

Policy demands for climate change statistics and Paris Agreement reporting



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat



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Outline

1. Overview of the Paris Agreement
2. National policy development and reporting mechanisms to UNFCCC
 - Nationally determined contributions (NDCs)
 - Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs)
 - Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)
3. Climate change statistics and indicators developed by UNSD
4. Useful information and suggestions



From limited commitments to universal implementation



What the Agreement requires

- Hold warming well below 2°C and strengthen resilience
- Set and update nationally determined contributions (NDCs)
- Mobilize finance, adaptation action and capacity-building for implementation

Why statistics are central

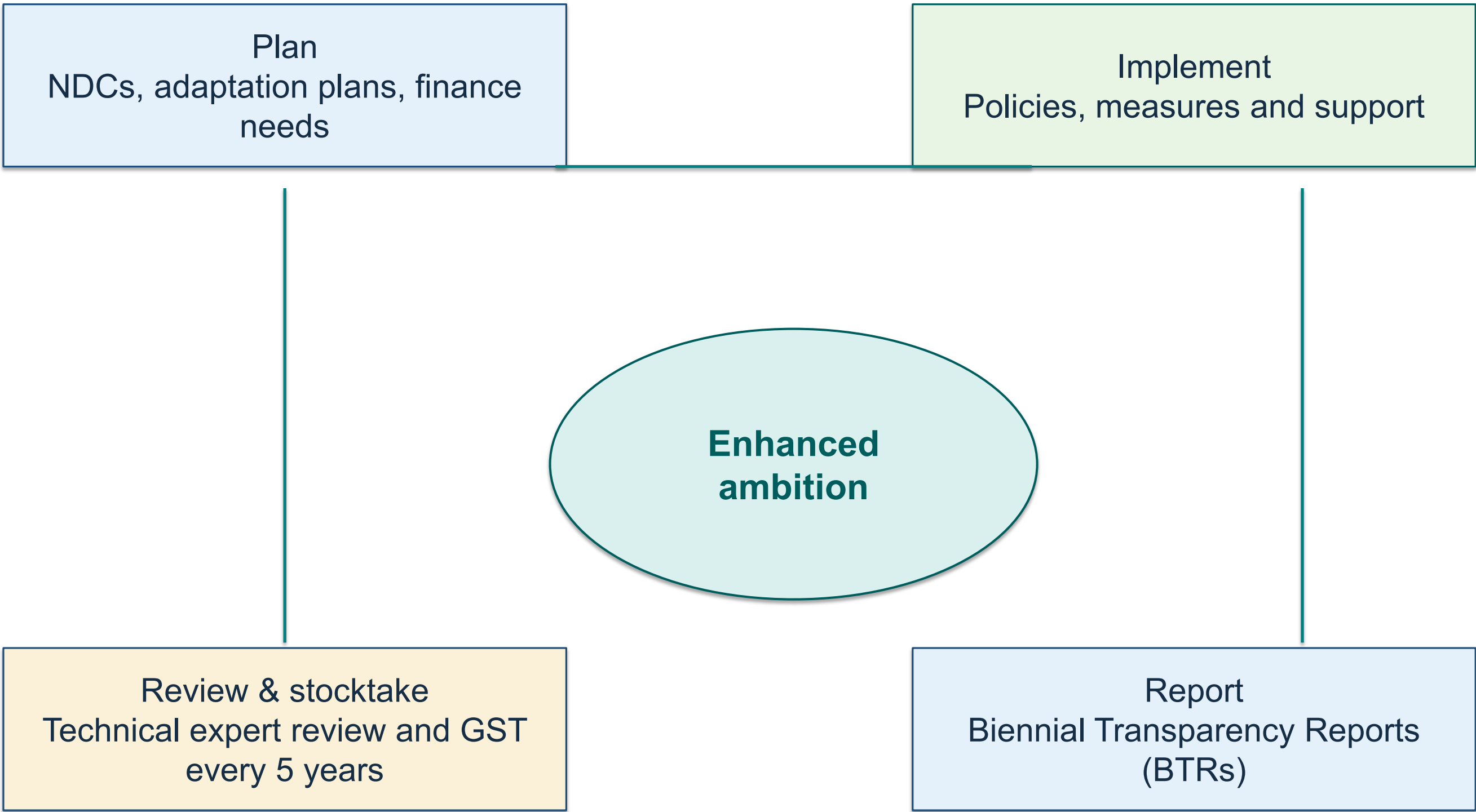
- Countries need comparable evidence to plan, report and improve
- Developing countries need data to identify and access support
- Transparency builds trust in collective progress

Key message **High-quality climate reporting relies on high quality national statistics.**

AMBITION AND ACCOUNTABILITY CYCLE

Enhancing ambition: where climate policy meets statistics

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and Global Stocktake (GST) turn NDCs into a recurring evidence cycle.



