



Closing workshop report

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency - ICAT

Project Closure and Validation Workshop Report

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Background

The ICAT Liberia project was implemented by the Government of Liberia through the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia from the inception of the project in February 2020 through September 30, 2022. The project focused on building the capacities of technical experts in the Environmental Protection Agency, relevant sector ministries, and other stakeholders to be able to assess the impact of mitigation policies, measures, actions, and plans and track and monitor progress in NDC implementation.

The project's key focus was on 3 priority sectors: **energy, transport, and waste** with the specific objectives to:

1. Contribute towards ongoing efforts to build a national transparency framework that meets international standards and is tailored to domestic needs
2. Strengthen the EPA's and relevant stakeholders' capacities to apply methodologies and tools to assess GHG and sustainable development impacts and the effectiveness of policies, measures, actions, and plans included in the NDC
3. Contribute towards ongoing efforts to improve the availability and quality of data required for measuring GHG and sustainable development impacts and the effectiveness of policies and measures included in the NDC
4. Support the formulation of NDC targets and actions in a manner that allows consistent monitoring and evaluation of progress (in collaboration with relevant existing initiatives that support the NDC update in the framework of the NDC roadmap)
5. Contribute towards ongoing efforts to develop frameworks that facilitate tracking of progress on NDC implementation and strengthen capacities to construct and apply indicators towards that end

The End of Project Validation meeting brought together technical staff from line Ministries, Agencies, and Commissions (MACs) including the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Monrovia City Corporation including the ICAT Secretariat and the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute.

Opening proceedings

On September 28, 2022, the ICAT Liberia Project validation meeting began with welcome and introductory remarks which were done by Jefferson F. Nyandibo, Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) Coordinator and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Focal Point for Liberia who pleaded with the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) for further assistance to promote transparency elements in Liberia's efforts to achieve the country's Nationally Determined Contributions.

Mr. Nyandibo lauded the ICAT family and all those who funded the project and said that the project served as an eye-opener for Liberia.

Mr. Nyandibo disclosed that Liberia is considering how to raise additional resources that will enable it to graduate from shortfalls that were identified by various consultants in the project implementation phase.

The UNFCCC National Focal Point said that critical among shortfalls, he said was the development of a real and engaging NDC tracking tool considering the level of the country's ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

Mr. Nyandibo ended his remarks by thanking everyone who contributed to making the project implementation a resounding success.

In opening remarks, Hon. Randall Massaquoi Dobayou, II- Deputy Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia thanked the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) for their support to the Government of Liberia through the EPA to help assess critical national policies in the Energy, Waste and Transport sectors with mitigation potentials as well as helping the country develop NDC tracking tools for 3 of Liberia's major NDC sectors. He further maintained that the support to Liberia has helped greatly assist the country take steps towards the successful implementation of its NDC commitments.

The Deputy Executive Director of the EPA thanked the technical staff from line Ministries and Agencies including national consultants and project staff who assisted the country to achieve this milestone success. He finally concluded by declaring the validation meeting officially opened.

In separate remarks, Randa Ahmed- Programme Management Officer at the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) lauded the effort of the Government of Liberia through the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia to successfully implement the ICAT Liberia project and for achieving the deliverables outlined in the PCA signed between UNOPs/ICAT and the Government of Liberia. She also expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to the leadership of the EPA, consultants, and project team for their immense contribution to the overall success of the project. She admonished the Government to advance efforts on the achievements made during the project implementation through the implementation of Liberia's NDC.

Technical Presentations

The national consultants hired to do two respective assignments on a. NDC Policy impact Assessments on the National Transport Master Plan of Liberia, the National Energy Policy of Liberia, and the National Environmental Policy with a particular focus on the Waste sector including b. Development of the NDC Tracking tool for the Energy, Waste, and Transport sector made their separate presentations.

The first presentation focused on the “Overview of the results from the assessments of key policies in the waste, energy, and transport sectors as well as presentation of key policy recommendations”. These separate presentations were done by: Molley Paasewe, Spencer Taylor, and Princess M. Tarpeh. The presentations gave a synopsis of the assigned task of the consultancy, the methodology used during the assessment as well as key results, findings, and recommendations from the assessment done for three national policies (National Transport Master Plan of Liberia, National Energy Policy of Liberia, and National

Environmental Policy of Liberia) that cover NDC mitigation sectors- energy, waste, and transport.

