



Policy demands for climate change statistics and Paris Agreement reporting

11–12 AUGUST 2026 • 09:00–16:30

Star Land Hotel • Yaoundé, Cameroon

From limited commitments to universal implementation



What the Agreement requires

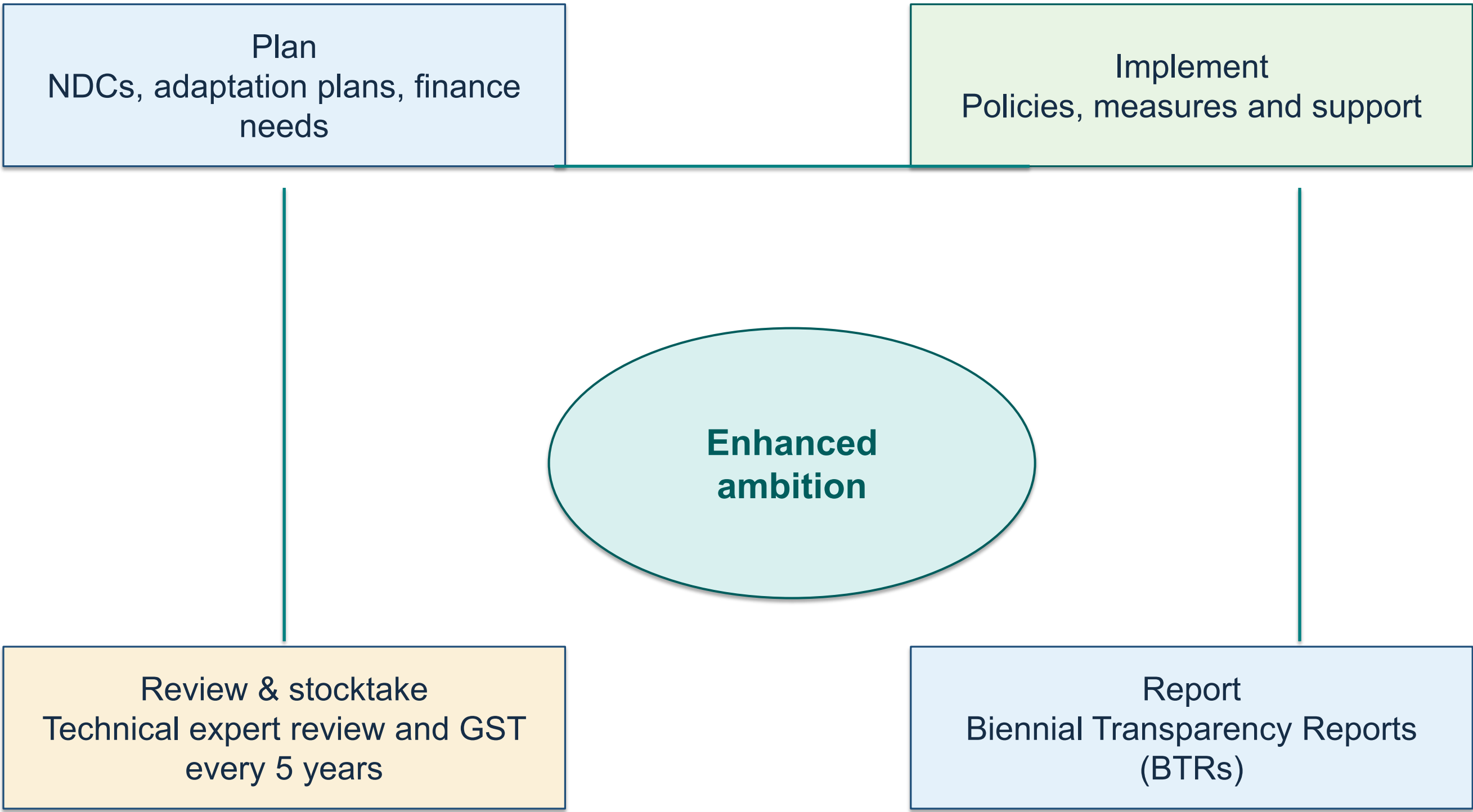
- Hold warming well below 2°C and strengthen resilience
- Set and update nationally determined contributions (NDCs)
- Mobilize finance, adaptation action and capacity-building for implementation

Why statistics are central

- Countries need comparable evidence to plan, report and improve
- Developing countries need data to identify and access support
- Transparency builds trust in collective progress

Key message **There is no high-quality climate reporting without a strong role for national statistical offices.**

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and Global Stocktake (GST) turn NDCs into a recurring evidence cycle.



