



Unlocking a Global Deal: Taking MRV from Concept to Practice

Monday, June 8, 2009

3:30 – 5:30

Bonn, Germany

PANELISTS

- Raekwon Chung, Korea
- Zou Ji, Renmin University, China
- Jane Ellis, OECD

WRI and MRV

DISCUSSION PAPER



MEASURING THE WAY TO A NEW GLOBAL CLIMATE AGREEMENT

TARON FRANSEN, HILARY MCMAHON, SMITANARHOOLA

INTRODUCTION

Ensuring a global climate agreement is based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and relative capabilities to identify measures that promote development objectives while yielding co-benefits for climate change.

The paper explores key points raised by the Chairperson of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) in his 2012 agreement. We assess an agreement, national climate change adaptation, and the international climate change process. We also discuss the role of the international climate change process in the context of the international climate change process.

THE UNITED NATIONS ON CLIMATE CHANGE AT THE ENFORCEMENT, which has included the United States, has differentiated responsibility to separate and address global climate change.

1010 10th St NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20004-6101

WORKING PAPER

Mitigation Actions in China: Measurement, Reporting and Verification

June 2008

This paper looks at the role of the Ministry of Environment and Protection in the context of the international climate change process. It also discusses the role of the international climate change process in the context of the international climate change process.

WORKING PAPER

Keeping Track: National Positions and Design Elements of an MRV Framework

July 2008

An early representative view of the United States Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is being developed. This paper looks at the role of the Ministry of Environment and Protection in the context of the international climate change process. It also discusses the role of the international climate change process in the context of the international climate change process.

WORKING PAPER

Enhancing Today's MRV Framework to Meet Tomorrow's Needs: The Role of National Communications and Inventories

September 2008

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a global agreement that provides a framework for international climate change negotiations. This paper looks at the role of the Ministry of Environment and Protection in the context of the international climate change process. It also discusses the role of the international climate change process in the context of the international climate change process.

WORKING PAPER

Electricity Governance Initiative

June 2008

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AGENDA

Definitions and objectives of MRV

Existing systems in the UNFCCC

→ *Reactions from panel*

Prospective new systems

- National systems and action plans – what can we learn?
- Registry
- Low-emission strategies

