

CARIBBEAN COOPERATIVE MRV HUB Measurement • Reporting • Verification

Enhancing MRV/Transparency Processes in Climate Action in the English-Speaking Caribbean



2020 Report of the Caribbean Cooperative Measurement Reporting
& Verification Hub Annual Meeting
Barbados, March 11-12, 2020

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1. Executive Summary

This report summarises the 2nd annual meeting of the MRV Hub which focused on the work accomplished and delivered in 2019 as well as the stock taking of member country experiences, obstacles and opportunities. During the meeting, the UNFCCC and UNDP provided an update on international requirements, negotiations, guidance on NDC enhancements and the Enhanced Transparency Framework. Following these timely updates, the MRV Hub Secretariat highlighted their 2019 activities which included in-country training sessions and workshops in the region, country-specific work streams and MRV System Status Assessments of all member countries. Over both days of the annual meeting, MRV Hub and regional experts presented on the development of Capacity Building Reports and explained their linkage to the identification of regional priorities that are being addressed by the launch of work crews on sector specific topics including data management systems, on-road mobile sources, maritime emissions and bunker fuel use, and forestry and other land use. MRV Hub Member Country representatives, Steering Committee members, and staff from the Secretariat discussed future work plans and the shared vision of establishing the Hub as a sustainable regional institution.

2. Background

The Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (“MRV Hub”) is a new regional institution designed to support Member Countries in their efforts to: improve MRV systems, build Paris Agreement reporting capabilities, and enhance their domestic evidence-based policymaking. A key design innovation of the MRV Hub is that it functions as a true learning and mentoring cooperative. The MRV Hub is funded for five years of collaborative work, mentoring, and tool development. The only but vital contribution expected from countries is expert time and commitment to building this new empowering regional institution.

Under the Paris Agreement, countries will be required to submit detailed data and supporting information every two years as a Biennial Transparency Report (BTR). To achieve this, countries are working to rapidly develop comprehensive climate measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems. The establishment of MRV systems provides an additional challenge for small Caribbean nations because systems for climate change transparency are prone to economies of scale. To achieve its mission, activities of the MRV Hub include multi-country working sessions, bilateral mentoring trips, training sessions, research fellows and interns, tool and guidance development, and strengthening data management systems. The MRV Hub is flexibly designed to adapt to evolving country needs for climate transparency.

Through cooperative activities, the MRV Hub will support member countries in the development of their National Inventory Programme and in doing so building the regional/national technical expertise to enable the reporting cycle (NC/BUR) to be institutionalised as opposed to operating on a project by project basis. By bringing the inventory process in house and improving technical capacity, the MRV Hub member countries are better positioned for Paris Agreement reporting, improving country access to climate finance, enhancing their national data systems (making reporting less burdensome and faster for countries), enabling domestic (non-reporting) uses of data and improving data quality and analysis.

3. Introduction

The MRV Hub held its 2nd Annual Meeting on the 11th and 12th March at the Hilton Barbados Resort, Barbados. Representatives hailing from 11 of the 12 member countries aligned with The MRV Hub (i.e., Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago), joined the meeting both in person and virtually. Specific provisions were made by The MRV Hub to allow virtual participation with key sessions being recorded in light of travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Dominica was not able to

send a representative to the meeting but was in communication with The MRV Hub staff prior to the meeting.

Mr. Wiley Barbour as CCMRVH Project Director made opening remarks on behalf of the MRV Hub Secretariat and invited Grenada's P.S. Roxie Hutchinson (Steering Committee Representative) to welcome the participants to the Hilton Barbados Resort and the Annual Meeting. The UNDP Resident Representative in Barbados and for the Eastern Caribbean, Mr. Magdy Martinez-Soliman, then gave his welcome and remarks.

This was followed by a welcome address and opening remarks by The Honorable Trevor A. Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification on behalf of the Government of Barbados, the host country.

Regional organizations such as the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat, as well as other key institutions working in the region including Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre (MTCC), UNFCCC, UNEP-DTU, UNDP, the UNFCCC-Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC-STG) at St George's)and GHGMI were all represented at the event.

4. Setting the Scene for Discussion

This session provided an update on the outcomes from the COP25 negotiations, as well as expectations for transparency during the next negotiating sessions. Discussion topics included what is envisaged for 2020 and what MRV Hub member countries want from the planned June sessions in Bonn and at COP26 in Glasgow.

Ms. Tugba Icmeli from UNFCCC presented on the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and key elements to be agreed at COP 26. In her presentation, Ms. Icmeli discussed the ETF MPGs that were adopted in the Katowice Package, submissions of BTRs (inclusive of LDC/SIDS discretion), Common Reporting Tables (CRT) with an indicator based approach that is both quantitative and qualitative as well as ETF discussions continuing in both Bonn and Glasgow.

