

INITIATIVE FOR Climate Action Transparency

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency provides policymakers around the world with tools and support to measure and assess the effects of their climate actions.



ACCELERATING CLIMATE ACTION

The Paris Agreement marks a historic turning point in global climate action, committing all countries to limit global temperature rise, adapt to changes already occurring and regularly increase efforts over time. Countries also agreed on a process to prepare successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that raise ambition towards achieving the objectives of the Agreement. NDCs outline the policies and actions each country intends to take. Mutual trust and confidence in the effective implementation of NDCs builds on enhanced transparency to support accelerated climate action.

OUR MISSION

To help countries assess the impacts of their climate policies and actions and support greater transparency, effectiveness, ambition and trust in climate policies worldwide.

OUR VISION

All countries have full capacity to implement ambitious climate policies in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and with their sustainable development goals.

THE INITIATIVE

The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) is a neutral multi-donor fund that is managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), governed by a Donor Oversight Committee and supported by an Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee is comprised of leading experts in fields related to measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) with balanced representation of geographic regions, subject areas, organizations and genders.

Four organizations—Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research, UNEP-DTU Partnership, Verra and World Resources Institute—are implementing the Initiative and leading the development of methodologies and tools, peer-to-peer learning and capacity building for policymakers and practitioners. This work ensures that countries and key stakeholders have the tools and community of practice needed to enhance the transparency of climate policies and actions.



OUR APPROACH

ICAT integrates methodological work, capacity building and knowledge sharing to strengthen the transparency and effectiveness of climate policies and actions.

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

In collaboration with technical experts from around the world, ICAT is developing an integrated suite of globally applicable methodologies and tools.

Building on existing best practices, ICAT's guidance documents provide methods focused on:

- Assessing the potential impact of policies and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Achieving sustainable development outcomes; and
- Driving transformational change.

ICAT addresses both mitigation and adaptation. Work to develop a methodological framework for adaptation has been initiated and involves national institutes and experts in Bangladesh, the Dominican Republic, India and South Africa.

THE 10 GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS



Financing NDCs will be critical, and transparency can greatly assist countries in mobilizing investment. ICAT is expanding its work to develop the transparency framework in a way that supports countries' ambition in mobilizing public and private finance.

The tools are continually refined based on expert advice and in-country experiences, ensuring their continued relevance and usefulness.

CAPACITY BUILDING

ICAT helps countries strengthen their institutional settings and integrate ICAT methodologies and tools into existing assessment and accounting strategies. ICAT strengthens measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems in a country-driven manner, particularly with respect to reporting on NDC implementation.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

ICAT will facilitate knowledge sharing in the form of educational materials and opportunities for exchange between practitioners, and work with other platforms and initiatives to build synergy and deepen opportunities for learning and South-South collaboration.

OUR VALUE ADD

ICAT provides country-driven support in a holistic and flexible manner that reinforces climate change and sustainable development performance.

Combining broadly-applicable methodologies and tools with in-country capacity building makes ICAT uniquely positioned to use on-the-ground experiences to continually refine tools and guidance, ensuring their relevance and usefulness. By providing a suite of tools that all countries can use, practitioners from different countries can share knowledge with each other and collaborate to advance solutions. With better information and data, ICAT enables countries to select the most efficient, cost-effective policies to achieve their sustainable development priorities and fulfill their reporting requirements.

By working with countries' existing reporting commitments, ICAT also promotes harmonization with other transparency efforts and in-country strategies to help maximize the impact of country efforts.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT

As a multi-stakeholder partnership, ICAT is open to welcoming additional partners to deepen and broaden the engagement of its initial phase. ICAT will increase focus on supporting countries to use transparency to further their development priorities and mobilize investment.

Opportunities for growth include further methodological work (in particular on socio-economic benefits and finance), applying methodologies in additional countries, extending collaboration to subnational governments and private actors and developing a knowledge-sharing program.

Interested parties who seek to enrich or collaborate with ICAT are invited to contact the ICAT Secretariat at ICAT@unops.org.

