

Information Matters

Transparency through Reporting



Summary Report of the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop 2017

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Information Matters
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Executive Summary

Information Matters project

The Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop was held from 3–4 April 2017 marking the midpoint of the second phase of the Information Matters (IM) project. It brought together representatives of the phase II partner countries Colombia, Georgia and Vietnam and the phase I partner countries Chile, Dominican Republic, Ghana and the Philippines, as well as of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) GmbH and the *Umweltbundesamt* (German Environment Agency, UBA). The workshop was conducted with the technical support of the consultancy NIRAS.

Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop

The Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop provided a platform for IM partner countries to deepen their knowledge for reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It complemented activities of the second phase of the IM project, which mainly involved in-country capacity building in the form of technical trainings, on topics such as compilation of Biennial Update Reports (BURs), preparation of greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, institutional arrangements for reporting, participation in the International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) process and reporting of mitigation actions. The objectives of the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop were first to foster the south-south exchange of experiences on the various stages of BUR preparation as well as participation in the ICA process. Second, it enabled exchange of experiences between partner countries on potential solutions to challenges in BUR preparation, such as political buy-in, overcoming institutional challenges and information and data gaps. Third, it supported understanding and overcoming of barriers regarding the BUR and ICA processes, based on others' experiences of efforts required and lessons learned, enabling improvements in future BUR compilation. Finally, it provided a forum for participants to deliver feedback to GIZ on the IM project and to brainstorm on lessons learnt that could be relevant for the implementation of related processes under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement.

Lessons learned and conclusions

The experiences presented *on the first day* resulted in a number of conclusions on lessons learned and challenges in the institutionalisation of MRV systems. IM partner countries agreed on the importance of dedicated sectoral teams with clear roles for inventory compilation. In addition, BUR preparation benefits from developing and putting in place legal instruments (e.g. decrees) to support the process and functions of the lead institution. Countries further agreed on the value of implementing a national quality assurance (QA)/ quality control (QC) plan, maintaining an online data hub and ensuring technical focal points at line ministries and other major data or information providers. In addition, it is useful to define a timeline for the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) cycle and work on the current structures rather than designing new ones. Common success factors also included continuous evaluation and improvement, decentralisation of tasks, defining a coordination entity and the coordinator role, archiving data and, most important, understanding that establishing a fully functional MRV system requires a certain amount of time. The exercises also led to exploring other uses for the MRV system. Ideas surfaced such as using MRV systems to help plan economic development as well as prioritising mitigation actions at a regional

level. It also can benefit the planning and tracking of carbon taxes and improve productivity and efficiency of economic activities. Under the Paris Agreement, MRV systems can help to evaluate progress toward Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). They are also an excellent tool to monitor the co-benefits of any mitigation actions and may help government to design their land-use planning and climate policies.

The second day addressed technical challenges to BUR compilation and experiences with the ICA process, especially the use of the ICA outcomes for improvement of periodic BUR reporting. Countries also shared their experiences on BUR compilation with regard to GHG inventories, mitigation actions, support needed and received, and concluded on the following:

GHG inventory compilation

- Consistency in time series poses technical challenges.
- Recalculations of the time series must be undertaken with care and expert judgment.
- Use of existing data collection processes, such as the national statistics office, can increase efficiency and shorten timelines.

Reporting of mitigation actions

- Estimate the emission reduction impact of mitigation actions ex-ante (for example, Annex I Parties do not report ex-post impacts of their mitigation actions).
- Depending on the type of action, use different types of indicators of the performance of the action, such as inputs, activity levels, intermediate effects, GHG effects and non-GHG effects.
- Combine related measures, when the effects of different mitigation actions cannot be separated easily.
- Amount of international financial support depends on the achieved level of detailed and transparent reporting.

Reporting of support needed and received

- A pre-defined characterisation of what constitutes climate support may help in identifying and allocating financial flows relevant for reporting.
- The characterisation of financial support may be made at the national level or using international frameworks (for example, using the Climate Public Expenditure Framework of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)).

The workshop showed the value of such exchanges of experiences for enhancing and overcoming barriers in the set-up of national MRV systems and for deepening countries' knowledge on reporting under the UNFCCC, and hence the results of this workshop can also provide useful insights to other Parties beyond the Information Matters project.

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Abbreviations

BMUB	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CRF	Common Reporting Format
DMHCC	Department of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change of Vietnam
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana
ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework
FSV	Facilitative Sharing of Views
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GHG	Greenhouse gases
GIZ	<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH</i>
ICA	International Consultation and Analysis
IKI	International Climate Initiative
IDEAM	Institute for Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies of Colombia
IM	Information Matters
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LULUCF	Land use, land-use change and forestry
MADS	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia
MoENRP	Ministry of Environment and National Resources Protection of Georgia
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Vietnam
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
NAI	Non-Annex I (Parties to the UNFCCC)
NAMA	Nationally appropriate mitigation action
NC	National Communication
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
QA	Quality Assurance
QC	Quality Control
TA	Technical Analysis
TTE	Technical Team of Experts
UBA	<i>Umweltbundesamt</i> (German Environment Agency)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (now UN Environment)
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

1 Introduction to the Information Matters Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop

The Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop was held from 3–4 April 2017 and marked the midpoint in the implementation of the second phase of the Information Matters (IM) project. It brought together representatives of the phase II partner countries Colombia, Georgia and Vietnam and the phase I partner countries Chile, Dominican Republic, Ghana and the Philippines, as well as of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) GmbH and the *Umweltbundesamt* (German Environment Agency, UBA), and was conducted with the technical support of the NIRAS team. The workshop was held at the UBA headquarters in Dessau, Germany. This report presents an overview of the presentations and activities of the workshop and summarises the lessons learned for the IM partner countries and other IM project participants.

GIZ, on behalf of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) of Germany under its International Climate Initiative (IKI), is providing capacity building and technical support to a number of selected partner countries under the Information Matters project. The aim of the project is to strengthen the in-country capacities for enhanced reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with special focus on the preparation of Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and implementation of sustainable systems for measurement, reporting and verification (MRV). During the first phase of the project (2013–2016), support has been provided to the four partner countries Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ghana and the Philippines. During the second phase of the project (2016–2017), support is provided to four additional countries, namely Colombia, Egypt¹, Georgia and Vietnam, building upon the results, experiences and lessons-learned gained in the first phase of the project. In this context, the IM project also generates widely-applicable knowledge products based on practical experience. For the provision of technical support and expertise in carrying out the activities of phase II of the IM project, the GIZ has subcontracted the Danish consulting firm NIRAS A/S as part of a consortium with IP Institut für Projektplanung GmbH (NIRAS team).

The Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop described in this report provided a unique platform for partner countries to deepen their knowledge for reporting under the UNFCCC. By creating a setting that fostered the south-south exchange of experiences between the IM partner countries, this workshop complemented other activities of the second phase of the IM project, which mainly have involved in-country capacity building missions in the form of technical trainings following the specific needs of each partner country. The focus of these capacity building activities were: compilation of BURs, preparation of GHG inventories, institutional arrangements for reporting, participation in the International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) process and reporting of mitigation actions.

The Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop took place after several IM project activities already had been undertaken in each of the phase II partner countries – in addition to those that already took place in the four partner countries of phase I – including stocktaking of the current conditions for sustainable national MRV and BUR reporting, and various capacity building trainings. In this way, the participants of each

¹ IM Project activities have not commenced in Egypt at the time of the workshop.

phase II country were able to share experiences under the IM project, while also looking to strategies and ideas from other partner countries to further improve arrangements between institutions and reporting in their own country. Representatives of each of the IM phase I countries also participated, bringing along their three years' experience in the IM project and further experience with institutional arrangements and reporting in their respective nations. With the additional participation of GIZ, UBA and three consultants from the NIRAS team, this group generated opportunities for an exchange of diverse experiences in the priority areas of the IM project.

The objectives of the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop were first, to foster the south-south exchange of experiences on the various stages of BUR preparation as well as participation in the ICA process. Second, the event enabled exchange of experiences between the partner countries on potential solutions to challenges in BUR preparation, such as political buy-in, awareness raising and overcoming institutional challenges and information and data gaps. Third, it supported understanding and overcoming of barriers regarding the BUR and ICA processes, based on others' experiences of efforts required and lessons learned, enabling improvements in future BUR compilation. Finally, the event provided a forum for participants to deliver feedback to GIZ on the IM project implementation and to brainstorm on lessons learnt that could be relevant for the implementation of related processes under the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement.

2 Day 1: Institutionalisation of BUR reporting systems

The first day of the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop focused on sustainable institutional arrangements for BUR reporting. Phase II participants shared their experiences with institutionalisation of national MRV, while phase I countries described their successes and lessons learned. In addition, a group work activity in the format of a World Café enabled participants to brainstorm about solutions to common challenges to sustainable institutionalisation.

2.1 Welcome and introductions

Mr. Dirk Günther (UBA) welcomed participants to the UBA campus and Mr. Klaus Wenzel of GIZ welcomed the participants on behalf of the BMUB and the GIZ IM team. Mr. Wenzel introduced the main themes of the workshop, including exchange of good practices, ensuring sustainability in MRV and the need to engage a broad segment of national stakeholders to ensure sustainable reporting. He also announced the new name of the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV, now called the "Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement"², which the IM project is closely collaborating with. In this context, Mr. Wenzel noted that participants would have the opportunity to provide inputs about the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement at the end of the workshop.

The workshop moderator of this session, Mr. Amr Abdel-Aziz (NIRAS), also welcomed the participants and presented the other NIRAS consultants facilitating the workshop, Mr. Jean-Jacques Becker and Ms. Jessica Wade-Murphy de Jiménez.

The main objectives and topics of the two-day workshop were presented, which consisted of two main

² <https://www.transparency-partnership.net/>

themes: Day one focused on the partner country experiences and institutionalisation of MRV, and the second day on the technical issues surrounding BUR reporting and the ICA process. Participants were encouraged to freely share knowledge and experiences and engage in teamwork and cross-country cooperation to contribute to a successful workshop.

During the round of introductions participants formed small groups consisting of representatives from different countries and organisations to get to know and present each other to the plenary.

Participants also shared their **expectations for the workshop**, which were compiled on a flip chart. At various times during the workshop, the facilitators reviewed the expectations to ensure that the workshop was addressing the areas of interest. The group's expectations are summarised in Table 1.

The expectations centred on strengthening of technical and institutional capacities for continuous BUR preparation, with the participants eager to undertake an exchange and learn from one another's experiences. Several participants also voiced their interest in sharing ideas for incorporating stakeholders outside the lead institution in the BUR and ICA processes.

Table 1 Summary of the participants' expectations for the workshop

Theme	Participant Expectations
Technical capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange experiences, with IM project phase I countries and others, to help BUR development • Learn from experiences with the presentation of mitigation actions in the BUR • Consider how the BUR could contribute to the communication of the monitoring of the NDC • Discuss challenges to data collection • Address how to increase Non-Annex I Party participation in asking questions during the Facilitative Sharing of Views
Institutional capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange experiences on the entire BUR process, from BUR development to ICA participation, and benefit from lessons learned by other countries • Address how to overcome barriers to develop the BUR • Learn about promoting stakeholder participation in reporting
Sustainability of reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the process to achieve sustainable BUR preparation • Understand successful experiences with inter-institutional coordination for BUR leading to sustainability • Identify common goals/motivations
IM project implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies to support project partners • Different examples and experiences implementing IM

2.2 Partner country experiences with MRV institutionalisation

Sustainable institutionalisation of national MRV is important in light of the current biennial reporting requirements and the expectations for future reporting under the Paris Agreement. In the first interactive

session, each phase II country presented its experiences with the organisation of monitoring and reporting of information for the BUR, and the sustainability of the process. After a brief, general introduction to national circumstances, each country described its framework for BUR reporting and related domestic MRV, including the responsible institution, other institutions and actors, roles and responsibilities and funding sources. They also described the evolution of the system, plans or goals and the contributions of the IM project. Finally, countries highlighted successes and challenges in the institutional set-up for BUR reporting.

2.2.1 Country experiences: Colombia

Ms. Rocio Rodríguez from the Institute for Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies of Colombia (IDEAM) explained the Colombian experience with institutionalisation of MRV and the implementation of the IM project. She noted that IDEAM is the institution responsible for the reporting to the UNFCCC and inventory preparation. It works alongside the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) as technical branch and collects some climate change information routinely as part of its activities.

Figure 1 Ms. Rocio Rodríguez of Colombia for the Information Matters project



Ms. Rodriguez described how the MRV system is organised into three components, with the financial component under the supervision of the National Direction of Planning of Colombia and the emissions and mitigation components under the authority of IDEAM. Currently, Colombia is preparing its third National Communication (NC) and expects to present it in 2017, while it will submit the second BUR in 2018. Although Colombia has a formal MRV system, Ms. Rodriguez noted that presently the BUR preparation depends on national consultants together with funds from international sources, and there is a need to advocate for established institutional arrangements and the systematisation of information collection. Colombia has been addressing these obstacles with policies such as the Climate System "SISCLIMA" decree of 2016 that mandates inter-institutional coordination for adaptation and mitigation to climate change. She further explained that a new Climate Change Law is under development, which would formalise some aspects of the national MRV system and institutionalisation. However, it is expected that it would take a couple of years.

Against this background, she described the priorities under the IM project, which focus on:

- Knowledge transfer about the preparation of NC, BUR and GHG inventory to the relevant national institutions and the institutionalisation of information.
- Establishment of inter-institutional agreements for information transfer and strengthening of existing committees and systems.
- Raising awareness and strategic positioning of climate reporting at higher political levels and in sectoral ministries and of MRV as a national tool for planning.

- Develop capacities of national staff in various institutions and transfer knowledge and good practices from Annex I countries on the operationalisation of GHG inventories.
- Support preparation of the 2nd BUR.

Asked about Colombia's disaggregation of its inventory at the provincial (*departamental*) level, she explained that disaggregating the GHG inventory to the department level allows the departmental governments to use the inventory data as an input to their territorial planning. This is especially important for departments with high-emissions agricultural activities to plan their economic development in a climate-sensitive way.

2.2.2 Country experiences: Georgia

Mr. Kakhaberi Mdivani of the MoENRP (Ministry of Environment and National Resources Protection) presented Georgia's experience describing that prior to participating in the IM project, the preparation of NCs and the first BUR was largely outsourced by MoENRP to other entities and individuals. Mr. Mdivani stated that now the UNFCCC roster of experts is being used as a type of certification scheme for national inventory and reporting experts, and national capacities and government support are increasing. He summarised the significant impact the IM project has had despite the short period under implementation. During this time, the country has noted progress regarding the capacity building of the experts involved in BUR preparation, improvements in the transparency of the BUR process and advancements with dialogue with important stakeholders.

