

Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG)

Global Forum on the Environment and Climate Change

15-16 September
Virtual Forum
Overview

The Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG) is a forum for promoting dialogue and enhancing understanding between a wide range of countries on technical issues in the international climate change negotiations. The CCXG has provided impartial and rigorous analysis of climate change issues since its foundation in 1993. The secretariat for this group is jointly provided by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Energy Agency (IEA).¹ The Global Forum provides a space outside of the UNFCCC negotiations for participants to develop a shared understanding of provisions in the Paris Agreement and how these might be implemented. Participants include practitioners and negotiators from governments as well as delegates from inter-governmental organisations, the private sector, research organisations and other relevant institutions. Discussions take place under Chatham House rules; that is, remarks are not to be attributed to individual speakers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a crisis that will deeply affect people, countries and economies. Restrictions on movement imposed by governments to contain the spread of the virus have forced the international community to postpone in-person international climate negotiations, with COP26 deferred to 2021. Yet, addressing the climate challenge remains more important than ever. With this aim, this virtual Global Forum will encourage active engagement from participants to further discussions important to the international climate negotiations, and to implement countries' climate responses. The two focus topics for discussion are: Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for the reporting of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, and how to encourage a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. During this virtual Global Forum, participants will also have the opportunity to hear recent OECD and IEA analysis on the impacts and potential implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

¹ The Secretariat would like to thank Australia (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), the European Commission, Finland (Ministry of the Environment), Germany (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), New Zealand (Ministry for the Environment), Norway (Ministry of Climate and Environment), Sweden (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency) Switzerland (Federal Office for the Environment) and the United Kingdom (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy) for their direct funding of the CCXG in 2020, and the OECD and IEA for their in-kind support.

Agenda

15 SEPTEMBER 2020	
10:00 - 10:45 CEST	Welcoming Remarks
10:45 - 11:00 CEST	Break
11:00 – 13:00 CEST	Session 1 Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for GHG inventories (Part I) – Structure of CRTs and reporting software
13:00 - 13:30 CEST	Break
13:30 – 15:30 CEST	Session 2 Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for GHG inventories (Part II) – Operationalising flexibility
15:30 – 16:00 CEST	Break
16:00 – 16:45 CEST	Session 3 (Webinar) Sustainable COVID-19 recovery: Setting the scene <i>Co-organised with:</i> 
16 SEPTEMBER 2020	
09:30 – 11:30 CEST	Session 4 Country experiences: Sustainable Covid-19 recovery and climate action (Discussion group 1)
11:30 – 13:30 CEST	Break
13:30 – 15:00 CEST	Session 5 OECD and IEA presentation of recent work
15:00 – 15:30 CEST	Break
15:30 – 17:30 CEST	Session 6 Country experiences: Sustainable Covid-19 recovery and climate action (Discussion group 2) <i>Co-organised with:</i> 

Draft annotated agenda
Tuesday 15 September 2020

10:00 – 10:45 CEST	Welcoming Remarks
Remarks	Helen Plume, CCXG Chair Rodolfo Lacy, OECD Mechthild Wörsdörfer, IEA Tosi Mpanu Mpanu, SBSTA Chair

10:45 – 11:00 CEST	Break
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11:00 – 13:00 CEST	Session 1: Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for GHG inventories (Part I) – Structure of CRTs and reporting software
Focus	Decision 18/CMA.1 requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to develop, pursuant to the MPGs, “common reporting tables” (CRTs) for the electronic reporting of information on national GHG inventories. Such tables are to be developed “taking into account the existing common tabular formats and common reporting formats”. During this session, speakers and participants are invited to discuss key issues related to the overall structure of the tables, including typologies of tables to be included in the set of CRTs and any adjustments that may be needed to comply with new reporting requirements. During the session, participants will also have the opportunity to discuss technical aspects and opportunities for the development of new reporting tools and software.
Relevant documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Reporting national GHG inventories through Common Reporting Tables (CRTs): An assessment of CRT reporting options through worked examples”, C. Falduto, S. Wartmann and Rocha, M. (2020, draft) • “Reporting Tables – potential areas of work under SBSTA and options Part I - GHG inventories and tracking progress towards NDCs”, Rocha, M. (2019)
Facilitator	Amr Osama Abdel-Aziz, Egypt
Speakers	Chiara Falduto, CCXG/OECD Lornaliza Kogler, UNFCCC Andrew Marquard, South Africa Lorenz Moosmann, Germany Speaker tbc
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building upon current CRF tables, what elements of CRTs can be improved to promote TACCC principles and facilitate the Technical Expert Review (TER) of information? 2. How can reporting software facilitate the reporting of information on national GHG inventories through CRTs?

