

# ICAT Community Meetings

6-8 September 2022,  
Copenhagen, Denmark

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## Introduction

Following the success of the ICAT Partner events held online in 2021 and 2022, the ICAT Community Meetings was organized as an in-person event and welcomed over **91 participants**, including representatives from **21 ICAT partner countries** and from ICAT's implementing partners, and members of ICAT's Advisory Committee and Donor Steering Committee, and other transparency stakeholders, for three days of vivid exchange of knowledge and experience. The meetings included sessions focused on work coming out of the ICAT Adaptation project led by the implementing partner, UNEP-CCC. Together this created a full agenda of **mitigation, adaptation and cross-cutting transparency topics**.



Image 1: ICAT family photo taken after the opening plenary. Source: Rebekka Olschewski for UN City Copenhagen Communications

The topics for the different sessions were selected after consulting ICAT partner countries, including through a pre-event survey, and focusing on the most relevant and urgent areas for fulfilling international transparency reporting requirements and national implementation activities alike. The final programme included workshops on current priority topics such as loss and damage and linking Article 6 and the Enhanced Transparency Framework. The event also addressed topics of universal interest among countries, such as transparency for mitigation and

adaptation in agriculture, and tracking and mobilizing climate finance, as well as dedicated sessions on ICAT tools, such as GACMO, TraCAD and SINAMECC, and previews of new methodologies under development.

The ICAT Community Meetings achieved their objective to deliver a platform and programme to enable **robust knowledge sharing, peer-to-peer engagement and in-depth discussion**, enabling the ICAT community to learn from the experiences of countries and regional activities, understand their priority needs, as well as the gaps that participants identify in the global transparency support landscape. Finally, the event enabled a discussion, also involving the Advisory Committee and Donor Steering Committee, to advise on ICAT's plans and priorities.

The ICAT Secretariat thanks those partners involved in the organization and delivery of the event. Special thanks go to all those who generously committed their time and energy as moderators, speakers, panelists and rapporteurs, sharing valuable knowledge and experiences to advance our global transparency efforts.

Based on the positive experience from the ICAT Community Meetings, the event will return in the future. Taking into account the respective advantages and disadvantages of online and offline meetings and events, ICAT has decided to follow an approach encompassing both virtual and in-person formats for its future knowledge sharing partner events. Therefore, a virtual Partner Forum will be planned for early 2023, in line with the previous years' partner forums, while an in-person meeting of the ICAT community will take place in early 2024.

## Main take-aways

The 2022 ICAT Community Meetings brought out important lessons on transparency for mitigation and adaptation. Despite coming from different perspectives and different places around the world, the participants highlighted many common needs, challenges and priorities - current and anticipated.

The representatives of the ICAT partner countries demonstrated tangible results achieved through the ICAT country projects delivered in one or two phases over the past years. **The ICAT projects enabled countries to develop robust transparency and data systems, evaluate and analyze national policies and build in-house capacity.** ICAT support has been adapted to the national context and the priorities of each partner country, thus helping countries target key sectors such as agriculture, energy, transport and more, and establish economy-wide targets. Through the work done with ICAT, countries are better equipped to meet their NDC targets and comply with international reporting requirements, while also tracking progress towards development objectives and the SDGs.

Countries and experts shared knowledge and experience, including many examples of good practices and successes. Some highlights of good practices include investing in establishing **strong institutional arrangements** through legal agreements and MoUs, meaningfully **engaging a variety of stakeholders**, from both the public and the private sectors, from the beginning and throughout the transparency process, developing **comprehensive national policies that integrate transparency considerations** and forming a **global vision of climate action**, encompassing both mitigation and adaptation.

Despite considerable achievements, countries agreed that there are many common persisting needs, as well as new and urgent challenges. **More work is needed to ensure continuous data collection, effective data management and data sharing, both on the infrastructure and the institutional level.** Sustaining and institutionalizing local capacity, with a view to being able to meet reporting requirements without external support in the long term is a major challenge. **The monitoring and evaluation of adaptation progress remains equally challenging.** Countries are still struggling to ensure political buy-in, engage all levels of governments and national stakeholders, including the private sector, in the transparency process. Finally, tracking climate finance is receiving more and more attention, as countries recognise the need for information on financial flows, both international and domestic, to effectively manage resources and attract donors and investors.

**To ensure successful NDC implementation, countries need to operationalize and maintain the systems they have created, enhancing them and expanding them as they move on.** Monitoring progress and evaluating efficiency is crucial if countries wish to meet their targets and strengthen them over time. The ICAT countries participating in the Community meetings universally expressed the need for additional support and guidance in the coming period to accompany their national efforts to strengthen their transparency systems, expand into new sectors or scale up their systems and pursue new areas such as just transitions or carbon markets.

The ICAT toolbox, including the new and upcoming ICAT methodologies available to countries, had a prominent place in the ICAT community meetings. The participants had a chance to receive presentations and training on the use of ICAT tools, as well as share their own experience and feedback on the use of the ICAT tools and methodologies with others. ICAT implementing partners had an opportunity to directly engage with country representatives to showcase the new tools and methodologies they are developing, such as the set of ICAT adaptation methodologies (both national and generic tools and methodologies), the ICAT Transport Climate Action Data (TraCAD) Tool and the methodologies for tracking climate finance and just transitions, the guide on Transparency for Cooperative

Approaches under Article 6, as well as new features of existing tools such as GACMO. The ICAT Secretariat collected initial feedback from countries on the use of the 10 original ICAT policy assessment guides, as a basis for a comprehensive review.

List of sessions
<p><b>Day 1 - 6 September</b></p> <p>Article 6 and Transparency Assessment and reporting of losses and damages ICAT Transport Climate Action Data (TraCAD) Tool Transparency for mitigation and adaptation actions in the agriculture sector ICAT ReCATHs Side Meeting</p>
<p><b>Day 2 - 7 September</b></p> <p>Tracking and mobilizing climate finance Using the GACMO tool for tracking NDCs Just and Gender-Inclusive Transitions Data Management Frameworks and the SINAMECC Data System Monitoring and evaluation of early warning systems for climate related disasters Integrating subnational and non-state actors in national transparency systems TraCAD training</p>
<p><b>Day 3 - 8 September</b></p> <p>Roundtable Discussions “Next steps for transparency and way forward”</p>

## Day 1 - 6 September

The event kicked off with opening remarks by Mr. Jens Wandel, UNOPS Executive Director a.l., who highlighted UNOPS’ commitment to supporting countries in combating climate change and the importance of ICAT’s work for building capacity in partner countries, also as a contribution to the global process through its standards setting for climate policy. The director of UNEP-CCC, Susanne Pedersen, and the Director of ICAT, Henning Wuester, welcomed the participants and underlined the need to track climate data, setting up and operationalizing transparency frameworks for effective climate action, recognizing that transparency is a key driver of the Paris Agreement.