To continue this progress, Mr. Mdivani highlighted the remaining challenges to BUR preparation that stem from institutional issues having an impact on the level of completeness and quality assurance and control of the reports.

Responding to how Georgia deals with data gaps in its GHG inventory (e.g. what are the sources of data collection, what is the role of the national statistics office GEOSTAT), he explained that so far, data collection has relied on MoENRP requesting data from the providers. Some data are provided directly by private companies. GEOSTAT provides the energy balance, agriculture and industry data but there are confidentiality issues that prevent them from full information sharing. That motivated MoENRP to contact industries directly.

Participants also noted that the first BUR of Georgia had an inventory only three years before the year of the BUR submission. Mr. Mdivani explained that for the BUR 2 Georgia intends to maintain again the three-year time lapse and in the future intends to shorten it even further as they are working towards acceding the EU, which would require them to report the year prior to the year of submission.

2.2.3 Country experiences: Vietnam

Dr. Kien Tran Mai (Vietnam GIZ IM project) gave the country experience on the institutionalisation of MRV in Vietnam, with inputs from Mr. Hieu Nguyen Khac (Deputy Director General of the Department of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change, DMHCC) and Assoc. Prof. Ms. Huong Huynh Thi Lan (Deputy Director General of the Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change, IMHEN). Before the IM project, BUR and NC preparation was project-based and depended on international support. Vietnam is currently preparing the BUR 2 and the third NC. Challenges existed related to capacities for national

experts and government technical staff and sustainability of the institutional arrangements that previously achieved successful climate change reporting and GHG inventory compilation.

Figure 2 Dr. Kien Tran Mai presents the Information Matters project in Vietnam



The IM project already has contributed through capacity building missions on BUR preparation, and with tools and templates for the BUR and a second training on mitigation actions reporting. These trainings helped improve the general understanding of the national experts and technical staff in charge of the BUR preparation and enhanced the skills on report structure.

Dr. Kien pointed out that there is a remaining need to shift from a project-based to a more sustainable BUR and NC reporting procedure. The process for QA/QC and uncertainties analysis could be enhanced, and there are challenges still to overcome related to data quality and availability. There is a need to establish a sustainable data collection and sharing mechanism between relevant line ministries and agencies as well as clear institutional arrangements specifying the roles, responsibilities and the level of cooperation between them.

Regarding a national MRV system, it was clarified that it has not been formalised yet, but that a Prime Minister Decision has established the national GHG inventory system, which stipulated the roles of the DMHCC, IMHEN and other agencies with respect to the inventory. Furthermore, the DMHCC is assigned as the focal point for UNFCCC reporting by national law. It is expected that the MRV system will be established in 2018 and linked to the existing inventory system.

The presentation also referred to the People's Committees. To the question of whether these committees ensure participation of stakeholders in BUR processes it was explained that the People's Committees are the local government of the Provinces and Cities, which are important stakeholders and contributed to BUR reporting. For the waste sector, the People's Committees are to collect activity data from the

provincial level. The Committees also were consulted to identify financial needs for reporting of support received and needs (i.e. through requesting letters, as the arrangements are not formalised).

2.3 World Café: Sustainable institutionalisation of MRV

To steer the sharing of experiences about sustainable institutionalisation of MRV systems, participants elaborated in small groups on four guiding questions (see Table 2) according to a World Café format.

Table 2 Guidance questions on the sustainable institutionalisation of national MRV

- *How far should the MRV system be embedded within the governmental institutions?*
- *How could the MRV system be used for national planning / purposes?*
- *At which level(s) should QA/QC be conducted within the MRV system, and who should be responsible?*
- *What are the challenges to develop a sustainable MRV system and how to overcome them?*

In response to the question of *How far should the MRV system be embedded within the governmental institutions*, the discussions concluded that there are good practice examples, such as the case of the German NC and GHG inventory, in which most processes are internal. Also in this case, though, some functions are outsourced or contracted such as development of scenarios, analysis of mitigation actions and trends. With this and other examples in mind, the participants discussed which functions must be internal and which may be externalised. Participants considered that internal functions of the MRV system should include coordination, data management and archiving, setting the legal framework and quality assurance. Components that may be external could include definition of measurement methodologies, QC, preparing and providing data and verification.

Figure 3 Participants on the World Café group exercise



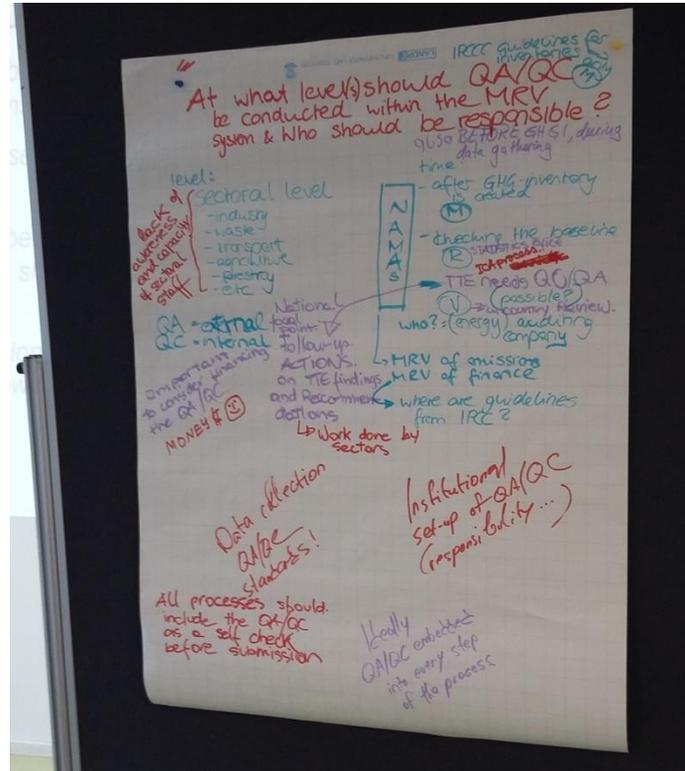
The question of *How could the MRV system be used for national planning / purposes* generated many ideas about wider uses of national MRV systems. Participants envisioned financial and economic uses, national and sub-national planning applications and uses to improve government efficiency. Table 3 presents the conclusions of potential applications of the MRV system for broader national purposes.

Table 3 Potential applications of the MRV system for other national purposes

Financial / economic applications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to attract investment from private and international sources • Enhance competitiveness among industries/entities • Provide resources to improve production and efficiency for farmers • Carbon trading-market (national / international) • Inform taxation of vehicles, industry • Alignment of data for tax payments • Financial MRV can help to identify gaps in budgets
Planning applications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use planning/ zoning policies • Planning climate change policies • Policy making, e.g. for implementation of the Paris Agreement • Planning economy development at a sub-national level decision-making • Prioritise interventions at sectorial level and solutions at a national and regional level
Government efficiency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of data • Energy scenarios, balances • Follow up of the NDC target implementation progress
Others
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight co-benefits • Enforcement on companies • Create awareness for policy and decision makers

In response to the question of *at which level(s) should QA/QC be conducted within the MRV system and who should be responsible*, the discussions centred on the different levels relevant for QA/QC and the types of entities that could be responsible. The participants noted that QA/QC is mainly addressed in the context of GHG inventory, but that MRV of finance and of mitigation actions such as NAMAs also should involve QA/QC. A central idea was that QA/QC procedures should be embedded into every step of the process, guided by established institutional set-up, with adequate financing. Participants noted that lack of awareness and capacity of the sectoral staff can present a barrier to quality control processes in sectoral data collection and emission factor definition or selection.

