



Government of Zimbabwe
Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry
United Nations Environment Programme – Technical University of Denmark Partnership
The Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) Project in Zimbabwe

Report on the Project Inception Meeting

Date: Friday 19 February 2021

Time: 1100 – 1245 hours (CAT)

Venue: Virtual

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PREPARED UNDER

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) project supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition (IMET) and ClimateWorks.



The ICAT project is managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)



1. Introduction

The Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry joined the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) in mid-2020. In December 2020, a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) was signed by the Government of Zimbabwe and the United Nations Environment Programme – Technical University of Denmark Partnership (UNEP-DTU). This established the *ICAT Project in Zimbabwe* which is running from December 2020 to July 2021. The project is worth 126,000.00 USD and will complement Zimbabwe in its efforts to build a robust transparency system as required by the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement as well as improve its capacity for climate change related policy assessment. The inception meeting was meant to introduce the *ICAT Project in Zimbabwe* to stakeholders and consider their inputs before implementation of activities commences.

2. Proceedings

2.1. Welcome Remarks

The Director for the Climate Change Management Department in the Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry, Mr Washington Zhakata welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) Director, Dr Henning Wuester provided introductory remarks highlighting the aims of the ICAT Global Programme and how it supports the implementation of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. In his official welcome remarks, Mr Zhakata indicated the link between the Enhanced Transparency Framework, the Global Stocktake and transparency arrangements under Convention. He welcomed the ICAT Project and expressed gratitude to the funders and The Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (IPSRA) for the technical support.

2.2. Presentation on the ICAT Project in Zimbabwe

Tirivanhu Muhwati, Climate Change Scientist and *ICAT Project in Zimbabwe* Coordinator provided a brief history on how the Climate Change Management Department selected the focus areas for implementation in Zimbabwe given the 126,000.00 USD budget and limited implementation period (December 2020 to July 2021). The project is modelled around four objectives which are i) to conduct an in-depth study on NDC implementation tracking for Zimbabwe; ii) increase the local skills base in analysis of the GHG mitigation options for Zimbabwe through the use of the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Cost Model (GACMO); iii) assess the Greenhouse Gas and Economic Impacts of the National Renewable Energy and National Bio-Fuels Policies using ICAT guidelines and; iv) train local experts in key government institutions in GHG data quality assurance and quality control.

IPSRA and ICAT will provide technical assistance in the implementation of the project especially in further capacitation in the use of GACMO and use of the Sustainable Development Methodology in assessing policies. At the end of the project implementation period, Zimbabwe should have a good idea of the NDC implementation tracking system suitable to its national circumstances, at least 20 experts skilled in the use of GACMO, a

quantified GHG and economic assessment of the National Renewable Energy and Bio-Fuels Policies and, at least 25 government officers knowledgeable in the use of the national GHG database.

Knowledge sharing will be required with colleagues from other countries that have used ICAT tools before and using them to enhance their transparency arrangements. Ghana was singled out in the case of the use of GACMO in assessing mitigation options and NDC implementation. Enhanced local capacity in transparency is central to the project hence the resources will be dedicated to improving the skills base of local GHG inventory experts and government technical officials through training and consultative workshops. Local consultants will be used for all the activities.

Discussions related to activity implementation

- The Chair expressed concern on the timelines of the project. Will there be enough time to finish all the planned activities given the project end date of 31 July 2021? The coordinator indicated that most of the time since the signing of the PCA has been dedicated to the procurement process for the consultants to undertake specific activities under the project. The recruitment is now in its final stages. The ICAT Director recommended that there should be a mid-term review of implementation progress and if indications are that the deadlines cannot be met, then a project extension can be sought.
- The Director for the Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Department welcomed the ICAT project. He expressed hope the proposed analysis of the National Renewable Energy Policy and National Bio-Fuels Policy would have a medium to long term outlook as the policies are relatively new. The results of the assessment will assist in assessing progress and in providing inputs for the next policy revision in approximately five years' time. The ICAT Director indicated that the ICAT Guidelines can either be focused on the ex-ante, the present or ex-post and the policies to be assessed in Zimbabwe will be assessed from an ex-ante perspective.
- A representative of the Business Council for Sustainable Development Zimbabwe expressed interest with the ICAT Non-State and Sub-National Action Guidelines and indicated that these would be of assistance to assessing action by the private sector. He recommended that the use of these guidelines can be part of future ICAT work in Zimbabwe.
- The Chair indicated that it is critical for work on NDC Implementation Tracking to reach a stage where a tool is actually operational by the end of the project but this might require extra resources. The ICAT Director noted that whilst this would be ideal, ICAT resources are provided within a project module format. Perhaps this could also form part of future ICAT work in Zimbabwe or another programme such as the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT).