13:00 – 13:30 CEST	Break
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13:30 – 15:30 CEST Session 2: Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for GHG inventories (Part II) – Operationalising flexibility	
Focus	Paragraph 4 of the MPGs states that, in accordance with Article 13.2 of the Paris Agreement, the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement “shall provide flexibility options to those developing country Parties who need them in the light of their capacity” (Annex to decision 18/CMA.1, Section I, §4). Accordingly, MPGs’ guidance on the preparation of national GHG inventories specifies a number of areas where flexibility is available and where developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities may not report certain information. During this session, speakers and participants are invited to discuss main options and related challenges related to the operationalisation of flexibility within CRTs.
Relevant documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Reporting national GHG inventories through Common Reporting Tables (CRTs): An assessment of CRT reporting options through worked examples”, C. Falduto, S. Wartmann and Rocha, M. (2020, draft) • “Reporting Tables – potential areas of work under SBSTA and options Part I - GHG inventories and tracking progress towards NDCs”, Rocha, M. (2019)
Facilitator	Jenny Mager Santos, Chile
Speakers	Sina Wartmann, Independent Consultant Rueanna Haynes, St. Kitts and Nevis Marcelo Rocha, Fábrica Éthica Brasil (Brazil) Mausami Desai, USA Riitta Pipatti, Finland
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can Parties operationalise flexibility within CRTs while promoting TACCC principles and facilitating the Technical Expert Review (TER) of information? 2. How can Parties transparently report on the use of flexibility within CRTs and/or the National Inventory Document (NID)?

15:30 – 16:00 CEST	Break
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16:00 – 16:45 CEST Session 3: Sustainable COVID-19 recovery: Setting the scene	
Focus	The COVID-19 global pandemic will have profound impact on country economies. Many of these impacts are just starting to be understood. How individual countries and the global community respond to the COVID-19 crisis can help or hinder responses to climate change, as well as other environmental and social challenges. Many countries are currently revising their mitigation targets by updating their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, while simultaneously facing both immediate health impacts and the need for economic recovery. Governments are also developing recovery measures aiming i.a. to restart the economy. There is thus an opportunity to ensure that national climate ambition is an integral component of short- and long-term recovery and economic growth strategies. This session will highlight a possible framework for assessing countries’ recovery measures and their economic, environmental and socio-economic implications, and highlight the implications for climate mitigation and NDCs.
Facilitator	Simon Buckle, OECD
Speakers	Aimée Aguilar Jaber and Jane Ellis, OECD Ivetta Gerasimchuk, IISD Pablo Vieira, NDC Partnership

Wednesday 16 September 2020

09:30 – 11:30 CEST	Session 4: Country experiences: Sustainable Covid-19 recovery and climate action (Discussion group 1)
Focus	Different countries have developed their COVID-19 response in different ways, and with varying levels of integration with other stated policy goals. This session will highlight the experience of different countries to date in integrating climate and other concerns into their COVID-19 recovery measures in order to build more resilient economies.
Relevant documents	“Addressing the COVID and climate crises: Potential economic recovery pathways and their implications for climate change mitigation, NDCs and broader socio-economic goals”, S. Buckle, J. Ellis, A. Aguilar Jaber, M. Rocha, B. Anderson, and Bjersér, P., (2020, draft).
Co-facilitators	Jacob Werksman, European Commission Seyni Alfa Nafo, Mali
Speakers	Lindy Fursman, New Zealand Medrilzam Medrilzam, Indonesia Peter Tarfa, Nigeria Keeyong Chung, South Korea
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What can governments do in the short-term to help their COVID-19 recovery measures to meet multiple goals in the medium and long-term? 2. Are there example(s) from your country that could be relevant to others seeking to align economic recovery measures with environmental and socio-economic goals?

11:30 – 13:30 CEST	Break
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13:30 – 15:00 CEST	Session 5: OECD and IEA presentation of recent work
Focus	During this session participants will have the opportunity to hear insights from recent OECD and IEA publications exploring key impacts and implications of COVID-19 and related recovery efforts.
Facilitator	Helen Plume, CCXG Chair
Speakers	Speakers tbc, OECD Timur Guel, IEA Laura Cozzi, IEA

15:00 – 15:30 CEST	Break
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15:30 – 17:30 CEST	Session 6: Country experiences: Sustainable Covid-19 recovery and climate action (Discussion group 2)
Focus	Different countries have developed their COVID-19 response in different ways, and with varying levels of integration with other stated policy goals. This session will highlight the experience of different countries to date in integrating climate and other concerns into their COVID-19 recovery measures in order to build more resilient economies.
Relevant documents	“Addressing the COVID and climate crises: Potential economic recovery pathways and their implications for climate change mitigation, NDCs and broader socio-economic goals”, S. Buckle, J. Ellis, A. Aguilar Jaber, M. Rocha, B. Anderson, and Bjersér, P., (2020, draft).
Co-facilitators	Seyni Alfa Nafo, Mali Jacob Werksman, European Commission
Speakers	Claire Bernard, Jamaica Mattias Frumerie, Sweden Laura Ruiz Daza, Colombia Belal Shqarin, Jordan
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What can governments do in the short-term to help their COVID-19 recovery measures to meet multiple goals in the medium and long-term? 2. Are there example(s) from your country that could be relevant to others seeking to align economic recovery measures with environmental and socio-economic goals?