Summary Report

Mutual Learning Program for Enhanced Transparency: capacity building for reporting under Article 6.2 and 13

Side Event at the COP26 Japan Pavilion
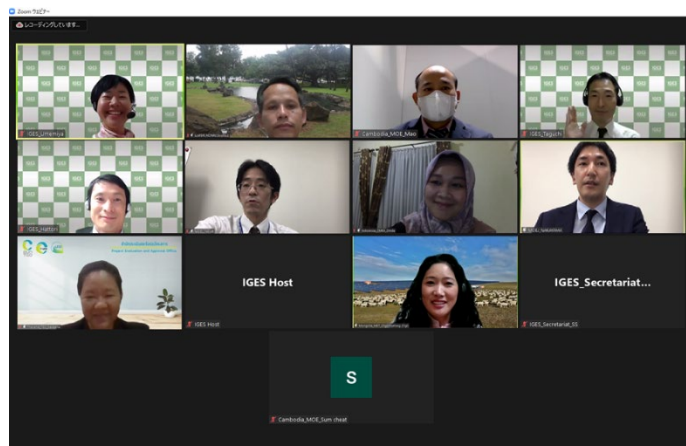
4 November 2021, 10:30 – 11:45 (GMT)

Highlights

- Many countries have been making efforts to improve their capacities and prepare for the transition to the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement.

- To promote these efforts, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) have been conducting the Mutual Learning Program for Enhanced Transparency (MLP)[1] in cooperation with other partner countries and organisations.

- This side event aimed to exchange experiences and lessons learned under the ongoing MLP activities on the topic of reporting under Article 6.2 (i.e. cooperative approaches, such as the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)) and featured discussions on how this kind of MLP can be useful for countries to improve their transparency capacity.

- Discussions at the side event highlighted three features of the MLP as an approach for transparency capacity-building:
  - **1) the MLP can inspire solutions for existing reporting challenges by sharing experiences of countries in different circumstances and conditions;**
  - **2) it can adjust the program details to fit the evolving needs and interests of countries, because the MLP is conducted in a small group of member countries and organisations; and**
  - **3) it can foster networking among and within countries through continuous engagement in MLP activities, thereby assisting in capacity improvement over time.**

- These characteristics of the MLP should be recognised, so that countries can effectively utilise the MLP as one approach for transparency capacity-building, while they engage with other related initiatives and support.

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[1] The MLP is a capacity-building program for enhanced transparency and reporting. In the MLP, pairs of countries and organisations learn and practice reporting of climate actions, by exchanging each other's reporting exercises. More details are available at: https://www.iges.or.jp/en/projects/transparency

Picture 1 Group photo

Part 1 interactive discussions among MLP participating countries and organisations:
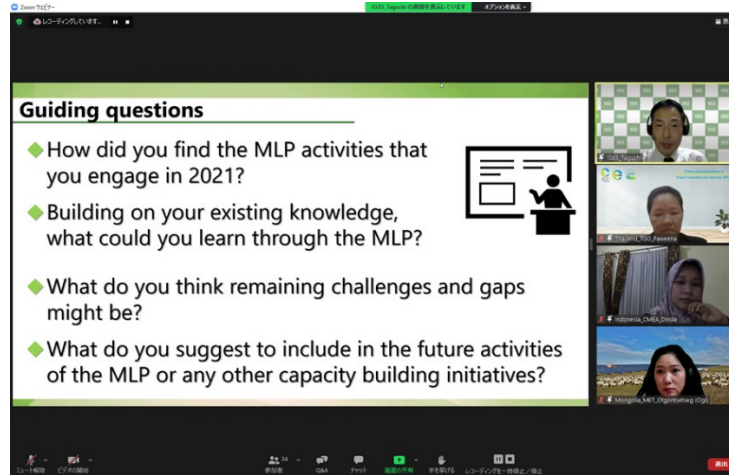
Guiding questions:

- How did you find the MLP activities that you engaged in 2021? Building on your existing knowledge, what could you learn through the MLP?
- What do you think the remaining challenges and gaps might be? What do you suggest to include in future activities of the MLP or any other capacity-building initiatives?

Inputs made by:

- Selected MLP participating countries and organisations for 2021:
    o Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO)
    o Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia (MET)
    o Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs of Indonesia (CMEA)
    o Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)

Key discussion points:
- Learning about the different approaches taken by other participating countries helped them understand the reporting requirements of Article 6 under the Paris Agreement. In terms of requirements, where the details of Article 6 have not been decided, it is very difficult to understand even the basic items, including the definition of technical terms. In addition, it is also very useful to gain knowledge of some items that are prepared differently in each country, such as corresponding adjustments.
- By learning about case studies in other countries, the participants could actively re-recognise their level of understanding about requirements in Article 6 and what is needed for further preparation, thereby accelerating their activities.
- If Article 6 is successfully agreed upon at COP26, more practical preparations will be needed to meet the requirements in line with its guidance next year and beyond, and this program is highly recommended to be utilised for that purpose .