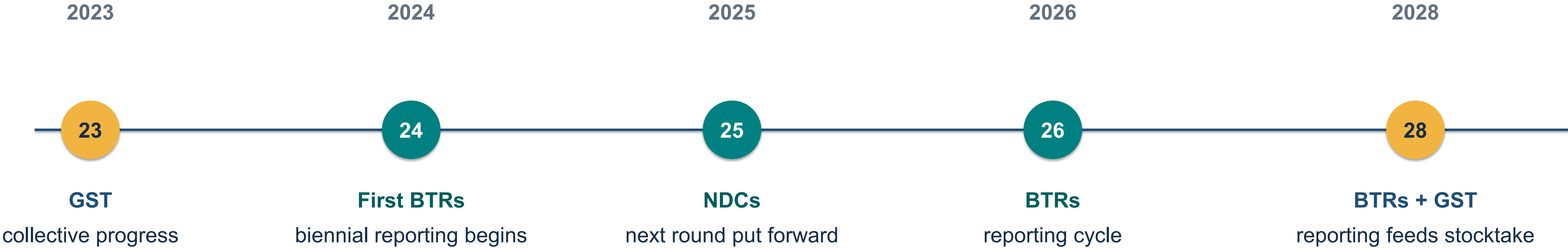
Evidence layer

National statistical systems connect policy processes with consistent indicators, baselines and time series.

REPORTING RHYTHM

How NDCs, BTRs, the ETF and the Global Stocktake link together

The Paris Agreement creates two reinforcing rhythms: biennial reporting and five-year collective assessment.



BTR = Biennial Transparency Report
ETF = Enhanced Transparency Framework
GST = Global Stocktake

Each BTR contributes evidence to the next review cycle; each GST informs stronger future NDCs.

REPORTING · REVIEW · CONSIDERATION

Architecture of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)

The ETF is a recurring system: report information, review it technically, then discuss progress multilaterally.



Information scope in the BTR

- Greenhouse gas emissions and removals
- NDC progress, policies, measures and projections
- Adaptation measures and impacts
- Support provided, received and needed

Role of statistics

- Ensure comparability, transparency and consistency
- Document institutional arrangements and data responsibilities
- Identify gaps and capacity-building priorities

Transparency turns climate reporting from an obligation into a practical tool for planning, support and trust.

Nationally

- Political acceptance gained through credible evidence
- Policy planning informed by regularly updated data
- Access to support improved by clearly documenting needs
- Capacity built and awareness raised across institutions

Internationally

- Trust built among Parties
- International obligations met through regular reporting
- Support prioritized where gaps and needs are visible
- Ambition increased through shared evidence of progress

For national statistical offices, the ETF is a way to make official statistics visible in climate policy decisions.

ETF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Information needed to track progress under the Paris Agreement

Decision 18 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), known as Decision 18/CMA.1, defines the information needed to track NDC implementation.

- A** National circumstances and institutional arrangements
- B** Description of NDC and updates
- C** Information needed to track progress in implementing and achieving the NDC
- D** Mitigation policies, measures, actions and plans, including co-benefits
- E** Summary of GHG emissions and removals
- F** Projections of emissions and removals, as applicable

Key entry point for national statistical offices (NSOs)

Institutional arrangements show how statistical offices connect with ministries and agencies producing climate information.

The reporting structure makes data governance part of climate accountability—not an afterthought.