→ *Reactions from panel*

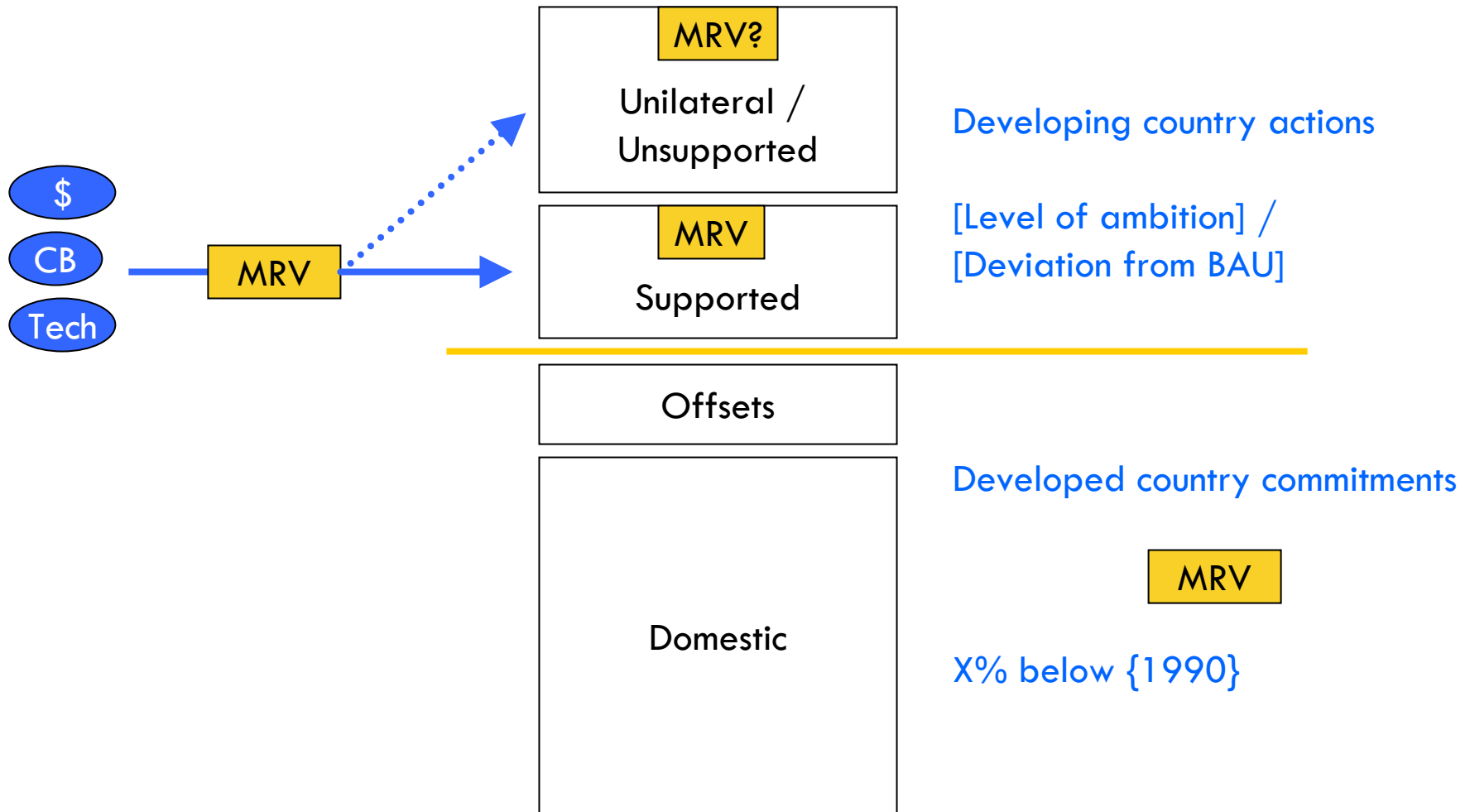
→ *Audience Q&A*

Definitions

- Commitments
- Actions
- Support
- Measurement
- Reporting
- Verification

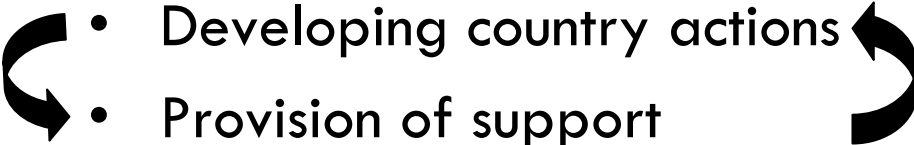


MRV: One interpretation



Objectives of MRV

Hold parties accountable

- Developed country QELROs
 - Developing country actions
 - Provision of support
- 

Facilitate implementation

- Provide information
- Catalyze coordination and planning
- Promote effective policy design
- Facilitate evaluation of agreement's effectiveness
- Link actions and support

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Current UNFCCC processes

- Annex I national inventories
- Annex I national communications
- Non-Annex I national communications
 - Include inventories

Adequacy for MRV

	MRV OBJECTIVES	EXISTING SYSTEMS	
		National Communications	Inventories
A C C O U N T A B I L I T Y	Evaluate actions by <i>developed countries</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardized, but limited, indicators • No standardized methodologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IPCC methodologies ▪ NIR/CRF ▪ Expert review
	Evaluate actions by <i>developing countries</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No standardized methodologies / indicators ▪ Space to report, but not standardized ▪ Limited review 	
	Evaluate deliverance of adequate support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Standardized indicators but not methodologies – what counts? ▪ Common reporting format ▪ Limited review 	



	MRV OBJECTIVES	EXISTING SYSTEMS	
		National Communications	Inventories
F A C I L I T A T I O N	Catalyze <i>national</i> coordination and policy planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can catalyze national coordination, but infrequent in developing countries; not forward-looking so not planning-oriented 	
	Information about range of possible mitigation actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an overview of mitigation actions Insufficient information to assess effectiveness 	
	Share lessons about effective mitigation (impact, cost-effectiveness etc.)		
	Assess effectiveness of global agreement and progress toward global goal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only to the extent of presence of good quality inventories No regular inventories in some of the major GHG emitters
	Link actions to support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ex-post review of past actions only 	

Initial recommendations

- Application of the current Annex I inventory process, as well as relevant Kyoto Protocol accounting provisions, to all developed country parties
- Standardized reporting structure for policies and measures
- More frequent and complete GHG inventories for developing-country parties with significant emissions
- Improved definition of support requirements, along with standardized reporting and verification procedures for them
- More frequent, streamlined, and standardized reports, as a complement to or replacement for national communications

Questions

- In the context of an international agreement, how do we prioritize amongst MRV functions?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages to verifying unilateral actions taken by developing countries?
- To what extent should we draw on existing national communications and inventory processes to support MRV in a post-2012 agreement?