Picture 2 Photo of part 1 interactive discussion session

Part 2 interactive discussions among non-MLP participating countries and organisations:
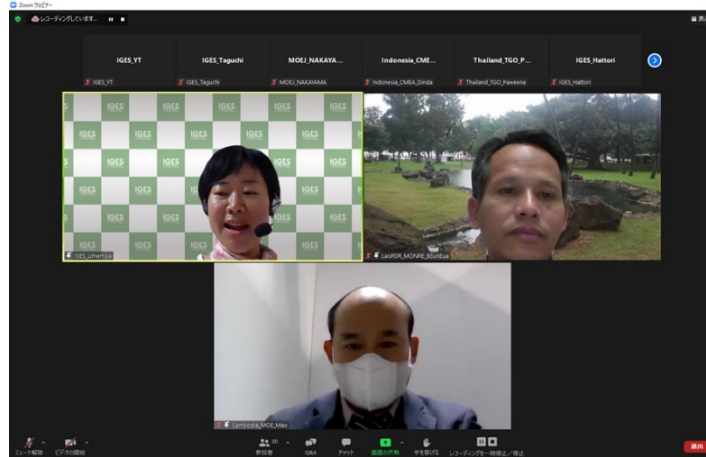
Guiding questions:

- After hearing about MLP activities, how do you think those activities might be helpful for your country? What would be priority topics and areas?
- How do you think the MLP activities can be linked with other capacity-building initiatives to strengthen the overall effects of capacity-building efforts?

Inputs made by:

- Selected non-MLP participating countries and organisations
  - Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao PDR (MONRE)
  - Ministry of Environment, Cambodia (MOE)

Key discussion points:
- MLP can offer a place for networking by institutions, not only among countries but also within a country. This goes along well with other ongoing capacity-building initiatives, such as the one under the CBIT.
- In addition to reporting of GHG inventories and mitigation actions, reporting of climate finance and technology development is important and can be considered as a topic for consideration under the MLP.
- More capacity-building actions are needed, so that countries can compare which existing tools and methodologies are best for them to utilise under the ETF.
- Pairing countries with similar conditions is one approach. The other approach could be to make pairs of countries with different conditions, for example, pairs between developed and developing countries or across regions.

Picture 3 Photo of part 2 interactive discussion session

Annex:

Agenda

Meeting format: Remote access (Zoom)

Time (GMT)	Item	Presenter / Moderator
10:30 – 10:35 (5 min)	Welcoming participants: a brief introduction of the today's program and participants	Chisa Umemiya, IGES
10:35 – 10:40 (5 min)	Opening remarks	Kazuya INOUE, Director, Office of Market Mechanisms, Climate Change Policy Division, Global Environmental Bureau, MOEJ
10:40 – 10:55 (15 min)	Overview of the MLP and activities for 2021: an example of pairs on Article 6.2 reporting Followed by Q&As	Tomohiko Hattori, IGES
10:55 – 11:20 (25 min)	Moderated and interactive discussions, Part 1: Discussion guiding questions include: - How did you find the MLP activities that you engage in 2021? Building on your existing knowledge, what could you learn through the MLP? - What do you think remaining challenges and gaps might be? What do you suggest to include in the future activities of the MLP or any other capacity building initiatives? Followed by Q&As	Moderated by: Toru Taguchi, IGES Discussion inputs by: Paweena Panichayapichet, TGO, Thailand Otgontsetseg Luvsandash, MET, Mongolia Dinda Fauzani, CMEA, Indonesia Masaki NAKAYAMA, MOEJ, Japan
11:20– 11: 40 (20 min)	Moderated and interactive discussions, Part 2: Discussion guiding questions include: - After hearing about the MLP activities, how do you think those activities might be helpful for your country? What would be priority topics and areas? - How do you think the MLP activities can be linked with other capacity building initiatives to strengthen the	Moderated by: Chisa Umemiya, IGES Discussion inputs by BounEua Khamphilavanh, MONRE, Lao PDR Hak Mao, MOE, Cambodia

	overall effects of capacity building efforts? Followed by Q&As	
11:40 – 11:45 (5 min)	Wrap-up to draw some key messages and receive further feedback	IGES and all
11:45	Closing	