This was followed by a presentation from Carlos Fuller (CCCCC) on CARICOM and AOSIS perspectives on MRV and Transparency in 2020. In his presentation, he highlighted the importance of countries taking a consistent approach to summary tables, maximizing clarity, minimizing double counting and using CRF Tables/CRT that adhere to the TACCC principles.

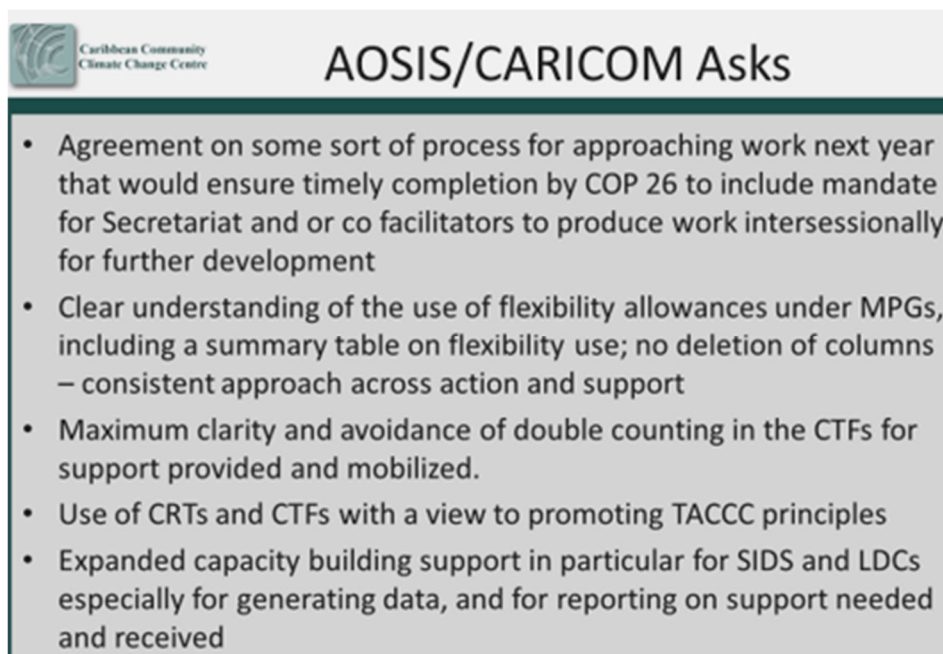


Figure 1. Slide from Carlos Fuller's Presentation

During the Question & Answer (Q & A) session that followed both presentations, Mr. Ajani Alleyne (Jamaica) highlighted that limited local/regional expertise was considered the primary barrier to future reporting and noted the importance of CBIT funding and MRV Hub support. The importance of relevant underlying data in assessing the feasibility of NDC actions was discussed at length during the rest of the session.

5. NC and BUR Efforts in the Region

This session highlighted the status, variety and main characteristics of recent NC and BUR efforts in the region, with a map to support needs in 2020/2021. A moderated Q & A session was conducted after initial presentations.

Ms. Tugba Varol from UNDP presented on the status of NC and BUR submissions in the region. During her presentation and in response to questions by participants, the following was discussed:

- How the MRV Hub Work Crews will operate with regional limitations in mind (Dr. Spencer Thomas)
- The regional approach given the differing Hub Member Country profiles. Example - Most Hub Member Countries have the Energy sector as their highest GHG emitting sector whilst Belize and Guyana have the highest percentage of emissions from the AFOLU sector. (Carlos Fuller, CCCCC)

- Which member countries intend to submit their BURs in 2020 (Hugh Sealy)

This was followed by a presentation on Jamaica's country experience with BURs/NCs by country representative Mr. Anjani Alleyne, who during his presentation, highlighted the challenges and experiences, lessons learnt and next steps in the NC/BUR reporting process. It was mentioned that in Jamaica, there is a lack of human and technical capacity to track data and calculate GHG emissions. This presentation sparked an active discussion amongst all participants as many country representatives shared their similar experiences on the challenges faced in the NC/BUR reporting process.