COSTA RICA CASE STUDY

Costa Rica, one of ICAT's initial recipient countries, sets record ambition in their NDC and seeks to become a national-scale laboratory for deep decarbonization. To truly achieve transformational change, Costa Rica needs support, particularly in the agriculture and transportation sectors. Partnering with ICAT, Costa Rica complements their already ambitious MRV efforts and furthers work to increase transparency, track progress towards NDC goals and enable data-driven policymaking. Costa Rica will draw on ICAT's guidance on transformational change, agriculture and transportation to address their most important growth

areas. Costa Rica is also working with ICAT and the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) to strengthen their National Climate Change Metrics System.

At ICAT'S COP 22 side event, "Stabilizing NDCs through Tools and Support to Assess the Impacts of Climate Action," Costa Rican representatives Javier Fernández and Minister of Environment Edgar Gutiérrez highlighted the synergies between CBIT and ICAT, demonstrating ICAT's ability to pair

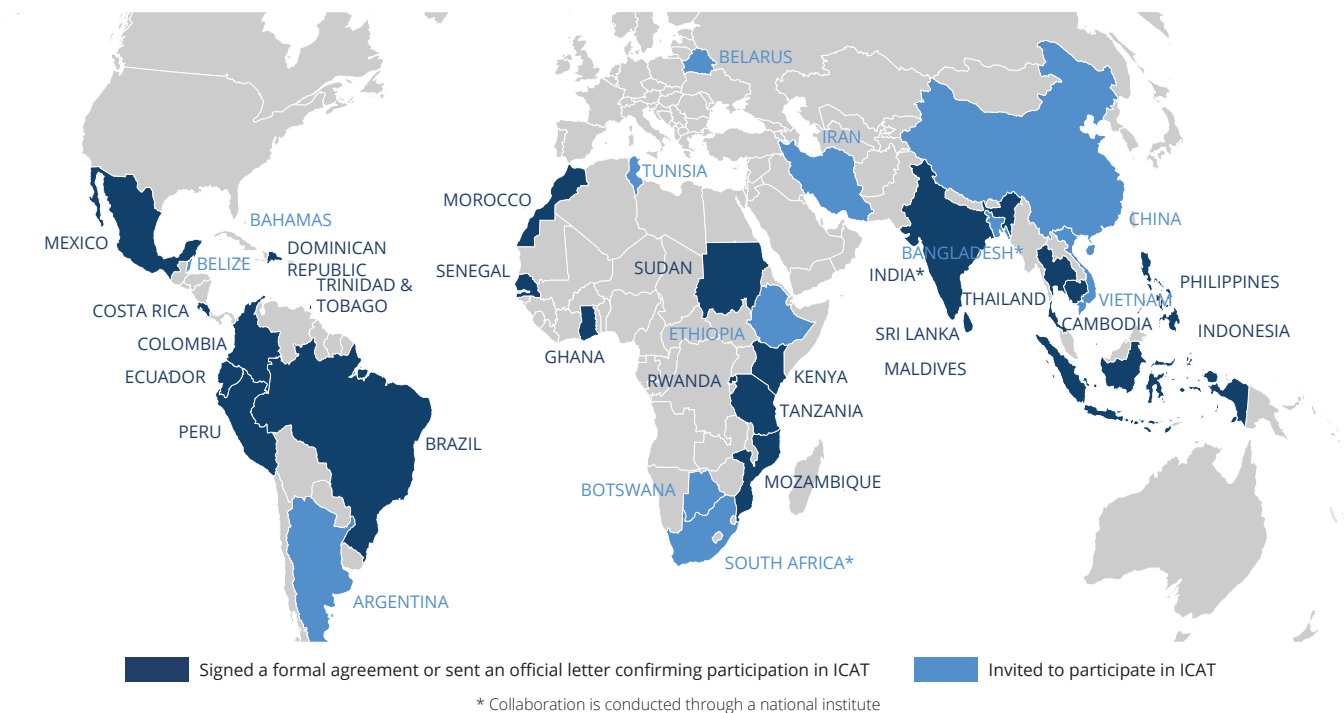


with other transparency initiatives and help achieve transparency goals through cross-sector and international collaboration.

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PILOT COUNTRIES

Thirty-five initial countries have been invited to participate in ICAT. Countries are selected based on existing MRV capacity and the ambition of their climate and sustainable development goals.



ICAT PARTNERS

DONORS



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Environment, Nature Conservation,
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