Figure 4 World Café outcomes



The discussions of question four, *what are the challenges to develop a sustainable MRV system and how to overcome them*, the groups listed challenges and then identified solutions for the different issues. According to the participants, the challenges begin from a lack of understanding of the scope of the system, since there is not a common definition of MRV system nor do stakeholders have adequate awareness. In addition, the establishment of an MRV system requires the support of a legal framework. In countries where the MRV system has begun operation, there can be a lack of technical and financial sources exacerbated by political cycles leading to change of staff. Therefore, it is recommended to encourage the capacity building and domestic financing to reach a sustainable system that can be mitigated encouraging domestic financing.

The groups proposed solutions to address the obstacles mentioned before. First, capacity building is a fundamental way to assure understanding and raise awareness among stakeholders; therefore, the participants reiterate the need to carry out training programs. The transfer of knowledge among relevant actors and avoiding information monopoly within institutions can be another solution. Participants also discussed the importance of identifying existing structures and building upon the system and assessing successful modes of work suitable to each country's background. Moreover, they recommend that ministries include the MRV system in their annual work plan and in the national budget. Finally, systems benefit from continuous review and improvement.

Figure 5 Presenting the outcomes of the World Café group exercise



2.4 Successes in institutions for MRV from phase I of Information Matters

In this session, Chile and Ghana described how the project affected their institutional systems for GHG inventory elaboration and mitigation action monitoring and reporting. By sharing the experiences from these two countries with established institutional arrangements, the session aimed to inform peers about the evolution of the institutionalisation under IM and plans or goals. The countries cited both examples of successes, as well as remaining challenges to sustainable institutions for national MRV.

2.4.1 Chile's experience with institutionalisation of MRV of mitigation actions

Ms. Jenny Mager from Chile noted that the country has submitted five national reports to the UNFCCC. After COP16 and COP17, new institutional arrangements were established to meet the requirements for biennial reporting, and Chile was the first Latin American country to submit its first and second BUR on time.

Chile submitted a voluntary mitigation commitment in 2010, leading to an increased national interest in developing NAMAs. Different ideas were registered, each of them with different concept and understanding of what MRV means. In 2013, Chile faced the challenge of preparing the first BUR to be submitted by 2014 and needed urgently to strengthen institutional arrangements and create capacities to prepare the report. There was a lack of clarity in the definition of mitigation actions, what type of activities should be reported under the BUR and how they should be evaluated. In the face of this challenge, Chile created a national "MRV framework for NAMAs" based on a WRI standard that provided national guidelines for how to measure, report and verify mitigation actions in Chile.

With the support from the team of IM, Chile benefited from the capacity building to prepare the BUR on time. There were different capacity building missions focused on inventories, mitigation and MRV of support. As a result of these, Chile gained a better understanding of the BUR guidelines. The IM team helped train stakeholders, especially in the use of the MRV framework and technical issues like baselines and indicators. In addition, IM facilitated a review of Chile's BUR and National Inventory with the help of German experts.

Ms. Mager further shared Chile's lessons learned for the BUR compilation process as a result of Chile's participation in the IM project. First, it is important to design a work plan that guarantees the involvement and cooperation among stakeholders. Also, capacity building activities are essential to harvest knowledge and develop concepts about MRV as well as the importance of correctly collecting information. Regarding the institutional arrangements, it is fundamental to define clearly the role of a coordinator, and maintain this role over time. Finally, maintain permanent communication with stakeholder institutions during the BUR preparation process. Chile also found the UNFCCC roster of experts to be a useful tool for training and certifying national experts and motivating individuals from stakeholder institutions to commit to participating in the BUR compilation system.

2.4.2 Ghana experience with institutionalisation of GHG inventory

Mr. Daniel Tutu Benefor of the Ghana's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) presented the achievements of their national system for GHG inventory, which has been operating since 2000, and progressively improved through reforms to the institutional arrangements. The system is called the Ghana Climate Ambitious Reporting Programme (GCARP). Ghana has compiled 3 NCs, 2 national inventory reports and 1 BUR. They have completed the ICA and are now planning the preparation of the next reporting cycles.

Mr. Tutu Benefor noted that with support of the IM project, Ghana overcame several obstacles regarding the institutionalisation of MRV. Before the project, Ghana identified limitations to the full implementation of a domestic MRV system and required financial assistance, capacity building of experts and awareness development in general. The EPA also encountered limitations with access to quality data, the impact of MRV results on policy decision-making the means to effectively capture adaptation actions and their effects.

The IM team carried out five capacity building sessions focused on the preparation of the national GHG inventory, data management, MRV for GHGs and support, setting up baselines and the ICA process. As an additional component, IM undertook a technical review of the Energy Section of the National Inventory report and the draft BUR before submission.

Now, at an institutional level the working team has better defined roles in relation to the MRV system. Also, the GHG inventory setup improved with an online data system to facilitate the exchange of information. Ghana also adopted the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and defined a 2-year inventory cycle.

Mr. Tutu Benefor shared the lessons learned and good practices Ghana has accumulated over time and through participation in the IM project. For the sake of long-term sustainability of GHG inventory, it is preferable to work with the existing structures and use existing institutions and data collection functions. At the same time, it is important to ensure periodic revision and improvement strategies and translate

these into the core activities of ministries and other data and information providers. To ensure that industries cooperate with data sharing, there must be a certain level of legitimacy and legal authority to the entity charged with the inventory compilation. Finally, it is imperative to develop a data exchange system to increase completeness and transparency in the reporting.

2.4.3 Questions and answers on phase I countries experiences with institutionalisation

Participants expressed interest in the experiences from Ghana and Chile and engaged in an exchange, which is summarised below:

Table 4 Q&A on phase I country experience with institutionalisation

Question	Answer
In the case of Ghana, how was the responsibility for the GHG inventory decentralised to the line ministries?	The process began with capacity building at the line ministries. This lasted four to five years. Later the line ministries were asked to nominate focal points, starting with five that were considered promising candidates. Inter-ministerial meetings were held and MoUs were signed, although it is difficult to enforce the agreements in the MoUs. The focal points in the line ministries see it as an opportunity to participate in the inventory. The EPA provides resources to the line ministries for their participation.
In the case of Chile, how do the line ministries participate in the inventory?	The line ministries calculate the inventory for their sectors. The first time, consultants supported the line ministries for capacity building. Only the waste sector is calculated directly by the Ministry of Environment, who also does the quality assurance of all sectors.
Are you looking to web-based platforms for inventory data management?	In the case of Chile, yes, but external funding is needed.

