) strategy, including adoption metrics for its products, templates for planning and reporting, and standardized procedures for capturing lessons and results. The output also encompasses the regular preparation of progress reports, reviews, audits, and evaluations to ensure accountability and transparency in project delivery. Together, these mechanisms will establish a robust learning loop between global, regional, and country levels—enhancing efficiency, ensuring continuity of institutional memory, and supporting adaptive management and continuous improvement of the project (**Outcome 3**).

Output 3.1: Project knowledge management strategy implemented and Monitoring and evaluation products are delivered to inform adaptive management and learning.

Outline:

- Operationalize the GSP III M&E framework and establish KM, setting the procedures to systematically capture, manage, and share knowledge generated across the other components.
- Set up mechanisms and templates for planning, reporting, risk management, quality assurance, and expert roster management, ensuring consistent procedures and adaptive management and learning across both execution streams (i.e. UNEP and UNDP – refer to the institutional arrangements section).

Key stakeholders:

- Project Steering Committee members and regional coordinators.
- UNEP, UNDP, and GEF evaluation teams.
- Any implementing partners contributing to M&E data.

Key procurement processes

- Consultant(s) for the project's mid-term review and terminal evaluation.
- Budget allocation for the project's 'Inception Workshop'.

Deliverables and actions under this output

Code	Title	Tentative content and associated activities
3.1.1	Planning & Follow-up	Planning and supervision work for this output, bringing together the project's technical and managerial units (PTU and JPMU).

	meetings for Output 3.1	
3.1.2	Technical specifications for procurement and contracting under Output 3.1.	Technical and administrative inputs and work required for procurement processes and any contractual agreements with relevant implementing partners. Refer to Annex I for indicative TORs.
3.1.3	PSC and JPMU modalities and procedures	Roles, responsibilities, composition, and operating procedures of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and the Joint Project Management Unit, ensuring it can effectively provide strategic guidance, institutional alignment, and oversight for the implementation of the project. In alignment with the basic functions laid out in the "Institutional Arrangements' section (see below). This document will set out operational rules, including meeting frequency, decision-making procedures, and mechanisms for review and follow-up of project progress.
3.1.4	Inception workshop & report	e Inception Workshop will either take place on-line or as part of one of the global in-person events in Output 1.4. Its primary objective is to create momentum for the upcoming activities and the engagement of stakeholders. This workshop will: present the project's vision, objectives, outcomes and outputs; present and discuss the project workplan; provide an overview of the project's implementation arrangements, base project team and regional network coordinators, together with their roles and responsibilities; and highlight the relevance of stakeholder engagement and establish main communication channels, to be further refined through the communication action plan, i.e. Output 1.4 (global) and Output 2.1 (regional).
3.1.5	Project file storing and archiving plan	The GSP's internal file storing and archiving plan outlines the process for systematically storing and managing all relevant files, ensuring they are preserved for future reference, legal compliance, knowledge management, M&E or historical purposes. Includes: - File selection and identification - Archiving process and procedures (format, cloud storage, access controls, etc.) - Security and disaster recovery (data security, disaster recovery plan) - Review and maintenance actions
3.1.6	Yearly planning, risk management and contingency plan	The objective of this deliverable is to support yearly planning and facilitate project supervision. An executive document (e.g. in PowerPoint format) will be prepared by each agency's project manager at the beginning of each calendar year, highlighting:

		1. Yearly knowledge management planning (incl. internal repositories, references, manuals, cloud storage, access to files, etc.) 2. For each component, overview of outputs that are going to be active during the year; 3. For each active output, key goals, actions, and deliverables in alignment with the project's workplan, the intended outcomes and the indicators in Annex C. 4. Key actions on gender (by component). 5. Key procurement processes. 6. Key communication actions. 7. Key partners and stakeholder engagement actions. 8. Yearly project calendar, including dates of: · key procurement processes and call for proposals; · expected Project Steering Committee meetings. · key communication and stakeholder engagement events; · travel; · other relevant dates 9. Key risks and challenges, updating the list of risks in section B of this document. Contingency plans for risks identified as moderate or higher. 10. Details on travel and participation in external events 11. Expected budget or project revisions 12. Any other key actions or information of relevance for yearly planning.
3.1.7	Adoption tracker & M&E framework	Development of a clear and comprehensive taxonomy and standardized methodological approaches for all adoption metrics—covering platform usage statistics, knowledge product downloads, and any other parameters needed to track how project outputs are being used, as a minimum covering **all indicators in Annex C**. This deliverable also includes the **templates** for all trackers, and datasets to be maintained by the base team and/or regional network coordinators. For example, it includes the standardized template for the *project and stakeholder database* that each region must keep updated (Deliverable 2.1.7). The aim is to ensure that all relevant data is collected in a coherent, efficient, and comparable format, and that the metrics referenced in Annex C are clearly defined and operationalized.
3.1.8	Adoption results dataset	Consolidated dataset to populate the adoption tracker and all relevant indicators in Annex C, as per definitions and methods in the previous deliverable.

3.1.9	PIRs	All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.10	Half-yearly reports	All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.11	Gender Action Plan (GAP) progress reports	All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.12	Mid-term review/evaluation	Mid-term review/evaluation to be led by UNDP in accordance with UNDP MTR guidelines[9][29] and considering UNEP's MTR guidance as appropriate. All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.13	Terminal review/evaluation	The TE will be led by UNEP, considering UNDP's TE guidance as appropriate. All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.14	Expenditure reports	All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.15	Co-finance reports	All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.16	Audit reports	All M&E instruments are described in detail in Annex J.
3.1.17	Meeting and event attendance log	Consolidated meeting log. Includes minutes from all main meetings and events held over the course of the project, including as part of stakeholder engagement but also planning and supervision (first deliverable in each output). Also includes minutes of each PSC meeting.
3.1.18	Final report	Final report to be submitted as an input for the terminal evaluation / review and project closure.

[1] GEF/C.69/Inf.07 (2025)

[2] Refer to the section on Institutional Arrangements for a detailed discussion on the project's governance.

[3] The pilot for the Pacific Regional Network is further described in Annex Q.

[4] A detailed discussion on implementation arrangements is available in the sub-section 'Institutional arrangements', further below.

[5] Refer to the Institutional arrangements and coordination section, below.

[6] This deliverable can be counted among the **internal knowledge products** and the Annex C target for Output 1.1.

[7] This deliverable can be counted among the **regional knowledge products** and the Annex C target for Output 1.1.

[8] This deliverable can be counted among the **internal knowledge products** and the Annex C target for Output 1.1.

[9] https://erc.undp.org/methods-center/guidelines/gef-project-evaluation-guidelines

Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement. If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

Institutional arrangements

Overview

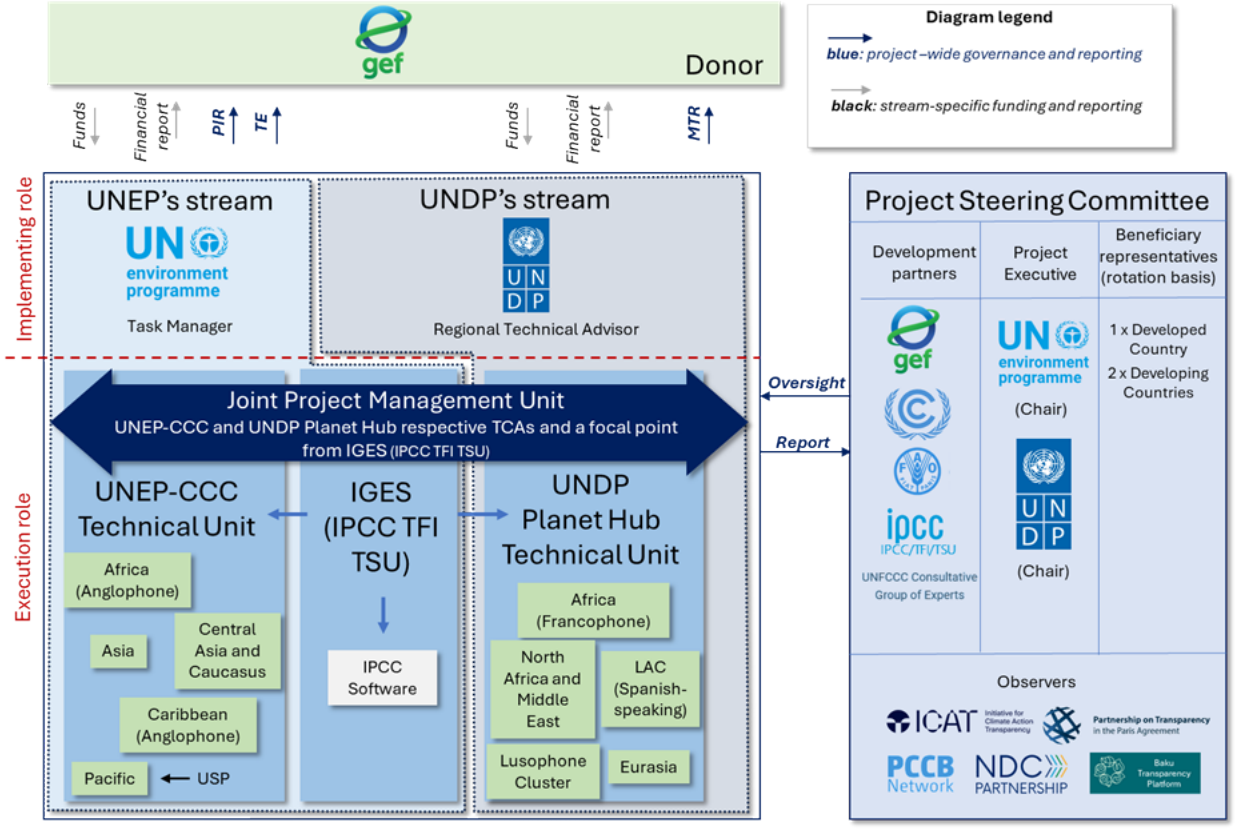
The project proposes a dual implementation and execution arrangement by UNEP and UNDP under Exception (d) of the GEF Policy on Dual Implementation and Execution Roles, which applies to *global and regional coordination projects, knowledge-sharing platforms, and umbrella enabling activities.*

Climate Transparency GSP III is a global support programme that serves as a coordination and knowledge sharing platform for ETF implementation across multiple countries and regions. As the programme delivers global public goods, including harmonized methodologies, analytical tools, technical guidance, and knowledge products, direct execution by the GEF Agencies is necessary to ensure technical consistency, quality assurance, efficient global coordination, and alignment with UNFCCC transparency processes. This arrangement leverages the comparative advantages, global reach, and established policy networks of both agencies, ensuring broad territorial presence, alignment with global transparency processes, and technical depth. While each agency will deliver activities through its own operational structures and regional networks, **the project functions as a single, coherent global initiative working through a common workplan, with shared strategic oversight, joint planning, and harmonized reporting to the GEF**.