The ICAT Director also provided an [introductory presentation](#), reminding the participants that the first Biennial Transparency Reports are due by 2024 and that ICAT is there to support countries in building domestic capacity for continuous

reporting, including through the existing and upcoming ICAT tools and methodologies.

The opening plenary concluded with a panel discussion with representatives from 4 of ICAT's partner countries, Cambodia, Chile, the Dominican Republic and Kenya:

- Mr. Sum Thy, spoke of how Cambodia made use of climate data and transparency to develop its Long-term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality (LTS4CN), building on existing systems and policies and engaging stakeholders from multiple sectors.
- Ms Veronica Ndetu, explained how through the ICAT adaptation project Kenya used transparency to implement Kenya's climate-smart agriculture policy in line with the NDC, setting up a coordination mechanism to ensure reporting and engaging all relevant stakeholders.
- Ms. Jenny Mager, highlighted the work done within the ICAT project in Chile to create capacities and tools for engaging with stakeholders on the subnational level and across different sectors in order to identify the potential of climate actions and enhance national policies.
- Ms. Rosalia Duval, reiterated the importance of monitoring and evaluation to strengthen adaptation for a small island nation like the Dominican Republic, which is based on institutional and legal arrangements and engagement and training of key stakeholders.

Following the opening plenary, the day continued into different workshops and sessions, described below in detail: (i) Workshop: Article 6 and Transparency; (ii) Workshop: Assessment and reporting of losses and damages; (iii) Training: ICAT Transport Climate Action Data Tool; (iv) Workshop: Transparency for mitigation and adaptation actions in the agriculture sector, and (v) ICAT ReCATHs Side Meeting. Also the ICAT Advisory Committee met in the afternoon of that day.

### Workshop: Article 6 and Transparency

The session explored the links between Article 6 and the reporting requirements of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. It included a presentation of the upcoming ICAT guide on Transparency for cooperative approaches under Article 6 , followed by the sharing of country experiences. The session was led by Neyen.

Moderator: Oleg Bulanyi (ICAT Secretariat)

Rapporteur: Antwi-Boasiako Amoah (Ghana)

Presentation: **Neyen:** Miguel Rescalvo, [\*"Voluntary cooperation under Article 6 and its integration into the Enhanced Transparency Framework \(ETF\)"\*](#)

Key takeaways:

- Implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement is voluntary for every Party. A lot of countries want to take advantage of the opportunity presented by implementation of Article 6.
  - 6.2 covers country-to-country agreements, 6.4 establishes a centralized UN mechanism for carbon credits trading and 6.8 covers non-market approaches.
  - A very important element in implementing article 6 processes is to avoid double counting. Once the host country and the recipient country have entered into agreement and the carbon credit has been transferred, a “Corresponding Adjustment” (CA) to the national carbon budget has to be made to avoid double counting.
  - There are clear linkages between activities article 6 and article 13. The information on article 6 activities shall be included in ETF reporting, such as in monitoring NDC progress in the BTRs.
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## Workshop: Assessment and reporting of losses and damages

The objective of the session was to improve countries' abilities to assess losses and damages. To this end, the session featured presentations from current policy initiatives in Panama and South Africa. In addition, the session included a presentation of a forthcoming ICAT guide on assessing losses and damages. In an effort to promote mutual learning, the presentations were kept short, thus leaving time for a dialogue among participants in the session, with a view to ultimately encouraging the exchange of experiences during the session and beyond. The session was led by UNEP-CCC.

Moderator: Henry Neufeldt (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Juanette John (South Africa)

Presentations:

- **South Africa:** Daleen Lötter, Senior Researcher, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, (CSIR) [“A Loss and Damage Framework for M&E of extreme climate events in South Africa”](#)
- **Panama:** Katherine Martinez, Project Coordinator, Climate Change Directorate, Ministry of Environment, [“Strengthening of the Monitoring and Evaluation System of Adaptation to Climate Change in Panama”](#)
- **UNEP-CCC:** Daniel Puig, Senior Advisor, [“ICAT guide on assessing loss and damage”](#)

**Key takeaways:**

- Important data for loss and damage already exist but are sometimes hard to access and use, as it is collected for other purposes. The right data and indicators have to be used to enable informed decision making.
- Data sharing and data ownership can be a challenge. Establishing clear responsibilities and frameworks for information sharing within the government and among stakeholders is very important, including all relevant sectors and the private sector (different industries and NGOs).
- Institutionalizing the assessment system, for example through MoUs, is a good practice.
- Countries can work on integrating loss and damage in existing reporting mechanisms and BTR reports (listed under adaptation). Capacity gaps and a lack of clear guidance regarding loss and damage can be a challenge for this integration.
- A dedicated ICAT guide on assessing losses and damages on the national level is now under development and will be available soon. It will be relevant for policy makers and technical practitioners alike, providing distinct approaches to assess losses and damages. Unlike for damages, where many approaches and methodologies already exist, there is a lack of available approaches to assess losses. Losses in particular are closely linked to people's values, e.g. the value of places and medicinal plants, and collecting data for assessing losses therefore requires engaging with and talking to people affected.

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## Training: ICAT Transport Climate Action Data Tool

The session led by ClimateSI included an introductory presentation on different functionalities and modules of the ICAT Transport Climate Action Data (TraCAD) Tool. Additionally, it included a country presentation by Cambodia on the upcoming country application of the TraCAD tool to support the national MRV system. After the presentations, a Q&A and discussion segment was held between the participants and ClimateSI where partner country representatives from Nigeria, Costa Rica, Antigua & Barbuda, Sri Lanka and Cambodia shared views and asked questions about possible addition of new sectors or about the possibility for subnational application of the tool. Furthermore, one IP suggested using the TraCAD tool as an NDC tracking tool. Overall, partner countries found the presented tool very useful and several expressed their interest in applying it to support their MRV systems.