2.3. Presentation on the Project Implementation Arrangements

Kudzai Ndidzano, the Deputy Director for the Climate Change Management Department made a presentation on implementation arrangements for the *ICAT Project in Zimbabwe*. As with other projects implemented by the Department a Project Steering Committee will be established comprising of the following members:

- Director for Finance and Administration in the Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry
- The Deputy Director for Climate Change Management Department
- National Communication Coordinator
- CBIT Coordinator

The project will be coordinated by the Climate Change Management Department. An officer appointed as the *ICAT Project in Zimbabwe* coordinator will run the project on a day to day basis, periodically reporting to the project steering committee which then reports to the Director for Climate Change Management. The project steering committee oversees resource use, the quality of reports and provides guidance to activity implementation.

Discussions related to implementation arrangements

- Stakeholders welcomed the proposed arrangements but suggested that the steering committee be expanded to include other key actors such as the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment. This was taken note of by the Climate Change Management Department and other members shall be invited to be part of the committee.

3. Meeting Conclusion

In his concluding remarks, the ICAT Director expressed hope that the work being supported by ICAT in Zimbabwe will be well executed. He emphasised that the work should be integrated into ongoing programmes such as the NDC Partnership and CBIT. The Chair thanked everyone for joining the meeting and indicated that their support will be required in the implementation of the various activities covered by the *ICAT Project in Zimbabwe*.

The inception meeting attendees and the programme are attached to this report as Annex I and Annex II.

Report Compiled by: Tirivanhu Muhwati Signature: _____ Date: _____
ICAT Project in Zimbabwe Coordinator – Climate Change Management Department

Report Approved by: Kudzai Ndidzano Signature: _____ Date: _____
Deputy Director – Climate Change Management Department

Annex I
List of Participants

	Name	Organisation
1	Washington Zhakata (Chairing)	Director, Climate Change Management Department - Zimbabwe
2	Henning Wuester	Director, Initiative for Climate Action Transparency
3	Jingjing Gao	UNEP-DTU Partnership
4	Randa Ahmed	United Nations Office for Project Services
5	Till Peplau	UNEP-DTU Partnership
6	Daniela Romano	Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
7	Sosten Ziuku	Department of Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy
8	Kudzai Ndidzano	Climate Change Management Department
9	Tirivanhu Muhwati	Climate Change Management Department
10	Shorai Kavu	Department of Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy
11	Walter Svinurai	Marondera University of Agricultural Science
12	Tafadzwa Dhlakama	United Nations Development Programme/CCMD/NDC Partnership
13	Lewis Makurumure	Rural Electrification Agency
14	Tendai Marowa	Business Council for Sustainable Development Zimbabwe
15	Albert Mhanda	Climate Change Consultant
16	Tanyaradzwa Mundoga	Department of Environment and Natural Resources Management
17	Nicola Burmeister	University of Leeds
18	Norah Takaindisa	Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry
19	Tinashe Chinembiri	Green Hydrogen Atlas
20	Munashe Mukonoweshuro	Climate Change Management Department
21	Desire Nemashakwe	Green Impact Trust/GCF Consultant
22	Alois Tsiga	Fourth National Communications & Biennial Update Report Project, CCMD
23	Issac Chiridza	Department of Power Development
24	Lawrence Mashungu	Climate Change Management Department
25	Tatenda Mutasa	CBIT Project Development Coordinator/Climate Change Management Department

**Annex II
Programme**

Date: Friday 19 February 2021

Time (CAT)	Activity	Responsibility
1100-1110	Introductions and Welcome Remarks	Washington Zhakata; Director Climate Change Management Department
1110-1125	Remarks by ICAT Secretariat	Henning Wuester; Director of the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
1125-1145	Overview of the ICAT Project in Zimbabwe -Outcomes and Theory of Change -Work Plan	Tirivanhu Muhwati; Compliance Officer/ICAT Coordinator – Climate Change Management Department
1145-1155	ICAT Project in Zimbabwe – Project management arrangements, Role of the Project Steering Committee, Reporting	Kudzai Ndidzano; Deputy Director Climate Change Management Department
1155-1220	Plenary discussion of the work plan, including the method of collaboration with key sectors	All
1220-1230	Next Steps and Meeting Wrap-up	Washington Zhakata; Director Climate Change Management Department