

Electronic reporting of information to the UNFCCC: Possible lessons from current reporting experience and formats for Articles 6 and 13

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Electronic reporting and electronic reporting software

Current experience consists of Annex I Parties reporting through the **CRF Reporter**, as well as using electronic reporting for KP units and support provided, when Non-Annex I Parties have **limited experience**

Different starting points in experience between Annex I Parties and Non-Annex I Parties, and within Non-Annex I Parties when it comes to electronic reporting, as well as using national reporting softwares

GHG inventory compiling, and reporting is **demanding** when focus should be on improving (no time for archiving and robust data management). Reporting on tracking progress is new for many Parties, which will add an additional layer of requirements and efforts

Challenging in the beginning of the process, but eventually beneficial, efficient and smoother in the long-term, globally and nationally

Electronic reporting and corresponding system for the PA can **simplify the process** of reporting on GHG inventory, tracking progress and support. For Parties who wish to engage in Article 6 mechanisms, such systems can provide clarity and streamlining

Pending negotiations on Article 6 and the structured summary, there are **potential linkages** which could be tackled in streamlined reporting (MPGs 77(d))

With accumulated experience, electronic reporting in a specific format and an electronic reporting software can **save time and resources** in the preparation of GHG inventories and other items under the ETF (QA/QC, reducing errors and inconsistencies, auto-filling, archiving, efficiency of the TER process etc.), to further abide by the TACCC principles

Such a system can help **organize national systems** and reporting under Articles 13 and 6

Important considerations after collective experience

Electronic reporting and electronic reporting software need to consider the **flexibilities** provided within the MPGs, as well as **non-standardizable data** (qualitative information)

Parties with existing electronic reporting mechanisms will need **a smooth transition** from their established systems to the new software

Scope of software, limited to reporting or GHG inventory compilation and reporting, as well ETF only or all PA

Timing of software deployment, as well as the different timings for reporting information under different PA articles

Potential discussion points

- Explore the extent of reporting (ETF, PA) and assess what would work and what wouldn't
- Sequencing: i.e., what needs to be decided before the design of a comprehensive electronic reporting software
- Build on the successful features and systems of already existing systems (i.e., CRF Reporter), learn from the feedback on Annex I countries for improvement, and focus on user-friendliness and possible linkages with existing systems that are already in use (i.e., IPCC Software)
- Consider the flexibility of electronic reporting in accommodating future changes (i.e., moving to newer IPCC guidelines or further mandated work under other PA articles)