The objectives of the session were to:

- A. Introduce the TraCAD tool to different stakeholders;

- B. Demonstrate key functionalities of the tool;
- C. Enhance the knowledge and interest in the tool. Moderator: Stefania D'Annibali (ICAT Secretariat)

Rapporteur: Buddika Hemashantha (ClimateSI)

Presentations:

- **ClimateSI:** Buddika Hemashantha, CEO: [Introduction to the TraCAD tool](#)
- **Cambodia:** Sum Thy, Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Environment: [Opportunities for the application of TraCADtool in Cambodia](#)

Key takeaways:

- The TraCAD tool can support countries for national decision making and international reporting.
- There is an interest from countries to expand the tool to other sectors, other than transport, such as energy or waste.
- There is also interest in using this tool for NDC tracking.

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## Workshop: Transparency for mitigation and adaptation actions in the agriculture sector

The session covered both mitigation and adaptation aspects of transparency efforts for the agriculture sector. It included discussions on topics such as the tracking of adaptation and mitigation co-benefits of climate-smart agriculture, progress of adaptation in agriculture and water, as well as presentations on the revised ICAT agriculture policy assessment guide and a draft of a generic global framework for tracking adaptation in the agriculture sector. Country representatives from ICAT partner countries and experts in climate change adaptation, mitigation and transparency in the agriculture sector shared their knowledge and experience, including lessons learned through various country specific programmes to support and improve transparency in the agriculture sector. A panel discussion highlighted linkages, both synergies and trade-offs, between adaptation and mitigation in agriculture, with focus on transparency. The session was co-led by GHGMI and UNEP-CCC.

Moderator: Henry Neufeldt (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Lindy Charlery (UNEP-CCC)

Presentations:

- **Fiji:** Ranjila Singh, Mitigation Specialist, Climate Change & International Cooperation Division (CCICD), Ministry of Economy, ["Agriculture Policy Assessment for Fiji Livestock and Rice Cultivation"](#)
- **Mali:** Jahfar Ag Mohamedoun, Environment and Sustainable Development Agency (AEDD), ["Mitigation measures in the agricultural sector"](#)
- **GHGMI:** Olga Lyandres, Project Manager, ["ICAT Agriculture Assessment Guide: Revised guidance for assessing the greenhouse gas impacts of agriculture policies"](#)
- **Kenya:** Caroline Mwongera and Ivy Kinyua, International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Veronica Ndetu Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives (MoALFC), Peter Kuria, Africa Conservation Tillage (ACT), ["Transparency for mitigation and adaptation actions in Kenya's agriculture sector"](#)
- **India:** Suruchi Bhadwal, Director of Earth Science and Climate Change, Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), ["INDIA: National MEL Framework for tracking adaptation in the Agriculture Sector"](#)
- **Dominican Republic:** Rosalia Duval, National Council for Climate Change, Ana Sofia Ovalle and Pedro Coss Sanz, ASO Consulting ["Transparency for adaptation actions in the agriculture sector \(Dominican Republic Case Study\)"](#)
- **UNEP-CCC:** Lindy Charlery, Advisor, ["Tracking Adaptation in the Agriculture Sector: A Generic Global Framework"](#)

#### Key takeaways:

- Good practices and opportunities:
  - Integrating the work completed under ICAT into national policies, to ensure sustainability of the results achieved in the ICAT project after its closure.
  - Having a global perspective of work on transparency, working on both adaptation and mitigation, is a good practice, in particular for agriculture where there are many synergies.
  - Identifying and accounting for co-benefits of mitigation and adaptation actions in agriculture is a valuable opportunity.
  - Establishing governance of the M&E systems for adaptation, such as through MoUs.
  - Recognising and building capacity for reporting across all levels of government, and including the private sector.
- Challenges for transparency in agriculture include:
  - Knowledge and technology transfer, human capacity and knowledge management.
  - Scaling up to the national level the frameworks that have been developed on a subnational scale.

- Data collection and developing the right indicators for the M&E of adaptation.
- Updated methodological ICAT guidance on Agriculture will be available by the end of 2022, through the revision and expansion of the ICAT Agriculture guide which will also make it more user friendly. The revised guide will be accompanied by case studies, templates, exercises and pilot applications of the methods described in the guide.
- Additional new ICAT guidance is also expected for M&E in climate change adaptation interventions in the agriculture sector, building on experience from ICAT adaptation partner countries.



Image 2: Panel discussion with representative from Fiji, India (TERI), the Dominican Republic and Kenya, source: ICAT

## ICAT ReCATHs Side Meeting

The meeting of the partners engaged on the two ICAT Regional Climate Action Transparency Hubs in Central Africa and Central Asia was organized as an opportunity to exchange on the subject of regional collaboration for transparency, the status of the Hubs and areas of possible collaborations.

Key takeaways:

- Implementing partners shared the experience gained with the initial steps of making the Hubs operational. These included strategy for hiring consultants,

e.g. country focus vs task focus, positioning the Hubs among other regional initiatives.

- Possible ways of collaboration were explored, including joint events at one of the COPs, capacity building and peer-to-peer experience exchange.

## Day 2 - 7 September

Day two opened with a reporting back session, in which the rapporteurs from the previous day shared the key take-away messages from the previous day's sessions (as listed above).

The ICAT Advisory Committee chair, Ruta Bubniene, then shared her perspectives on the current transparency and ICAT-related key topics, as they arose from the previous day's AC meeting. The Advisory Committee, which consists of 19 experts who meet twice a year, provides strategic advice on ICAT's work programme, country support and tools and methodologies. The chair highlighted the positive results coming from the ICAT MELU system, the tangible impacts of ICAT's new country and regional projects, the enhanced methodological support that ICAT can provide through its expanded and revised toolbox and the plans for increased outreach and communication efforts. The chair shared the AC's recommendations to ICAT to continue its support to countries in the context of the implementation of the ETF and to keep the ICAT tools and methodologies focused on country needs and priorities.

The day continued with a series of workshops, described below in detail: (i) Tracking and mobilizing climate finance; (ii) Using the GACMO tool for tracking NDCs; (iii) Just and Gender-Inclusive Transitions; (iv) Data Management Frameworks and the SINAMECC Data System; (v) Monitoring and evaluation of early warning systems for climate related disasters; (vi) Integrating subnational and non-state actors in national transparency systems.