Clear lines of responsibility, accountability, reporting, monitoring, and evaluation will be maintained throughout the life of the project. Institutional arrangements will be regularly reviewed by each Agency management. The GEF Secretariat was notified of the proposed dual execution arrangement, and approval was confirmed by email on 11 February 2026. The following section outlines the respective roles and responsibilities of each Agency under the project's implementation and execution arrangements.

Figure 3 below shows how the project will be jointly implemented by UNEP and UNDP under a unified governance and management structure.

Figure 3. Institutional Arrangements



The project will deliver coordinated outcomes through two complementary streams -one per agency- with each stream covering five regional networks and with clear separation of implementing and execution roles. Project activities under each implementation stream are primarily delivered through a dedicated **Technical Unit**, responsible for work on ETF-aligned guidance, methodologies, tools, and knowledge products, and for their application, capacity-building, and contextualized support in their respective regional networks. Operational coordination across streams is ensured through a **Joint Project Management Unit (JPMU)**, which serves as the central hub for day-to-day management, coherence, and accountability. This joint structure enables unified planning and consistent quality of deliverables across the project, capturing each agency's comparative strengths. **Implementation will follow a single consolidated workplan across both streams, ensuring unified planning, oversight, reporting, and delivery of shared outputs.** Stream-specific modalities apply primarily to regional network support, while project-wide governance, coordination, and quality assurance are managed jointly through the JPMU. To ensure consistency across streams, the project includes specific coordination, procedural and calibration deliverables[1][30] that harmonize methodologies, training packages, quality assurance processes, and support protocols. This ensures that countries receive the same core level of support and technical standards irrespective of the stream through which support is delivered.

Implementing agencies

UNEP and UNDP will serve as co-implementing agencies, jointly accountable to the GEF for overall supervision, fiduciary compliance, monitoring and evaluation, and quality assurance of project deliverables. Both agencies will review and approve annual workplans and budgets, oversee implementation progress, ensure adherence to safeguards and risk-management policies, and consolidate reporting to the GEF

Secretariat and Council. UNEP will serve as the lead agency of the project, including responsibility for formal submission and communication with the GEF Secretariat.

This joint implementation modality reflects the project's global nature and its objective of strengthening coordination within the climate transparency support ecosystem, drawing on each agency's comparative advantages while maintaining a unified project vision.

UNEP brings to the project extensive experience implementing CBIT initiatives worldwide, including more than 30 CBIT projects across Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, the Caucasus and through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform. Its longstanding engagement in supporting countries to meet their reporting obligations under the UNFCCC and, more recently, under the ETF positions UNEP as a global leader in the provision of high-quality, credible environmental data, assessments and policy analysis. UNEP's work on flagship global assessments—such as the Emissions Gap Report, the Adaptation Gap Report, the Global Environmental Outlook and the World Environment Situation Room—provides the project with access to authoritative science, data services and early-warning systems that are directly relevant to developing countries' transparency needs. Through these assets, UNEP ensures that project activities build on good practices and lessons learned, while reinforcing the global enabling environment for ETF implementation.

UNDP complements this with its robust operational infrastructure, strong presence in developing countries, with the ability to bridge policy, institutional and technical levels of support, and proven track record supporting national transparency processes. UNDP has assisted more than 100 countries in preparing national reports under the UNFCCC and strengthening domestic institutional arrangements for climate action. With operations in more than 170 countries and territories and long-standing relationships with ministries of environment, planning, finance, and sectoral agencies, UNDP is uniquely positioned to help countries translate transparency capacity into integrated national systems embedded within development planning. Its work on capacity-building, climate governance and long-term planning—including support to NCs, BURs, BTRs, and NDC implementation has established UNDP as a trusted partner for national ministries and national transparency teams. By engaging UNDP as a co-implementing agency, the project also benefits from the organization's international procurement systems, risk-mitigation procedures, and longstanding collaboration with national and subnational stakeholders, helping ensure the sustainability and institutional continuity of project outcomes.

A strict firewall will be maintained between implementation oversight and execution functions, in accordance with UNEP and UNDP's procedures and GEF requirements.

nder UNEP, the **GEF Climate Change Mitigation (CCM) Unit** will be responsible for project oversight and compliance with GEF and UNEP policies and procedures. There are clear firewalls and a separation of responsibilities between the CCM Unit and UNEP-CCC, with regards to both technical and financial supervision and reporting. The longstanding operational guidelines on implementing the accountability framework for internally executed GEF projects, from 2012, will continue to be observed. UNEP-CCC will be responsible for technical and managerial tasks under the project, while financial and administrative functions will be handled by UNOPS. The implementing oversight and supervisory role is performed by the CCM, within the UNEP Mitigation Branch, Climate Change Division. The programming is led by a Task Manager who reports to the Unit's Portfolio Manager. The financial management is done by a dedicated Financial Management Officer (FMO) reporting to the Division Head of Administration, who reports to the Division Director.

or UNDP the **Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) Quality & Impact Hub** will assume full responsibility and accountability for oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. There are clear functional boundaries and a distinct separation of responsibilities between the Planet Hub and the

Quality & Impact Hub. A UNDP representative assuming the assurance role as part of the Quality & Impact Hub will present assurance findings to the Project Board and therefore attend Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Together, UNEP and UNDP provide strong strategic leadership, ensure alignment with their respective climate transparency portfolios, and guarantee that project activities complement and reinforce ongoing global and regional programmes, including those supporting countries' implementation of the Enhanced Transparency Framework. The joint implementation modality thus ensures that the project leverages the strength of both organizations while maintaining a single, unified project vision.

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[1] See e.g. deliverables 2.1.3 (Regional Networks Operation Procedure) and 2.2.4 (Regional coordinators calibration workshop)

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this project?

Yes

If so, please describe that role here and the justification.

Executing agencies

In compliance with the requirement of splitting implementing and executing functions, project execution will be undertaken through distinct, specialized entities:[1][31]

UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC) will execute the UNEP-funded elements of the project, leveraging its extensive technical expertise on transparency systems, climate data, mitigation assessment, and capacity-building for developing countries. Within UNEP's stream -and in coordination with UNDP Planet Hub- UNEP-CCC will coordinate regional and global activities, manage technical staff and consultants, oversee procurement and ensure delivery of outputs in line with agreed workplans. UNEP-CCC (previously UNEP DTU Partnership) has extensive experience in executing and managing international projects in or pertaining to the field of climate transparency. Relevant experiences include Phases 1 and 2 of the GSP, the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), and the first and second generation of GEF-funded Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) projects. The Centre has established a strong network of international and regional partners, many of whom are actively collaborating in the delivery of regional activities under the current phase of the GSP.

NDP will execute its share of project activities through the **Planet Hub**, grounding the intervention in the UN system's largest climate portfolio spanning over 140 countries. Building on the mandate recognized by the UN Secretary-General at COP30 for UNDP to accelerate NDC implementation, utilizing the Climate Promise infrastructure, the Planet Hub will deploy the organization's extensive climate policy, NDC, and transparency expertise; currently supporting 80+ countries to deliver high-quality Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and establish robust MRV and REDD+ infrastructure. The Planet Hub provides strong territorial presence and access to country offices, regional hubs, and policy networks. It will manage technical staff, lead delivery of

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UNDP-funded outputs, coordinate activities across UNDP's regional structures, and ensure consistent engagement with developing countries receiving support.

he **Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)** will act as a third co-executing agency, in charge of Output 1.2 (IPCC Software). IGES is an independent policy research institute headquartered in Japan, with regional offices in Tokyo, Kitakyushu, Kansai, Bangkok and Beijing. IGES conducts multidisciplinary research on climate change, biodiversity, circular economy and sustainable development, and plays a central role in bridging science, policy and practice. It also hosts the **Technical Support Unit (TSU)** of the **IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI)**, providing a robust institutional platform for methodological development, expert mobilization and technical coordination. Its strong operational governance and procurement systems make IGES an ideal project partner for highly technical and methodology-driven activities. IPCC TFI TSU/ IGES will support the delivery of Output 1.2, which focuses on upgrading the IPCC Inventory Software and updating associated gender-responsive guidance materials. It will manage procurement and contractual arrangements required to mobilize the technical expertise necessary to deliver Output 1.2t, including software development, testing, documentation updates and specialized advisory inputs. This arrangement enables the project to benefit from the IPCC TFI's methodological leadership while ensuring efficient and compliant delivery of services. More information on the IPCC Inventory Software Support Package the background information on IPCC TFI TSU /IGES is provided in **Annex R**.

The executing entities will apply their respective operational procedures, procurement systems, and financial management rules. Although each will manage activities funded under its own budget allocation, they operate within a joint governance and management framework that ensures coherence, complementarity, and adherence to the unified project strategy.

Project delivery mechanism

The **Project Technical Units (PTUs)** serve as the primary delivery arms of the project, responsible for implementing technical activities across their respective streams. They translate global transparency guidance, tools, and methodologies into practical, context-specific support through knowledge development, capacity-building, peer learning, and technical backstopping, while capturing feedback from regional and national implementation to inform continuous improvement of global transparency resources. Both PTUs operate under a single, integrated project workplan and apply common procedures, protocols, and quality standards across all activities. Importantly, **they function as one delivery team for the project's global work under Component 1**, jointly contributing to the development, updating, and dissemination of ETF-aligned guidance and knowledge products, improvements to tools and platforms, and global communication and coordination deliverables. Stream-specific delivery modalities apply primarily to **regional network support under Component 2**, where each PTU leads implementation in its respective regions while maintaining harmonized approaches and service standards. Dedicated coordination and calibration deliverables further ensure consistency in technical content, support modalities, and quality assurance, so that countries receive equivalent support irrespective of the stream through which it is delivered.

Each unit is composed of:

- **A "base team"** consisting of transparency officers and a combination of knowledge, communications and/or gender specialist, who will complement each agency's work and avoid duplication. This team is fully dedicated to the project's technical mandate, including the preparation and maintenance of knowledge products (Output 1.1), support to software and platform enhancements (Outputs 1.2 and 1.3), contributions to global communication and coordination efforts (Output 1.4), and the implementation of the project's monitoring, evaluation and knowledge-management framework

(Component 3). Base-team members also provide technical inputs to regional delivery activities where needed.

- **Regional network coordinators**, who are an integral part of the Technical Unit but operate as a distinct functional layer. Each coordinator leads the work in one of the project's ten networks, ensuring continuous engagement with developing countries, facilitating peer learning, supporting direct in-country assistance, and organizing regional events. They hold primary responsibility for implementing Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 in their respective regions, while contributing regional insights and data to global knowledge development and project monitoring and evaluation. Each agency will be responsible for five regional networks.[2][32]

Complementing the Technical Units, the project mobilizes **ad-hoc experts** on a deliverable basis to provide specialized technical inputs; and deploys **targeted procurement** (e.g. event organization, travel, consultancies, IT infrastructure and experts, and communication materials) and **strategic partnerships** to bring additional capabilities where needed. Together, these components constitute a coherent and flexible project delivery mechanism capable of efficiently supporting all outputs—regardless of which institutional channel operationalizes a specific activity.

