**Cuba/UNOPS Side event at the UNFCCC SB 60, Bonn**

**Using Data to Assess and Improve Climate Policies**

**Date**: Thursday 13 June

**Time**: 10:15-11:30

**Room**: Berlin (110 pax)

**Theme:**

Robust transparency mechanisms and quality climate data can enable the design and implementation of effective climate change policies. Credible and robust data facilitates evidence-based decision-making across all sectors. For countries, transparency frameworks can help in setting ambitious yet attainable climate objectives and tracking the implementation of measurable policies.

The event will explore how developing countries are using data to assess the impact, improve, and track the implementation of climate policies, drawing on global lessons learned and the methodological support available. Case studies in the sectors of energy, and agriculture will showcase examples of impactful use of data and assessments made for evidence-based climate policies.

Speakers will include government officials and national experts from Cuba, Vanuatu and Zimbabwe, and counterparts from the ICAT Secretariat.

**Background:**

Transparency has multiple benefits, domestically and globally. It presents countries with the opportunity to bring about the long-term, positive metamorphosis that is necessary to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement. It informs policy-making processes and addresses the challenges of being able to demonstrate the impact of climate policies on greenhouse gas emissions, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development.

Transparency is the key to unlocking effective climate action through targeted and measurable climate policies across sectors. It allows governments to set ambitious yet achievable goals, design effective policies, and efficiently track progress. This fosters trust and collaboration, ultimately mobilizing resources to address local and global challenges.

ICAT provides countries and regions with tailored support and practical tools and methodologies to build the robust transparency frameworks needed to collect, analyze, monitor and report on various facets of climate actions, aligned with national development priorities. In doing so, countries can improve policy design and implementation.

Cuba, as part of its work with ICAT, improved the quality of key data required to develop its greenhouse gas inventory for the energy and AFOLU sectors, and refined its NDC tracking framework. As a subsequent step, Cuba is continuing the collaboration with ICAT in an effort to leverage transparency to elevate the ambition of the country’s mitigation contributions in its 2025 NDC update.

**Objectives:**

The event will contribute to the UNFCCC SB60 sessions by inspiring, empowering and connecting policy-makers and practitioners from different regions to initiate and/or expand their work on transparency to support evidence-based policy making. It will offer a space to share knowledge and lessons learned by developing countries in their efforts to use data and transparency to assess and develop national climate policies. It will also feature a particular focus on NDCs, and the use of transparency for strengthening NDCs in the upcoming updates in early 2025. Finally, the event will increase awareness on tools and other methodological support available for countries in their efforts to use data to assess and strengthen their climate policies.

**Approach:**

The side event will begin with high-level opening statements, followed by technical presentations and a practitioner-focused panel discussion. A question and answer session will follow and the event will end with closing remarks.

The event will be in English.

***Programme***

| Opening by the moderator  (5’) | Celeste Gonzalez, Programme Officer, ICAT Secretariat (Moderator) |
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| Opening remarks  (10’) | **Cuba:** Odalys Caridad Goicochea Cardoso, Director General of Environment, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment  **ICAT Secretariat:** Henning Wuester, ICAT Director |
| Setting the scene  (10’) | **ICAT Secretariat:** Celeste Gonzalez, Programme Officer  “Maximizing Policy Impact: Why Assessment Matters” |
| Keynote presentation  (10’) | **Cuba:** Orlando Ernesto Rey Santos, Climate Advisor, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment  “Cuba’s Data-Powered NDCs: Transparency as the Key to Transformative Climate Policies ” |
| Technical presentations : Using Data to Assess and Improve Climate Policies  (10’) | * **Vanuatu**: Abraham Nasak, Department of Climate Change      * **Zimbabwe**: Tirivanhu Muhwati, Climate Change Management Department |
| Panel discussion : Using Data to Assess and Improve Climate Policies  (15’) | Moderated discussion on different aspects of using data transparency to assess and develop effective climate policies in different sectors, based on the previous technical presentations. |
| Q&A and discussion (10’) | |
| Reflections and Wrap-up  (5’) | |