

Summary of the Regional Workshop on Article 6 Implementation (Eastern Europe and Africa): Advancing JCM Initial Report Preparation under Article 6

Date: March 26, 2026 | **Time:** 18:00–19:00 JST | **Venue:** Online (Zoom)

Link: <https://a6partnership.org/training-events/a6-regional-workshop-on-implementation>

Overview

The regional workshop brought together government officials from Ethiopia, Georgia, Moldova, Senegal, and Ukraine to enhance understanding of Article 6.2 implementation, with a focus on the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) and preparation of initial reports. The session aimed to support countries in navigating Article 6 readiness, reporting requirements, and lessons from the Article 6 Technical Expert Review (A6TER), while fostering peer exchange on progress and challenges. The workshop was moderated by Thelma Mahachi, Policy Researcher, A6IP Center.

Scene Setting

Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director of A6IP Center, introduced the objectives of the workshop and emphasized the importance of aligning JCM implementation with Article 6 requirements. He introduced the overview of the JCM highlighting key elements including authorization, ITMOs, and the role of JCM as a bilateral mechanism contributing to both Japan's and partner countries' NDCs while ensuring environmental integrity and avoiding double counting.

Refresher: JCM Implementation under Article 6

Hayato Nakamura, Senior Program Manager, A6IP Center, provided an overview of authorization and reporting requirements. He explained the 2-step authorization process under the JCM (cooperative approach and project-level authorization: a. Prior to the project implementation and b. Authorisation of the actual ITMOs transfer) and stressed the importance of initial reports as the starting point for Article 6 reporting. Early submission can signal readiness, though countries must ensure alignment with updated NDCs and domestic arrangements.

Country Sharing: Status and Challenges

Participating Partner Countries shared their status of the preparation of the initial report and key challenges. The session was moderated by Diana Khan, Ph.D., Senior Program Manager, A6IP Center.

- Ukraine reported progress in establishing institutional arrangements, including a government decree, while awaiting final adoption of Article 6 regulations.

- Georgia highlighted the development of NDC 3.0, which has now been approved, allowing work on the initial report to proceed.
- Moldova shared that it has drafted its initial report, established institutional responsibilities, and is developing an ITMO registry, while advancing project pipelines in waste management.

Common challenges raised by Partner Countries include finalizing authorization frameworks, developing registries, and aligning reporting with evolving NDCs.

Lessons from the Article 6 Technical Expert Review (A6TER)

Supanut Chotevitayatarakorn, Senior Program Manager, A6IP Center, presented key lessons from the A6TER process, noting the review is facilitative and aims to improve transparency, completeness, and consistency of reporting.

Recurring issues include:

- Incomplete domestic arrangements (authorization, registry)
- Gaps in national inventory reporting
- Limited clarity on NDC linkage and environmental integrity
- Transparency issues in authorization documentation

Countries are encouraged to conduct self-assessments before submission and engage actively during the review process.

Discussion and Exchange

Participants exchanged views on the critical steps countries should prioritize to finalize the initial reports aligning with Article 6 guidance and practical considerations to address common challenges. Key points of discussion include:

- **Timing of Initial Report Submission:** Participants discussed whether to submit early or wait until full readiness. While early submission builds transparency and learning, ensuring robust domestic arrangements helps avoid inconsistencies.
- **Updating Initial Reports:** It was clarified that updates can be made over time, particularly alongside Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), and flexible approaches (e.g., referencing external data sources) can reduce reporting burden.
- **Priority Actions:** Key priorities include establishing authorization frameworks, operationalizing registries (even interim solutions), and ensuring alignment with NDCs and accounting requirements.

Key Takeaways

- Robust domestic frameworks (authorization and registries) are essential for Article 6 readiness and form a core part of the initial report.
- Early engagement with A6TER supports learning and capacity building, strengthening reporting in the longer term.

- Flexibility in reporting and iterative improvement are important, allowing initial reports to be progressively refined.
- Peer exchange helps share practical solutions and challenges in ensuring consistency with Article 6 guidance.

Closing Remarks

Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director of A6IP Center, concluded by appreciating participants' contributions and reaffirming A6IP's continued support. He highlighted the importance of progressing with initial reports while preparing for subsequent reporting steps and encouraged ongoing collaboration.