Joint Project Management Unit

The Joint Project Management Unit (JPMU) will be jointly co-financed by UNEP and UNDP and will provide day-to-day strategic coordination across the agencies' execution streams. It will consist of two Technical Coordinator and Advisors (TCAs)) -one appointed by UNEP-CCC and the other by the UNDP Planet Hub- and a dedicated focal point from IPCC TFI TSU / IGES in its role as co-executing partner.

The JPMU will work as a unified leadership team responsible for overall project coordination, quality assurance of technical outputs, supervision of regional activities, consolidation of joint workplans, and alignment with global ETF processes. They will jointly manage interactions with key partners—including the UNFCCC Secretariat, the Consultative Group of Experts, and other relevant institutions—ensuring that the project remains up to date in terms of international guidance and responsive to emerging needs. The JPMU will also coordinate monitoring and evaluation activities, risk management, and consolidated reporting to the Project Steering Committee and the GEF.

Project Steering Committee

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will provide overall strategic oversight and guidance to the project. It will be co-chaired by UNEP and UNDP, with participation from the GEF Secretariat and key international partners involved in global climate transparency processes, including the UNFCCC Secretariat, IPCC TFI TSU/ IGES, the FAO, and the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE). The PSC will also include representatives from one developed country and two developing countries.

The PSC will meet at least once per year to review progress, approve consolidated annual workplans and budgets, provide strategic direction, ensure coordination and complementarity with other global transparency support initiatives, and address emerging challenges or opportunities. The PSC will also advise the Executive

Management on strategic partnerships and knowledge-sharing priorities, reinforcing the project's role within the broader climate transparency support ecosystem.

Key actors in the support ecosystem will be invited to participate as observers. This list will include ICAT, PATPA, PCCB, the NDC Partnership and the Baku Platform. Other entities may also be invited to participate.

Project partner

The **University of the South Pacific (USP)** will serve as a technical partner for the Technical Cooperation Mechanism under Output 2.2, working under UNEP-CCC. USP will support regional capacity-building activities for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), contribute to the Pacific pilot, and mobilize regional expertise to strengthen peer learning and targeted technical support. Its involvement builds on USP's strong academic and professional networks across the Pacific and its experience in climate governance and capacity development. More information on the Technical Cooperation Mechanism and background information on the USP is provided in **Annex Q**.

Key roles, responsibilities and meeting frequency

Roles and responsibilities are provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Roles, responsibilities and meeting frequency

Body	Composition	Role and description	Meetings frequency
GEF Implementing Agencies (IA)	UNEP and UNDP, represented by appointed Task Manager (UNEP) and Regional Technical Advisor (UNDP).	The Implementing Agencies act as a trusted partner and accountability anchor to ensure the project is effectively implemented. A Task Manager will be appointed as focal point for UNEP, whereas a Regional Technical Advisor will be appointed as focal point for UNDP. Key roles: • Provide consistent and regular oversight on project execution and conduct project supervisory missions as per Supervision Plans and in doing so ensure that all UNEP, UNDP and GEF criteria, rules and regulations are adhered to by project partners. • Ensure timely disbursement/sub-allotment to the executing agency based on an agreed legal document and in accordance with UNEP, UNDP and GEF fiduciary standards. • Follow-up with the co-executing agencies (CEAs) for progress, equipment, financial and audit reports. • Technically assess and oversee the quality of project outputs, products and deliverables – including formal publications.	At least quarterly meetings between UNEP's Task Manager, UNDP's Regional Technical Advisor and the JPMU. Participates in PSC and oversees JPMU meetings. Events and ad-hoc meetings as deemed necessary.

		• Provide no objection to main TORs and subcontracts issued by the project, including selection of the PTU. • Attend and facilitate inception workshops and selected steering committee meetings. • Assess project risks and monitor and enforce a risk management plan. • Regularly monitor project progress and performance and rate progress towards meeting project objectives, project execution progress, quality of project monitoring and evaluation, and risk; • Monitor reporting by project executing partners and provide prompt feedback on the contents of the report; • Promptly inform the management of any significant risks or project problems, act and follow up on decisions made. • Apply adaptive management principles to the supervision of the project; • Review of reporting, checking for consistency between execution activities and expenditures, ensuring that it respects GEF rules; • Clear cash requests, and authorization of disbursements once reporting is found to be complete; • Approve budget revision, certify fund availability and transfer funds; • Ensure that GEF and the Implementing Agencies quality standards are applied consistently to all projects, including branding and safeguards; • Certify project operational completion; • Link the project partners to any events organized by GEF and the IAs to disseminate information on project results and lessons; • Manage relations with GEF.	
Project Steering Committee (PSC)	Includes high-level focal points from the following institutions: - UNEP - UNEP-CCC (non-voting) - UNDP - UNDP Planet Hub (non-voting) - The GEF - FAO	Main governance body. Key roles: • Strategic oversight of project implementation, including approval of yearly workplans, budget and any other key strategic inputs. • Provide overall guidance and strategic direction. • Facilitate interinstitutional coordination and ensure coherence with related initiatives (national and international), ensuring involvement of key partners and stakeholders, promoting synergies and preventing duplication of efforts. • Promote global, regional and national ownership of results through transparency advocacy.	At least yearly

	- UNFCCC - CGE - IPCC TFI TSU - 1 Developed Country (rotating basis) - 2 Developing Country (rotating basis)	• Review progress reports and recommend corrective actions as needed. Validate major project deliverables and outputs. • Support risk mitigation and timely decision-making. Serve as a forum for addressing implementation challenges. The PSC will be conducted as per the modalities and procedures to be established in the preparatory phase as part of Output 3.1 (see Deliverable 3.1.3). Each CEAs' Technical Coordinator and Advisor will act as Secretary to the PSC.	
Co-executing Agencies (CEA)	UNEP-CCC UNDP Planet Hub IGES / IPCC TFI TSU	Entities in charge of the project's execution along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document. The day-to-day executing functions will be under the responsibility of a **Joint Project Management Unit (JPMU)** and two **Project Technical Units (PTU)** (one for UNEP-CCC and one for UNDP Planet Hub).[3][33] **Co-Executing Agencies (CEAs)** Each CEA will be responsible for carrying out agreed execution functions within its respective workstream, including procurement of goods and services, contracting of personnel, consultancies and executing partners. Each CEA will manage its respective budget in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the execution agreements to be signed with the corresponding IA and will be responsible for the management and execution of administrative and financial activities, in close coordination with the Joint Project Management Unit. CEAs will collaborate to ensure their workplans are aligned, technical activities are complementary, and project outputs are delivered in a coherent manner. This includes regular information exchange, joint problem-solving, coordination on cross-cutting tasks, and early identification of risks and operational challenges that may affect either execution stream.	The JPMU will have at least monthly on-line meetings, with quarterly in-person meetings per year. A focal point from each CEA participates in all JPMU and PSC meetings. At least one in-person meeting per year bringing together all regional network coordinators (see deliverable 2.1.13).

		Joint Project Management Unit duties and responsibilities: Responsible for project management, technical coordination, and oversight of all operational decisions. It acts as the joint approving body for execution matters and ensures coherent delivery across both streams. The JPMU will be comprised of: • each stream's Technical Coordinator and Advisor (TCA) from UNEP-CCC and Planet Hub • a focal point appointed by IPCC TFI TSU /IGES; and • the respective admin teams, responsible for procurement. Key responsibilities include: • Output-level planning, supervision and quality control, delegating day-to-day execution to the Project Technical Unit (PTU) while ensuring alignment with annual workplans and approved budgets. • Oversight of procurement processes, including review and clearance of Terms of Reference (ToRs), procurement plans and selection recommendations prior to launch. • Approval of key deliverables and technical outputs, based on PTU review, quality assurance criteria and alignment with the Project Document. • Ensuring compliance with GEF, UNEP and UNDP policies and procedures, including procurement, safeguards, monitoring and evaluation, gender, risk management and financial reporting. • Lead Output 3.1 (Knowledge Management and M&E). Consolidation of progress reporting, including preparation of summary progress updates, risk logs, financial execution summaries and documentation for submission to the Project Steering Committee (PSC). • Facilitating coordination among all project actors, including CEAs, executing partners (IGES, USP), regional coordinators and ad-hoc experts, ensuring that activities remain coherent and mutually reinforcing. • Identifying risks, operational bottlenecks and emerging needs, and recommending corrective measures to maintain delivery standards and project momentum.	

- Ensuring consistency between the two execution streams, promoting harmonized approaches, complementary work planning and joint decision-making to achieve unified project outcomes.
- Preparing documentation for PSC meetings, including agendas, progress summaries, financial updates, decisions logs and follow-up actions.

The JPMU will be conducted as per the modalities and procedures to be established in the preparatory phase as part of Output 3.1 (see Deliverable 3.1.3).

Roles and responsibilities of Project Technical Units under UNEP-CCC and UNDP Planet Hub:

Each PTU consists of two main components:

- **Base team**
  - a small group of professionals (including Transparency Officers and a Communications, KM and/or Gender expert) reporting to the corresponding agency's TCA.
  - Following guidance from the PSC and the Joint JPMU, this team is fully dedicated to the project's technical mandate, including

the preparation and maintenance of knowledge products, in coordination with any external support, when applicable (Output 1.1),

support to software and platform enhancements (Outputs 1.2 and 1.3),

contributions to global communication and coordination efforts (Output 1.4).

  - Base-team members also provide technical inputs to regional delivery activities (Component 2) and support the implementation of the project's monitoring, evaluation and knowledge-management framework (Component 3).

- **Regional network coordinators**
  - lead activities within each of the project's ten networks,

		▪ ensure continuous engagement with developing countries, facilitate peer learning, support direct in-country assistance, and organizing regional events. They hold primary responsibility for implementing Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 in their respective regions, ▪ contribute regional insights and data to global knowledge development and project monitoring and evaluation. Detailed ToRs for all positions are available in **Annex I** of this document.	
Project service providers	As per procurement plan	Project-financed goods and services to prepare project deliverables and support the achieving of project outputs.	On demand

[1] Request for joint implementation and execution roles was notified and approved by the GEF Secretariat (approval e-mail, 11/02/2026).

[2] **Annex P** presents the allocation of countries across networks and the distribution of networks across agencies.

[3] For reporting purposes, IGES / IPCC TFI TSU will fall under UNEP-CCC's stream.

Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

Coordination with ongoing and recent initiatives and projects

Overview

The experience of the first BTR cycle and the upcoming milestones underscore not only the need for sustained support and capacity-building, but also the importance of much stronger coordination and synergy among support providers and approaches that are tailored to the specific needs of developing countries, depending on their national circumstances and the point where they are in the reporting cycle.

As outlined in the baseline section, the transparency support ecosystem includes numerous initiatives and projects in recent years that align directly or indirectly with the goals of the GSP. This section revisits and expands on those efforts, with a focus on how each will be taken into account during the implementation of the GSPIII. Particular attention is given to identifying where strong coordination will be needed to prevent duplication, maximise synergies, and ensure a cost-effective approach that benefits all.

