

Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG)

Global Forum on the Environment and Climate Change

2 and 4 June 2020
Virtual Global 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.¹² The Global Forum provides a space outside of the UNFCCC negotiations for participants to develop a shared understanding of provisions in the Paris Agreement, how these might be implemented and their implications for domestic policy. Participants include practitioners and negotiators from governments as well as delegates from inter-governmental organisations, the private sector, research organisations and other relevant institutions. This iteration of the Global Forum will be held remotely, and participants will be able to take active part to the discussions. Discussions take place under Chatham House rules; that is, remarks are not to be attributed to individual speakers.

In early 2020, the world has been hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to a crisis deeply affecting people, countries and economies. This crisis will have important implications on how countries cope with a range of other socio-economic challenges in the short- and long-term, including the climate change challenge. Meanwhile, ongoing climate change negotiations in 2020 are focusing, *inter alia*, on finalising the common tabular formats (CTFs) for the reporting of information on tracking progress made in implementing and achieving Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), to be adopted by COP26. The first day (2 June) of the Virtual Global Forum will focus on specific aspects of CTFs for reporting on information on tracking progress made in implementing and achieving NDCs. The sessions on 4 June will focus on key elements of a sustainable COVID-19 recovery. Countries will have an opportunity to share experiences on national responses to and planned recovery from the crisis, while considering the need to move towards low-emissions, climate-resilient development pathways.

¹ 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).

² 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), Japan (Ministry of the Environment), Netherlands (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy), 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 and Industrial Strategy) for their direct funding of the CCXG in 2019/2020, and the OECD and IEA for their in-kind support.

Draft outline agenda

2 JUNE 2020	
<i>TRANSPARENCY DISCUSSIONS</i>	
11:30 – 13:00 (CEST)	Session 1 Tracking progress towards NDCs: Reporting using CTFs (Part I)
13:00 - 13:30 (CEST)	Break
13:30 – 15:00 (CEST)	Session 2 Tracking progress towards NDCs: Reporting using CTFs (Part II)

4 JUNE 2020	
<i>SUSTAINABLE COVID-19 RECOVERY</i>	
11:00 – 12:30 (CEST)	Session 3 Information session: The building blocks of a sustainable COVID-19 recovery
12:30 – 13:00 (CEST)	Break
13:00 – 15:00 (CEST)	Session 4 Designing a sustainable COVID-19 recovery: Countries' experiences

Annotated agenda

Tuesday 2 June 2020

11:30 – 15:00 CEST	Sessions 1 and 2: Tracking progress towards NDCs: Reporting using CTFs
Focus	<p>The Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs), adopted at COP24 indicate that Parties “shall” provide information needed to track progress made in implementing and achieving NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement in a “structured summary”. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) is currently tasked developing "common tabular formats" (CTFs) for the reporting of information on tracking progress, for consideration and adoption by COP26. During this session, speakers and participants are invited to discuss potential formats for CTFs and for the structured summary, the potential challenges with reporting information on Party-defined indicators, and explore options for new and improved tables.</p>
Relevant document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rocha, M. & J. Ellis, Reporting progress towards Nationally Determined Contributions: exploring possible common tabular formats for the structured summary (2020) • Rocha, M., Reporting Tables – Potential areas of work under SBSTA and options – Part I – GHG inventories and tracking progress towards NDCs (2019)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can Parties report on progress in implementing their NDC while promoting TACCC principles and facilitating the Technical Expert Review (TER) of information? • What are the challenges in providing complete, consistent and comparable information in the key areas of importance for tracking progress made in implementing NDCs?

11:30 – 13:00 CEST	Session 1: Tracking progress towards NDCs: Reporting using CTFs (Part I)
Facilitator	Miles Perry, European Commission
Speakers	Marcia Rocha, CCXG Secretariat Alyssa Ng, Singapore Julia Gardiner, Australia
Moderator	Jane Ellis, CCXG Secretariat

13:00 – 13:30 CEST	Break
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13:30 – 15:00 CEST	Session 2: Tracking progress towards NDCs: Reporting using CTFs (Part II)
Facilitator	Andrew Marquard, South Africa
Speakers	Agripina Jenkins Rojas, Costa Rica Rueanna Haynes, Saint Kitts and Nevis Anke Herold, Öko-Institut
Moderator	Marcia Rocha, CCXG Secretariat

Thursday 4 June 2020

11:00 – 12:30 CEST	Session 3: Information session: The building blocks of a sustainable COVID-19 recovery
Focus	The COVID-19 crisis is deeply affecting people, countries and economies. The climate crisis also has immediate effects, but is unfolding in a somewhat longer timeframe. 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. The major shock of the COVID-19 crisis to economies and societies has led governments to develop “recovery packages”. These packages aim i.a. to restart the economy as the health crisis comes under control. This session will highlight the emissions, investment and well-being contexts in which these recovery packages are being developed, and highlight the implications for NDC development.
Relevant material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/en/ • https://www.iea.org/topics/covid-19
Facilitator	Helen Plume, CCXG Chair
Speakers	Mechthild Wörsdörfer, IEA Simon Buckle, OECD Stephen Alan Hammer, World Bank Group Elina Bardram, European Commission
Moderator	Sara Moarif, CCXG Secretariat
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the emissions, investment and well-being context in which countries’ recovery plans are being developed? 2. How can countries integrate climate responses into such recovery plans?

12:30 – 13:00 CEST	Break
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13:00 – 15:00 CEST	Session 4: Designing a sustainable COVID-19 recovery: Countries’ experiences
Focus	This session will highlight the experience of different countries to date in integrating climate and other concerns into their COVID-19 response plans.
Relevant material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/en/ • https://www.iea.org/topics/covid-19
Facilitator	Helen Plume, CCXG Chair
Speakers	Julia King Baroness Brown of Cambridge, UK Committee on Climate Change Yue Dong, Energy Foundation China Mark Radley, Canada Pablo Vieira, NDC Partnership Valentina Bosetti, European Institute on Economics and the Environment
Moderator	Jane Ellis, CCXG Secretariat
Discussion questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What can governments do in the short-term to help ensure that their COVID-19 response plans will help 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 better align recovery actions with longer-term goals?