

## Tracking India's NDCs:

Methodologies and tools for tracking progress on mitigation and adaptation policies/actions in India

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## **Background note:**

Under the Paris Agreement, all Parties are required to submit new and increasingly ambitious climate plans (NDCs) by 2020 and every 5 years thereafter. For effective implementation and successful achievement of India's NDCs, it is pertinent to systematically track progress of various actions, plans and policies on mitigation and adaptation or those having intent to contribute towards either of them. This raises an important research question on how the nature and scope of the transparency regime at the domestic level would contribute to measuring/tracking the progress on actions, plans and policies in sectors/ focus areas that will contribute to achieving India's NDCs.

A domestic transparency framework for India is needed to meet the requirements both under the international regime (under the Paris Agreement) and also at the domestic level. Particularly at the domestic level, it will be helpful to track emissions, emission reductions, and progress on adaptation thereby indicating the overall effectiveness of policy implementation. It will facilitate the creation of data management system, which is reliable, accurate, and transparent. This is crucial for assessing the effectiveness of policy implementation and to provide feedback for improving on the policy implementation gaps. Given the emphasis on transparency at international level, this might result in improved access to developed country support in terms of finance, technology, and capacity building.

As per Biennial Update Report (BUR) of India, the monitoring and evaluation of government policies and programmes are an integral part of assessing the financial allocations. The monitoring includes both financial and physical targets. Also, systems exist for review of overall impacts at

highest policy-making levels. Further, it states that national climate change programmes and other similar national programmes, such as for energy efficiency, renewable energy, agriculture and forestry sector programmes, and projects have measuring and reporting systems. However, these monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems do not assess its impacts on GHG emissions and sustainable development co-benefits, though data collected under such systems could be used for such assessments.

Addressing this need, TERI in collaboration with UNEP DTU is pursuing a research study supported by <u>Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT)</u>, with the key objective of assessing the existing monitoring and reporting systems, gaps and developing appropriate options and approaches for tracking the progress (in terms of GHG and SD benefits) of national adaptation and mitigation actions and its overall impacts on India's NDCs.

With this background, a high-level discussion will be organized at the World Sustainable Development Summit 2020, to highlight the key findings of the work and discuss opportunities and challenges towards establishing domestic transparency framework for tracking progress of mitigation and adaptation policies and actions in India.