2.5 Conclusions of Day 1

The experiences presented on the first day of the workshop from all IM project countries led to a number of generic conclusions on common lessons learned and main challenges for the institutionalisation of MRV systems. First, phase I countries agreed on the importance of dedicated sectoral teams with clear roles for inventory compilation. Also, BUR preparation benefits from developing and putting in place a legal instrument (Decrees/MoUs) to support the process and functions of the lead institution. Phase I countries also agreed on implementing a national QA/QC plan, maintaining an online data hub and ensuring technical focal points at line ministries and other major data or information providers. In addition, it is useful to define a timeline for the MRV cycle and work on the current developed structures rather than designing new ones. Common themes in the success of phase I countries also included continuous evaluation and improvement, decentralisation of tasks, defining a coordination entity and the coordinator

role, archiving data and, most important, understanding that establishing a fully functional MRV system requires a long period of time.

The brainstorming exercise also led to exploring other uses for the MRV system. Ideas surfaced such as using MRV systems to help plan economic development as well as prioritising mitigation actions at a regional level. It also can benefit the planning and tracking of carbon taxes, other taxes, and improve productivity and efficiency of the nation economic activities. Under the Paris Agreement, the MRV systems can help to evaluate progress toward NDCs. They are also an excellent tool to monitor the co-benefits of any mitigation actions and may help government to design their land-use planning and climate policies.

Throughout the session, different challenges were identified as well as potential solutions to overcome these limitations. The participants insisted on the importance of developing the capacity of national experts and stakeholders. They also noted a lack of understanding and awareness of the MRV system among broader stakeholders, as well as deficiency on a strong legal framework and financial resources.

To overcome these obstacles, countries must develop awareness at a decision-making level. They also need to build institutional capacity and increase the technical knowledge at a government level. According to the phase I countries experience, building upon existing structure, including MRV activities in national budgets and in annual ministries' work plans can help to overcome existing barriers.

3 Day 2: BUR compilation and participation in ICA

The second day of the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop addressed technical challenge to BUR compilation and experiences with ICA, especially the use of the ICA outcomes for improvement of periodic BUR reporting. Participants shared their experiences with different aspects of BUR compilation and ICA participation, followed by group activity, which paired phase I and phase II countries to undertake a BUR improvement planning session tailored to the individual needs of each country.

3.1 Lessons learned from BUR compilation

The phase II country representatives presented their experiences with BUR compilation so far in the three main areas of reporting: GHG inventory, mitigation actions and support needed and received. Since all of them have submitted one BUR already, each drew on its own challenges and successes to inform its peers of useful lessons learned focusing on technical aspects of the reporting process, such as methods and formats for reporting, technical barriers identified and solutions implemented and QA/QC. Countries were also asked to describe the results of ICA Technical Analysis and how the feedback may be incorporated to improve future reporting.

3.1.1 Country experiences: GHG inventory in Vietnam

On behalf of Vietnam, Mr. Hieu Nguyen Khac, presented key developments and lessons learned on the compilation of the national GHG inventory and the first BUR. Generally, Vietnam wishes to institutionalise a system to coordinate the work of BUR preparation and ICA participation. To this end, Mr. Hieu identified the importance of capacity building trainings, since it is vital for those responsible for the reports to know the requirements in detail. The country also seeks sustainable financial support from the GEF. Mr.

Hieu shared with the participants the expected schedule for preparation of the second BUR to be submitted in November 2017.

Regarding their specific experience with the GHG inventory for the first BUR, the Prime Minister Decision No.2359 establishing the national GHG inventory system gave the inventory compilation process more importance and strong legal support. Nevertheless, there were challenges in the relationship between the technical working groups of the DHMCC and the line ministries for providing information. The inventory team also had technical questions about applying tier 1 versus tier 2 methods for inventory sectors and when to undertake recalculations. Finally, Mr. Hieu expressed the uncertainty about the emissions projections calculated and how to achieve realistic projections.

3.1.2 Country experiences: mitigation action reporting in Georgia

Mr. Mdivani led the presentation of Georgia's experience with the reporting of mitigation actions in the BUR 1. The MoENRP was responsible for the report, with the support of UNDP, while the non-profit think tank World Experience for Georgia (WEG) figured as the sub-contractor. Mitigation actions were reported using a sectoral approach. The main lessons learned from the process of the BUR and Technical Analysis outcomes were first, that the MoENRP needs to improve the quality of the database for mitigation actions. Next, it would increase comparability to design and implement a common format to report information. Last, they identified the importance of skilled professionals with knowledge of the requirements to carry out the reporting, to increase completeness and transparency.

Some further issues that the MoENRP seeks to address for the reporting of mitigation actions in the following BUR is the challenge regarding the requirement of the BUR reporting guidelines to include quantitative goals for mitigation actions, without this being perceived as commitments. In addition, MoENRP intends to define progress indicators to help evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation actions. Finally, MoENRP would like to incorporate QA/QC of mitigation action reporting but is facing questions as to how to implement the process and at which stage to undertake QC.

3.1.3 Country experiences: reporting of support needed and received in Colombia

Ms. Rocio Rodríguez from Colombia provided insights into the successes and challenges of compiling and reporting support-related information for the BUR 1. For the reporting of support received and needed for the BUR, there was no central entity compiling climate finance related information at that time. Therefore, it was necessary to determine the financial amounts via a study and collect information from a variety of sources. Also, there was no entity tracking capacity building and technology support, which made it difficult to compile the information. However, these obstacles led to enhanced inter-institutional cooperation through the work of the MADS and other stakeholders. The Ministry arranged for information to be channelled from other ministries, building new alliances. This cooperation continued with the formalisation of the relations involving higher level officials to secure the information flow process through time.

There were three main lessons learned from this process. First, the BUR team must define realistic data collection cycles and work plans for reporting of support. Second, the roles and responsibilities of different

stakeholders must be clearly defined and tasks delegated to the most suitable party. Finally, it is helpful to have centralised systems to consolidate data and other information regarding support in one institution.

3.1.4 Conclusions on BUR compilation

Following the presentations, a group discussion ensued during which also the other participants shared their experiences in the areas of BUR reporting. The discussion generated some conclusions related to each section of the BUR, which are summarised below.

Table 5 Conclusions on GHG inventory compilation

- *Consistency across the entire time series poses a technical challenge*
- *Recalculations of the time series must be undertaken with care and expert judgment*
- *Use of existing data collection processes, such as the national statistics office, can increase efficiency and shorten timelines*

The group discussion on mitigation actions centred on the many challenges and lack of international guidelines for this type of reporting. The IM project partner countries compared their experiences in the first BUR, for which Chile used a national entity to track mitigation actions and their co-benefits and followed guidelines for reporting that it developed internally, whereas Georgia outsourced to a non-profit think tank to compile the information on mitigation actions. Participants saw the utility of a central database at the national level for mitigation actions, but there were concerns that this requires additional resources and financial support. Participants also questioned whether reporting of the GHG impacts of mitigation actions should be ex-ante or also based on actual implementation, and which baseline is appropriate. Still, participants voiced the need that more UNFCCC guidance is required to permit comparable, transparent reporting of mitigation actions. The main outcomes of the discussion are summarised below.