Paris Agreement articles (1)

1. Definitions
 2. Aim, warming below 2C
 3. Set up NDC
 4. Mitigation, NDCs
 - 4.7 Co-benefits
 - 4.13 comparability, accuracy, transparency
 - 4.19 low carbon dev. strategies
 5. Enhance carbon sinks, sustainable forests
 6. Internationally transferred mitigation units
 7. Vulnerability & Adaptation, protect people, livelihood and ecosystems
 - 7.5 gender responsive adaptation, with indigenous knowledge
 - 7.6 needs of developing countries
 - 7.7.c strengthen early warning and climate observation
 - 7.9.a develop NAPs
 - 7.9.c assess impacts and vulnerability
 - 7.9.d set up monitoring and evaluation of NAPs
 - 7.9.e diversify economic activities and use of natural resources
-

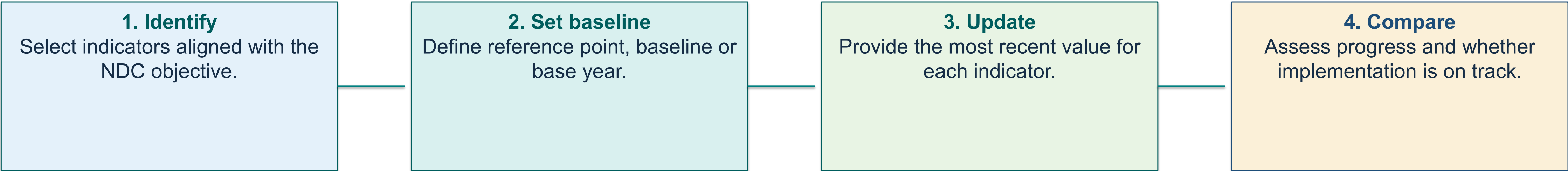
Paris Agreement articles (2)

- 8. Loss and damage from disasters and slow events, with early warning
 - 9. Climate finance, flows from developed to developing parties, report biennially
 - 9.9 ensure efficient access to funds for SIDS etc
 - 10. Technology development and transfer
 - 11. Capacity building
 - 12. Education, awareness, access to information
 - 13. Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), flexibility, Biennial Transparency reports (BTR)
 - 13.7.a communicate National Inventory Reports (NIR) of GHGs
 - 13.8 communicate about adaptation and impacts
 - 13.9 developed parties: finance, capacity and technology provided
 - 13.10 developing parties: finance, capacity and technology received
 - 14. Global Stocktake(s); 15. Committee to oversee the implementation; 16. COP; 17 Secretariat; 18. SBSTA; 19-29 adoption, legal details
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FROM COMMITMENT TO EVIDENCE

Indicators for tracking progress in implementing NDCs

Indicators translate an NDC commitment into a baseline, a current value and an assessment of progress.



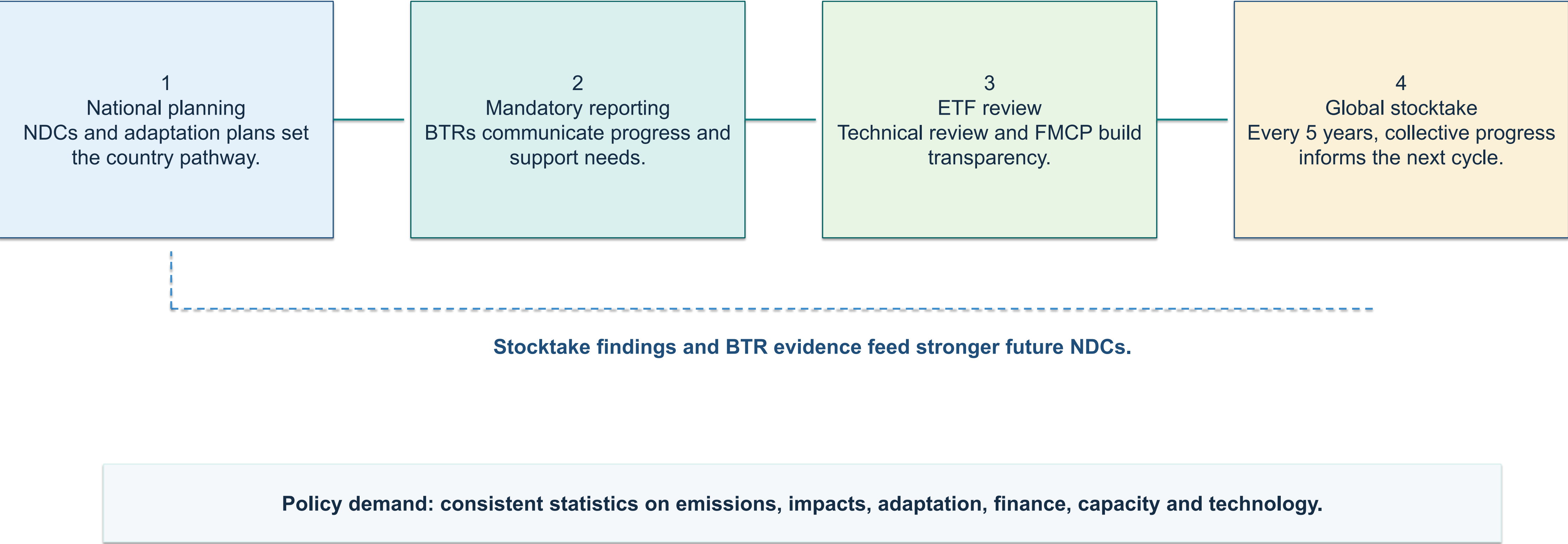
Good indicators are policy-relevant, statistically sound and repeatable over time.

