

**The capacity gap  
between  
desired reporting and current situation**

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# Background

- Ultimate objective of the Convention (Art. 2):

Stabilization of greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent and reduce dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

- How? Through accurate knowledge of net GHG emission levels and trends, and on our collective ability to alter these trends.

# Reporting commitments under the Convention

- All Parties must report on how they implement the Convention requirements – **national communications** to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties (COP):
  - Communicate to the COP a national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol. (Art 4.1 and 12.1)
- Core elements of the national communications (for both Annex I and non-Annex I Parties): information on emissions and removals of GHGs, and details of the activities a Party has undertaken to implement the Convention;
- However, "**common but differentiated responsibilities**" regarding contents and timetable for submission of national communications for Annex I and non-Annex I Parties.

# Existing reporting commitments for Annex I Parties under the Convention

- Reporting elements :
  - **National Communications**
  - **National GHG Inventories**

## ... Existing reporting commitments for Annex I Parties under the Convention

- **National communications**

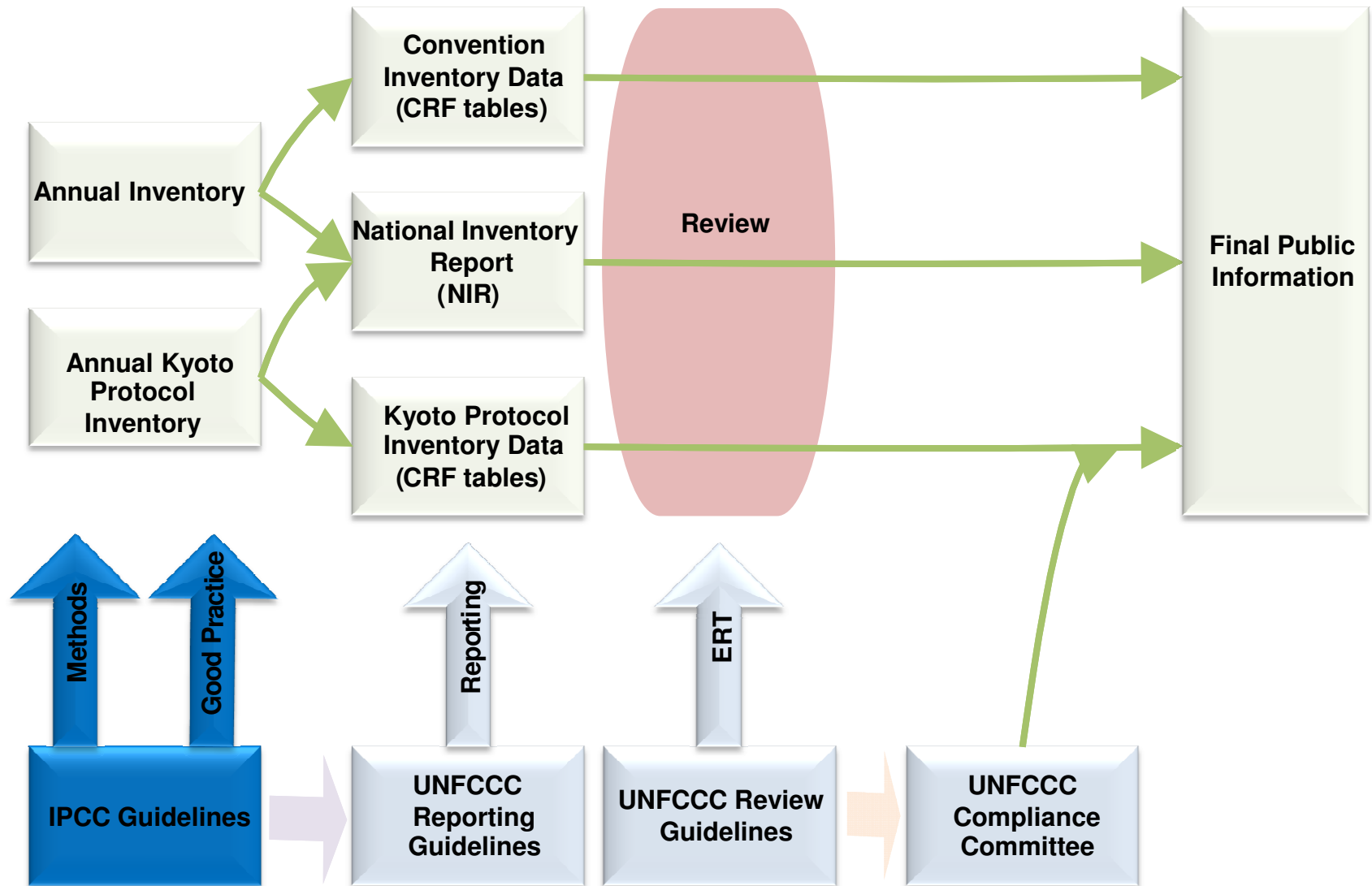
- Content: information on national GHG emissions, climate-related policies and measures, GHG projections, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, financial assistance and technology transfer to non-Annex I Parties, and actions on raising public awareness on climate change;
- Frequency: Submission to the COP every 4 years;  
Revision by international expert review teams (ERTs) within 1–2 years from the submission date.