Experiences and Challenges

- ▣ **Technical and human capacities to complete the reports**
 - Shortage of technical sector-specific experts (few GHG experts at international & national levels available)
 - Lack of understanding of use of IPCC methodology by local stakeholders (database development)
- ▣ **No domestic transparency system**
- ▣ **Tracking & MRV**
 - Current data collection efforts do not allow for Tier 2 (except energy sector)
- ▣ **Data availability / frequency of collection by stakeholders**
- ▣ **Format for data collection**
- ▣ **Database or repository system**

Figure 2. Slide for Anjani Alleyne's Presentation

Lessons Learned

- ▣ **Need enhanced institutional framework**
 - Need clear policy direction
 - Need mandated legislation for data collection
- ▣ **Strong requirements for transparency / MRV system (e.g. tracking progress)**
- ▣ **Data availability is critical for analysis**
- ▣ **Sensitization of and engagement with key stakeholders**

Figure 3. Slide for Anjani Alleyne's Presentation

The last presentation of the session was carried out by Ms. Tugba Icmeli from UNFCCC on NDC Tracking and requirements. In her presentation, she highlighted- NDC tracking, strategies for indicator selection, BTR requirements and the CGE technical handbook on the ETF. In response to questions by participants, the following was discussed-

- If LDCs and SIDS will be submitted to the same review process as the other Parties on the NDCs (Hugh Sealy)
- If SIDS and LDCs can submit their NDCs as a group (Carlos Fuller, CCCCC)

The proposed Q & A session was not necessary as participants asked questions after each individual presentation.

6. NDC Updates and Tracking Efforts in the Region

This purpose of this session was to address the practical considerations regarding incorporating information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) into NDCs. NDC tracking and requirements as well as discussions of country plans and support needs in 2020/2021 was revisited. A moderated Q & A session was conducted after initial presentations.

Mr. Vintura Silva from RCC-STG presented on MRV related support that is available and being used within the region. During his presentation, Mr. Silva briefed participants on GEF support for preparation of NCs/BURs, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), NDC Partnership: CAEP and the UNDP/UNEP GSP for NDC revisions, NCs and BURs. Sectoral specific support through FAO (AFOLU sector), CARICOM Energy with OLADE and IRENA was also mentioned.

This was followed by a presentation from Mr. James Vener (UNDP) on UNDP's Climate Promise and the importance of ICTU. In his presentation, he highlighted the types of NDC enhancement and provided guidance documents for the aforementioned. In response to a participant question on enhancing a Party's NDC by moving away from an absolute target to an "Intensity" target - Mr. Wiley Barbour discussed the pros and cons of absolute and intensity targets.

Strengthening Clarity, Transparency and Understanding (CTU)



Article 4.8: “In communicating their nationally determined contributions, all Parties shall provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding”



Figure 4. Slide from James Vener's Presentation

Ms. Christa-Joy Burton then provided a presentation from Antigua and Barbuda's (A&B) country experience on the NDC revision process. Her presentation highlighted A&B's conditional mitigation and adaptation process, their application to the NDC Partnership-CAEP, requested support and their proposed NDC targets.



Figure 5. Slide from Aliyah Tuitt's Presentation

During the Q & A session after the presentations, Carlos Fuller (CCCCC) responded to a question of when countries should submit their NDCs. He noted that though NDCs can be submitted at any time - if SIDS can submit NDC revisions, then so should the big emitters. Dr. Spencer Thomas added that since the solution for Article 6 is not expected in the near future, it is not possible for Parties to comprehensively update their NDCs at this time.

7. MRV Hub Operations- Looking Back, 2020 workplan and Sustainable Institution Vision

This session covered and highlighted MRV Hub activities over the last year and introduced participants to the MRV Hub's three-pronged operational model and expected outputs in 2020. Discussions involved the vision of building the MRV Hub as a sustainable institution, exploring ideas for leveraging capacity building initiatives in the region, and an enhanced role for regional advisors to the MRV Hub.

Mr. Ryan Deosaran from the MRV Hub gave an update on the MRV Hub, inclusive of activities and results since the last Annual Meeting (Feb 2019). During his presentation, he provided information on the status of the Member Country MoUs, MRV Hub Meetings/Training Sessions in 2019, targeted country-specific work, the regional roster of experts and the MRV Status Assessment process. The introduction of the MRV Hub Work Crew concept occurred at the end of the presentation. The MRV Hub has launched several work crews composed of technical experts and country representatives to tackle MRV challenges that are common to most or all of the MRV Hub member countries. In response to a question from participants, Mr. Deosaran noted that results from the MRV Status Assessments were used as a baseline in choosing the Work Crew sectoral topics. This topic was further discussed on Day 2 of the Annual Meeting.

MRV System Status Assessments

MRV Hub team conducted desk reviews of NC/BUR/NDCs, existing reports, dossiers, and assessments of institutional capacity.

In-person interviews were conducted in each country with government officials and stakeholders involved in the compilation and analysis of the national GHG emissions inventory.

Written Capacity Building Reports are in the final stages of MRV Hub team validation.

After validation CBRs will be sent to each country for final review and clearance, establishing the baseline conditions for the project against which we will measure future progress. Assessed country needs will inform the structural design of the Hub.