### Workshop: Tracking and mobilizing climate finance

The main objectives of the workshop were to: a) present the upcoming ICAT methodology for the climate finance tracking and to share good practices and experiences of countries; b) share outcomes and lessons learned from ICAT adaptation project implementation on developing indicator frameworks and tools for monitoring and evaluation of adaptation projects and their integration in national financial mechanisms. The first part of the session included presentations on climate finance ICAT methodology, impact tracking and upcoming guidance for civil servants on assessing adaptation proposals for their likelihood for positive results. The second part was dedicated to country experiences and knowledge sharing, with presentations on climate finance tracking and mobilizing status,

frameworks and systems in different ICAT countries, including tracking the impact of climate finance through M&E, and an interactive Panel Discussion on best practices, M&E needs and challenges and enabling conditions for mobilizing climate finance. The session was led by CCAP in collaboration with UNEP-CCC.

Moderators: Oleg Bulanyi (ICAT Secretariat) and Samantha Youngeun Shin (CCAP)

Rapporteur: Raushan Sydzykova (CAREC)

Presentations:

- **CCAP:** Samantha Youngeun Shin, Climate Finance Policy Associate, and Michel Koehler, Consultant, [\*"Tracking and mobilizing climate finance"\*](#)
- **UNEP-CCC:** Susanne Konrad, Project Officer, [\*"Fostering successful adaptation: An assessment tool for civil servants"\*](#)
- **Country presentations:**
  - **Cambodia:** Sum Thy, Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Environment, *"Tracking and mobilizing climate finance in Cambodia"*
  - **CAREC:** Raushan Sydzykova, Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub in Central Asia Project manager, *"Tracking and mobilizing climate finance overview in Central Asia"*
  - **Bangladesh:** Soburun Nessa Chowdhury, Senior Research Officer Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), *"Tracking and Mobilizing Climate Finance ICAT-A in Bangladesh"* and remarks from Md. Khairuzzman, Director, Bangladesh Climate Change Trust (BCCT)
  - **India:** Suruchi Bhadwal, Director of Earth Science and Climate Change, Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), *"National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change (NAFCC)"*, and remarks from Sukanta Kumar Sahoo Deputy General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- Interactive panel discussion with:
  - **Fiji:** Ranjila Singh, Mitigation Specialist, Ministry of Economy
  - **India:** Suruchi Bhadwal, Director of Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI
  - **Bangladesh:** Towrin Zaman Raya, Research Associate, International Centre for Climate and Development (ICCAD)
  - **CAREC:** Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director

Key takeaways:

- A new ICAT guide for tracking climate finance will be published in 2024, whereas the methodological framework for country application is available now.

- An assessment tool/guidance for civil servants is being developed in the context of the ICAT Adaptation project and will be available soon.
  - There are multiple benefits from tracking climate finance, both on the domestic and the international level.
  - In addition to tracking climate finance flows, tracking the impact of those financial flows, e.g. through M&E of adaptation, as demonstrated through ICAT country experience, is equally beneficial and an increasing request from donors and other actors.
  - Common challenges encountered by countries include lack of local technical capacity, lack of institutional arrangements and intergovernmental coordination (especially between the ministry in charge of finance and the national budget and the ministry responsible for environmental and climate change matters), difficulty in ensuring engagement and interaction among stakeholders, including the private sector.
  - The lack of capacity and frameworks for tracking climate finance make it difficult for countries to formulate their needs and, hence, to engage with donors and institutions on a bilateral and multilateral level in the context of mobilizing additional funds.
  - It is important to establish the institutional arrangements and mechanisms to collect and share information and data from all stakeholders and line ministries implementing climate projects, and to maintain these mechanisms operational.
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### Workshop: Using the GACMO tool for tracking NDCs

The session focused on sharing experiences on the use of tools or approaches for tracking the implementation of policies and actions under NDCs. The first part provided a general introduction to the use of the GACMO tool for estimating emissions reductions from specific mitigation actions and for tracking the implementation of specific actions, followed by a deep-dive session. The second part provided space for sharing experiences from countries on the use of tools and approaches for tracking the implementation of specific actions in the context of NDCs. The session was led by UNEP-CCC.

Moderator: Denis Desgain (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Matej Gasperic (GHGMI)

Presentations:

- **UNEP-CCC:** Denis Desgain, Head of Mitigation Analysis and Data Management Section & Joergen Fenhann, Senior Scientist, [\*"GACMO as a tool\*](#)

[for establishing mitigation scenarios and tracking implementation of specific mitigation actions](#)

- **Brazil:** Guilherme Lima, Centro Brasil no Clima (CBC), [“ICAT Brazil Project”](#)
- **Ghana:** Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, Ag. Director Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), [“Ghana’s Experience”](#)

Key takeaways:

- GACMO is an excel-based modeling tool, using IPCC and CDM methodologies and including 120+ integrated mitigation options. It can be used to analyze the mitigation options of a region, a country or a city and evaluate its impacts from the point of view of GHG emissions reductions.
- GACMO is easy to use and can be adapted and expanded based on country needs. Input data is needed to establish a baseline for the mitigation scenarios.
- A new version of the tool is expected to be released in October-November 2022 and will be piloted in some countries.
- GACMO has been used by ICAT countries to assess NDC ambition and to track NDCs, also integrating sustainable development indicators.
- It can be challenging to use on the subnational level due to the large number of stakeholders, lack of capacity and data availability issues.



Image 3: Country representatives sharing their experience on the use of NDC tracking tools, source: ICAT

## Workshop: Monitoring and evaluation of early warning systems for climate related disasters

The objective of the session was to inspire countries who either have set up Early Warning Systems (EWS), or are planning to do so, to establish comprehensive M&E systems for adaptive management and impact assessment. The session showcased the work done under ICAT in South Africa and provided additional examples from Bangladesh. It provided generic lessons from the work that could potentially be applied in other countries by highlighting what worked and didn't work and why. The main recommendations from the project team to others embarking on setting up national M&E systems for EWS were shared. The session was led by UNEP-CCC.