Where relevant, GSP III will systematically draw on lessons learned from the GSP II Mid-term Review, including insights on implementation challenges, governance approaches, and technical tools. This alignment is essential to ensure that GSP III generates value not only through its own activities, but also by reinforcing the coherence, effectiveness, and sustainability of the global climate transparency support architecture.

Continuity with previous phases

The project is designed to respond to the rapidly evolving global transparency landscape by integrating the lessons learned, good practices, and insights from the implementation of CBIT-GSP II to deliver more effective, coordinated, and forward-looking support.

Countries repeatedly highlighted at COP30 that navigating multiple overlapping offers of support can be burdensome, and that better alignment across initiatives would enhance efficiency, reduce transaction costs, and ensure consistent methodological guidance. Where transparency support streams are well sequenced and aligned considering the national circumstances and needs, countries start transitioning from report production to system operation; on the other hand, where they are fragmented, countries risk remaining locked in a cycle of externally driven, consultant-led, ad-hoc reporting. The principal leverage point lies in explicit programming alignment: using available support in an integrated way and with system-building objectives, rather than operating as parallel or overlapping funding tracks. The design of the new phase builds directly on the lessons learned during implementation and the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of CBIT-GSP II, which confirmed the relevance of the global platform while identifying areas where greater scale, coherence, and strategic focus are required. In particular, the MTR underscored the value of strong partnerships, decentralised delivery, and sustained coordination, while recognising the operational challenges associated with a rapidly expanding transparency support ecosystem and increasing country demand—especially in relation to BTRs.

Experience from current GSP implementation shows that the network-based delivery approach — particularly grouping countries by shared language and regional context — has significantly improved participation, continuity, and trust. These networks have enabled more candid technical exchanges and practical peer-to-peer problem solving, which in turn has accelerated countries' progress through reporting cycles. The presence of dedicated regional coordinators embedded within these networks has proven equally important, ensuring sustained follow-up, responsiveness to emerging needs, and a clearer link between global guidance and country-level realities.

Operational experience also confirms that tailored, demand-driven technical support is critical to improving report quality. Targeted desk reviews and on-demand backstopping during the preparation of draft transparency reports have helped countries resolve methodological issues early and strengthened reports ahead of submissions under the UNFCCC process. Likewise, the hybrid delivery model — combining virtual assistance with strategically timed in-person engagement — has proven both cost-effective and technically efficient. The Climate Transparency Platform has increasingly functioned as a one-stop knowledge hub that anchors this support architecture while still holding potential for significant improvements. Making these lessons explicit demonstrates that Phase II has generated not only outputs, but a tested implementation model that Phase III can consolidate, scale, and deploy more strategically.

In response, the new phase integrates these lessons into its core design, ensuring continuity with CBIT-GSP II while strengthening delivery modalities, coordination mechanisms, and results management. The table below summarises how key MTR lessons learned and recommendations are addressed and operationalised.

Table 3. Lessons learned and recommendations from Phase II's mid-term review[1][34]

Lessons learned /	Key Insight from	Continuity Implication	Application in the New Phase

Recommendations	CBIT-GSP II		
Lesson learned #1 A concerted partnership approach enhances engagement, results, and cost-effectiveness	Partnerships broadened reach, improved quality of support, and increased efficiency, but their full potential was not systematically leveraged.	Sustained partnerships and closer coordination are essential to scale impact without increasing fragmentation.	The new phase will further institutionalise a partnership-driven delivery model, strengthening collaboration and co-delivery with key partners (e.g. UNFCCC Secretariat, FAO, PATPA, ICAT, the Baku Platform and others) at global, regional, and country levels (in particular through Outputs 1.4 and 2.2 but also in Outputs 1.1 to 1.3 and 2.3).
Lesson learned #2 Decentralised delivery enables context-specific support and South-South learning	Regionalised and decentralised support improved responsiveness to country needs and facilitated peer learning.	Continuity requires maintaining and strengthening decentralised delivery mechanisms.	The project will expand and reinforce decentralised and regionally anchored delivery, enabling tailored support, stronger country engagement, and structured South-South and peer-to-peer learning modalities (Outputs 2.1 to 2.3).
Lesson learned #3 Coordination among support providers remains difficult despite clear added value	Coordination efforts faced structural and operational challenges, even with strong buy-in from partners.	Coordination must be more proactive, structured, and embedded in project design.	The GSP III strategic vision (Output 1.4) is focused on developing a GSP III strategic vision that will leverage closer coordination. It will prioritise structured coordination mechanisms, including joint planning, information-sharing, and alignment of support, directly addressing persistent fragmentation and duplication.
Recommendation #1	Demand for BTR-related	Scaling up delivery capacity is essential to	The project will strengthen surge response capacity and delivery mechanisms to respond to increased demand, including through the development of clear

Increase capacity to respond to growing demand for BTR support	technical assistance is increasing and expected to accelerate.	maintain relevance and effectiveness.	and transparent criteria to prioritize countries for support (Output 2.3); a pilot for targeted, time-bound support package for LDCs and SIDS, designed to remove immediate specific barriers to ETF reporting and unlock quick, visible results (Output 2.1); a Rapid Response Support Stream for Transparency (RRST) - dedicated budget line to help SIDS in the Pacific region to overcome immediate obstacles to timely, high-quality ETF submissions (Output 2.1); as well as enhanced coordination among the transparency support providers (Output 1.4); and enhanced resources for in-country and regional training and knowledge sharing activities (Outputs 2.1 – 2.3).
Recommendation #2 Ramp up efforts to promote coordination of transparency support providers	Existing coordination efforts yielded benefits but were insufficient to address systemic fragmentation.	Coordination must evolve from ad hoc practices to an integrated system and the Climate Transparency Platform must achieve broader ownership within the transparency community and become a dynamic coordination and learning hub that connects global guidance with regional and national action.	The Climate Transparency Platform will be further developed as a shared, multi-partner entry point for country needs and a coordination hub, complemented by strengthened partnerships and joint delivery arrangements (Output 1.3).
Recommendation #3 Review indicators and end targets	Some indicators and targets did not fully capture the scope or quality of results achieved.	Results frameworks must better reflect complexity, coordination, and qualitative outcomes.	The project includes a strengthened project results framework, including a clear contextualisation of relevant definitions, indicators and midterm/end targets with a strong gender responsive approach.
Recommendation #4	Human rights and gender considerati	A more intentional and visible approach is needed to	The human rights approach is now integrated into the project's Theory of Change. Moreover, the project explores and integrates opportunities to strengthen the visibility and systematic consideration of gender and

Explore opportunities for enhancing the profile of human rights and gender in CBIT-GSP II	ons were addressed in some activities but not consistently or strategicall y across the project.	mainstream human rights and gender while remaining context-sensitive.	social aspects across project design, delivery, partnerships, and monitoring, in alignment with UNEP, UNDP and GEF policies and without increasing implementation burden for countries. This is operationalized through concrete measures embedded across project components, including: • the application of gender-responsive and inclusive participant selection criteria for trainings, workshops, regional networks, and in-country support, as outlined in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP); • targeted outreach to increase the participation and visibility of women experts and practitioners in MRV/ETF processes, particularly in technical areas where women are underrepresented; • integration of gender-responsive approaches into guidance, tools, and knowledge products, including the use of the Gender-Responsive BTR Toolkit; • systematic tracking of participation and engagement through sex-disaggregated indicators; • inclusive communication and knowledge dissemination strategies, including multilingual approaches and outreach to underrepresented groups. These measures ensure that gender equality, youth engagement, and broader inclusion are not only reflected in project design but are actively implemented and monitored across all project activities.

Recent and on-going efforts

Below is a structured overview table of key recent and ongoing climate transparency support providers relevant to the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement. The table highlights where strengthened coordination within the framework of the GSP III project can enhance strategic coherence, reduce duplication, and reinforce national transparency systems and outputs—through shared tools, harmonised training approaches, and better alignment across technical, political, and financing actors. More details can be found in the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan, under Annex L.

Program / Project	Brief description	Intended coordination and synergies
UNFCCC Secretariat Transparency Division	Provides overall coordination and guidance on the implementation of the MRV and ETF systems to support Parties to meet reporting requirements under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. This includes operating the transparency support helpdesk and offering tailored guidance on methodologies, data management, and institutional arrangements. The division leads the development of standardised ETF reporting tools, templates, and digital platforms that streamline the reporting process and also supports technical expert reviews and facilitates capacity-building for developing countries to meet reporting requirements.	Effective coordination and synergies to be structured around the Division's convening, standard-setting and review functions, while mobilising ecosystem partners to translate these into sustained and coherent implementation (Outputs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4). Avoid duplication and rather ensure complementarity of guidance and helpdesk functions (Outputs 2.1 to 2.3) to better address the persistent gap between global guidance and national operationalisation. Enable a smoother "guidance-to-implementation pipeline," whereby new or updated guidance, tools and methodologies are rapidly disseminated (Ouputs 1.1 and 1.3), contextualised and embedded through regional and in-country activities (Outputs 2.1 and 2.3)
Consultative Group of Experts	UNFCCC technical body delivering mandated to provide ETF-focused training, guidance and expert exchange to support developing countries in meeting their reporting obligations under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.	Coordinate to ensure CGE materials and workshops function as the technical baseline for all capacity-building providers. The GSP III should avoid replicating CGE training, instead enhancing synergies with CGE work and embedding CGE content into the climate transparency platform (Output 1.3), national and regional delivery (Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3), including through enhanced coordination with transparency support providers (Output 1.4).
Transparency group of Friends (GoF)	Although not a formal UNFCCC constituted body, the GoF is a platform that operates within the UNFCCC process and provides informal coordination, peer exchange, and political support for enhanced transparency action. Functions as a high-level political coalition of stakeholders committed to strengthening the ETF.	Leverage GoF as a political coordination and advocacy channel, not a delivery mechanism. Synergies lie in aligning donor priorities (Output 1.4), reinforcing predictable funding (e.g. CBIT replenishments), and elevate transparency as a strategic enabler of ambition. The GSP III can coordinate efforts with the GoF to socialise lessons learned and sustain high-level commitment.