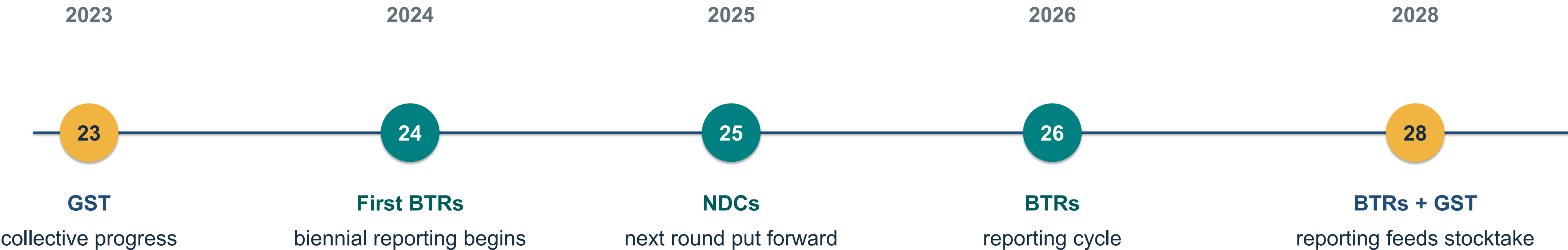
Evidence layer

National statistical systems connect policy processes with consistent indicators, baselines and time series.

REPORTING RHYTHM

How NDCs, BTRs, the ETF and the Global Stocktake link together

The Paris Agreement creates two reinforcing rhythms: biennial reporting and five-year collective assessment.



BTR = Biennial Transparency Report
ETF = Enhanced Transparency Framework
GST = Global Stocktake

Each BTR contributes evidence to the next review cycle; each GST informs stronger future NDCs.

The ETF is a recurring system: report information, review it technically, then discuss progress multilaterally.



Information scope in the BTR

Greenhouse gas emissions and removals
NDC progress, policies, measures and projections
Adaptation measures and impacts
Support provided, received and needed

Role of statistics

Ensure comparability, transparency and consistency
Document institutional arrangements and data responsibilities
Identify gaps and capacity-building priorities

Transparency turns climate reporting from an obligation into a practical tool for planning, support and trust.

Nationally

- Political acceptance gained through credible evidence
- Policy planning informed by regularly updated data
- Access to support improved by clearly documenting needs
- Capacity built and awareness raised across institutions

Internationally

- Trust built among Parties
- International obligations met through regular reporting
- Support prioritized where gaps and needs are visible
- Ambition increased through shared evidence of progress

For national statistical offices, the ETF is a way to make official statistics visible in climate policy decisions.

Decision 18 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), known as Decision 18/CMA.1, defines the information needed to track NDC implementation.

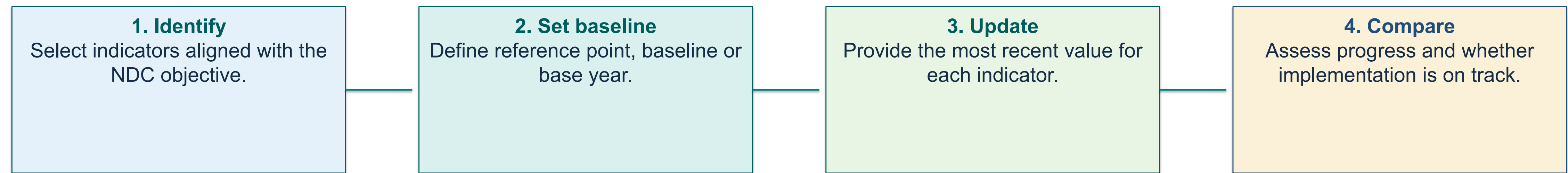
- A National circumstances and institutional arrangements
- B Description of NDC and updates
- C Information needed to track progress in implementing and achieving the NDC
- D Mitigation policies, measures, actions and plans, including co-benefits
- E Summary of GHG emissions and removals
- F Projections of emissions and removals, as applicable

Key entry point for national statistical offices (NSOs)

Institutional arrangements show how statistical offices connect with ministries and agencies producing climate information.