Table 6 Conclusions on mitigation action reporting

Reporting of mitigation actions should ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow a more pragmatic approach • Estimate the emission reduction impact of mitigation actions ex-ante (for example, Annex I Parties do not report ex-post impacts of their mitigation actions) • Depending on the type of action, use different types of indicators of the performance of the action, such as inputs, activity levels, intermediate effects, GHG effects and non-GHG effects • Combine related measures, when the effects of different mitigation actions cannot be separated easily • Amount of international financial support depends on the achieved level of detailed and transparent reporting

The group further discussed the reporting of support needed and received. Participants expressed uncertainties about the details of reporting of support, for example, whether all climate change related support should be reported, or if the country may focus on largest and highest priority support or the support utilised to implement actions. There was also the question as to whether support should be reported based on support committed or disbursed. Participants expressed the challenge of identifying and apportioning the financial flows to climate change related activities since the entities collecting the financial information do so with motivations or objectives different from climate-related tracking. Finally, countries expressed interest in reporting not just on quantity of climate support, but also on impacts of climate-related expenditures via impact modelling.

Table 7 Conclusions on reporting of support needed and received

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A pre-defined characterisation of what constitutes climate support may help in identifying and allocating financial flows for climate reporting</i> • <i>The characterisation may be made at the national level or using international frameworks (for example, referring to the Climate Public Expenditure framework of the UNDP)</i>
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3.2 Experiences with the ICA

The aim of the ICA experiences session was to undertake a group discussion of the benefits of the participation in the ICA process and identifying potential areas for improvement in the ICA. A case study of Colombia was used as an input for the discussion. To this end, Ms. Rocio Rodríguez shared Colombia's

experience with the ICA process with regard to preparing for and participating in both, the technical analysis (TA) and the facilitative sharing of views (FSV). Ms. Rodríguez addressed the country's experiences with each step of the ICA process, expectations versus actual experiences, successes and challenges and lessons learned for the next ICA cycle.

She outlined that first, the technical team of experts (TTE) that undertook the TA, identified the extent to which the elements of information have been reported in accordance with the BUR guidelines. A teleconference to clarify questions by the TTE was held, but technical difficulties and language barriers made the communication between the TTE and the Colombian BUR team difficult. There was also uncertainty about the time management and scope of the process. According to Ms. Rodríguez, the Colombian team expected a more technical focused review rather than questions on policy and arrangements in the form of a checklist. A draft of the summary report was shared with Colombia, to which the team responded. After the incorporation of comments, the summary report was finalised and published on the UNFCCC website.

Based on this experience, Colombia identified some lessons learned to take into consideration for future ICA processes. For instance, the BUR team needs to involve different stakeholders to provide answers in response to financial, technical and technological issues. Also, the BUR team concluded that it is not useful to include information in the BUR about topics that are not yet well developed (such as ideas for mitigation actions that are not under implementation and therefore lack details on reduction potential, methodologies etc.) as this may trigger a large amount of questions of clarification by the TTE. The BUR team further concluded that in general, the BUR should include concrete, specific information, as opposed to long descriptive text, and that tables and figures may be used to present the information clearly and concisely. This type of presentation can aid the understanding of the reviewers from the TTE and enable a quicker ICA process.

The subsequent group discussion of the ICA process revealed many opinions among the IM project countries about the benefits of, and potential improvements in the analysis. The main comments and suggestions are presented in Table 8.

Table 8 Summary of the group discussion of International Consultation and Analysis

Comment / suggestion	Potential response
<p>1. The ICA process from the beginning to its end is quite long; therefore, there is a risk that the experts who were contracted to compile the BUR are not available at the time of the TA or FSV.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutionalise the participation in ICA to ensure in-house knowledge is available for responding to queries during TA and FSV
<p>2. The TA only resulted in comments about capacity building needs, with no recommendations about improving actual reporting and without providing positive feedback indicating where reporting was done well.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of the ICA follows the guidelines and principles of UNFCCC. At the same time, it is a new process where all involved are in a learning-by-doing phase. The experiences gained by this process can help improving the process and inform the design of future processes of this nature.
<p>3. There could be an internal and external TA report, like in the case of Annex I annual GHG inventory reviews, to provide more detail on the results of the analysis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At present, ICA is conducted as per the UNFCCC guidelines mainly focusing on transparency. At the same time, it is resource intensive to undertake a very in-depth analysis; however, the comment points to the desire of some countries to have a more in-depth analysis of their BUR or inventory in order to get more feedback and make improvements, which could be taken up in different fora, e.g. under the UNFCCC.
<p>4. Experts from IM countries should become part of the TTE by joining the UNFCCC roster of experts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joining the roster of experts mainly requires the nomination by the country's national focal point. However to become a member of a TTE or reviewer in the UNFCCC, experts need to take a course and pass an exam. Experts from Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to follow these steps.
<p>5. For the ICA of the second BUR and beyond, the TTE should take into account the results of the previous TA. However, there is often repetition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lesson learned from Chile is to include a table in the BUR 2 that follows the TA table structure and shows how the country responded to each issue from the TA of the BUR 1. This can help the ICA to become an iterative process that builds upon previous ICA results.

3.3 Lessons learned on incorporating feedback from ICA

The Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop regarding the ICA process further considered the cases of Ghana and Chile and how they incorporated feedback from the ICA into continuous improvement processes for BUR reporting. The representatives of Ghana and Chile explained their existing mechanisms for incorporating improvements into BUR reporting, for example with respect to coordination with key stakeholders, budget needs and QA/QC process updates, and provided examples of how improvements have been applied.

3.3.1 Country experiences: Ghana

Ghana presented a summary of its lessons learned on incorporating the feedback from ICA into its reporting processes by presenting *Ghana's GHG QC/QC Plan and guidance on uncertainty management*. At the beginning of each inventory cycle, key issues are identified from the past inventory that must be evaluated. This evaluation focuses on prioritising the recommendations with the most significant impact in the current inventory cycle. The plan also considers if the inventory compilers have the skills or capacity to undertake the changes. For the issues that cannot be addressed in the short-term, the QA/QC Plan mandates developing a long-term work plan indicating how to address the issue and who will be responsible. The document also includes a standard format to document the progress of implementation of the solutions (Table 9).

Table 9 Example from Ghana of a template for tracking QC issues

No	Key QC/QA Issues	Sector	Key category	Gas	Description of key issues	Action taken	Status	Outstanding task

Issues for improvement are identified from several sources. For instance, one source is feedback from the ICA process, through either the technical analysis or the record of the FSV. In addition, informal national/international independent technical review is usually conducted by Ghana before the inventory report and the associated tables are presented to the UNFCCC, providing another source of feedback. Furthermore, once the inventory is completed it is taken for a "reality check" or "policy check" to the different line ministries and sectors who contributed. Comments received from policy review meetings organised with ministries, and lists developed by the sectors are yet another source of information on areas that need further improvements.

The Ghana presentation concluded that overall, it is important to address any source of QA/QC issues that emerges from specific reviews or feedback rounds, especially when these pertain to key categories which contribute the most to uncertainties.

3.3.2 Country experiences: Chile

Dr. Fernando Farias, Head of the Division of Climate Change of the Environment Ministry outlined Chile's experience with the ICA cycle and the incorporation of feedback into the BUR preparation. Chile submitted its BUR 1 in 2014, the following year they underwent the TA and in December of the same year they received the technical report. In 2016, they participated in the FSV and submitted a BUR 2 at the end of the year, for which the TA is currently ongoing.

After the FSV workshop held in Bonn in May 2016, Chile began the process of improving the BUR by addressing the FSV and TA recommendations. Also, the team received observations as part of the QA/QC process and from a voluntary review by international experts. The Chile BUR team also identified priority areas for improvement and included changes in the BUR 2. To provide transparency on how the comments of the TTE on the BUR 1 were addressed, in the BUR 2, Chile included a table stating how TTE observations were addressed (Table 10).