The second presentation focused on an Overview of NDC tracking framework recommendations for developing indicator sets for the waste, energy, and transport sectors. This presentation was done by David Mulbah- The team leads responsible for developing NDC Tracking tools for the Energy, Waste, and Transport sectors. The presentations focused on a synopsis of the assigned task of the consultancy, the methodology used during the assessment as well as key results, findings, and recommendation

Remarks by Implementing Partners

For his part, Felix Fallasch from Oeko Institute, who spoke on the ICAT Liberia project NDC policy impact assessment, lauded the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia for being steadfast in successfully implementing the project.

“I want to congratulate you on the result you have achieved,” Felix said.

Felix Fallasch added that while policy assessment is a positive tool, it helps countries take stock of where there are in terms of policy implementation and NDC tracking. He ended by stating that the NDC Policy impact assessments that were done by Liberia for the three (3) national policies are of quality.

Mr. Matej Gasperic, Senior Programme Officer at the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute disclosed that the presentation done by consultant David and the NDC Tracking team and the discussions that followed show that Liberia is on the right trajectory. He asserted that NDCs are a very good starting point actually to move forward with the development of NDC tracking tools.

He said that the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI) does not doubt that Liberia will consider all of the recommendations made when it upgrades its NDC reporting framework.

In his closing remarks, he mentioned that the exercise regarding NDC tracking is a complex issue that requires full sectoral coordination.

Closing Remarks

In closing remarks, Mr. Jefferson F. Nyandibo thanked the ICAT Secretariat, the Leadership of the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia, sector line Ministries and Agencies, consultants, and project staff for their tireless effort in ensuring the successful implementation of the ICAT project. He was quick to note that it was now time that the EPA and sector Ministries, Agencies, and Commissions take seriously the recommendations from the various reports from the consultancy assignments to inform the NDC implementation process in Liberia.

Annex I

Closing Workshop ICAT Liberia Project

Date: 28 September 9.00am

Venue: EPA with virtual participation via Zoom / MS Teams

Time	
Session 1 – Participant arrival and workshop opening	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 09:40	Welcome and round of introductions <i>Moderator: Jeff Nyandibo</i>
09:40 – 09:50	Opening remarks <i>Hon. Randall Dobayou-Deputy Executive Director- Environmental Protection Agency Liberia</i>
09:50 – 10:00	Contributions from ICAT management <i>Randa Ahmed or Oleg Bulanyi (tbc), ICAT Secretariat, Initiative for Climate Action Transparency</i>
Session 2 – Technical session on project results and validation	
10:00 – 10:10	Overview and report on the ICAT Liberia project <i>Overview of the ICAT Project and key outcomes achieved</i> <i>Jeff Nyandibo</i>
10:10 – 11:00	Presentation of the results of the policy assessments <i>Overview of the results from the assessments of key policies in the waste, energy, and transport sectors and presentation of key policy recommendations.</i> <i>Molley Paasewe, Spencer Taylor, Princess M. Tarpeh</i> Question & Answers

11:00 – 11:20	Presentation on NDC tracking framework development: Recommendations for NDC tracking indicators <p><i>Overview on NDC tracking framework recommendations for developing indicator sets for the waste, energy, and transport sectors.</i></p> <p><i>David Mulbah, John Kannah, Isaac Kannah</i></p>
Question & Answers	
11:20 – 11:30	Remarks by the implementing partners <i>Matej Gasperic (GHGMI) / Felix Fallasch (Oeko Institut)</i>
11:30 – 11:40	Closing remarks <i>Jeff Nyandibo</i>

Annex II

Participants Listing

Annex III

References

Draft of the NDC tracking framework: with recommendations for NDC tracking Indicator [Approved by IP-\(EPA\) Deliverable N-P.pdf](#)

Diagnostic Report: Methodological and Data Challenges Encountered in Conducting the Waste, Energy, & Transport Impact Assessments & Recommendations [Diagnostic Report on the Waste, Energy, and Transport Sectors Impact Assessment.docx.pdf](#)