Figure 6. Slide from Ryan Deosaran's Presentation

This was followed by a presentation from Ms. Cheryl Jeffers on the St. Kitts and Nevis (SKN) country experience in preparation for their upcoming NC/BUR reporting and the engagement process with the MRV Hub for in-country support. In her presentation, she discussed the challenges faced in previous inventory reporting cycles, the approach SKN envisages addressing these data gaps and the anticipated role of the MRV Hub in the next reporting cycle. After the presentation, multiple country representatives asked if this support would be available to them with Mr. Wiley Barbour noting that it would be available once a similar process is followed.

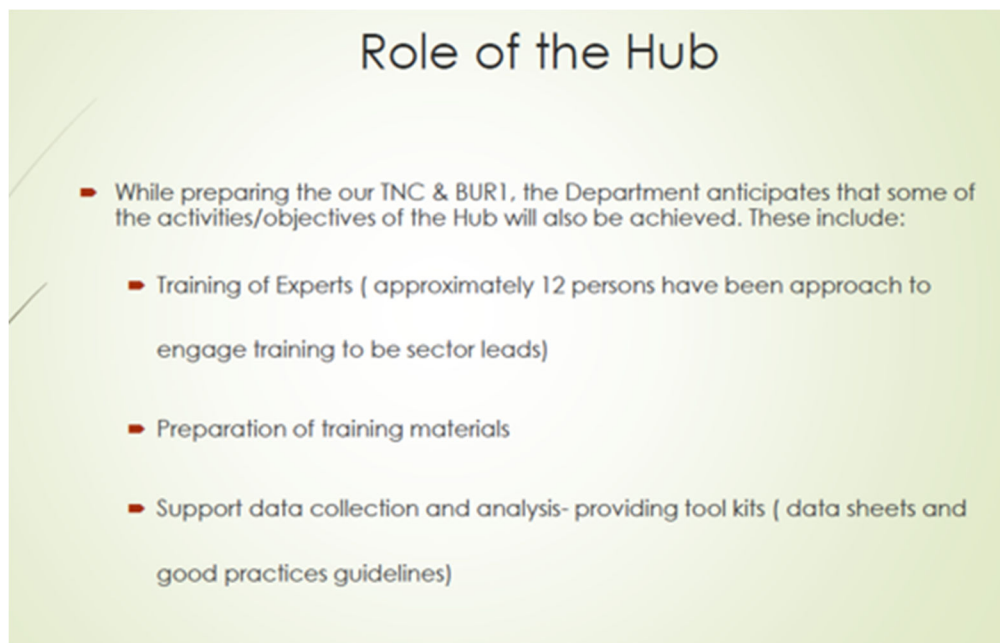


Figure 8. Slide from Cheryll Jeffers Presentation

In the last presentation of the session, Mr. Wiley Barbour (CCMRVH/GHGMI) discussed the MRV Hub 2020 work plan and then introduced the MRV Hub's vision for institutional sustainability. During his presentation and in response to a question from Ms. Adiola Walcott (Guyana), Mr. Barbour mentioned that the MRV Hub can assist with sector specific inventory reviews once it is approved by The Hub Secretariat as a feasible country-specific support request. In closing the presentations for the day, he highlighted the MRV System Status Assessment results to set the scene for the Day 2 agenda.

MRV System Status Assessment Results Summary

• Countries want

- to move from project-based to **in-house** GHG inventory development
- MRV systems that meet international reporting needs while supporting domestic policy making and NDC tracking

Desired support

- Staff development
- Sectoral guidance
- Mentoring
- Tool Development
- Data Management Systems

Priority Sectors

- Maritime Fuel Emission Estimates
- On-road Mobile Sources
- Emission estimates for Agriculture
- Emission estimates for FOLU

Figure 9. Slide from Wiley Barbour's Presentation

8. MRV Hub Country Session

During this session, The MRV Hub presented the MRV Status Assessment Matrix with Hub Member Countries presenting their needs as assessed within the aforementioned.

Mr. Vintura Silva from RCC-STG presented and discussed the regional MRV matrix. In his presentation Mr. Silva discussed the state of the region with regards to MRV, in-country interviews that led to developing capacity building reports (CBRs) and technical work crews as well as each member country's priorities based on the Capacity Building Reports (CBRs).

