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Request for proposals

Inventory, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification and the Under 2 Coalition

Introduction

The Climate Group, together with the Governments of California and Baden-Württemberg, seek Strategic Partners to provide financial and technical support for the Inventory, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification work stream of the Under2 Coalition.

The Under2 Coalition originated from a partnership between California and Baden-Württemberg, and provides a global forum for subnational governments to cooperate on delivering their commitment to long-term deep decarbonization in the post-COP21 period. The Climate Group (TCG) is the Secretariat of the Coalition.

Central to the Under2 MOU, already signed or endorsed by 130 world leaders, is that all signatories agree to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions 80 to 95%, or limit to 2 metric tons CO₂-equivalent per capita, by 2050. The Under 2 Coalition will build on this political commitment to long-term deep decarbonization and work directly to support governments to make deep decarbonization by 2050 a reality.

Conducting Inventory, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (I/MRV) work to measure and report regularly and reliably on greenhouse gas emissions is one of the core commitments signatories to the Under2MOU make, and will be a key focus area for the Under2 Coalition. Currently, not all signatories have developed inventories across all IPCC sectors and/or report on their emissions annually. Less than half of signatories report their jurisdiction-level economy-wide emissions to the Compact of States and Regions, a reporting initiative run by The Climate Group, in partnership with CDP, which has been selected as the primary mechanism to publically disclose environmental information for the Under2 Coalition. In addition, quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) of jurisdiction-level economy-wide inventories, data availability and monitoring across different sectors, as well as reporting and verification approaches, differ between and among state and regional governments. For example, state and regional governments around the globe use different standardized criteria/guidance across various sectors and use different protocols and QA/QC guidelines for their jurisdiction-level economy-wide inventory development.

At a more basic level, many developing states and regions face significant resource challenges in constructing basic inventories of GHG emissions across different sectors, whereby land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) is generally seen as the most difficult sector when it comes to data availability and obtaining accurate monitoring technology. Consequently, it should be recognized that jurisdictions and inventory compilers do not have unlimited resources and that resources vary significantly across different parts of the world.



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Under 2 Collation vision in relation to I/MRV

Enhancing and harmonizing I/MRV processes at national, state, and city levels is crucial to the effort to raise awareness of the climate change and necessary GHG reduction, to consolidate data infrastructure for reporting GHG emissions and ultimately to reduce GHGs and limit the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels. Robust I/MRV, including GHG accounting and inventories based on sound methodologies across all sectors, is, in addition to a solid mitigation plan, essential for ensuring meaningful greenhouse gas emission reductions.

The Under2MOU Coalition will take action to:

- Promote consistent, reliable inventories, measurement, reporting and verification across all sectors by identifying best practices and most resource effective approaches across states and regions with different physical, economic, and cultural backgrounds;
- Provide proof of concept to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement with regards to common rules, procedures, and guidelines around I/MRV;
- Provide support to sound approaches for identifying, implementing and monitoring mitigation measures that are sufficient to reach the target emission reductions;
- Help to ensure the quality of the 5-year review mechanism in the Paris Agreement; and
- Enable further climate action by facilitating and harmonizing I/MRV processes at both the subnational and international level.

The Under2MOU Coalition will support governments in the development of their capacity, expertise and systems to assess their emissions accurately across all sectors and track progress against their targets. This includes LULUCF, which presents I/MRV challenges, and where many of U2C members from jurisdictions with tropical forests have significant experience. We will seek to establish clear alignment with UNFCCC MRV systems and harmonization with others systems. The Under2MOU Coalition will also help build capacity mechanisms and ready-to-use tools and guidelines.

Scope of the Partnership

The successful Partner will be expected to commit to supporting the Under 2 Coalition for 3-5 years, with financial contributions agreed according to the particular dimensions of the partnership.

Over the years, the successful Partner will assist the Under2MOU Collation to achieve the following outcomes:

- 1) **Develop, by early 2017, a scoping study** aimed at mapping the reporting situation across the world, identifying best practises and gaps of inventory development across each of the five sectors identified by the 2006 IPCC guidelines, assess quality assurance of jurisdiction-level economy-wide inventories, review reporting standards and verification practices across the Under2MOU coalition. This scoping study will inform



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which technical working groups should be set up and in which sectors standardization and harmonization of practises is most needed. Additionally, the scoping study will outline where the emphasis should be on developing robust I/MRV practises or improving quality control and quality assurance¹.

- 2) **Establish sectoral technical working groups** or areas within I/MRV that are particularly difficult. A LULUCF working group is likely to be the first such group established, given the importance of the sector and the difficulties posed by the complexity of land use emissions.
- 3) **Standardize to the extent possible I/MRV for every sector and quality assurance approaches** across all Under2MOU members. This does not mean requiring all signatories to use a particular protocol, standard, or methodology, but rather establishing common criteria/best practices per sector for those protocols and methodologies, with the goal of convergence such that the data ultimately reported is comparable across jurisdictions. This will in turn serve as a best-practice model for the international process, where I/MRV approaches are similarly diverse; and
- 4) **Support capacity-building** in those jurisdictions that have not yet inventoried, monitored, reported and verified their GHG emissions in particular sectors and have consequently not done jurisdiction-level economy-wide GHG accounting , including though a discrete set of training opportunities with the support of delivery partners, with the goal of universal inventorying across all members [by 2020] and having all members report through any of the recognized reporting platforms of the Compact of States and Regions by that same date. An important aspect of this would be to help jurisdictions move from lower tier methodologies for GHG emissions calculations (such as default emission factors) to higher tier methodologies for GHG emissions calculations (such as source-specific measurement) when compiling jurisdiction-level economy-wide inventories.

Partnership benefits

The successful partner will benefit from extensive opportunities through engagement with the world's largest coalition of sub-national governments taking bold action to ensure long-term deep decarbonization. The 130+ signatories to the coalition represent more than 740 million people and \$20.7 trillion in GDP, equivalent to more than a quarter of the global economy.

The successful Partner will develop a unique understanding about how leading governments are reporting their emissions and procuring solutions to help them achieve deep decarbonization. The successful partner will benefit from opportunities to form partnerships with governments to assist them in their climate measurement and management activities.

¹ The focus on quality assurance and quality control should increase when aggregated jurisdiction-level data is supplied by energy statistics agencies.



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In addition, The Climate Group is well-positioned to deliver high visibility to the successful analysis partner. The Climate Group's promotes its work through world-class communications and events such as [Climate Week NYC](#). Our media expertise is world-renowned and Analytica ranked TCG as the 3rd most influential non-profit at COP21.

- **Branding rights as lead sponsor.** The Analysis Partner will be recognized on TCG's website, as well as through relevant press releases, articles and media interviews as lead sponsor over the years of partnership. The Analysis Partner will also receive rights to use the relationship across your marketing materials.
- **Event and media platforms.** The successful Partner will have the opportunity to present the I/MRV analysis and findings at TCG events and via TCG online platforms throughout the years of partnership and will receive the additional branding benefits (including logo placement in the report, invitations for your organization and guests to attend events, etc).

Application Process

Interested organizations should submit a brief proposal that contains the following information:

- Explanation of interest in the project and proposed approach to the scope of work (2 pages maximum);
- Company / organizational information and technical capacities (2 pages maximum);
- Proposed staff and CVs/biographies (if in kind support is included); and,
- Proposed financial contribution.

All proposals must be submitted to Jean Charles-Seghers (jseghe@theclimategroup.org) by **5:00 PM GMT on September 2, 2016**. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.

Thank you for your interest.