UNFCCC Regional collaboration centres	Six regional hubs (Kampala, Lomé, Dubai, Bangkok, St. George's and Panama) created to bring UNFCCC support services closer to Parties and strengthen on-the-ground capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement.	Enhanced coordination should align RCC workplans with GSP III and other support providers at regional and country level, such as ICAT, FAO and PATPA, ensuring continuity, contextualisation, and post-training follow-up—addressing a key gap in global programmes (Outputs 1.4, and 2.1 to 2.3).
UNDP Climate Promise	Working with over 140 countries to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change, the UNDP Climate Promise provides comprehensive support to help nations achieve their global climate goals. As a critical component of this overarching mission, its transparency support specifically assists over 70 countries in embedding robust data systems directly into the iterative implementation of their NDCs. The initiative helps countries access and manage GEF funds to develop BTRs and deliver CBIT projects, while also providing dedicated, targeted technical support to Francophone and Lusophone country clusters.	Coordinate to ensure seamless alignment between GSP III technical tools and the Climate Promise's extensive capacity-building efforts, anchoring cooperation specifically around the tracking, enhancement, and implementation of NDCs. Synergies lie in leveraging UNDP's operational footprint to contextualize global guidance, ensuring that transparency support directly informs national NDC ambition and policy integration, and cohesive support for member states to strengthen their NDC data systems without duplicating existing programmatic delivery.
Baku Transparency Platform	COP29-initiated global platform to support developing countries in preparing and finalizing BTRs and promoting universal participation in ETF, with regional workshops and global dialogues.	Engage with the BTP as a time-bound acceleration and convening mechanism, not a parallel delivery channel. Coordination should focus on linking BTP activities to existing support pipelines and the Climate Transparency Platform, to explore synergies, share solutions, and mobilise short-term surge support without duplicating standing programmes.
IPCC - Technical Support Unit of the IPCC TFI (IPCC TFI TSU)	The IPCC TFI TSU is responsible for assessing the latest science, and developing and disseminating internationally agreed methodologies used for the calculation of national anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals by signatories to the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement.	Leverage IPCC guidance as normative reference across UNFCCC, ICAT, FAO, GHGMI and other transparency support training providers; ensure translation of complex guidelines into usable regional and national tools to reduce technical bottlenecks (relevant to Outputs 1.1 to 1.4, and 2.1-2.3).
National CBIT and Enabling	GEF-funded, CBIT provides predictable resources for countries to move from ad-hoc,	Enhanced coordination should ensure other initiatives (such as ICAT, FAO, GHGMI, PATPA) plug into CBIT-funded

Activities Projects	project-based reporting to permanent, institutionalized transparency systems.	institutional frameworks rather than operating in isolation. Lessons from CBIT country projects should inform global tool development, while GSP III can serve as a clearinghouse for practices and coordination (Output 1.1 to 1.4 and 2.1 to 2.3).
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)	Sector-specific transparency support, particularly AFOLU, through global norms, technical tools, knowledge products, country-level technical assistance, and multi-partner programmes.	Enhance coordination with FAO, exploring synergies and complementarities with the Global Capacity Building towards Enhanced Transparency (CBIT-AFOLU+) project, to ensure that AFOLU transparency efforts are technically sound, feasible in practice, and supportive of long-term climate and development objectives (Outputs 1.1 to 1.4, 2.1, and 2.3).
Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT)	Multi-donor programme providing tailored methodology tools and frameworks for MRV, NDC tracking, climate finance transparency across >50 countries and regional hubs like ReCATH.	Enhanced coordination should ensure ICAT tools complement (not duplicate) UNFCCC/CGE guidance (Outputs 1.1 to 1.4, and 2.1 to 2.3). The GSP III can further leverage ICAT's toolboxes and regional hubs to fill thematic gaps (e.g. climate finance, adaptation).
Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA)	PATPA promotes transparency, trust, and mutual learning by connecting climate negotiators, policymakers, and technical experts across regions. It provides neutral spaces through meetings held alongside UNFCCC negotiations, Annual Partnership Retreats, as well as regional and language-specific technical workshops.	Leverage enhanced coordination with PATPA as a knowledge diffusion and community-of-practice mechanism (Outputs 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4). Coordination should channel lessons from CBIT, ICAT, FAO and RCC implementation into PATPA dialogues, avoiding parallel workshop circuits but rather exploring joint implementation when relevant (Outputs 2.1 and 2.2).
The Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI)	GHGMI's work includes strengthening national transparency systems, enabling participation in carbon markets through robust MRV structures, and advancing global standards and tools for GHG measurement and verification.	Synergies lie in further aligning training curricula with IPCC methods, CGE guidance and CBIT system needs, and embedding accredited training pathways into national institutions to address long-term capacity retention (Outputs 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, and 2.1 to 2.3).
Global Climate Action	Supports the development and enhancement of NDC-aligned policies, strengthened technical capacity across key sectors, and generates tools, methodologies and guidance that are widely	Enhanced coordination with GCAP to ensure sectoral MRV and data needs are ETF-consistent and interoperable with national transparency systems. Synergies

Partnership	applied by governments and technical institutions.	arise when GCAP sectoral tools and pilots feed into national inventories and NDC tracking systems, avoiding parallel data architectures (Outputs 1.1 to 1.4, and 2.1 to 2.3).
NDC Partnership	Coalition brokering technical and financial assistance for NDC implementation and climate planning.	Explore synergies with NDC Partnership country processes to mainstream transparency capacity as part of broader climate strategies; enhanced coordination to ensure transparency components are embedded in NDC support packages (Outputs 1.1 to 1.4 and 2.1 to 2.3).

[1] MTR available at the project's page in the GEF website (https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/10088)

Core Indicators

Indicate expected results in each relevant indicator using methodologies indicated in the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework Guidelines. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	750	4,312		
Male	750	4,311		
Total	**1500**	**8,623**	0	**0**

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

Methodology for CI estimation

The estimate of beneficiaries is based on participation in regional in-person events and technical support missions delivered across the project's ten regional networks. In alignment with the targets set in Annex C (as well as the project budget and workplan), each region is expected to host one in-person event per year with an average of 15 participants, which over two years results in 300 participants. In parallel, each network is expected to undertake an average of eight technical missions per year, each involving around 25 participants, leading to additional 4,000 beneficiaries over the project period. The combined total assumes an approximate 50–50 gender balance.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Low	Assessment: Extreme weather events could disrupt participation in regional events, but delivery is largely resilient to climatic shocks. No field infrastructure or on-site implementation activities are planned. The risk is therefore low. Mitigation measures: All project outputs are desk-based and focus on knowledge development, facilitation, regional coordination and capacity-building. Events and workshops can pivot to virtual or hybrid modalities if needed.
Environmental and Social	Low	Assessment: This project's Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening rating is 'Low' (see Annex F). Activities involve training, knowledge development, digital platforms and convening processes, none of which include physical interventions, land use changes or activities that trigger ES standards. Mitigation measures: The project will continue monitoring unintended impacts, particularly regarding accessibility and inclusiveness of regional events.
Political and Governance	Substantial	Assessment: The project operates within a diverse global landscape where geopolitical tensions, changing political priorities, institutional arrangements and budgetary constraints may influence countries' engagement in transparency efforts. Mitigation measures: A strong programme identity, strategic advocacy, and proactive communication are key elements of this project. GSP III emphasizes flexibility, neutrality and a strong regional presence, ensuring that support can continue even amidst domestic political changes. Close coordination among implementing agencies, as well as with the UNFCCC Secretariat, IPCC TFI and the broader support ecosystem will reduce dependency on any single institutional actor. The project's regional networks also help maintain continuity and engagement despite fluctuating national contexts.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	Assessment: Transparency systems evolve as guidance under the Paris Agreement, the ETF and the Intergovernmental Processes continues to mature. There is a moderate risk that some guidance or modalities will shift during project implementation. Mitigation measures: This risk is mitigated by the project's strong alignment with the UNFCCC Secretariat, CGE, IPCC TFI and GEF agencies, as well as by the GSP's role as a coordination mechanism for the support ecosystem. Continuous dialogue with global bodies will allow rapid adaptation to evolving requirements.
Technological	Low	Assessment: Software and Platform upgrades (i.e. Output 1.2 and Output 1.3) may face delays, interoperability challenges or underutilization,as well as potential risks related to cybersecurity threats and data loss, which could

		affect the reliability, accessibility, and integrity of digital tools and platforms. Mitigation measures: the project includes specialized IT staff in the base team. Regular user testing and regional feedback loops will ensure technology remains functional and relevant. In addition, appropriate cybersecurity and data management measures will be applied, including secure data storage, controlled access protocols, and regular system monitoring, to minimize risks related to data breaches, unauthorized access, or data loss.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	Assessment: There is a risk that expectations around the scale of regional support, training and direct assistance exceed available resources—particularly for LDCs and SIDS. Mitigation measures: the project emphasizes a modular, region-anchored delivery structure, supported by clear governance arrangements and cost-efficient implementation modalities. It also prioritizes the establishment of a replicable and financially viable model for targeted support to SIDS and LDCs, establishing a proven, replicable and scalable model for supporting these countries. This approach helps ensure long-term usability, resource efficiency, and value for money across all levels of the project.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Low	Assessment: Implementation risk is considered low, as both UNEP-CCC and UNDP's Planet Hub have extensive experience delivering global transparency projects; this includes previous phases of the GSP, support for multiple CBIT projects and regional climate action initiatives. Mitigation measures: The project includes strong administrative, technical and regional structures as well a strong Knowledge Management Strategy to manage complexity and ensure continuity.
Fiduciary	Low	Assessment: Fiduciary risk is low due to UNEP and UNDP's well-established financial and procurement procedures, strong internal oversight, and the Joint Project Management Unit (JPMU). Mitigation measures: The two agencies' risk-mitigation systems, combined with execution by professional teams, provide a robust safeguard framework.
Stakeholder	Moderate	Assessment: Given the project's global scale and the breadth of products, services, and delivery modalities offered by the GSP—including the Climate Transparency Platform, global and regional coordination fora, webinars and workshops, knowledge products, and direct technical support—there is a moderate risk related to ensuring sustained participation, coherence, and effective coordination among a diverse set of stakeholders. These include countries, regional networks, implementing partners, support providers, and global bodies, each engaging with the project through different entry points and at different levels. Mitigation measures: This risk is mitigated through a structured communication and engagement strategy (Output 1.4), an enhanced Climate Transparency Platform (Output 1.3), stronger regional networks and continuous feedback loops through regional coordinators (Outputs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 in Component 2), and systematic coordination and

		learning mechanisms embedded in the project's monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management framework (Component 3). Together, these measures ensure coherence across delivery channels, meaningful stakeholder engagement, and responsiveness to evolving countries' needs across the full range of GSP services.
Other		No additional risks have been identified at this stage. Further risks may emerge during the inception phase as the JPMU establishes workplans and coordination mechanisms.
Overall Risk Rating	Low	The overall project risk is considered Low. Although several categories are rated Moderate—primarily those linked to global coordination, technology development and institutional complexity—these risks are well mitigated by the project's design. The strong management architecture, the presence of dual co-executing agencies, the strategic involvement of global bodies (UNFCCC, IPCC TFI, CGE) and the robustness of regional networks collectively ensure that the project is equipped to handle the identified risks.