Moderator: Lars Christiansen (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Juanette John (South Africa)

Presentations:

- **South Africa:** Delani Mathevula, Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), [\*"South Africa's Climate Change M&E System Experience"\*](#)
- **South Africa:** Dr. Tirusha Thambiran, Principal Researcher, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, [\*"Monitoring and Evaluation Indicator Framework for Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems in South Africa"\*](#)
- **Bangladesh:** Towrin Zaman Raya, Research Associate, and Shohail Bin Saifullah, Programme Coordinator-Youth, International Centre for Climate and Development (ICCAD), [\*"Early Warning Systems: A Bangladesh Case Study"\*](#)

### Key takeaways:

- The main indicator for adaptation for early warning systems is the number of early warning systems at municipal level.
- There is a clear need to have indicators to identify the M&E of multihazard EWS that can contribute to the national system.
- The WMO checklist can be used as a starting point, however, it is not always possible for municipalities to implement all the indicators. An adapted shortlist can be developed based on the list of indicators, as was the example of South Africa.
- Support, including for capacity building is needed from the government to the key sectors.
- Data availability and data sharing is a serious challenge; future support should therefore focus on designing mechanisms for data-sharing to help with M&E
- M&E systems under development also need to be linked to the national databases (statistics) and not reinvent any infrastructure that already exists.

- It is important for older EWS systems in rural areas to be upgraded and maintained.
- Community engagement and buy-in is a key area where additional efforts are needed in the context of early warning systems.
- Social and cultural barriers, institutional gaps, lack of clear directives and low human resources can all have a negative impact on the effectiveness of EWS.
- The establishment of volunteer networks was an example with positive results to encourage the training and engagement of stakeholders
- EWS are ever evolving and need to adapt to new realities.
- ICAT can further support by facilitating peer to peer learning, sharing experiences between countries that are advanced and those that are lagging behind in different areas
- Additionally, ICAT can support the education and training of practitioners through the designing and developing of material for guidance (including guidebooks).

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## Workshop: Just and Gender-Inclusive Transition

The session was dedicated to peer-to-peer country exchanges on the MRV of just transitions and gender inclusivity in the context of NDC implementation, featuring country representatives and experts, as well as a presentation of the upcoming ICAT just transition tracking guide. The session was led by WRI.

Moderator: Mario Finch (WRI)

Rapporteur: Oleg Bulanyi

Presentations:

- **WRI:** Cynthia Elliott, Senior Climate Policy Associate, [\*"MRV of Just Transitions"\*](#)
- **Nigeria:** Dr. Peter Tarfa, [\*"Just and Gender Inclusive Transition MRV System for Nigeria"\*](#)
- **South Africa:** Samuel Mabena, Chief Directorate Climate Change Mitigation & Specialist Monitoring Services, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), [\*"Just Transition: South Africa"\*](#)
- **Dominican Republic:** Pedro Coss Sanz, Action for Climate Empowerment and Gender Advisor, National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism, [\*"Dominican Republic's Perspectives on the Importance of a Just and Gender Inclusive Transition and approaches and indicators for tracking progress"\*](#)

- **Brazil:** Flavia Bellaguarda, founder of LACLIMA and Youth Climate Leaders , Climate Justice Consultant at Climate Reality Brazil, Climate Policy Manager at Brazil Central Climate -CBC, [\*“Gender and Just Transition in Brazil”\*](#)

### **Key takeaways:**

- The new ICAT guide on MRV of just transition is currently under development by WRI and will follow a top down approach. It will include different steps such as defining the vision on the national level, clarifying the objectives, defining indicators and identifying stakeholders.
- MRV systems on just transitions should not be separate from the national MRV frameworks but should build on and communicate with the systems already in place.
- Cooperation between different stakeholders is particularly important for the topic of just transitions.
- Gender is a key focus for all countries in just transition.
- Good practices include:
  - Linking just transitions to sustainable development goals, as it is the case in South Africa.
  - Embedding Just transition objectives and perspectives in the NDC so it can be included in the NDC progress tracking framework, as it is done in the Dominican Republic.

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## **Workshop: Data Management Frameworks and the SINAMECC Data System**

The first part of the session explored different country experiences, challenges and lessons learned in establishing national MRV systems and developing the necessary institutional arrangements and data management frameworks. The second part was dedicated to the SINAMECC system, offering a presentation of the main objectives and on the history of the system. Costa Rica’s representatives showed the main components of the system and shared the lessons learnt through the 5 year development process. Cuba presented their national experience in selecting SINAMECC as a system to articulate their developing MRV framework. The objective was for participants to understand the benefits of having a robust national MRV system, learn the challenges and solutions available to develop such a system and gain better understanding of the SINAMECC system’s elements and features, including the opportunities and requirements related to the replication of SINAMECC as part of the ICAT toolbox. The session was led by the ICAT Secretariat in collaboration with Costa Rica.

Moderator: Miriam Hinojosa (UNEP)

Rapporteurs: Jenny Mager (Chile), Stefanía D'Annibali (ICAT Secretariat)

Presentations :

- **Costa Rica:** Kendal Blanco Salas, Chemical Engineer, National Meteorological Institute, ["SINAMECC"](#)
- **Colombia:** Sandra Isabel Granados Avellaneda, Contractor, Climate Change and Risk Management Department, Ministry of Environment ["Monitoring, Reporting and Verification \(MRV\) of Climate Action"](#)
- **ClimateSI:** Buddika Hemashantha, CEO, ["ICAT Climate Action Assessment Tool for the Transport Sector: Data collection module"](#)
- **Costa Rica:** Kendal Blanco Salas, Chemical Engineer, National Meteorological Institute, ["MRV and SINAMECC: first steps"](#)
- **Costa Rica:** Ana Lucía Moya Mora, CBIT Costa Rica project manager, ["How SINAMECC could be replicated and what is needed?"](#)
- **Cuba:** Dr. C. Wenceslao Carrera Doral, Cubaenergía, ["Enhanced Transparency Framework in Cuba under the Paris Agreement: ICAT-Cuba project contribution"](#)

Key takeaways:

- Robust institutional arrangements are indispensable for MRV systems to function well and to become sustainable in the long-term. These arrangements should be formalized through legal and other agreements.
- MRV frameworks and institutional arrangements for their operationalization are needed not only on the national, but also on the subnational level.
- For countries using different platforms, ensuring interoperability between systems is essential.
- SINAMECC was developed by Costa Rica as a national system, but can be used and adapted for use by other countries. It was conceived as an open source system.
- Some key challenges faced by Costa Rica when developing SINAMECC included securing the necessary support from IT experts, organizing data and preparing it for visualization purposes is a key step to translate it into accessible languages for different types of users, raising awareness and engaging stakeholders.