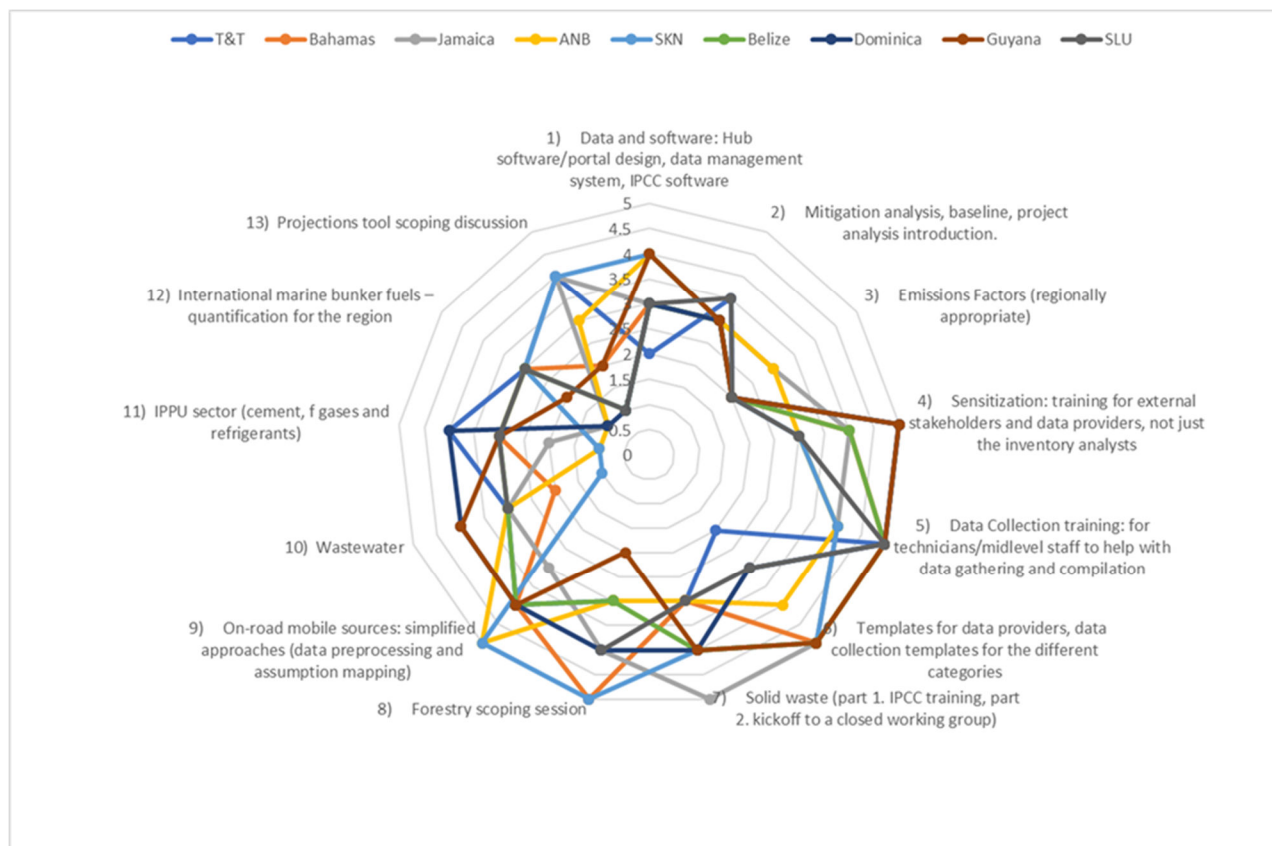


Figure 10. Slide from Vintura Silva's Presentation

This was followed by three presentations from Hub Member Country representatives-

Ms. Adiola Walcott from Guyana presented on Guyana's experiences in data management and the design of a new MRV system. During her presentation, Ms. Walcott discussed Guyana's engagement through institutional arrangements, engagements with permanent secretaries at relevant ministries and the need for funding for data collection. During the course of the presentation, Ms. Walcott highlighted that at present, Guyana was not getting data from the private sector as these stakeholders did not want to share proprietary or product data.

Ms. Shanna Emmanuel from Saint Lucia presented on Saint Lucia's Needs Assessment. During her presentation, Ms. Emmanuel highlighted the gaps in major mitigation sectors, capacity building needs and Saint Lucia's current priorities. The following points were clarified during the presentation and in response to participant questions:

- Issues in collecting private sector data
- Stakeholder fatigue due to several initiatives running concurrently
- Census for the AFOLU sector not being completed as often as is needed



Current Challenges

- Stakeholder fatigue from several ongoing processes - NDC Revision, NAP Annual M&E, PPCR-DVRP M&E, among other major CC Initiatives
- NEIS needs data sheets to be in a particular format which has presented some issues for the data providers and Inventory experts.
- No data manager from NEIS has been provided for at this time project ends in June 2020.

Figure 11. Slide from Shanna Emmanuel's Presentation

Mr. Ron Goodridge from Barbados presented on the Party's experience and lessons learnt from MRV frameworks. During his presentation, Mr. Goodridge highlighted the lack of data and information on critical sectors in the Party's 2nd National Communication as well as the need for a national system to track mitigation and adaptation actions. In response to a participant question, he noted the lack of protocols for data collection/storage as well as stakeholder fatigue as major challenges for Barbados.