C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Explain how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

GEF-8 Programming strategies

This project is aligned with the GEF-8 programming directions climate change focal area strategy, Pillar II, foster enabling conditions to mainstream mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies; Objective 2.1: Support capacity-building needs for transparency under the Paris Agreement through the CBIT. In particular, the project is aligned with paragraphs 495 and 496 of Objective 2.1.[1]35

This project proposal is consistent with the Paris Agreement, and with national priorities, such as National Communications, BTRs, and Nationally Determined Contributions, as it will support countries in obtaining the necessary capacities and tools to track progress in climate change mitigation and adaptation and, more specifically, NDCs. Support for capacity strengthening related to monitoring and tracking progress on key climate-related indicators will also support data collection and analysis that can in turn inform other policy exercises, such as TNAs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Long-term strategies (LTS), and others.

Relevance to the UNEP Programme of Work

This project is part of UNEP's Programme Coordination Project for Science and Transparency, serving as a crucial link between the broader mitigation goals outlined in UNEP's 2026-2029 Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) and Programme of Work (PoW) and the specific, on-the-ground initiatives carried out by UNEP, such as this one. The project operationalizes key MTS priorities by strengthening environmental governance, institutional capacity, and accountability to meet international commitments—particularly under the Paris Agreement—while advancing the use of science, data, and digital solutions for decision-making and reporting. More specifically, this project supports the achievement of the following elements in UNEP's MTS and PoW:

Strategic objective (a), which is climate stability by reducing emissions and enhancing adaptation and resilience;

Outcome 1 (O1): increased use of environmental science and digital solutions, including AI in decision making.

Outcome 2 (O2): strengthened governance to meet international environmental commitments, promote environmental law, and support implementation of national obligations to MEAs.

Indicator 1.1: number of actor reports towards the enhanced transparency arrangements of the Paris Agreement.

The third phase of the GSP provides a framework for a coordinated approach to deliver science-based technical assistance for countries to meet their transparency and other reporting obligations, as well as deliver on the adaptation and mitigation goals of the Paris Agreement. By providing solid science and reinforcing capacities for climate information, early warning, reporting, and transparency, the GSP also serves to initiate actions that can induce policy changes needed for climate stability. The project will be supported by a global network of practitioners and key stakeholders national, international, public, and intergovernmental across the globe. Guided by the need to ensure greater climate ambition in line with the aspirations of the NDCs and long-term strategies and other strategic instruments, the GSP focuses not just on producing reports but on increasing capacities to produce climate change information that is useful and relevant for sustainable development planning and investment decisions.

The project will maintain close communication with the UN's Regional Offices (UNRO) and Country Teams (UNCT), mainly through the activities under Component 2.

Relevance to the UNDP Programme of Work

This project is fundamentally anchored in the **UNDP Strategic Plan (2026-2029)**, directly advancing the organization's mandate to support countries in achieving structural transformation, building resilience, and leaving no one behind. Specifically, the project contributes to the **Signature Solution on Environment**, which aims to support integration of climate, nature, and energy goals into national development planning and financing. By enhancing the institutional and technical capacities of developing countries to meet the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) requirements of the Paris Agreement, this project strengthens national governance structures, enabling data-driven policy-making and fostering accountability.

Furthermore, the project's objectives are fully aligned with the operational and strategic framework of UNDP's newly consolidated **Planet Hub**. The Hub brings together the Climate, Energy, Nature, and Chemicals & Waste portfolios under the unified vision that *Economies and Ecosystems Thrive Together*. As the UN's largest provider of support on the Paris Agreement, UNDP leverages this integrated approach to break down sector silos. The CBIT GSP III project will utilize the Hub's global, regional, and country-level footprint to deliver world-class technical expertise, ensuring that climate transparency is not treated in

isolation, but integrated seamlessly with broader sustainable development goals, biodiversity frameworks, and energy transitions.

Within the framework of **Climate Promise Forward**, this project represents a critical integration point between climate transparency and accelerated NDC implementation. As the UN system pivots toward delivering concrete implementation results ahead of key milestones like COP31, the project aligns directly with the mandate to transform NDCs into actionable, trackable development priorities. The project's robust MRV (Measurement, Reporting, and Verification) and capacity-building mechanisms are fully woven into this UN system-wide effort. By embedding targeted, contextualized technical support—such as through dedicated regional networks advancing capacity in Francophone and Lusophone countries—into national governance structures, the project ensures that transparency platforms and NDC implementation advance in lockstep. This integration guarantees that the data tracking mechanisms established through the project directly inform the socio-economic investments and climate finance acceleration prioritized under the *Climate Promise Forward* agenda.

The project will work closely with UNDP's Regional Hubs and Country Offices across 170 countries and territories, utilizing this unparalleled global footprint to contextualize technical support and ensure that international transparency frameworks translate into tangible local action. This decentralized, country-driven approach is especially vital in fulfilling the UN Secretary-General's direct mandate for UNDP's *Climate Promise*, which calls upon the UN system to urgently accelerate NDC implementation. By anchoring the project's capacity-building efforts within this widespread network, UNDP ensures that robust data tracking directly empowers the ambitious, on-the-ground implementation targets mandated by the Secretary-General.

[1] Available at the GEF's website.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed during Project Preparation as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

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

Yes

If the project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

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

Improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or

Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during Project Preparation as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes has been clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B) and that a Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed before CEO endorsement**.**

Yes

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; No

Other (Please explain) Yes

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in section B project description?

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguards

We confirm that we have provided information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program, including risk screenings/ assessments and, if applicable, management plans or other measures to address identified risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex E).

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Low	Low Low		

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided.

Yes

Socio-economic Benefits

We confirm that the project design has considered socio-economic benefits to be delivered by the project and these have been clearly described in the Project Description and will be monitored and reported on during project implementation (at MTR and TER).

The GSP III project delivers **global environmental benefits** by strengthening developing countries' capacity to generate accurate, comparable and policy-relevant climate information under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). By improving access to high-quality guidance, tools, peer-learning networks and technical support, the project enables countries—including LDCs and SIDS—to better track emissions and removals, assess progress toward their NDCs, and identify risks and needs for adaptation and support. These improvements enhance the quality and consistency of information feeding into the Global Stocktake, thereby strengthening the ambition mechanism of the Paris Agreement.

The project also plays a critical role in improving the coordination and effectiveness of the global transparency support ecosystem. By convening partners, enhancing transparency platforms, and strengthening regional delivery mechanisms, the initiative helps reduce duplication, promotes shared learning, and ensures that countries—especially those with limited capacity—receive timely and coherent assistance. This contributes directly to more efficient global climate governance and to better-informed national and international climate policies. Moreover, improved transparency can unlock access to climate finance and channel resources into NDC implementation.

Finally, the project generates co-benefits by fostering long-term institutional capacity, enabling countries to sustain transparency efforts beyond project timelines, and supporting the emergence of regionally anchored expertise. Through its pilot support model for LDCs and SIDS, the project will help expand equitable access to technical assistance, reinforcing global climate resilience and adaptive governance in an evolving climate context.

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant($)	Agency Fee($)	Total GEF Financing ($)
UNEP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	Grant	5,400,000.00	513,000.00	5,913,000.00
UNDP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	Grant	3,600,000.00	342,000.00	3,942,000.00
Total GEF Resources ($)						**9,000,000.00**	**855,000.00**	**9,855,000.00**

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount ($)

145000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

13775

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG($)	Agency Fee($)	Total PPG Funding($)
UNEP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	85,000.00	8,075.00	93,075.00
UNDP	GET	Global	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	60,000.00	5,700.00	65,700.00
Total PPG Amount ($)					**145,000.00**	**13,775.00**	**158,775.00**

Please provide Justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)

Total GEF Resources	**0.00**

Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
CCM-CBIT	GET	9,000,000.00	1600000
Total Project Cost		**9,000,000.00**	**1,600,000.00**

Confirmed Co-financing for the project, by name and type

Please include evidence for each co-financing source for this project in the tab of the portal

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
GEF Agency	UNEP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500000
Others	IGES	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1000000
Total Co-financing				**1,600,000.00**

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Not Applicable

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator		Kelly West (UNEP)		kelly.west@un.org
GEF Agency Coordinator		Nancy Bennet (UNDP)		nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator		Claudia Ortiz (UNDP)		claudia.ortiz@undp.org
Project Coordinator		Eva Huttova (UNDP)		eva.huttova@undp.org
Project Coordinator		Asher Lessels (UNEP)		asher.lessels@un.org
Project Coordinator		Suzanne Lekoyiet (UNEP)		suzanne.lekoyiet@un.org

Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template.

Name of GEF OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document.

Objective level indicators

This section includes indicators required by the GEF as part of its Core Indicators.[1][36]

Project Objective	Objective level Indicators	Baseline	Targets and Monitoring Milestones	Means of Verification	Assumptions & Risks	Relevant SDG target(s) and indicators
Objective: To strengthen developing countries' capacity to implement the ETF by enhancing access to and use of global and regional climate transparency knowledge, tools, and networks; building inclusive and gender-responsive capacity to apply this knowledge; and improving the quality, consistency, and usability of climate reports and transparency frameworks.	**Indicator A:** (= GEF core indicator 11): Direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual)	Baseline A: 0	Mid-term target A: 4,312 End target A: at least 8,623: - 50% women, 50% men - 1,000 belong to SIDS or LDCs.	The project's Meeting and Event Attendance Log (3.1.17) will consolidate evidence of all the training and events organized and supported by the project, including training attendance. The project reports will apply	- Political and governance - Stakeholder - Institutional and Policy	SDG: 13 Target: 13.3. Indicator: 13.3.1.

				the UN Cooperation Framework Markers.		

Outcome level indicators

Outcome-level indicators refer to higher-level institutional or behavioural changes among individuals, institutions, or networks. They depend on the contributions of multiple actors—including government agencies, regional partners, and support initiatives beyond the project—and therefore involve assumptions regarding commitment, coordination, and the enabling environment.

Project Outcomes	Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Targets and Monitoring Milestones	Means of Verification	Assumptions & Risks[2][37]	Relevant SDG target(s) and indicators
Outcome 1. *Developing country government officials and practitioners draw upon global platform knowledge products and tools for delivering on country ETF commitments.*	**Indicator 1:** # of developing countries that report using GSP support (tools, templates, knowledge products produced by the GSP) in their BTR/NC submissions	not currently measured (this is a new indicator) -	Mid-term target: **At least 5** countries indicate in their BTR/NC that they received support through the GSP III. End of project target: **At least 30** developing countries indicate in their	Review of national BTR submissions through the UNFCCC registry. Data collected will follow the M&E structure defined as part of Deliverable 3.1.7.	Assumptions: Countries explicitly reference regional support; reporting timelines remain stable Risks: - Political and governance - Stakeholder - Institutional and Policy	SDG: 13 Target: 13.3. Indicator: 3.3.1.