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## Workshop: Integrating subnational and non-state actors in national transparency systems

The session brought together country stakeholders, practitioners, experts and others to discuss and exchange on the benefits and challenges of and potential approaches for integrating subnational and non-state actors (S&NSA) into national

transparency frameworks, and identify what capacity building programmes such as ICAT can do to support countries to achieve this. It featured a series of short presentations that provided an overview of the challenges associated with integrating S&NSA into transparency systems, including a presentation on an upcoming guidance note on integrating S&NSA in national M&E systems, developed under ICAT Adaptation. This was followed by real-life examples from ICAT country partners in Colombia and Kenya who have worked on engaging these actors, for instance through multi-stakeholder platforms, as in the case of Kenya. Following these presentations, the participants discussed the challenges of and potential approaches for engaging either large corporations or subnational actors (both state and non-state actors), as well as what capacity building programmes such as ICAT can do to support countries. The session was co-led by WRI and UNEP-CCC.

Moderator: Henry Neufeldt (UNEP-CCC)

Rapporteur: Ivy Kinyua (Kenya)

Presentations:

- **UNEP-CCC:** Thomas W. Dale, Programme Associate, [\*"Introducing the session"\*](#)
- **Colombia:** Sandra Isabel Granados, Department of Climate Change and Risk Management, Ministry of Environment, [\*"Integrating corporate emissions reduction targets in NDC targets: Approaches and challenges in Colombia"\*](#)
- **Kenya:** Peter Kuria, Africa Conservation Tillage (ACT), Veronica Ndetu, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives (MoALFC), Caroline Mwongera and Ivy Kinyua, International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), [\*"Integrating sub national and non-state actors in national transparency systems in Kenya"\*](#)

Key takeaways:

- There are many persistent challenges in integrating subnational and non-state actors in national transparency systems. Data sharing and confidentiality of data is a key obstacle, especially when it comes to large corporations.
- Policy and legal frameworks including MoUs for S&NSA integration and data reporting can present a big challenge for some countries, while for other countries they are effective measures.
- Capacity constraints are a common persisting challenge. S&NSA who are or will be involved in reporting and transparency activities need to receive further training.
- Long-term funding, going beyond the end of a project, is necessary to ensure operationalization of the transparency systems for S&NSA integration once they have been set up, as its maintenance entails high costs.

- A system to recognise and reward subnational actors for their transparency activities provided a good incentive in the example of Chile.
- Support providers such as ICAT can further assist countries through:
  - Simple and user-friendly tools that can be linked to the other M&E systems in use in countries and that help to sensitize S&NSA to reporting and transparency in general; The [ICAT Guide Non-State and Subnational Action Guide](#) and the [accompanying tool](#) provide such support for the integration of mitigation actions.
  - Guidelines for incentivising countries to report and build sustainability;
  - Supporting the development of legal instruments or policy frameworks that facilitate reporting.

## Day 3 - 8 September

Similar to day two, day three opened with a reporting back session, in which the rapporteurs from the previous day shared the key take-away messages from the previous day's sessions (as listed above).

Representatives from ICAT's two Regional Climate Action Transparency Hubs in Central Africa and Central Asia spoke about the status and significance of regional collaboration for transparency in their respective regions. More specifically, Gervais Itsoua, ICAT Central Africa Transparency Hub coordinator, ECCAS, indicated that 11 countries in Central Africa will be receiving support through the newly established ICAT hub, in a region where countries face serious challenges in meeting their reporting obligations and very few National Communications and BURs have been submitted to this day. A gap analysis is underway, to support the development of the Hub's work plan based on the countries' actual needs. Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director of CAREC, regional partner for the implementation of the ICAT Transparency Hub project in Central Asia, informed that the Hub was established at the request of the 5 Central Asian states, who sought out support from ICAT to increase their reporting capacity through a regional approach. Regional and national experts, as well as dedicated personnel for the hub are in place, for the Hub to proceed with the implementation of activities, starting with an inception workshop in mid-September 2022. The Central Asian countries have submitted multiple National Communications and BURs and are aiming to increase their NDC ambition ahead of COP 27. Through the ICAT regional project in Central Asia, improved reports are expected.

## Roundtable Discussions "Next steps for transparency and way forward"

The last session of the ICAT community meetings was dedicated to discussions among participants on the future of transparency and ways forward. Drawing inspiration from the discussions of the previous two days and relying on the

feedback gathered from the participants on their current focus and priorities, the following topics were selected for discussion:

- 1: The future of ICAT methodologies - ICAT Assessment Guides
- 2: The future of ICAT methodologies - Adaptation
- 3: Data and transparency needs for LTS development
- 4: Preparing for continuous reporting beyond 2024

Introductory presentations were given for each of the above, following which, the participants were invited to engage in roundtable discussions and report back on the main takeaways from their discussions.



Image 4: Participants engaged in discussion on the future of transparency, source: ICAT

### **1: The future of ICAT methodologies - ICAT Assessment Guides**

An introductory presentation was made by Stefania D'Annibali, ICAT Secretariat, explaining that the ICAT Secretariat is planning to review and update the 10 original ICAT methodologies in 2022-2023. The guides were developed by ICAT implementing partners in 2016-2019, following a participatory approach, including public and stakeholder consultations. To this day, they have been used in 22 countries. Noting that the national and international landscape has evolved, with countries moving towards implementation and the first BTRs due in 2024, it is important to know how the ICAT guides can best support countries going forward. For the purpose of the review of the methodologies, the ICAT Secretariat will reach out to its partners in different countries, conducting surveys and interviews on the use of the guides.