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National climate plans

- Objectives
- Scope
- Process of preparation
- Emission scenarios
- Mitigation interventions
- Adaptation interventions



Key observations

- Range of analytical tools
 - Emission scenarios
 - Cost-curve analysis
 - Quantified actions
 - None of the above
- Diverse actions identified
 - Suggests diverse indicators
- Need for improved institutional capacity
- Propose re-visiting past initiatives
- Importance of process

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGIES:
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY PLANS



	INDIA National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)	BRAZIL National Plan on Climate Change (PNMC)	CHINA National Climate Change Program	MEXICO Special Program on Climate Change (PECC)	SOUTH AFRICA Long Term Mitigation Scenarios (LTMS)
Issuing entity	Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change, July 2008	Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change, December 2008	National Development and Reform Commission, June 2007	Inter-Secretarial Commission, March 2009 (review draft)	Cabinet of South Africa, July 2008
Stated objective	To establish an effective, cooperative and equitable global approach based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and relative capabilities; to identify measures that promote development objectives while yielding co-benefits for climate change.	To identify, plan, and coordinate the actions and measures that can be undertaken to mitigate GHG emissions in Brazil, as well as those necessary for the adaptation of society to the impacts that occur due to climate change.	To make significant achievements in controlling GHG emissions; to enhance the capability of continuous adaptation to climate change to promote climate change related science, technology and R&D to a new level; to raise public awareness on climate change and to further strengthen institutions and mechanisms on climate change.	To develop and solidify guidelines contained in the previously released National Strategy on Climate Change (ENACC); to demonstrate that it is possible to mitigate and adapt to climate change without compromising development, while respecting economic benefits.	To produce a sound scientific analysis from which Cabinet could draw up a long-term climate policy; to give South African negotiators under the UNFCCC clear and mandated positions; to ensure that South African stakeholders understand and commit to a range of realistic strategies for future climate action.
Process for development	Plan developed by a special council appointed by the Prime Minister. Efforts began in 2007. Council includes ministers, government officials, scientists, civil society and business, but has met infrequently. As of 2009, strategies to advance the eight missions identified in the plan are being developed by ministers, agencies and consultants. The need for further stakeholder engagement has been recognized.	President initiated PNMC in April 2007 on the recommendation of the Ministry of Environment and Brazilian Forum on Climate Change. In November 2007, President appointed Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (CIM) to oversee Plan. CIM surveyed ministries to identify actions that could be incorporated and solicited input through a stakeholder consultation process. Initial version released for public comment in September 2008; originated for lack of clear goals. Revised version released December 2008.	China was the first major developing economy to issue an action plan. Process was led by the National Development and Reform Commission, with input from leading universities. Chinese Vice Premier Zeng Peiyuan and State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan now head a National Coordination Committee on Climate Change, which includes 17 ministries and agencies, to orchestrate climate change policy.	Inter-Secretarial Commission on Climate Change (CICC) formed in April 2005. CICC prepared ENACC, presented by President Calderón in May 2007, who ordered development of the PECC based on ENACC and the National Development Plan (PND). 17 sectoral systems fed into PECC. An initial draft was published in July 2008 and was subsequently revised based on a new set of GHG mitigation scenarios.	Commissioned by Cabinet in 2006; Department of Environment and Tourism tasked to develop plan. A "Scenario Building Team" was set up, including research institutes, business, and civil society.