			BTR/NC that they received support through the GSP III and/or its regional networks.			
Outcome 2. *Developing countries embed and apply lessons from regional transparency networks to improve the quality and inclusiveness of their climate reports and national transparency systems.*	**Indicator 2:** % of network members who consider that their participation in Transparency Networks contributed to strengthening their transparency systems and activities[3][38]	70%	Mid-term target: **75%** - End target: **80%**	Post-training surveys. Relevant deliverables include 1.3.11, 1.4.10 and 2.1.12.	Assumptions: Participation remains stable; networks remain active and visible Risks: - Institutional and Policy - Stakeholder	

Output level indicators

Output-level indicators describe concrete products, services, skills or abilities that the project is directly responsible for delivering during its implementation period. These are fully within the project's control and represent the minimum level of service that can be objectively verified at completion. Additional products or service levels may be attained through increased co-financing.

Project Outputs	Output Indicators	Baseline	Targets and Monitoring Milestones	Means of Verification	Assumptions & Risks	Relevant SDG target(s) and

						indicators
Output 1.1 *New, updated and improved gender-responsive and socially inclusive guidance, tools and knowledge products on transparency are available to developing countries.*	**Indicator 1.1:** # of new/updated climate transparency knowledge products prepared through the project	0	Mid-term target: at least 10 knowledge products (at least 1 on gender and/or including gender good practices) End target: at least 25 knowledge products (at least 2 on gender and/or including gender good practices)	Repository records; GSP platform. Refer to the Taxonomy of Knowledge Products in **Annex O.**	Assumption: Funds available and activities begin on time. Risks: All risks in the '**context**' and '**execution**' dimensions of the risk section of this document (i.e. for the context dimension: **climate**; **environmental and social**; **political and governance risks**; for the execution dimension: **capacity for implementation**; **fiduciary**; and **stakeholder** risks).	SDG: 13 Target: 13.3. Indicator: 3.3.1.
Output 1.2 *Updated IPCC Inventory Software and associated IPCC gender-responsive knowledge products are made available to developing countries and practitioners*	**Indicator 1.2:** Number of IPCC software updates released in alignment with the improvement plan	n.a	Mid-term target: At least 1 IPCC software update released (Deliverable 1.2.3) End target: 2 releases funded by the project	IPCC TSU release logs.		
Output 1.3 *An enhanced Climate*	**Indicator 1.3:**	n.a	Mid-term target:	Deployment confirmation		

Transparency Platform facilitates the use of climate transparency resources by developing countries and contributes to enhanced coordination and reach of support providers.	Release of Platform Version 2 (binary indicator)		Platform v2 development at least 50% complete, with core modules deployed for internal testing (Deliverable 1.3.4) - <u>End target:</u> Platform v2 online			
Output 1.4 *Programme identity, communication, advocacy and coordination mechanisms strengthened to support dissemination and accessibility of climate-transparency knowledge*	**<u>Indicator 1.4a:</u>** Number of global events on climate transparency organized by the project -	0	<u>Mid-term target:</u> At least 1 high-level coordination meeting held <u>End target:</u> Global Transparency Forum held; at least 2 high-level coordination meetings held in total over the project duration (cumulative, including the meeting held by mid-term) Gender target: at least 40% women participants in each	Event reports; attendance logs		

			global event organized by the project			
	Indicator 1.4b: **Number** of communication and outreach materials produced and disseminated -	0	**Mid-term target:** At least 5 communication materials produced and disseminated **End of project target:** At least 10 communication materials (e.g., videos, social media content, event-focused digital artifacts) produced and disseminated over the project duration.	Communication material inventory; Climate Transparency platform and social media analytics		

Project Outputs	**Output Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Targets and Monitoring Milestones**	**Means of Verification**	**Assumptions & Risks**	**Relevant SDG target(s) and indicators**
Output 2.1 *Regional and language-based transparency networks sustained*	**Indicator 2.1.a:** # of technical webinars -	3 per region per year (avg)	Mid-term target: 4 per region (=40 in total)	Zoom/YouTube analytics; training reports	Assumption: Funds available and activities begin on time.	SDG: 13 Target:

and strengthened to deliver online and in-person capacity-building, knowledge exchange, and coordination on climate transparency to developing countries	- - -		End of project target: 8 per region (=80 in total) Gender target: at least 40% women participants in each on-line training organized by the project.		Risks: All risks in the '**context**' and '**execution**' dimensions of the risk section of this document (i.e. for the context dimension: **climate**; **environmental and social**; **political and governance risks**; for the execution dimension: **capacity for implementation**; **fiduciary**; and **stakeholder** risks).	13.3. Indicator : 3.3.1.
	Indicator 2.1.b: # of regional level in-person events organized by the project	0	Mid-term target: 4 events already organized + 6 scheduled (see Deliverable 2.2.3) End of project target: At least 1 in-person event per region i.e. a total of at least 10 in-person events, one in each region	Event reports; attendance logs -		

			Gender target: at least 40% women participants in each event organized through this output -				
Output 2.2 *A support package tailored to the specific needs of SIDS is piloted in the Pacific region, and documented for replication in other SIDS and LDCs*	**Indicator 2.2:** Estimated value of the portfolio of transparency project concepts for the Pacific Region, structured as a coherent, bankable pipeline The project concepts will include all potential funding windows, including but not limited to GEF, Green Climate Fund (GCF), multilateral banks, development agencies and any other potential windows.	0	Mid-term target: At least 2 MM USD in project concepts identified and under active development toward the Pacific Islands Transparency Cooperation Mechanism portfolio End of project target: 6 MM USD project portfolio resulting from the Pacific Islands Transparency Cooperation Mechanism, structured as a coherent, bankable	Pilot documentation. All key deliverables should be consolidated under 2.1.10.			

			pipeline (more details in **Annex Q**)			
Output 2.3 *Developing countries receive targeted gender-responsive technical assistance to improve the quality of their climate change reports and national climate transparency systems*	**Indicator 2.3.a:** # of requests for direct support completed	0	Mid-term target: 8 per region on average (i.e. 80 on average) End of project target: 16 per region on average (i.e. 160 on average)	Support reports (compiled under 2.3.6).		
	Indicator 2.3.b: # of transparency reports reviewed -	0	Mid-term target: Minimum of 20 reports reviewed End of project target: Minimum of 40 reports reviewed -	Review reports (compiled under 2.3.7)		

[1] UNEP's POW Outcome: O1, O2. Indicators: SP1: Climate action thematic subprogramme Indicator 1.1 Number of actor reports towards the enhanced transparency arrangements of the Paris Agreement.

[2] Refer to the section 'Risks to Achieving Project Outcomes'.

[3] This indicator corresponds to Indicator 4 in phase II B.

ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount ($)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
International Consultants (proposal development) - UNEP	65,000.00	14,140.00	44,182.00
Travel - UNEP	20,000.00	17,498.00	0.00
International Consultants (proposal development) - UNDP	48,050.00	29,645.00	18,405.00
Travel - UNDP	11,950.00	4,902.09	7,047.91
Total	**145,000.00**	**66,185.09**	**69,634.91**

ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Copenhagen, Denmark	55.67594	12.56553	2,618,425

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where project interventions are taking place as appropriate.

Given the global scope of the project, it is not possible to identify a single specific geographic location at this stage. Annex P provides maps illustrating the regional networks covered under the project. In line with the suggestion to include the geographic location of physical project activities (such as events or knowledge-sharing activities) to enhance project visibility, Copenhagen, Denmark has been included as the location of the GSP Knowledge Platform (https://climate-transparency-platform.org/) – a key physical hub associated with project implementation while acknowledging the project's global reach.

ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

Attach agency safeguard datasheet/assessment report(s), including ratings of risk types and overall project/program risk classification as well as any management plans or measures to address identified risks and impacts (as applicable).

Title

UNEP & UNDP_Environmental and Social Safeguards Screen and Rating

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

ANNEX G: Budget Table

EF budget category & detailed description	Notes & comments	Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Subtotal	M&E	PMC	Total	Responsible entity
01. Works			**$ 127,245**	**$ 127,245**			**$ 127,245**	
Rapid Response Support Stream for Transparency (RRST) in SIDS	Output 2.2 and Annex Q in the CEO ER provide detailed scope for the support modalities under the RRST		$ 127,245	$ 127,245			$ 127,245	UNEP-CCC
02. Goods		**$ 5,800**	**$ 9,000**	**$ 14,800**			**$ 14,800**	
Hardware (UNEP)	Laptops for regional networks		$ 3,000	$ 3,000			$ 3,000	UNEP-CCC
Hardware (UNDP)	Laptops for regional networks		$ 6,000	$ 6,000			$ 6,000	UNDP Planet Hub
Communication materials (UNEP)		$ 2,900		$ 2,900			$ 2,900	UNEP-CCC
Communication materials (UNDP)		$ 2,900		$ 2,900			$ 2,900	UNDP Planet Hub
06. Sub-contract to executing partner/entity		**$ 923,255**	**$ 200,000**	**$ 1,123,255**			**$ 1,123,255**	
IPCC/TFI/TSU software development	Output 1.2 and Annex R provide a detailed scope of improvements under this budget line	$ 923,255		$ 923,255			$ 923,255	IGES
USP (Pacific Islands Transparency Cooperation Mechanism)	Output 2.2 and Annex Q in the CEO ER provide detailed scope for the support modalities under this cooperation mechanism		$ 200,000	$ 200,000			$ 200,000	UNEP-CCC
07. Contractual services (company)		**$ 169,352**	**$ 5,148**	**$ 174,500**	**$ 60,000**	**$ 18,000**	**$ 252,500**	
Platform build & operations	See details on expected improvements to the transparency platform in Output 1.3 and Annex T	$ 81,500		$ 81,500			$ 81,500	UNEP-CCC
Hosting, CDN & analytics providers	See details on expected improvements to the transparency platform in Output 1.3 and Annex T	$ 17,000		$ 17,000			$ 17,000	UNEP-CCC
Audit (UNEP)						$ 9,000	$ 9,000	UNEP-CCC
Audit (UNDP)						$ 9,000	$ 9,000	UNDP Planet Hub
Translation (UNEP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 40,500		$ 40,500			$ 40,500	UNEP-CCC
Translation (UNDP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 29,500		$ 29,500			$ 29,500	UNDP Planet Hub
Software & communication licenses (UNEP)	Zoom, YouTube and other relevant licenses for global and regional events and technical support	$ 352	$ 2,648	$ 3,000			$ 3,000	UNEP-CCC
Software & communication licenses (UNDP)	Zoom, YouTube and other relevant licenses for global and regional events and technical support	$ 500	$ 2,500	$ 3,000			$ 3,000	UNDP Planet Hub
Mid-term Review	Recruitment of international consultant for the review. Discussed in Output 3.1 and Annex J (sub-section on monitoring instruments)				$ 22,500		$ 22,500	UNDP Planet Hub
Terminal Evaluation	Recruitment of international consultant for the evaluation. Discussed in Output 3.1 and Annex J (sub-section on monitoring instruments)				$ 37,500		$ 37,500	UNEP-CCC
08. Contractual services (individuals)		**$ 590,437**	**$ 1,874,534**	**$ 2,464,971**			**$ 2,464,971**	
Network coordinators (UNEP)	Salaries for 5 network coordinators (UNEP stream). Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 101,731	$ 798,269	$ 900,000			$ 900,000	UNEP-CCC