Lessons Learnt from Barbados' Second National Communications (SNC)

- **Lack of Data and Information on Critical Sectors**
 - Barbados lacks sufficient protocols for the collection and storage of environmental data to ensure consistent quality.
 - Data is often stored in various formats at many different locations, making it difficult to assimilate in order to inform and guide decision making.
 - This significantly limits the ready availability of key variables and/or indicators required to inform analysis of (i) the impacts of climate change on critical sectors; (ii) sectoral contributions to the national greenhouse gases emissions profile, and (iii) the timely development (or adjustment) of policies and programmes.
- **Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory**
 - Several gaps in data required to establish national emissions factors and more accurate emissions estimates to inform the National GHG Inventory. In response to this, a Greenhouse Gas Inventory Management Framework and User Guide was developed in order to assist with the development of local expertise to establish systems for data collection, management and storage and the compilation of future inventories.

Figure 12. Slide from Ron Goodridge's Presentation

9. MRV Hub Activities – High-level introduction and country input on activities for 2020

This session provided a high-level introduction of the activities that the MRV Hub envisages carrying out to achieve the outputs in 2020: Specific topics included - Work crews focused on specific topics/sectors, country-specific work and support, and multi-country Training Workshops in MRV Hub Offices in Grenada. After initial presentations, country feedback and discussion was invited.

Mr. Ryan Deosaran from the MRV Hub presented an introduction to the MRV Hub Work Crew Concept. During the presentation, he highlighted the process for choosing the work crews, discussed the importance of the work crew charters and proposed concept papers by chosen sectoral topic.

Work Crew Process

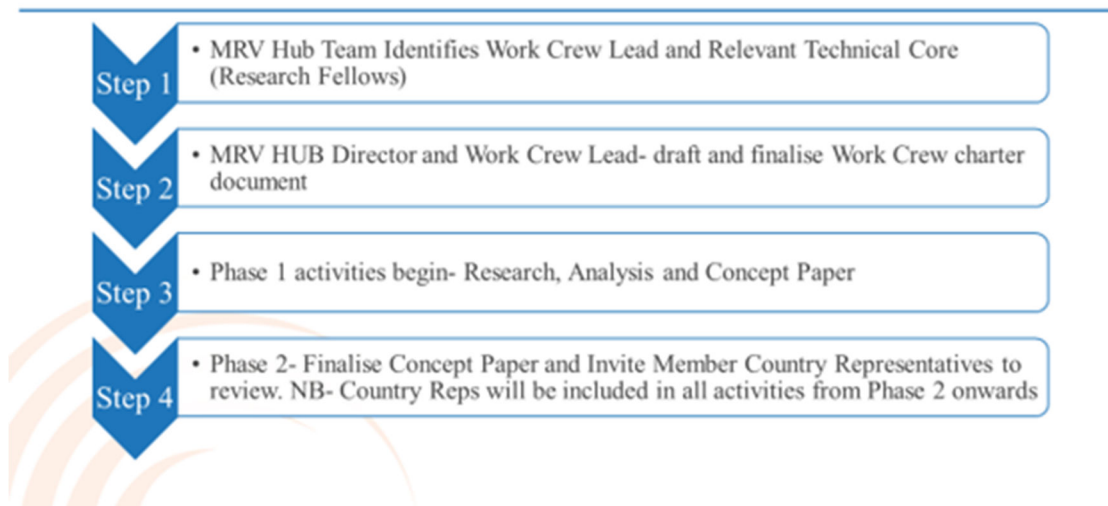


Figure 13. Slide from Ryan Deosaran's Presentation

This was followed by a presentation on country-specific work stream plans by Mr. Hayden Redhead of The MRV Hub Secretariat. Hayden, in his presentation, highlighted the country - specific work performed in 2019 and highlighted the challenges faced as well as ideas proposed for country-specific work in 2020 and beyond.

Country-Specific Work Challenges

- How to ensure fairness?
- Developing a menu of support types to choose from,
- Scheduling the work,
- Covering costs and leveraging funding sources,
- Doing direct contracting with countries.



Figure 14. Slide from Hayden Redhead's Presentation

In the last presentation of the session, Ms. Molly White (GHGMI) discussed the planned MRV Hub Summer Academy, regional roster of experts and the expanded opportunities for interns and research fellows. In response to a number of participant questions, Ms. White addressed the following topics:

- If 5C's and other organisations can submit names to the roster of experts for consideration
- The duration of MRV Hub internships and fellowships
- The possibility of member countries sending additional participants to The MRV Summer Academy using funds from other projects