Fifth national communication due on 1 January 2010,  
sixth on 1 January 2014.

## ... Existing reporting commitments for Annex I Parties under the Convention

- **National GHG inventories:** required since 1996
  - **Content:** information on emissions and removals of direct GHGs from six sectors (Energy, Industrial processes, Solvents, Agriculture, LULUCF, Waste), and for all years from the base year to the most recent year.
  - **Frequency:** Annual submission, following reporting guidelines by the COP and methodology developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Annual review by ERTs following agreed review guidelines.
  - **Standardized requirements for reporting** to promote provision of credible and consistent GHG information:
    - ✓ Common reporting format (CRF) tables
    - ✓ National Inventory Report (NIR)

# Annex I National GHG Inventories



**Current situation  
in Reporting by non-Annex I Parties**

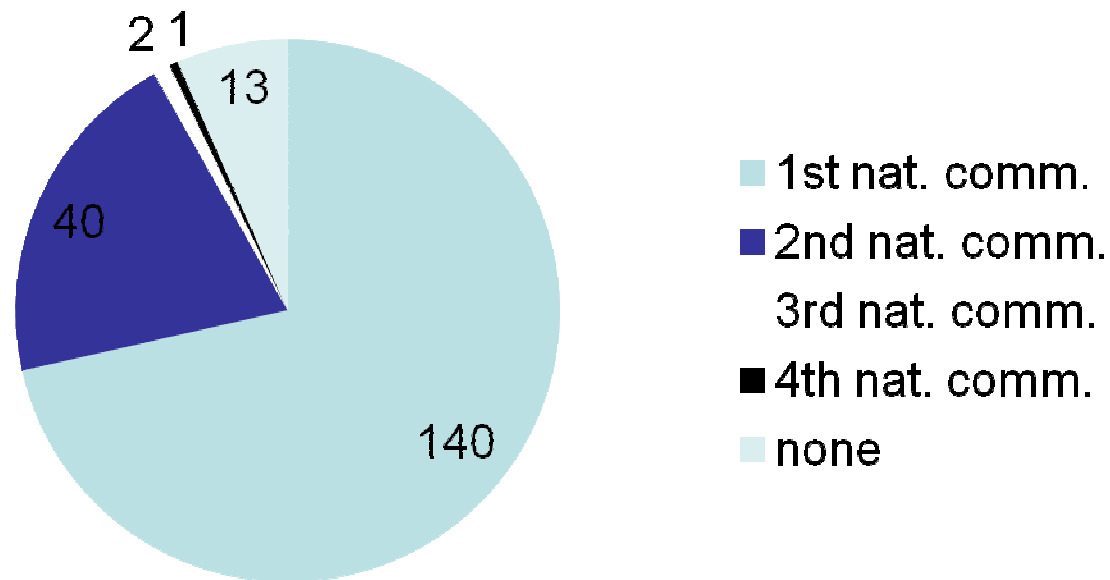


## The national GHG inventory in non-Annex I Parties

- In non-Annex I Parties, the **national GHG inventory** is a portion of the national communication;
- Frequency: initial communication to be submitted within 3 years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or within 3 years of the availability of financial resources (except for the least developed countries, who may do so at their discretion);
- Preparation and delivering depends on availability of resources (human and financial) and on the national arrangements put in place for the national communication.