The reporting structure makes data governance part of climate accountability—not an afterthought.

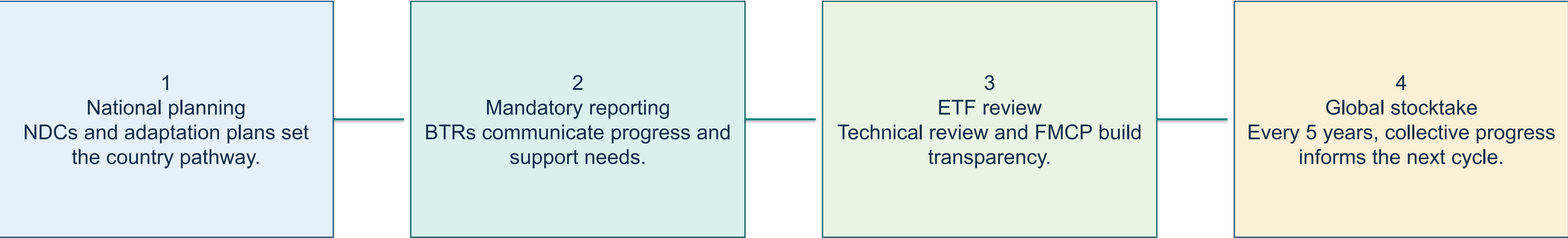
Indicators translate an NDC commitment into a baseline, a current value and an assessment of progress.



Good indicators are policy-relevant, statistically sound and repeatable over time.

The comparison step is what turns data into evidence of implementation.
Official statistics help countries avoid one-off reporting and build sustainable time series.

Climate statistics connect national planning with international transparency and collective assessment.



Stocktake findings and BTR evidence feed stronger future NDCs.

Policy demand: consistent statistics on emissions, impacts, adaptation, finance, capacity and technology.

Many early articles define policy topics, but not a complete agreed indicator set—creating a demand for statistical frameworks.

Aim and NDCs

Article 2 · warming well below 2°C
Article 4 · NDCs, mitigation and transparency

Sinks and cooperation

Article 5 · forests and carbon sinks
Article 6 · internationally transferred mitigation outcomes

Adaptation and resilience

Article 7 · protect people, livelihoods and ecosystems
Gender-responsive adaptation and indigenous knowledge

The Global Set helps countries translate broad policy articles into comparable statistics and indicators.

Examples from Article 7—early warning, climate observation, vulnerable communities and ecosystems—are areas where official statistics can add structure and comparability.

Later articles expand the information agenda from policy targets to reporting requirements.

Policy topic areas

- Loss and damage from disasters and slow-onset events
- Climate finance flows and efficient access to funds
- Technology development and transfer
- Capacity-building, education, awareness and access to information