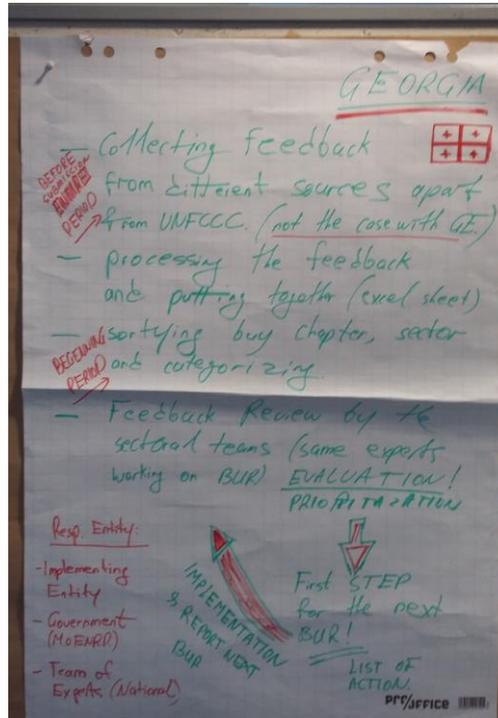
Table 10 Example from Chile of a table for reporting responses to TTE observations

ICA-TTE	status	Explanation
34. Chile reported information on anthropogenic emissions by sources of HFCs and PFCs. However, information on SF6 was not reported. In providing its feedback to the TTE on the draft summary report, Chile indicated that it is working to improve data collection for SF6, and expects to include this information in its subsequent BUR.	implemented	Emission of SF6 has been included for the first time in the second BUR

3.3.3 Small group discussions and outcomes

Following these presentations, the participants divided into small groups by country to create a plan to incorporate feedback from the ICA into their ongoing BUR compilation process, with one group each for Colombia, Dominican Republic, Georgia and Vietnam. Additionally, one representative from Ghana or Chile participated in each of the small groups as an advisor, contributing to the planning exercise based on their practical experience. During the small group discussions, the countries considered the actions needed, responsible parties, timeline and related resource or capacity needs to enact the plan. Finally, each country presented the outcomes of its discussion to the plenary. The following paragraphs describe the outcomes from each of the small groups.

Figure 6 Results of Georgia's BUR improvement plan



The small group from Georgia arrived at several conclusions on how to incorporate ICA feedback in the next BUR, with inputs from an advisor from Ghana. The group determined that before the submission of the next BUR, the national BUR team could collect feedback from different national actors, namely the sectoral teams involved on the BUR compilation, to complement feedback received from the UNFCCC through the ICA. All the feedback could be processed and included in a pre-determined format (e.g. an Excel sheet), like in the case study presented by Ghana. At the beginning of preparation of the following BUR, the BUR team would sort the information by chapter of the BUR, and sector and category for inventory related improvements. The group concluded that it is crucial to incorporate feedback, and the plan presented should be prioritised, as it is the first step for the next BUR.

The small group of participants from the Dominican Republic, and their advisor from Chile, approached the discussion differently since the Dominican Republic did not yet submit a BUR. The group suggested that the country could include QA/QC in the work plan of the first BUR, as an internal improvement process for its first submission. The group also considered that the national team in charge of the BUR should consider the ICA timeline process in its planning, as well as internal reviews or other checks of the first BUR, and incorporate the participation of sectoral focal points in the TA process. Furthermore, the Dominican Republic small group proposed that representatives from their national BUR team participate in the FSV sessions at the SBI 46 to be acquainted with the process.

The small group of Colombia also included an advisor from Chile. This group proposed to develop an improvement plan covering all the components of the BUR and identified an important step of transferring all the experiences from the external consultants who have undertaken BUR compilation, to the

government officials who will have responsibility in the future, and ensure the cooperation between both parties. The group further concluded that it could be beneficial to delegate responsibilities for preparation and reviews of sections of the BUR to relevant government bodies, in line with their sectoral responsibilities. Finally, within a BUR improvement plan, the group expressed a desire to explore other opportunities to garner feedback on the BUR, such as south-south exchange, or informal third-party reviews of the report.

The small group from Vietnam had the support of an advisor from Ghana. The group established six necessary steps, which are to be conducted in a given timeframe. These steps need to have clear responsible entities as well as allocated resources and capacities. The steps were as follows:

1. Establish a national MRV system.
2. Establish MRV systems at sectorial level.
3. Review and assess existing structures.
4. Analyse previous ICA assessment.
5. Link MRV system with existing GHG inventory system.
6. Amend legal documents and guidelines or existing regulations.
7. Develop technical-IT platform based on existing systems and results of analysis.

4 Day 2: The future of reporting

During the final session, participants considered issues related to the future of national reporting to the UNFCCC, taking into account their experiences and lessons learnt. First, participants learned from an intervention of the UBA about how the GHG inventory of Germany is used nationally, and to gain insights into how high-quality reporting can contribute to other national priorities. Then, participants brainstormed on ways to improve the overall process of reporting under the UNFCCC and how this could help to further develop the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement.

4.1 Relevance of GHG inventory reporting for policy and goal setting

Ms. Diana Nissler (Expert for energy strategies and scenarios of the UBA) showed how the German GHG inventory is used within the country and for which purposes. She named presidential or vice-presidential media information, energy and climate planning and air pollutant reporting as the main applications of the GHG inventory, in addition to international reporting to the UNFCCC. She noted that data from the inventory are reported not only to the UNFCCC but also to other national and international bodies to fulfil other reporting requirements.

The inventory is used as an input to emissions projections, scenario modelling and analysis of emissions trends that inform policy makers and the public about national development alternatives. For example, inputs from the inventory were used in a study on how to reach a 95% emission reduction in Germany and contributed to the conclusion that technical solutions alone would not achieve the reduction, given that behavioural changes in transport and agriculture would also be necessary.

Questions by the workshop participants and answers by Ms. Nissler are summarised in Table 11.

Table 11 Q&A on the uses of the German GHG inventory

Question	Answer
How accurate are Germany's emissions projections?	Emissions projections are not predictions of future emissions. They are models that show the likelihood of different emission levels under different circumstances, which are specified.
How well can you foresee the impact of policy measures on emission levels with scenario modelling?	The result depends on how well the model reflects the policy and the real drivers of emissions. Expert reviews of model outcomes are undertaken as a reality check on the modelling results.
How are the outputs of different models combined in UBA's work? What types of assumptions are incorporated?	Model outputs are combined in line with expert opinion. The models usually incorporate the existence of an Emission Trading System (ETS) with a carbon price assumption. Also, when modelling the impacts of measures such as policies, the delay until the impact of the measure is judged by expert opinion and the time needed to get the policy through the government approval process is also taken into account.

Question	Answer
Do the projections made by the UBA take into account the NDC?	The NDC is a common target under the EU. However, Germany has its own climate targets and uses projections to analyse if the country is on track in achieving them.

4.2 The future of the reporting process

During the final sessions of the day, facilitated by the GIZ IM team, participants were asked to consider how the experiences from BUR reporting and participation on the ICA process could be taken into account in the development of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement.

