



SB62 side event

Reviewing Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs): Achievements, Challenges and Lessons Learned

Concept note

Date, time and venue: Friday, 20 June 2025, 13:30–14:45, Room: Bonn

Background

Under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), information submitted by Parties contained within the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) shall undergo a Technical Expert Review (TER) in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (MPGs). TERs help Parties to demonstrate action, identify areas of improvement and capacity-building needs, attract targeted support, and ultimately build trust. To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of BTR reviews, the secretariat is working closely with intergovernmental organizations.

As at 11 June 2025, 103 Parties have submitted their first BTRs and additional Parties are preparing to do so. In line with relevant decisions adopted by the CMA, the Transparency division of the UNFCCC secretariat implemented BTR reviews. By June 2025, 32 technical expert reviews of Parties' BTRs were conducted involving 225 technical experts from the UNFCCC roster of experts. The first BTR review rounds demonstrated broad participation from Parties and technical experts across all regions. In addition to the secretariat's review implementation update, Parties and experts will share their experiences and lessons learned from the completed reviews.

Considering the challenges of resource limitations and possibility for synergies, innovative approaches must be explored (such as collaboration with partners). These areas informed the design of the side event during SB62.

Objective

This event is threefold and will aim to provide Parties and other transparency stakeholders with:

1. Updates on the implementation of the TERs of BTRs¹;
2. Perspectives from Parties and reviewers on experience and lessons learned on BTR reviews;
3. Perspectives of the climate community and potential collaboration with partners on BTR reviews (possible innovation in conducting BTR reviews).

¹ Including the technical analysis of technical annexes with REDD+ results, and simplified reviews of GHG inventories.



Proposed Agenda

Time	Topic – Presenter
13:30–13:35	Opening remarks – Secretariat (5 min)
13:35–13:45	TER implementation Update-experiences, challenges and opportunities– Secretariat (10 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BTR TERs, simplified reviews, REDD+ technical analysis, knowledge hub mechanism and FMCP
13:45–14:25	<p>Perspectives on TERs (40 min) – Parties, lead reviewers and partner organizations (moderated by Secretariat)</p> <p><u>Panel discussion</u> [Parties and Reviewers]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandra Boitumelo Motshwanedi – South Africa and CGE Chair• Adriano Santhiago de Oliveira – Brazil• Hans Halvorson Kolshus – Norway <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>How could your country benefit from the BTR review, e.g. how could the review inform your country's national climate action and policy development?</i>2. <i>What is your experience with the BTR review as lead reviewer/expert? Can you share a challenge and/or an opportunity from the BTR review which could be insightful for others?</i> <p>[Partner agency speakers]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Miriam Hinostroza, Head of Unit, Global Climate Action, UNEP CCC and CGE member• Iordanis Tzamtzis, Climate Change specialist, FAO• Siddhartha Nauduri, MENA Regional Program and Technical Lead, Climate Actions & Transparency Systems, GGGI <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. <i>How can partner agencies add value to the TER process?</i>4. <i>Considering the landscape of limited financial resources how can partnerships facilitate efficiency gains for the TER process?</i>
14:25–14:40	Q&A (15 min)
14:40–14:45	Closing remarks – Secretariat (5 min)