Article 13 reporting needs

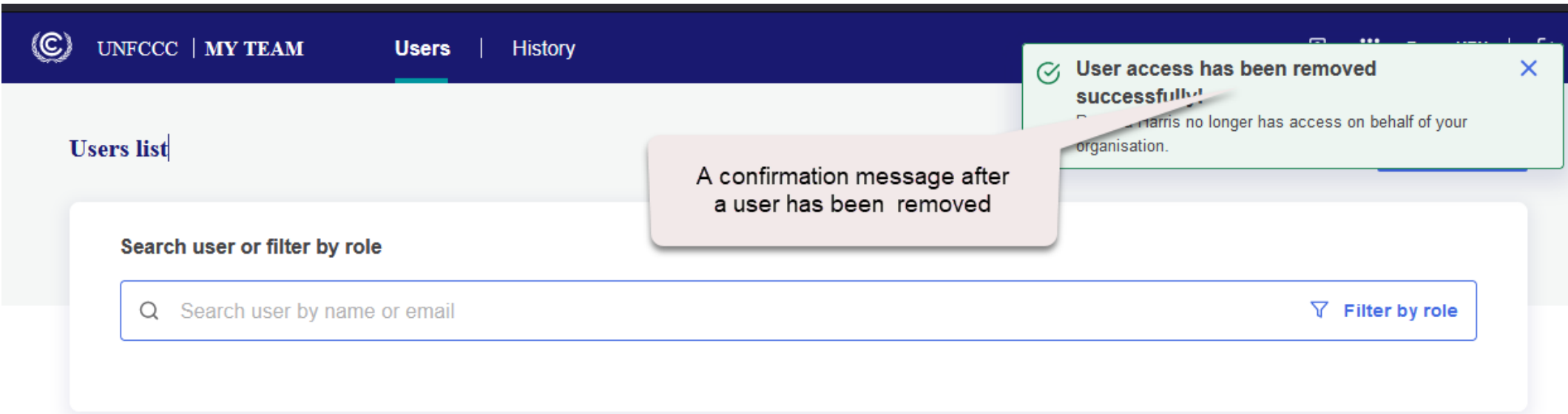
- National inventory reports for greenhouse gases
- Climate impacts and adaptation
- Financial, technology-transfer and capacity-building support
- Information required under the transparency framework

The opportunity: use existing statistical frameworks and methods wherever they already meet the policy need.

Countries can use the Global Set to choose indicators that support BTR reporting and reflect NDC and national adaptation plan (NAP) progress.

How countries can use it

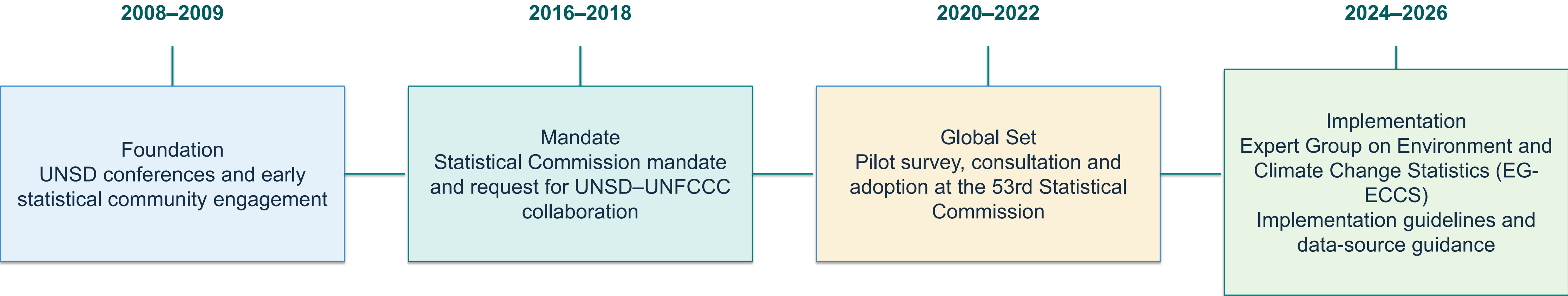
- Select indicators aligned with national commitments and adaptation plans
- Document the data behind BTR narratives and tables
- Identify gaps that require collaboration between NSOs and climate focal points
- Use reporting tools to organize, submit and review information



[Open the UNFCCC ETF GHG Inventory Reporting Tool](#)

Talk point: about 130 countries have submitted first BTRs; the next step is showing stronger evidence of NSO–UNFCCC focal point collaboration.

The programme evolved from early dialogue into a structured implementation agenda after the Global Set was adopted.



Current emphasis: strengthen coordination between data producers and climate change statistics, and support implementation with practical guidance.

The Global Set fills a practical gap: ETF reporting requires indicators, but does not prescribe all of them.