Main takeaways from the participants' discussions:

- **Positive results** from the use of the ICAT assessment guides:

- The ICAT methodologies are helping countries develop the necessary policies for NDC implementation and are very useful reference guides for countries that lack capacity.
- They can help countries to understand climate change impacts and assess what data is needed for evidence-based policymaking, thus shaping the pathways for future policy development.
- Suggestions for **expanding the use** of the methodologies:
  - While the ICAT methodologies cover many different sectors, the respective line ministries are not always aware of them. This could be improved through wider and more focused dissemination of the methodologies, including awareness-raising and increased dialogue within governments targeting the relevant decision-makers.
  - “Champions” of the methodologies can be identified at the national level, and then work with the different line ministries and technical experts.
  - Integrating the guides into the country-specific policies can strengthen their application on the national level.
  - Awareness-raising efforts could help countries know that the guides are available for them to use.
  - Linking transparency to finance mobilization can be an incentive for governments to use ICAT methodologies more widely and encourage more line ministries to become involved in transparency.
  - Translating the guides into French and Portuguese can encourage their use in francophone and lusophone countries.
  - Involve stakeholders in implementation, bringing countries together, including on a regional level, to exchange on the different challenges and solutions.
- Suggestions for **improvement** of the existing guidance:
  - Collecting feedback from the end users of the methodologies can serve as a basis to assess and improve them.
  - The guides should integrate more global objectives, such as sustainable development goals.
  - A distinction needs to be made between developed and developing countries in the context of policy needs, to increase clarity and help mobilize funds.
  - The guides should be made more user-friendly and intuitive (e.g. in a question and answer style), so that the user does not have to read the whole guide, but can easily access basic information and find answers to basic questions to provide guidance.
  - It would be helpful to set up a helpdesk to answer pressing questions about the application of the guides or to create a Q&A section on the methodologies. Using videos could also help.
  - Customizing the methodologies to a country’s specific needs and context could help decision makers.
  - Using a theory of change approach could increase transparency, consistency and accuracy.
- Suggestions for **new methodological guidance** and additional support:

- New methodologies could be developed in key sectors that are currently not covered by the ICAT Assessment Guides, such as water, oil & gas, waste, IPPU, ozone depletion, as well as cross-boundary issues.
- Likewise, there is no guidance on how to integrate the different sectors, for countries who have set economy-wide targets.
- Countries are struggling to access finance, including due to lack of capacity to apply for funding opportunities. Support for preparing applications for funding to implement the policies developed under ICAT would be appreciated by countries.
- Additional methodological support is needed on mobilizing funds, such as how to set up a carbon market, bringing actors together and pricing.
- Additional support to develop effective institutional arrangements can ensure proper implementation of the policies developed under ICAT.

## **2: The future of ICAT methodologies - Adaptation**

An introduction to the discussion subject was made by Henry Neufeldt, UNEP-CCC. Through the ICAT Adaptation project, a number of national and generic methodologies on adaptation and loss and damage have been developed and put to use by countries. The participants were invited to reflect on their use and impact, as well as on any additional needs, gaps and ways for improvement.

Main takeaways from the participants discussions:

- **Country experience, needs and gaps for adaptation methodological guidance and support:**
  - There are few adaptation tools and methodologies currently available and they are mostly non-quantitative.
  - Noting that adaptation is very country-specific, adaptation methodologies need to be country-specific as well.
  - Countries have to collect data from different sources, define indicators, organize the different stakeholders and identify the policies affecting adaptation.
  - Capacity building and guidance for data management is necessary.
  - Measuring progress toward adaptation, using the right indicators, such as vulnerability indices, is essential.
  - There is limited guidance for tracking the financial flows for adaptation and mitigation, and linking funds on the public level to the international level.
  - More sectoral focused guidance is needed, especially for areas that are not sufficiently covered by other actors, such as the health sector, the financial sector, livestock, cities and urban settlements, biodiversity, water, alternative livelihoods, climate resilience, and the blue economy. Other areas such as agriculture are already crowded and well-covered by other actors such as FAO.
- **Expanding and replicating the use of the ICAT adaptation**

**methodologies:**

- Bilateral and regional consultations and collaborations can help share knowledge and lessons learned, especially from countries that have participated in ICAT Adaptation. ICAT can act as a knowledge hub for south to south collaboration, bring together countries working on similar projects at different stages, and learn from the experience of other countries.
- Capacity building support can help countries use the tools that are being developed.
- A “matchmaking” process, matching countries with similar adaptation needs and challenges, could be a good way for knowledge sharing.
- Understanding and highlighting the co-benefits of adaptation with development can make it more attractive to policymakers.
- Providing definitions for main notions in adaptation and scientific evidence can increase understanding.
- Language can be a barrier in applying the methodologies and/or exchanging with other countries for knowledge sharing.
- Support for the preparation of **adaptation and loss and damage reports in the BTRs:**
  - The existing guidance on reporting adaptation and loss and damage in the MPGs is vague; countries would benefit from more specific guidance on how to practically report on adaptation and loss and damage in their BTRs.
  - Adaptation indicators that can be included in NDCs to ensure continuous reporting in BTRs to track progress.
  - Noting that reporting on adaptation and loss and damage is not mandatory, many countries are cautious about the information they put in the BTR. However, reporting on adaptation and loss and damage is a good opportunity to raise the salience of those topics internationally.
  - Peer-to-peer exchanges focused on how to prepare BTR can be useful.

### **3. Data and transparency needs for LTS development**

Long-term strategies, including the LTS as defined in the Paris Agreement, but also sectoral strategies and emission pathways can help implement and revise NDCs, and develop a long term vision for a country’s direction. Many countries are in the process of developing long-term strategies, while others are only now beginning this journey, which can pose challenges. The discussion aimed to encourage the participants to share experiences and enhance understanding of what additional support, data and institutional frameworks are needed to support the development of these strategies.

Main takeaways from the participants discussions:

- **Country experiences, challenges and lessons learned:**
  - Countries are at different levels of developing their LTS, some having already submitted them and others working on developing them,

focusing on different sectors and methodologies, some economy-wide or sectoral.