Summer Academy & The MRV Hub

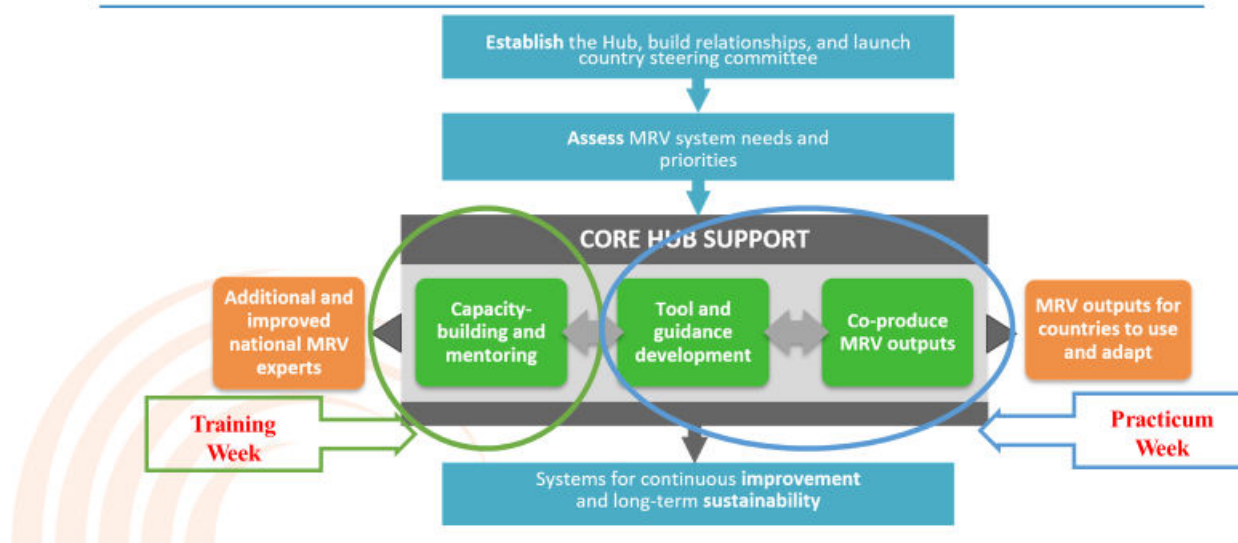


Figure 15. Slide from Molly White's Presentation

10. Individual Work Crews - Concept, Goals and Status of Work

During this session, Work crew leads briefly described their plans to support work on specific GHG inventory sectors and topics. Fact sheets and sign-up sheets for each work crew were made available for country representatives. Communication plans, opportunities to engage, and timelines were all shared. It should be noted that although Agriculture and Waste were not included in the initial phase of work crew implementation, it was acknowledged that these sectors are known problem areas (access to activity data and shortage of available regional experts) and will be prioritised in the next cycle of the

MRV Hub's work crew implementation process.

Mr. Randyll Pandohie (Research Fellow – MRV Hub) presented on the status of the DMS work crew and highlighted the results of the MRV Hub July workshop which identified functional/non-functional DMS user requirements after consensus from member countries. During the presentation and in response to participant questions, Mr. Pandohie addressed the following topics:

- Member countries working on independent software solutions
- Analysis of currently available software options
- Custom excel worksheets for data inputs
- DMS work crew next steps

DMS Work Crew - Goals



Provide a DMS for all MRV Hub Member Countries that delivers:

- Continuity and support for maintaining Institutional Arrangements for individual CCMRVH members
- Highly efficient and high-quality data analyses, visualization and archiving
- Consistent outputs compatible with reporting requirements under the ETF of the Paris Agreement
- Secure system for GHG accounting and reporting across sectors

Figure 16. Slide from Randyll Pandohie's Presentation

This was followed by a presentation from Captain Sukjhit Singh (Research Fellow – MRV Hub) on the Maritime Bunker Fuels work crew. In his presentation, Captain Singh discussed the IMO process and their connection to the UNFCCC reporting process as well as highlighting the process for data collection using the maritime bunker chain. In describing the results of the work crew concept paper, he emphasized the need to connect HUB member country focal points with the focal points from the Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre (MTCC); so that both parties would have better access to data.