158

indicators

190

statistics

Adopted at the 53rd session of the Statistical Commission in 2022
Links policy targets across drivers, impacts, vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation
Supports national policy evaluation and comparable reporting to UNFCCC

Policy frameworks connected

[Paris Agreement](#)

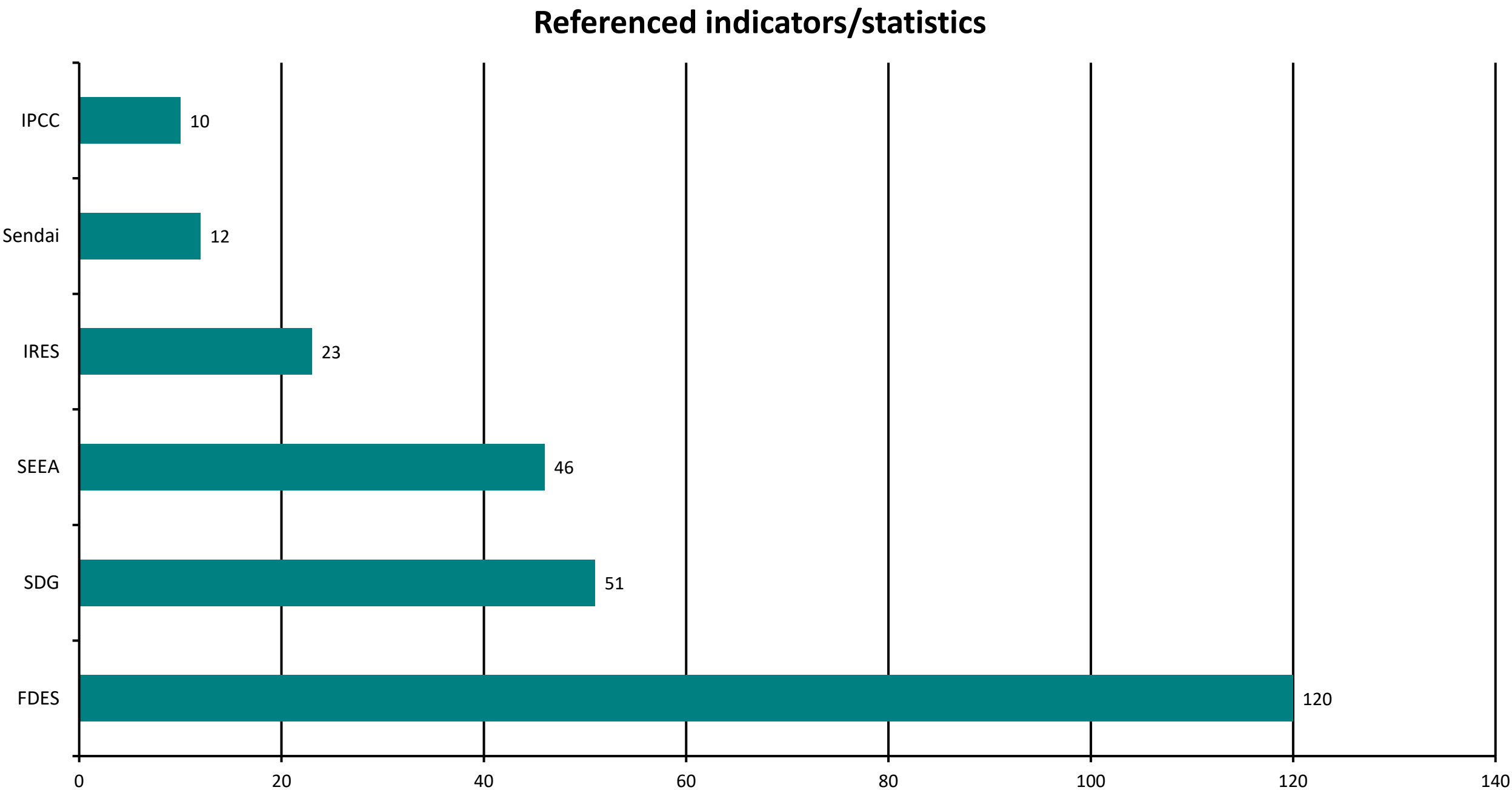
[Sendai Framework](#)

[Sustainable Development Goals](#)



Practical aim: help countries move from climate policy commitments to repeatable, comparable data.

The Global Set links reporting requirements to internationally accepted statistical frameworks, standards and guidelines.