Table 12 Guiding questions on the future of the ETF

- *What different / additional elements of current BUR requirements would be relevant for the future ETF?*
- *What could be improved in the ICA process to make it more useful?*
- *What are the existing / expected challenges in managing the ETF?*

With respect to the elements relevant for the future ETF, participants suggested to develop guidelines for ETF on GHG inventories, financial support, mitigation actions and GHG reductions. These guidelines would help with the calculation of emissions projections and facilitate the evaluation of any progress and corrective actions. They also saw the need for an update of the BUR guidelines while several participants emphasised the development of specific guidance for the finance chapter to help countries identify key elements for the preparation of the reports. Participants also suggested the use of a common format for reporting and extracting shared elements among the BUR, NC and NDC into a single report.

Participants also shared thoughts on how the ICA process could be improved. It was suggested to optimise time, arrange regional reviews by groups and use a common technical language to facilitate communication in the ICA process. Countries should attempt to create a record of the findings identified from the process and compile good practices experiences with specific examples. Participants also noted the long waiting time for the provision of reports, which should be shortened to allow timely inclusion of improvements into the subsequent BUR. They also mentioned the lack of technical feedback and the necessity to identify mid-term achievements. Furthermore, the process could be improved by increasing the number of country experts involved as reviewers.

These experiences can also provide useful input to the further elaboration of the ETF. At the same time, participants noted some other potential challenges, such as achieving common rules to be applied for all countries, incorporating adaptation-related communication in the reporting, and the need for a permanent MRV system and related reporting arrangements.

5 Workshop conclusions and next steps

To finalise the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop, the participants' expectations from the beginning of the workshop were reviewed, concluding that nearly all the expectations were met over the course of the two days. Some additional questions remain about reporting of Nationally Determined Contributions; however, these may be outside the scope of the workshop. Concluding the workshop, Mr. Wenzel (GIZ) thanked all the participants for their active participation and contributions over the course of the sessions and closed the workshop.

6 Annexes

6.1 Agenda of the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Workshop

Day 1: *Partner country experiences and institutionalisation of BUR reporting systems*

Time	Activity / Topic	Presenters
Day 1: Monday 3rd April 2017		
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival of participants and registration	
09:00 – 09:45	Opening ceremonies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and opening statement Introduction to workshop and agenda 	Klaus Wenzel, GIZ Dirk Günther, UBA Amr Abdel-Aziz (Moderator), NIRAS
09:45 – 10:45	Introduction and board of expectations <i>Participants will get to know each other through this introduction exercise</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introductory round (45 min) Board of expectations (15 min) 	Jessica Wade-Murphy, NIRAS Partner countries and GIZ members
10:45 – 11:15	Group Photo and Coffee Break	
11:15 – 12:45	Partner country I (20 min + 5 min Q&A): Experiences in the institutionalisation of MRV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before IM Current development under IM Challenges/ Way forward Q&A Partner country II (20 min + 5 min Q&A): Experiences in the institutionalisation of MRV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before IM Current development under IM Challenges/ Way forward Q&A Partner country III (20 min + 5 min Q&A): Experiences in the institutionalisation of MRV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before IM Current development under IM Challenges/ Way forward Q&A	Jean-Jacques Becker (Moderator), NIRAS <i>Representative of Viet Nam</i> <i>Representative of Georgia</i> <i>Representative of Colombia</i>
12:45 – 13:00	Short guided tour through UBA building	

Time	Activity / Topic	Presenters
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 – 15:30	<p>World café: Sustainable institutionalisation of MRV Present discussion questions from the previous session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect additional topics • Discuss prioritised questions in a World Café format • Summary round 	<p>Jessica Wade-Murphy (Moderator), NIRAS</p> <p>Partner Countries and GIZ members</p>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00 – 17:15	<p>Lessons learned and Success Stories from Information Matters Phase I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghana: Institutionalisation of the national GHG inventory system: experiences, lessons learned, support by IM and remaining challenges • Chile: Setting up an MRV framework for mitigation actions: experiences, lessons learned, support by IM and remaining challenges <p>Q&A and plenary discussion: are these success stories something that can be applied in other IM partner countries? How have Phase I countries benefitted from and made use of the IM project? How were materials and knowledge products applied and have supported the countries? Are there additional success stories from other IM countries?</p>	<p>Jean-Jacques Becker (Moderator), NIRAS</p> <p><i>Representative of Ghana</i></p> <p><i>Representative of Chile</i></p> <p>Moderated by Jean- Jacques Becker & Amr Abdel-Aziz</p>
17:15 –17:30	Closing of Day 1 – Review of Board of Expectations; Expectations for Day 2	Amr Abdel-Aziz, NIRAS
18:30	Walk to restaurant Meeting point in lobby of Hotel.	
19:00	Joint dinner in Dessau	

Day 2: BUR reporting and ICA participation experiences

Time	Activity / Topic	Presenters
Day 2: 4th April 2017		
09:00 – 09:30	Preliminaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning work-out Key points from Day 1 Review of participants' expectations Overview of Day 2 Agenda 	Amr Abdel-Aziz (Moderator), NIRAS
09:30 – 11:00	Lessons learned on BUR compilation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vietnam: Lessons learned on contents of the GHG inventory Georgia: Lessons learned on contents of the reporting on mitigation actions Colombia: Lessons learned on contents of the reporting on support needed/received <p>Q&A and plenary discussion: how can these lessons learned be applied in other IM partner countries?</p>	Jean-Jacques Becker (moderator), NIRAS <i>Representatives of the partner countries</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 12:30	Case Study: Colombia's experience with the ICA process <i>(20 minutes) Questions and answers (10 minutes)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IM Phase II participant country team presents their experiences from the ICA process <p>Moderated plenary discussion: What do your countries think about ICA process? Were expectations met? What has been learned/can be improved?</p>	<i>Representative of Colombia</i> Amr Abdel-Aziz (Moderator), NIRAS
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 15:00	Improving BURs: Incorporating ICA feedback and lessons learned <p>Mechanisms for incorporating the recommendations of the ICA process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IM Phase I participant Ghana IM Phase I participant Chile <p>Small group discussions: A group for each Phase II country plus representatives of Phase I countries and GIZ, will identify the main areas for improvement in future BUR and feasible mechanisms to incorporate lessons learned and ICA feedback in BUR preparation.</p>	Jessica Wade-Murphy (Moderator), NIRAS <i>Representative of Ghana</i> <i>Representative of Chile</i> Mixed groups

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome: Outline of the BUR improvement process, including roles & responsibilities, procedures, and related capacity building needs. 	Partner countries and GIZ members
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee Break	
15:30 – 16:00	Input German Environment Agency: Relevance of GHG inventory reporting for policy and goal setting (30min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting experiences in Germany Relevance of GHG inventory data for emissions projections and goal setting Policy setting on basis of emission reporting Q&A	Diana Nissler, UBA
16:00 – 16:45	Feedback session: IM project experience and the future of the reporting process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country participants will discuss and write their comments, ideas and opinions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> their participation in the IM project, and the future reporting requirements under the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement (lessons learnt from BUR reporting process, challenges, future needs for support, future collaboration with GIZ) 	Klaus Wenzel (Moderator), GIZ Group exercise facilitated by Rocio Lichte and Oscar Zarzo, GIZ
16:45 – 17:00	Wrap-Up session on the workshop	GIZ Amr Abdel-Aziz, NIRAS
17:00	Closing of day 2 <i>Travel to Berlin</i>	