- It is crucial to build capacity in-house, on the national level, so that interventions from outside actors are not necessary for future transparency needs that may arise.
  - Existing national and sectoral policies that contribute toward a country's mitigation and adaptation targets can be implemented in the LTS.
  - The needs for the implementation of the long term strategy needs to be considered as a factor as early as in the development phase of the strategy.
  - Near- and midterm strategies and goals should be developed as well as part of the implementation plan of the LTS
  - Government officers should take ownership of not only the strategy design, but also the implementation journey, so that the plans are actually applied over their respective implementation life-cycle.
  - Countries need to know how to coordinate between sectors and how to scale up, to ensure economy-wide aggregation of the sectors.
  - Efficient engagement of different stakeholders is a good practice for LTS development, including non-state actors and the private sector.
  - Political changes can affect the implementation of the strategies and challenges between technical experts and politicians can lead to the discontinuity of the strategies developed.
- **Data needs** for LTS preparation:
    - Different types of data are needed for LTS development, including:
      - Activity data and climate scenario data;
      - Data sets and metrics for the adaptation components;
      - Financial data, i.e. cost of actions recommended in the LTS;
      - Socioeconomic data to inform on the vulnerability of populations and economies.
    - Different data is needed for the methodologies implemented, i.e. for modeling-based solutions more data sets need to be prepared, while for review-based methodologies base data is needed.
    - The same data that has been used for developing NDCs and adaptation plans can be used for the development of LTS, however, mitigation, adaptation and cross-cutting climate action issues need to be linked within the strategies.
    - The different data systems in a country need to link to each other and avoid duplicating the same work. Centralized data systems and hubs for data collection, management and reporting can ensure that all relevant actors can access and use the data they need.
  - **How ICAT can support** LTS development:
    - The sectoral data systems and transparency frameworks that have been created in the ICAT projects can be used to establish overarching frameworks.
    - ICAT country projects can focus on data, inventories and scenarios to

support an LTS. Support in mobilizing finances is also important to facilitate a forward-looking approach.

- ICAT can also support countries to define their priorities for mitigation and adaptation action and explore the co-benefits.
- Dialogue and exchanges between sectors and line ministries can facilitate the sharing of best practices and achievements accomplished through ICAT. Engaging the ministries of planning and finance can help ensure proper decision making.

#### **4. Preparing for continuous reporting beyond 2024**

It is equally important and challenging to turn the work on transparency, including the work accomplished under the ICAT project, into continuous data collection, management and reporting, sustaining capacity within the relevant institutions. ICAT and other support providers are helping countries build their transparency infrastructure, human, institutional and legal, but also the data systems and tools, the operationalization of which is necessary to ensure continuous reporting.

Main takeaways from the participants discussions:

To be prepared for continuous reporting countries need to:

- **Strengthen institutional arrangements to ensure continuity of data collection, management and reporting:**
  - Establishing legal arrangements that make reporting obligatory to ensure participation in the transparency process.
  - Creating a dialogue between government institutions instead of a one-way road of communication.
  - Establishing structures and resource centers can help participation in transparency processes.
  - Integrating transparency frameworks into the existing institutions and building capacity within the institutions.
- **Advance work on data and digitization:**
  - Building the necessary data collection infrastructure using new technologies;
  - Digitizing tools and frameworks, simplifying information so that it is easy to understand and use, and creating direct links to management and reporting;
  - Enhancing data sharing between different government departments, despite reluctance to share information;
  - Investing in centralized national data hub systems where all relevant actors can access relevant information for reporting ;
  - Integrating non-state and subnational actors, using comprehensive data tools;
  - Integrate climate risks to the existing data sets.
- **Secure human capacity on the national level:**
  - Continuing and expanding capacity building efforts, ensuring that there are multiple people receiving training and being engaged in transparency projects and reports.

- Including clear mandatory requirements for the recruitment of new staff, already when developing the TORs, including in the context of use of ICAT tools;
- Integrating critical transparency topics in educational and training material;
- Utilize training of trainer (ToT) approaches to multiply and pass on knowledge and capacity.
- **Engage stakeholders and mobilize financial resources:**
  - Showing how data can be used for policy-making to encourage participation in the transparency process;
  - Enhancing the understanding of the operational elements of climate action across financial institutions to improve access to finance;
- **Pursue cross-country and regional collaboration:**
  - Participating in country exchanges, like the ones organized by ICAT;
  - Engaging in regional and subregional fora, including the ICAT regional hubs.
- **Access continued/additional support:**
  - To address common gaps and needs in terms of data, policy, legal and technical support;
  - To complete the work on transparency that has been initiated and achieve full engagement of the government;
  - To receive new methodological guidance, especially on adaptation and loss and damage, based on the results of the upcoming COPs;
  - To access climate finance.
- **Maintain flexibility in reporting.**

The last day of the ICAT Community meetings ended with a closing plenary session. The incoming Chair of the ICAT Donor Steering Committee, Dr. Alexander Fisher of the ClimateWorks Foundation, emphasized the importance of coming together in person to exchange on transparency and MRV, congratulated ICAT countries for what has been achieved so far, and reflected on how the donors can facilitate and create the knowledge hubs that the ICAT community needs and how countries can secure that outcomes of projects are sustained after the projects end. Still, continuous support for transparency is key, which can be either on the project or the institutional level.

Henry Neufeldt, ICAT adaptation project lead at UNEP-CCC, reiterated that ICAT's work on adaptation is supporting countries to design climate resilient development pathways, providing the necessary methodological tools to monitor and track progress.

Henning Wuester, ICAT Director, closed the session by sharing his appreciation of the ICAT community growing together and recognizing the critical contribution that transparency is making to move the climate change efforts forward. The work done in ICAT has encompassed all aspects in the span of transparency, including GHG inventories, policy MRV, links with sustainable developments, finance and cooperative approaches through article 6. The ICAT Director wrapped up the 3-day event, sharing his hope that knowledge and practical tools developed through

ICAT's work can help countries make their plans operational and achieve real impact.

The afternoon saw meetings of the ICAT Donor Steering Committee and of the ICAT adaptation project team.

## Conclusion and next steps

The 2022 ICAT Community Meetings provided a space for knowledge and experience sharing among transparency practitioners and experts, focused on the key areas of work on transparency. The many fruitful exchanges demonstrated the value of in-person peer-to-peer exchange, and the discussions brought out many common needs and challenges. Recognising that important achievements have been accomplished, there is still a lot to be done for developing countries to be in a position to meet international reporting requirements and build the domestic capacity necessary for NDC implementation.

The ICAT Secretariat will make the most of the messages that came out of the ICAT Community Meetings, as well as the advice provided by the AC and the DSC, to align ICAT's plans and priorities to the actual needs of its partner countries. The ICAT Community, which grew even closer through this meeting, will come together again in early 2023 in a virtual ICAT Partner Forum, while an in-person knowledge sharing event will be repeated in early 2024.

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