The comparison step is what turns data into evidence of implementation.
Official statistics help countries avoid one-off reporting and build sustainable time series.

ONE REPORTING ARCHITECTURE

NDC, ETF and GST under the Paris Agreement

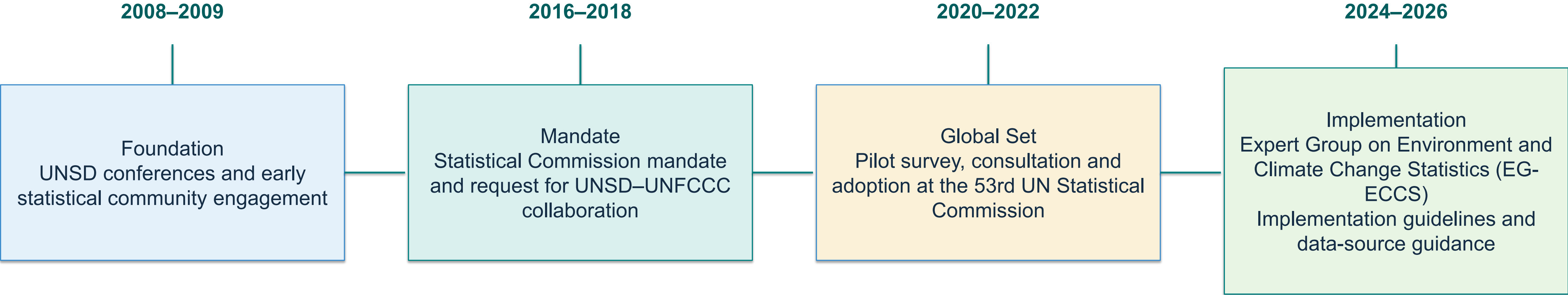
Climate statistics connect national planning with international transparency and collective assessment.



PROGRAMME COLLABORATION

Climate change statistical programme in UNSD: collaboration and implementation support

The programme on Climate Change Statistics in UNSD evolved from early dialogue into a structured implementation agenda after the *Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators* was adopted in 2022.



Current emphasis: strengthen coordination between data producers and climate change statistics, and support implementation with practical guidance.

The Global Set fills a practical gap: ETF reporting requires indicators, but does not prescribe them. The Global Set provide a reference list of indicators that can be used in the ETF reporting

158

indicators

190

statistics

Adopted at the 53rd session of the Statistical Commission in 2022
Links policy targets across drivers, impacts, vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation
Supports national policy evaluation and comparable reporting to UNFCCC

Policy frameworks connected

[Paris Agreement](#)

[Sendai Framework](#)

[Sustainable Development Goals](#)