# National communications from non-Annex I Parties

## Total number of submitted national communications from non-Annex I Parties



## Expected commitments for non-Annex I Parties in the post-2012 climate regime

Cancún Agreements (decision 1/CP.16, Dec 2010):

two important decisions regarding mitigation actions to be implemented by non-Annex I Parties, who:

- Will take nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) to deviate their emissions relative to “business as usual” emissions in 2020 (par. 48);
- Should, collectively with Annex I Parties, aim to slow, halt and reverse forest cover and carbon loss by undertaking REDD+ activities (par. 70).

## Expected commitments for non-Annex I Parties in the post-2012 climate regime (continues...)

Cancún Agreements (decision 1/CP.16, Dec 2010):

- Non-Annex I Parties should submit their national communications to the COP every 4 years (par. 60 b.);
- Should also submit biennial update reports, containing updates of national GHG inventories including a national inventory report and info on mitigation actions, needs and support received (par. 60 c.).
- REDD+ activities: timing for reporting not established yet. However, consistency with any guidance regarding MRV agreed for NAMAs should be ensured.

## Expected commitments for non-Annex I Parties in the post-2012 climate regime (continues...)

- Significant change in legal requirements for non-Annex I Parties reporting commitments:

System based on:

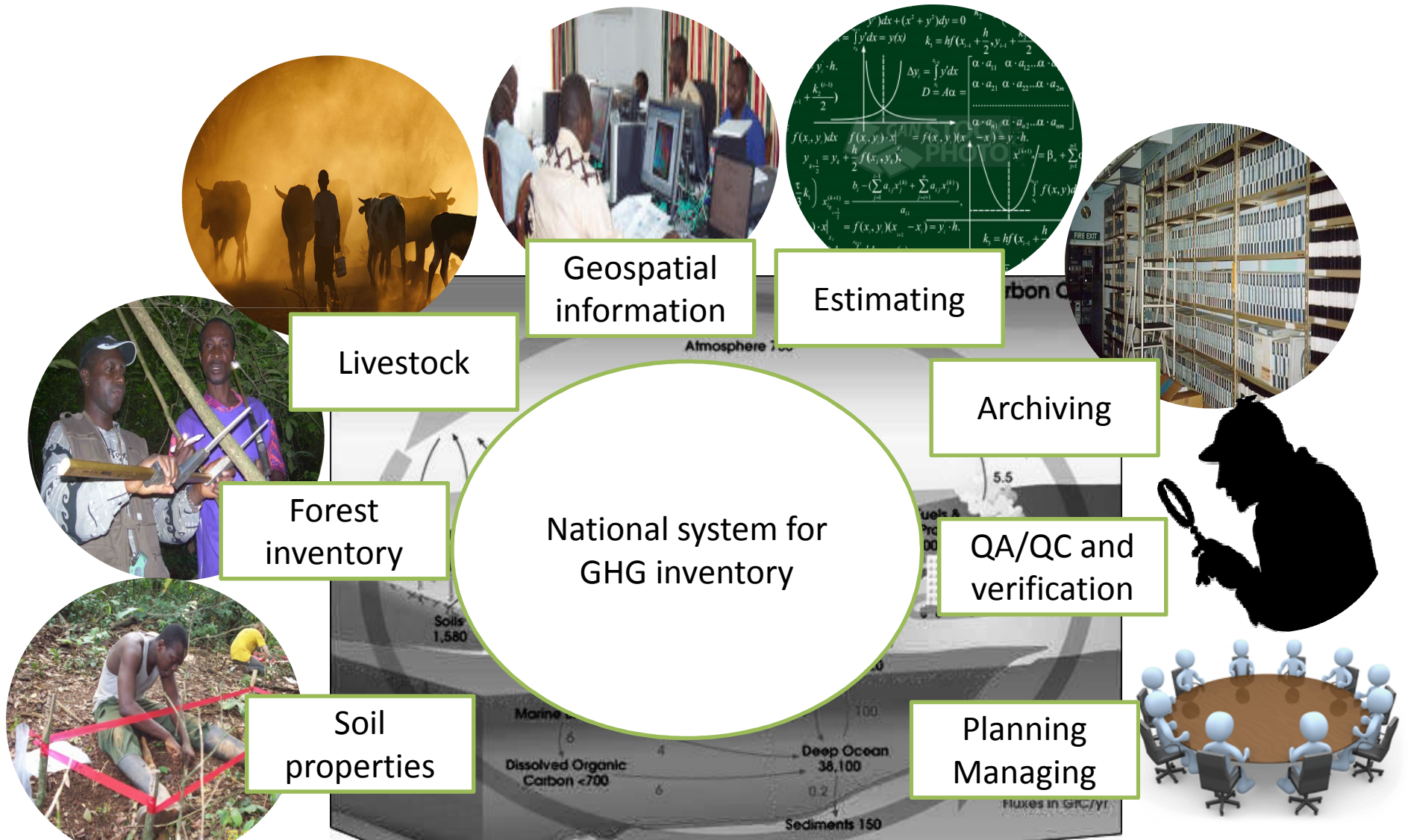
- Temporary arrangements
- National GHG inventory delivered together with national communication
- No time constraint