What the counts show

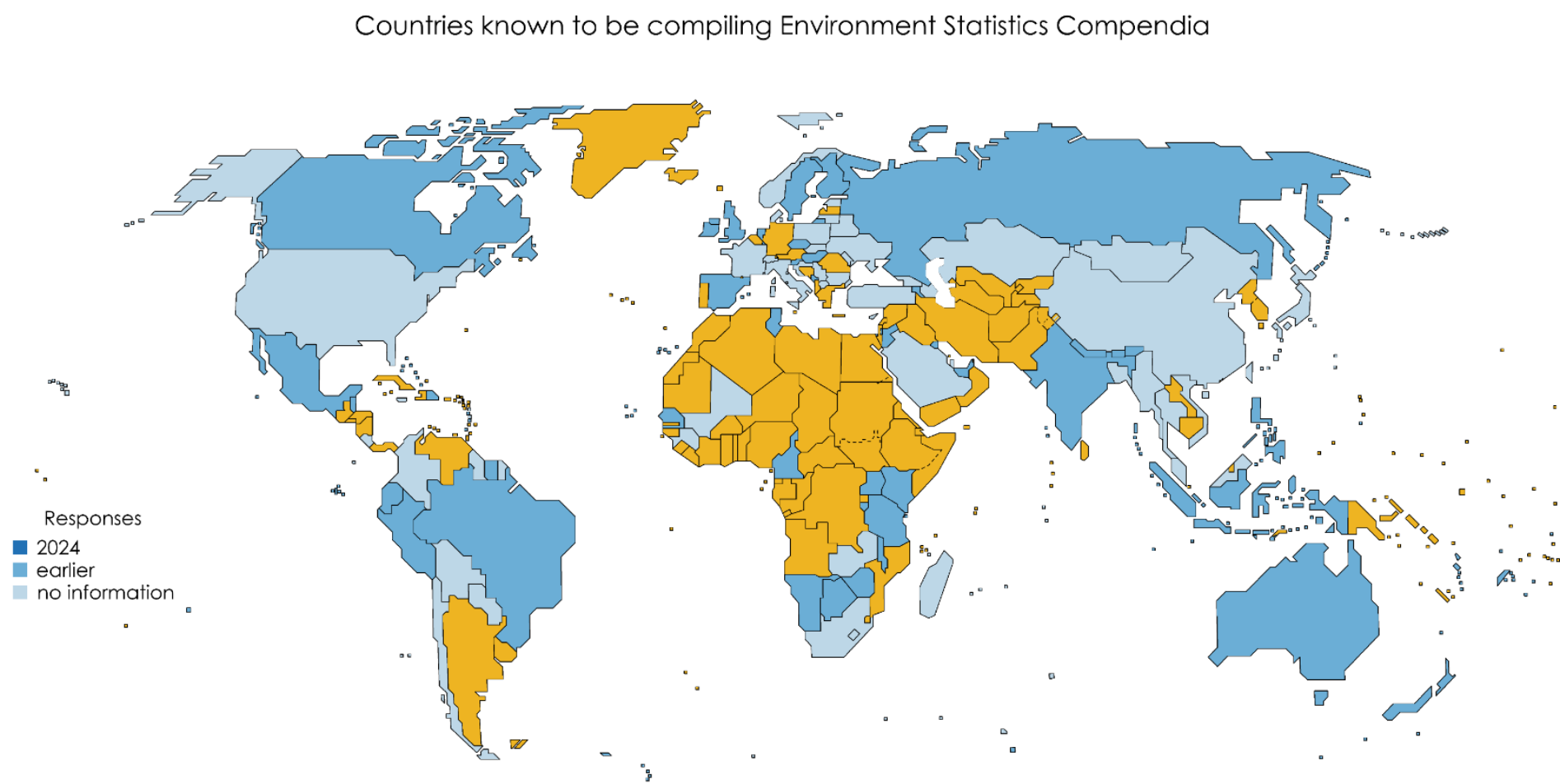
Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) provides the broad statistical backbone.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SEEA, International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES), the Sendai Framework and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) methods add domain-specific detail.

Together, they let countries build on existing standards rather than invent new reporting methods.

Official resources: [Global Set](#) | [FDES](#) | [SDGs](#) | [SEEA](#) | [IRES](#) | [IPCC](#) | [Sendai Framework](#)

Responses show broadening country engagement with climate change statistics and indicators.