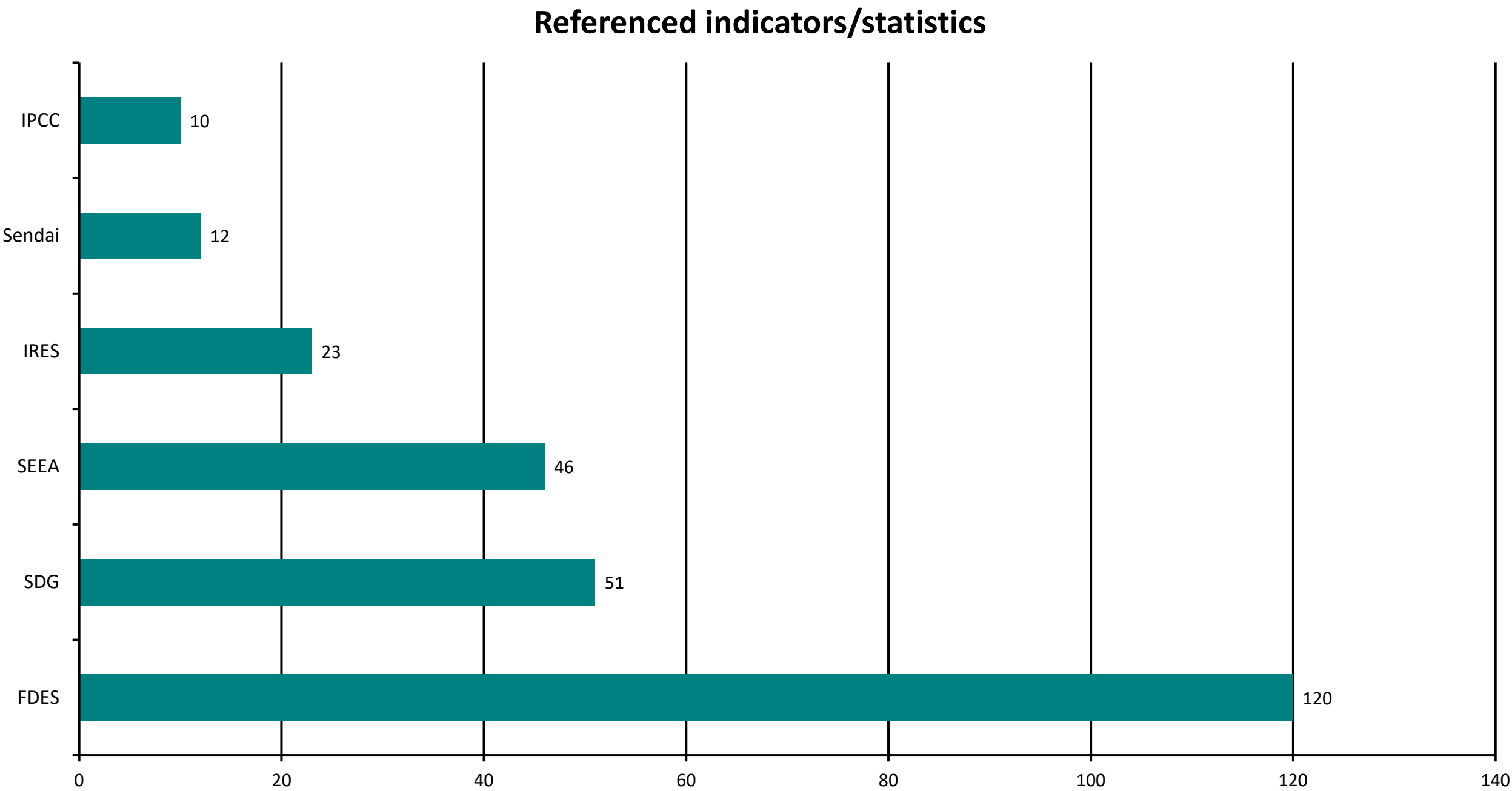


Practical aim: help countries move from climate policy commitments to repeatable, comparable data.

METHODS AND STANDARDS

Statistical references behind the Global Set

The Global Set links reporting requirements to internationally accepted statistical frameworks, standards and guidelines.



Official resources: [Global Set](#) | [FDES](#) | [SDGs](#) | [SEEA](#) | [IRES](#) | [IPCC](#) | [Sendai Framework](#)

What the counts show

Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) provides the broad statistical backbone.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SEEA, International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES), the Sendai Framework and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) methods add domain-specific detail.

Together, they let countries build on existing standards rather than invent new reporting methods.

NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION

NDC objectives: Define a clear, trackable national commitment

A strong NDC translates national circumstances and Paris goals into a time-bound climate pathway.

Commitment

- Target or objective
- Reference point or baseline
- Implementation period

Coverage & approach

- Types of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs), sectors and categories
- Assumptions and methods
- Accounting approach

National context

- Planning process
- Fairness and ambition
- Sustainable-development links

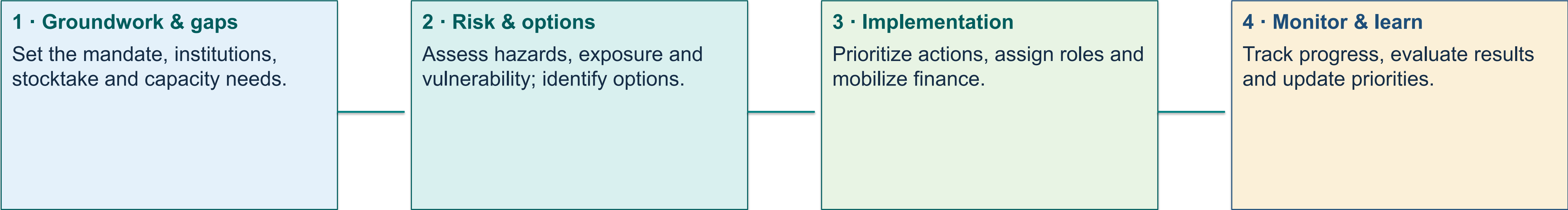
NDCs are submitted to UNFCCC every five years and are expected to progress over time

Many NDCs also communicate adaptation priorities and support needs, reflecting national circumstances.

NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN

NAP objective: Build resilience and integrate adaptation

The NAP process is country-driven, iterative and designed for action across sectors, places and levels of government.



TWO OBJECTIVES: build adaptive capacity and resilience | integrate adaptation into policies, programmes and planning

Best available science, participation, gender responsiveness and attention to vulnerable groups guide the process.

ETF Reporting Tools

ETF reporting tools

GHG inventory



Progress



Support



UNFCCC | MY TEAM

Users | History

User access has been removed successfully. [User Name] no longer has access on behalf of your organisation.

A confirmation message after a user has been removed

Users list

Search user or filter by role

Q Search user by name or email

Filter by role

Total of users: 10

Export to .xlsx

Name	Roles		
James Smith JamesSmith@gmail.com	ETF (PROGRESS) Progress NRC ETF (GHG INVENTORY) Expert Agriculture		
John Thomas JohnThomas@gmail.com	ETF (GHG INVENTORY) Expert Agriculture, Expert Energy, Expert IPPU, Expert LULUCF, Expert Waste, Inventory FP +2		
Peter Expert peterdimu@outlook.com	ETF (GHG INVENTORY) Expert Agriculture		
peter expert NRC peterstags@mail.com	ETF (SUPPORT) Support NRC ETF (PROGRESS) Progress NRC		

User management tool
User manuals

USER MANUAL

1. ETF GHG inventory reporting tool

2. ETF Progress reporting tool

3. ETF Support reporting tool

4. User management tool

[Open the UNFCCC ETF GHG Inventory Reporting Tool](#)



Useful information and suggestions:

1. Check the following submissions to UNFCCC for your country

- Nationally Determined Contributions: [Nationally Determined Contributions Registry | UNFCCC](#)
- National Adaption Plans: [Submitted NAPs from developing country Parties | NAP Central](#)
- Biennial Transparency Reports: [First Biennial Transparency Reports | UNFCCC](#)

2. Establish contact with the focal point to UNFCCC for your country:

- UNFCCC focal points: [National focal points | UNFCCC](#)

3. Jointly consider where the Global Set and its tools can help

- Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators: [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)
- Implementation Guidelines: [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)
- Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool (CISAT): [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)



Thank you for your attention

Climate reporting works best when policy focal points and national statistical offices build the evidence together.



More information

[UNFCCC transparency: unfccc.int/Transparency](https://unfccc.int/Transparency)

Climate statistics community: linkedin.com/groups/13910606/



Environment Statistics Section

United Nations Statistics Division
Environment Statistics and Accounts Section

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Questions and discussion