

Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG) Workshop

Opportunities for developing Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for national GHG inventories

25-26 May 2021
Online Workshop
(Extra session)

Overview

The Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG) is a forum for promoting dialogue and enhancing understanding between a wide range of countries on technical issues in the international climate change negotiations. The CCXG has provided impartial and rigorous analysis of climate change issues since its foundation in 1993. The secretariat for this group is jointly provided by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Energy Agency (IEA).¹ This special workshop is being held in addition to the Global Forums organised by the CCXG twice a year. Similar to the Global Forums, this workshop will enable participants to develop a shared understanding of issues relevant to the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Participants include practitioners and negotiators from governments as well as delegates from inter-governmental organisations, the private sector, research organisations, and other relevant institutions. Discussions take place under Chatham House rules; that is, remarks are not to be attributed to individual speakers.

Under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement, starting in 2024, all Parties will be required to regularly report information on national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories using a set of Common Reporting Tables (CRTs). Such tables are to be developed by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and are to be adopted by COP26 in 2021. While Parties have been negotiating CRTs since 2018, an agreement on a final set of tables has not yet been reached. The CRTs can usefully build upon Parties' current experience in reporting national GHG inventories under the Convention. The Common Reporting Formats (CRFs) currently used by Annex I Parties for their GHG-inventory reporting will likely serve as a starting point for the development of CRTs. During this workshop, participants will have the opportunity to share experiences on reporting national GHG inventories using CRF tables and the CRF Reporter and to engage in technical discussions on the structure and format of the CRTs and on options for implementing the flexibility provisions outlined in the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines of the ETF.

¹ The Climate Change Expert Group Secretariat would like to thank Australia (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), Canada (Ministry of Environment and Climate Change), the European Commission, Finland (Ministry of the Environment), Germany (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), Italy (Ministry for the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea), Japan (Ministry of the Environment), the Netherlands (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy), New Zealand (Ministry for the Environment), Norway (Ministry of Climate and Environment), Sweden (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency), Switzerland (Federal Office for the Environment) and the United Kingdom (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy) for their direct funding of the CCXG in 2020-21, and the OECD and IEA for their in-kind support.

Outline Agenda

25 MAY 2021	
12:00 – 13:30 CEST	Session 1 Sharing experience: Challenges and opportunities in using CRF tables and the CRF Reporter
13:30 - 13:45 CEST	Break
13:45 – 15:30 CEST	Session 2 Sectoral and background data tables for Energy, Agriculture and LULUCF: Opportunities for improvement <i>At 14:15 – 15:00 Discussions in small breakout groups</i> BG1 and 2: Energy BG3 and 4: Agriculture and LULUCF
26 MAY 2021	
12:30 - 14:30 CEST	Session 3 Options for implementing flexibility within CRTs <i>At 13:15 – 14:00 Discussions in small breakout groups</i>

Annotated agenda

Tuesday 25 May 2021

Relevant materials for the workshop:

- [“Towards Common Reporting Tables for Biennial Transparency Reports: Experiences with tools for generating and using reporting tables under the UNFCCC”](#), C. Falduto and S. Wartmann (2021)
- [“Reporting national GHG inventories through Common Reporting Tables \(CRTs\): An assessment of CRT reporting options through worked examples”](#), C. Falduto, S. Wartmann and M. Rocha (2020)
- [“Reporting Tables –potential areas of work under SBSTA and options -Part I”](#), M. Rocha (2019)
- [“Training webinar on getting familiar with the CRF Reporter”](#), UNFCCC Secretariat (2020)
- A presentation on the CRF System prepared by the CCXG Secretariat will be made available on 18 May.