98
out of 215
countries and territories

The growing response base creates a stronger foundation for implementation support and peer learning.

The boundaries shown and used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

A strong NDC translates national circumstances and Paris goals into a time-bound climate pathway.

Commitment

Target or objective
Reference point or baseline
Implementation period

Coverage & approach

Gases, sectors and categories
Assumptions and methods
Accounting approach

National context

Planning process
Fairness and ambition
Sustainable-development links

Successive NDCs are communicated every five years and are expected to progress over time.

Many NDCs also communicate adaptation priorities and support needs, reflecting national circumstances.

Credibility comes from linking the political commitment to domestic action, resources and transparent tracking.

Delivery system

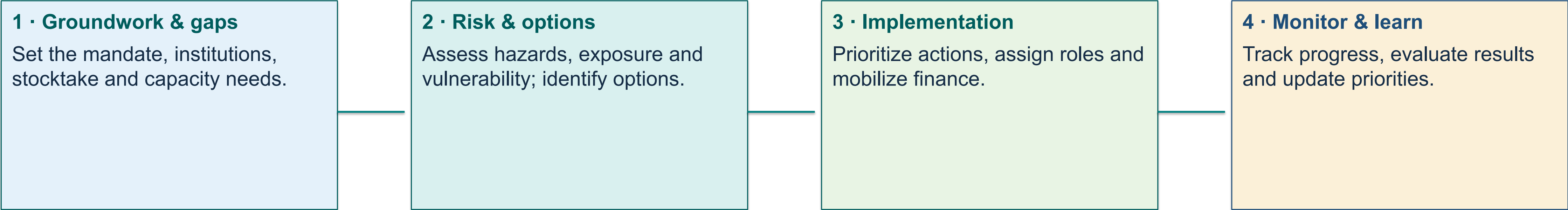
- 1 Governance · mandate and coordination
- 2 Policies · sector actions and regulations
- 3 Resources · finance, technology and capacity
- 4 Data · inventories, indicators and projections
- 5 Update · use evidence to strengthen the next NDC

Evidence to maintain

- National circumstances and institutions
- GHG emissions and removals
- Target indicators and latest values
- Policies, measures and projections
- Support provided, received and needed

IMPLEMENT → TRACK → REPORT → REVIEW → ENHANCE

The NAP process is country-driven, iterative and designed for action across sectors, places and levels of government.



TWO OBJECTIVES: build adaptive capacity and resilience | integrate adaptation into policies, programmes and planning

Best available science, participation, gender responsiveness and attention to vulnerable groups guide the process.

Implementation works when enabling systems and adaptation actions share one results and learning framework.

Enabling system

- National mandate and coordination
- Mainstreaming in budgets and plans
- Finance and project preparation
- Capacity, technology and communication
- Data governance and learning

Action portfolio

- Prioritized risks, places and groups
- Sector and cross-sector programmes
- Responsible institutions and timelines
- Costs, funding sources and support needs
- Indicators, baselines and targets

RISK EVIDENCE → PRIORITIES → FINANCE → IMPLEMENTATION → MONITORING → LEARNING

Statistics make the model operational: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, services, budgets and outcomes.

Next steps

1. Check the following submissions to UNFCCC for your country

- Nationally Determined Contributions: [Nationally Determined Contributions Registry | UNFCCC](#)
- National Adaption Plans: [Submitted NAPs from developing country Parties | NAP Central](#)
- Biennial Transparency Reports: [First Biennial Transparency Reports | UNFCCC](#)

2. Establish contact with the focal point to UNFCCC for your country:

- UNFCCC focal points: [National focal points | UNFCCC](#)

3. Jointly consider where the Global Set and its tools can help

- Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators: [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)
- Implementation Guidelines: [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)
- Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool (CISAT): [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)



Thank you for your attention

Climate reporting works best when policy focal points and national statistical offices build the evidence together.



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat

More information

[UNFCCC transparency: unfccc.int/Transparency](https://unfccc.int/Transparency)

Climate statistics community: linkedin.com/groups/13910606/

Environment Statistics Section

United Nations Statistics Division
Environment Statistics and Accounts Section

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unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/

Questions and discussion