Energy Efficiency Focal Points

#	Country	Maritime Administration	EE Focal Point	#	Country	Maritime Administration	EE Focal Point
1.	Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping	Mr. Wayne Mykoo wmykoo@abregistry.ag	9.	Guyana	Maritime Administration Department (MARAD)	Mr. Romain Seurattan romain.seurattan@gmail.com
2.	Bahamas	Bahamas Maritime Authority	Ms. Jade Evans Jadeevans@bahamas.gov.bs	10.	Haiti	Service Maritime et de Navigation D'Haiti (SEMANAH)	Mr. Jean Getro Aime gttrro@gmail.com
3.	Barbados	Ministry of International Business & Transport	Ms. Jacqueline Blackman Sophia.Grimes@internationaltransport.gov.bb	11.	Jamaica	Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ)	Ms. Vannessia Stewart vstewart@jamaicaships.com
4.	Belize	International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE)	Ms. Darlin Tatianna Gaitan dgaitan@portauthority.bz	12.	St. Kitts and Nevis	St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry	Mr. Wayne Edmeade waynejrsm@gmail.com
5.	Cuba	Cuban Maritime Safety Directorate	Mr. Jorge Ariel Tejeda Gonzalez tejeda.sm@mitrans.gob.cu	13.	St. Lucia	Saint Lucia Air And Sea Ports Authority (SLASPA)	Mr. Cassel Paul cassel.paul@slaspa.com
6.	Dominica	Maritime Administration Department	Mr. Harold Guiste guisteh@dominica.gov.dm	14.	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	Division of Maritime Affairs	Ms. Jillianjoy Davis registrar.svgmarad@gmail.com
7.	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic Coast Guard	Ms. Patricia Abreu patricia.abreu@ambiente.gob.do	15.	Suriname	Maritime Authority of Suriname (MAS)	Mr. Rael Coulour rcoulour@mas.sr
8.	Grenada	Grenada Ports Authority	Mr. Ian Evans portmanager@spiceisle.com	16.	Trinidad and Tobago	Maritime Services Division	Mr. Richmond Bassant msdadminenviron@mowt.gov.tt

5/14/2020

The Project is Funded by the European Union and
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Figure 17. Slide from Captain Singh's Presentation

The last two presentations of the session launched two new MRV Hub work crews. Dr. Anup Joshi (GHGMI) and Mr. Wiley Barbour (MRV Hub/GHGMI) presented on the Forestry and Other Land Use and on-road mobile sources work crews respectively.

Dr. Anup Joshi highlighted the purpose, goals and relevant 2006 IPCC guidelines of the FOLU work crew. In response to a participant question, he noted that an initial regional approach for the FOLU work crew will utilise the Collect Earth software to access and analyse high resolution satellite imagery.

Forest Work Crew - Purpose

- Develop tools and approaches to estimate GHG emissions from FOLU sector.
- Enable and enhance data collection & processing for estimating GHG emissions.
- Identify data gaps & select most appropriate approach to address data gaps
- Apply 2006 IPCC methodologies & 2019 refinements to estimate the GHG emissions.
- Create GHG inventory for the FOLU sector through the work of CCMRVH experts with initial support from GHGMI, using freely available inventory computation tools.

Figure 18. Slide from Anup Joshi's Presentation

Mr. Barbour highlighted the purpose and goals of the on-road mobile work crew with specific emphasis on mobile source emissions, fuel types and potential challenges.

Potential challenges

- Lack of detailed activity data
- Separating fuel consumption data between on-road and off-road vehicles
- Separating out stationary fuel use (e.g., back up generators, agricultural use)
- Data on biofuels and blended fuels
- Is there significant fuel smuggling?
- Use of lubricants as an additive in 2-stroke fuels
- Others?

Figure 19. Slide from Wiley Barbour's Presentation

After the presentations, participants split into three groups to discuss the work crews, address concerns and identify areas for improvement. Each group presented the results of the discussions at the end of the session, with the following points being noted-

Group 1

- Room for expansion of topics covered by MRV Hub work crews. Topics included- waste, F-gases and energy generation.
- Harmonising road transport data within the region.
- Developing regional definitions for the different types of forests and a regional approach to GHG emission estimates in the FOLU sector.
- Developing a regional approach for data collection and calculations in the waste sector.
- Consistent methodologies for collecting data across the region.

Group 2

- Recognising private sector members who willingly provide data.
- Common data classifications.
- Development of MoUs within the work crews.
- Data, trust and security within the work crews.

Group 3

- Disaggregation of data may lead to better mitigation plans.
- Smuggling of fuel is an issue in some member countries.
- Local modifications of imported vehicles need to be considered.
- The issue of mangroves not being included in inventories due to international classification.

11. Closing Session

The final session opened with Dr. Hugh Sealy (The MRV Hub) giving a wrap up of the annual meeting. He highlighted the achievements of the MRV Hub in collecting and evaluating data to design interventions and solutions. In closing he noted the need for continued work in the areas of climate finance and adaptation.

This was followed by a wrap up from Dr. Spencer Thomas. He congratulated the meeting organisers and addressed issues of meeting attendance with regards to Covid-19 restrictions. Dr. Thomas noted that he was happy to see the development of the work crews addressing priority topics.

Mr. Wiley Barbour closed the annual meeting thanking the Government of Barbados,

participants, UNDP, WINDREF and UNFCCC RCC-STG. In his closing remarks, Mr. Barbour noted that he was buoyed by member Country participation during the meeting given the challenging times and looked forward to continued collaboration in the same vein.