Permanent system based on:

- permanent arrangements
- national GHG inventory and supplementary info delivered every 2 years

# A national system to allow for a GHG inventory: an example



## A national system to allow for a GHG inventory

- National systems are mandatory for Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (KP Art 5, par 1)
- The development and implementation of the institutional frameworks for GHG inventory preparation by developing countries in the post-2012 regime can benefit from the experience of Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, while adapting to different levels of development, commitments and priorities.
- Definition: “A national system includes all institutional, legal and procedural arrangements made within a Party included in Annex I for estimating anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, and for reporting and archiving inventory information”  
(Guidelines for National Systems - decision 19/CMP.1)

# National Systems for Annex I Parties

- **Objectives of the national systems:**

- Ensure transparency, consistency, comparability, completeness and accuracy of the inventories
- Ensure the quality of the inventory and related activities: collecting activity data, selecting methods and emission factors, estimating emissions and removals, implement uncertainty analysis and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) activities, and verification
- Assist Annex I Parties in meeting their commitments under the Kyoto Protocol (Articles 3 and 7)
- Facilitate reviews of GHG inventory



# Functions of the National System for Annex I Parties

- **General functions** (decision 19/CMP.1):
  - ✓ Establish and maintain the institutional, legal and procedural arrangements
  - ✓ Ensure sufficient capacity for timely performance of the functions
  - ✓ Prepare and report national annual inventories and supplementary information
- **Specific functions** (decision 19/CMP.1 ):
  - ✓ **Inventory planning:** designate a single national entity; define and allocate specific responsibilities; elaborate an inventory QA/QC plan; establish processes for the official consideration and approval of the inventory; plan ways to improve the inventory
  - ✓ **Inventory preparation:** collect data, process information and prepare emission estimates in accordance with the IPCC guidelines; identify key categories; prepare an uncertainty analysis; implement QA/QC procedures, compile information for reporting in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol
  - ✓ **Inventory management:** archive inventory documentation; provide review teams with information and clarifications

## Technical problems & constraints affecting non-Annex I Parties

- The number of national experts is insufficient
- Often, support comes from independent consultants and external qualified technical experts
- Capacity-building mostly focus on individuals and not institutional capacity
- Difficulties in obtaining appropriate activity data and emission factors
- Lack of willingness to provide data among data providers for all sectors
- Financial resources:
  - “The developed country Parties shall provide new and additional financial resources to meet the agreed full costs incurred by developing country Parties in complying with their obligations under Art. 12, par. 1” (reporting commitments)

**Massive capacity building needed!**