Network coordinators (UNDP)	Salaries for 5 network coordinators (UNDP stream). Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 101,731	$ 798,269	$ 900,000			$ 900,000	UNDP Planet Hub
IT specialist	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 108,000		$ 108,000			$ 108,000	UNEP-CCC
Ad-hoc experts (UNEP)	Ad-hoc experts required for technical support at the regional and national level and specific Knowledge Products. Also see Annex I of the CEO ER.	$ 113,357	$ 156,643	$ 270,000			$ 270,000	UNEP-CCC
Ad-hoc experts (UNDP)	Ad-hoc experts required for technical support at the regional and national level and specific Knowledge Products. Also see Annex I of the CEO ER.	$ 84,618	$ 121,353	$ 205,971			$ 205,971	UNDP Planet Hub
Visual designer (UNEP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 54,000		$ 54,000			$ 54,000	UNEP-CCC
Visual designer (UNDP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER	$ 27,000		$ 27,000			$ 27,000	UNDP Planet Hub
11. Salary and benefits/Staff Costs		**$ 757,936**	**$ 802,087**	**$ 1,560,023**	**$ 193,437**	**$ 410,571**	**$ 2,164,031**	
Technical Coordinator and Advisor (UNEP)	1 position. Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 11,398	$ 11,398	$ 22,796	$ 27,862	$ 93,343	$ 144,001	UNEP-CCC
Technical Coordinator and Advisor (UNDP)	1 position. Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 72,714	$ 90,892	$ 163,606	$ 18,178	$ 131,780	$ 313,564	UNDP Planet Hub
Senior Transparency Officer (UNEP)	1 position. Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 63,000	$ 72,000	$ 135,000	$ 45,000		$ 180,000	UNEP-CCC
Senior Transparency Officer (UNDP)	1 position. Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 147,693	$ 204,924	$ 352,617	$ 16,615		$ 369,232	UNDP Planet Hub
Transparency officers (UNEP base team)	3 positions. Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 270,000	$ 270,000	$ 540,000			$ 540,000	UNEP-CCC
Transparency officers (UNDP base team)	2 positions. Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 163,131	$ 128,873	$ 292,004	$ 34,258		$ 326,262	UNDP Planet Hub
Communications, KM and gender officer (UNEP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency	$ 30,000	$ 24,000	$ 54,000	$ 6,000		$ 60,000	UNEP-CCC
Communications, KM and gender officer (UNDP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency							UNDP Planet Hub
Administrative and financial support (UNEP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency				$ 27,000	$ 153,000	$ 180,000	UNEP-CCC
Administrative and financial support (UNDP)	Detailed TORs available in Annex I of the CEO ER. Amounts may differ due to available co-finance from each agency				$ 18,524	$ 32,448	$ 50,972	UNDP Planet Hub
12. Training, Workshops, Meetings		**$ 197,100**	**$ 420,597**	**$ 617,697**	**$ 5,000**		**$ 622,697**	
Inception workshop	Discussed in Output 3.1 and Annex J (sub-section on M&E)				$ 5,000		$ 5,000	UNEP-CCC
Venue and catering (UNEP stream)	Covers the Global Transparency Forum + regional events + in-country support	$ 180,000	$ 145,000	$ 325,000			$ 325,000	UNEP-CCC
Venue and catering (UNDP stream)	Covers regional events + in-country support		$ 144,999	$ 144,999			$ 144,999	UNDP Planet Hub
Visa and other travel costs - (UNEP stream)	Covers visa costs for the Global Transparency Forum + regional events	$ 8,550	$ 15,299	$ 23,849			$ 23,849	UNEP-CCC
Visa and other travel costs - (UNDP stream)	Covers visa costs for the Global Transparency Forum + regional events	$ 8,550	$ 15,299	$ 23,849			$ 23,849	UNDP Planet Hub
Internal transport and other support cost (UNEP stream)	Local and other transport costs for participants attending in-country support activities		$ 50,000	$ 50,000			$ 50,000	UNEP-CCC
Internal transport and other support cost (UNDP stream)	Local and other transport costs for participants attending in-country support activities		$ 50,000	$ 50,000			$ 50,000	UNDP Planet Hub
13. Travel		**$ 712,501**	**$ 1,518,000**	**$ 2,230,501**			**$ 2,230,501**	
Flights (Output 1.4 - UNEP stream)	Participants from 5 regional networks, consultants and project team participation in one Global Transparency Forum	$ 285,000		$ 285,000			$ 285,000	UNEP-CCC
Flights (Output 1.4 - UNDP stream)	Participants from 5 regional networks, consultants and project team participation in one Global Transparency Forum	$ 285,001		$ 285,001			$ 285,001	UNDP Planet Hub
DSAs (Output 1.4, UNEP stream)	Participants from 5 regional networks, consultants and project team participation in one Global Transparency Forum	$ 71,250		$ 71,250			$ 71,250	UNEP-CCC
DSAs (Output 1.4, UNDP stream)	Participants from 5 regional networks, consultants and project team participation in one Global Transparency Forum	$ 71,250		$ 71,250			$ 71,250	UNDP Planet Hub
Flights (Output 2.1 - UNEP stream)	Participants, consultants and project team for min. 10 regional events (1 in-person regional event per region, with at least 15 participants per event.)		$ 204,000	$ 204,000			$ 204,000	UNEP-CCC
Flights (Output 2.1 - UNDP stream)	Participants, consultants and project team for min. 10 regional events (1 in-person regional event per region, with at least 15 participants per event.)		$ 204,000	$ 204,000			$ 204,000	UNDP Planet Hub
DSAs for Output 2.1 (UNEP stream)	Participants, consultants and project team for min. 10 regional events (1 in-person regional event per region, with a least 15 participants per event.)		$ 187,000	$ 187,000			$ 187,000	UNEP-CCC

DSAs for Output 2.1 (UNDP stream)	Participants, consultants and project team for min. 10 regional events (1 in-person regional event per region, with at least 15 participants per event.)		$ 187,000	$ 187,000			$ 187,000	UNDP Planet Hub
Flights (Output 2.3 - UNEP stream)	Consultants and project team for min. 80 in-country support missions in Output 2.3 (a minimum of 8 missions per network with at least 25 local experts per mission)		$ 192,000	$ 192,000			$ 192,000	UNEP-CCC
Flights (Output 2.3 - UNDP stream)	Consultants and project team for min. 80 in-country support missions in Output 2.3 (a minimum of 8 missions per network with at least 25 local experts per mission)		$ 192,000	$ 192,000			$ 192,000	UNDP Planet Hub
DSAs for Output 2.3 (UNEP stream)	Consultants and project team for min. 80 in-country support missions in Output 2.3 (a minimum of 8 missions per network with at least 25 local experts per mission)		$ 176,000	$ 176,000			$ 176,000	UNEP-CCC
DSAs for Output 2.3 (UNDP stream)	Consultants and project team for min. 80 in-country support missions in Output 2.3 (a minimum of 8 missions per network with at least 25 local experts per mission)		$ 176,000	$ 176,000			$ 176,000	UNDP Planet Hub
Grand Total		**$ 3,356,381**	**$ 4,956,611**	**$ 8,312,992**	**$ 258,437**	**$ 428,571**	**$ 9,000,000**	

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

ANNEX I: 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.

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) recommendation	How it was addressed in project design
1. Revisit the risk table and focus on mitigating residual risk –remaining risks that the design instruments fail to address adequately. This means the risk table should reflect what the proponents will do if there is a lack of change despite proposed actions. (See STAP's information note on clarifying risks in GEF projects for more details).	The risk section has been revised to focus on residual risks, based on STAP's guidance "Clarifying risks in GEF projects, with a focus on innovation risks" (STAP Guidance Note, November 2024)
2. Consider reflecting on the potential future narrative.	This is captured mainly in the Project Rationale section, which explores plausible scenarios in absence of the proposed project.
3. Understanding stakeholder behaviours should be prioritized, and the design of climate transparency platforms should be informed by the needs of users who actively use the platforms (see STAP guidance on leveraging innovation for transformation).	Output 1.3 focuses on enhancements for the Climate Transparency Platform. These will be informed by a detailed gap analysis based on user feedback and performance data from the existing version of the platform. The exercise will also take into account the vision and branding work conducted under Output 1.4, so that the proposed improvements reflect the platform's renewed purpose, positioning, and visual identity within the broader transparency support ecosystem.
4. The Theory of Change will need to be revisited to ensure clarity of connections between the outcomes, intermediate states, and	The Theory of Change has been entirely reformulated, starting from identified barriers, and how these are tackled through the project's

impacts. It is also important to be clear on responsibilities and roles.	outputs, and how these lead to outcomes and impacts. Roles and responsibilities are clearly specified in section on Institutional Arrangements, but reflected throughout the document.
GEF Secretariat	How it was addressed in project design
We encourage you to reconsider the duration of the project during the PPG, we recommend a longer duration.	The project duration was reviewed during the PPG phase in light of the scope of activities and expected results. The duration has been maintained as originally proposed due to resource constraints, country and UNFCCC process expectations, and the need to align with programming timelines.
In line with the previous comment, we also recommend revisiting core indicator 11 during the PPG.	The target for Core Indicator 11 was reassessed during the PPG phase, taking into account the project duration, delivery modalities, and expected geographic coverage. The final target reflects a balance between ambition and feasibility, and is informed by lessons learned from previous GSP phases, including differences in implementation timelines and modes of engagement, and following a conservative approach to avoid double counting.
Please ensure to include relevant gender-specific indicators in the RF;	Gender-responsive indicators have been integrated into the Results Framework, including (i) the disaggregation of Core Indicator 11 by gender, with a 50/50 target at objective level; and (ii) the inclusion of gender-related targets across multiple outcome and output indicators (e.g. participation targets in trainings and events, and indicators tracking gender-responsive knowledge products and country practices). Kindly note that these are all in addition to the indicators in the Gender Action Plan (discussed below).
In the development of the Gender Action Plan, please include specific budget lines, as appropriate and plans for monitoring and reporting on the GAP. Under M&E, please reflect those reports submitted (MTR and TE) include gender-specific results and progress in the implementation of the gender action.	A comprehensive Gender Action Plan (GAP) was developed during the PPG phase, informed by a detailed gender analysis covering policy frameworks, country-level constraints, and lessons learned from previous CBIT-GSP phases. Gender-related actions are fully resourced and operationalized within the project design. Dedicated responsibilities for gender integration have been assigned to a specific staff function (Communications, Knowledge Management and Gender Officer), with corresponding tasks explicitly reflected in the

	Terms of Reference and covered under the project budget. Gender-responsive monitoring and reporting have been fully integrated into the project's M&E framework during the PPG phase. This includes the preparation of dedicated Gender Action Plan (GAP) progress reports on a half-yearly basis and the integration of gender considerations into core reporting instruments, including Project Implementation Reports (PIRs), half-yearly progress reports, the MTR and the TE.