12:00 – 13:30 CET	Session 1: Sharing experience: Challenges and opportunities in using CRF tables and the CRF Reporter
Focus	The reporting guidelines currently in place mean that Annex I Parties have considerable experience in reporting inventory information using CRFs and the CRF Reporter. In contrast, Non-Annex I Parties’ experience in reporting national GHG inventories is more limited – reflecting the different reporting requirements. In particular, Non-Annex I Parties are not currently required to use a common set of tables or to submit information to the UNFCCC through a common software. During this session, speakers and participants will be able to share their experience in reporting national GHG inventories. Annex I Parties will discuss their key challenges and potential solutions in using CRFs and the CRF Reporter, and Non-Annex I Parties will highlight potential challenges and solutions in transitioning to the Common Reporting Tables (CRT) system.
Facilitator	Hyunsoo Yun, CCXG Chair
Speakers	Camila Labarca, Chile Jean-Pierre Chang, France Daniel Benefor, Ghana
Discussion questions	1. What are the benefits of using the CRF Reporter to report GHG inventories? 2. Are there any CRF tables that are particularly challenging to complete? If so, why?

13:30 – 13:45 CEST	Break
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13:45 – 15:30 CET	Session 2: Sectoral and background data tables for Energy, Agriculture and LULUCF: Opportunities for improvement
Focus	<p>The set of CRF tables currently in use by Annex I Parties includes sectoral summary tables and sectoral background data tables. Sectoral summary tables provide a summary of GHG emissions per sector. Sectoral background data tables allow Parties to report background data and parameters that are fundamental for estimating GHG emissions for different sectoral categories and sub-categories. These include, e.g., emission activity data (e.g., annual waste amount treated) and other parameters such as operational conditions or specific national characteristics (e.g., typical animal mass of dairy cattle). During this session, speakers and participants are invited to discuss opportunities for improving or adjusting current sectoral and background data tables with a view to including them in the set of CRTs currently being developed by the SBSTA. The session will focus on three sectors: Energy, Agriculture and Land-use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF).</p> <p><i>At 14:15 – 15:00 Discussions in small breakout groups:</i> Participants will be assigned to parallel breakout groups on Energy (BG1 and 2) and on Agriculture and LULUCF (BG3 and 4) which will reflect on adjustments and improvements that could be applied to the Energy sectoral and background tables and to the Agriculture and LULUCF sectoral and background data tables respectively. Detailed discussion questions and exercises for the breakout groups will be shared in advance. Participants will be assigned to different break out groups based on their expertise and interest indicated at the start of the workshop. After the breakouts, participants will resume in plenary to share feedback from the group discussions.</p>
Facilitator	Sandra Motshwanedi, South Africa
Speakers	Roberta Quadrelli, IEA Joel Gibbs, New Zealand Fabiola Ramirez, Mexico Atsushi Sato, Japan
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are there any adjustments that could be applied to the categories currently listed in the CRF sectoral summary tables? 2. Could existing background data tables be simplified?

Wednesday 26 May 2021

12:30 – 14:30 CET	Session 3: Options for implementing flexibility within CRTs
Focus	<p>Paragraph 4 of the MPGs states that, in accordance with Article 13.2 of the Paris Agreement, the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement “shall provide flexibility options to those developing country Parties who need them in the light of their capacity” (Annex to decision 18/CMA.1, Section I, §4). Accordingly, MPGs on the preparation of national GHG inventories specifies a number of areas where flexibility is available and where developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities may not report certain information. During this session, speakers and participants are invited to discuss some potential options and related challenges related to the implementation of flexibility within CRTs.</p> <p><i>At 13:15 – 14:00 Discussions in small breakout groups:</i> Participants will be assigned to parallel breakout groups to reflect on how flexibility provisions for: key category analysis, insignificance threshold, reported greenhouse gases, and time series, can be implemented in CRTs. Detailed discussion questions and exercises for the breakout groups will be shared in advance. Participants will be assigned to different breakout groups based on their expertise and interest indicated at the start of the workshop. After the breakouts, participants will resume in plenary to share feedback from the group discussions.</p>
Facilitator	Henrik Neier, Austria
Speakers	Chiara Falduto, CCXG/OECD Mausami Desai, USA Marcelo Rocha, Fabrica Ethica Brazil Ana Lucía Moya Mora, Costa Rica
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can Parties operationalise flexibility within CRTs while promoting TACCC principles and facilitating the Technical Expert Review (TER) of information? 2. How can Parties transparently report on the use of flexibility within CRTs and/or the National Inventory Document (NID)?