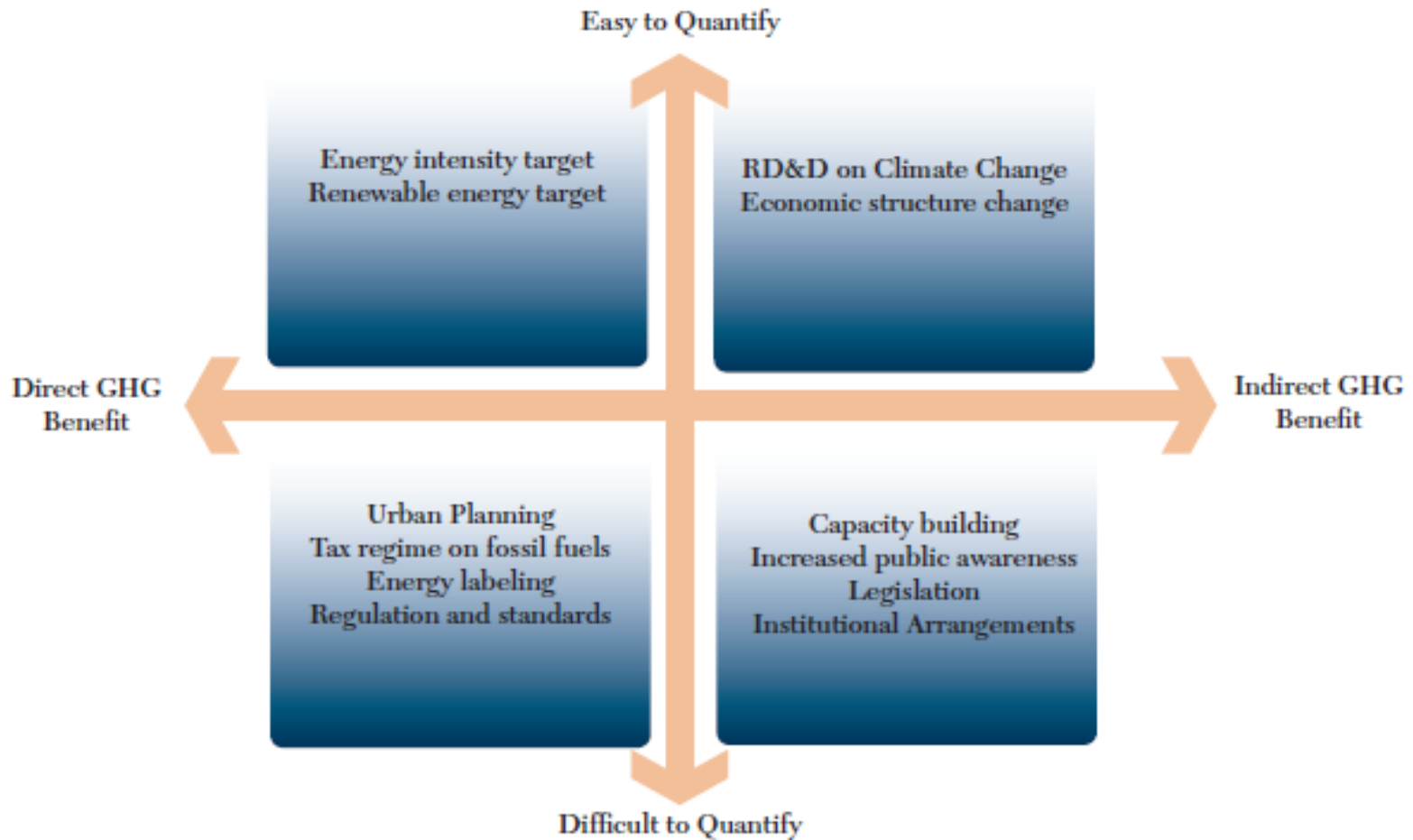
China MRV study



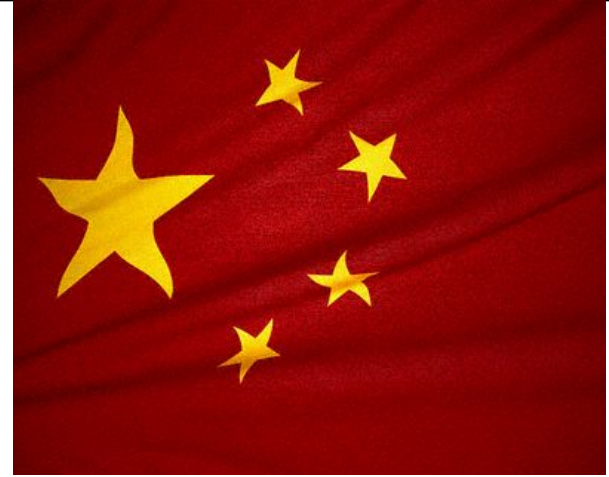
Analyzed:

- Existing mitigation policies and measures in China
- How they are measured, reported, and verified at the national and sub-national levels

Chinese mitigation actions



Observations



- Programs
 - Have targets
 - Have supporting policies & measures
- Metrics
 - Some have, some don't
 - Qualitative vs. quantitative
 - Outcome-based and process-based
- Diverse reporting and verification procedures

Registry

- Concept: Mechanism to recognize nationally appropriate mitigation actions
- Major questions:
 - Purpose:
 - Recognition only, or also support?
 - Developing country actions only, or also developed countries?
 - Governance structure
 - Criteria for matching actions with support



*Matching actions with support
(which criteria?)^{vii}*

GHG benefit

Level of mitigation effort depends on type and level of support

AOSIS^{vi}, South Africa, Zambia

Registry only supports actions that generate direct emissions reductions

Brazil

Ambition

EU

Ensure environmental integrity

Norway

Cost

Cost effective mitigation

EU, Norway, USA

Type of action

Level and type of support depends on type of action

Norway, South Africa

Highest priority action

USA

Developing country priorities

Host developing country party selects the most appropriate financial resources

Japan

Based on Low Carbon Development Strategy

EU, Norway

Capacity

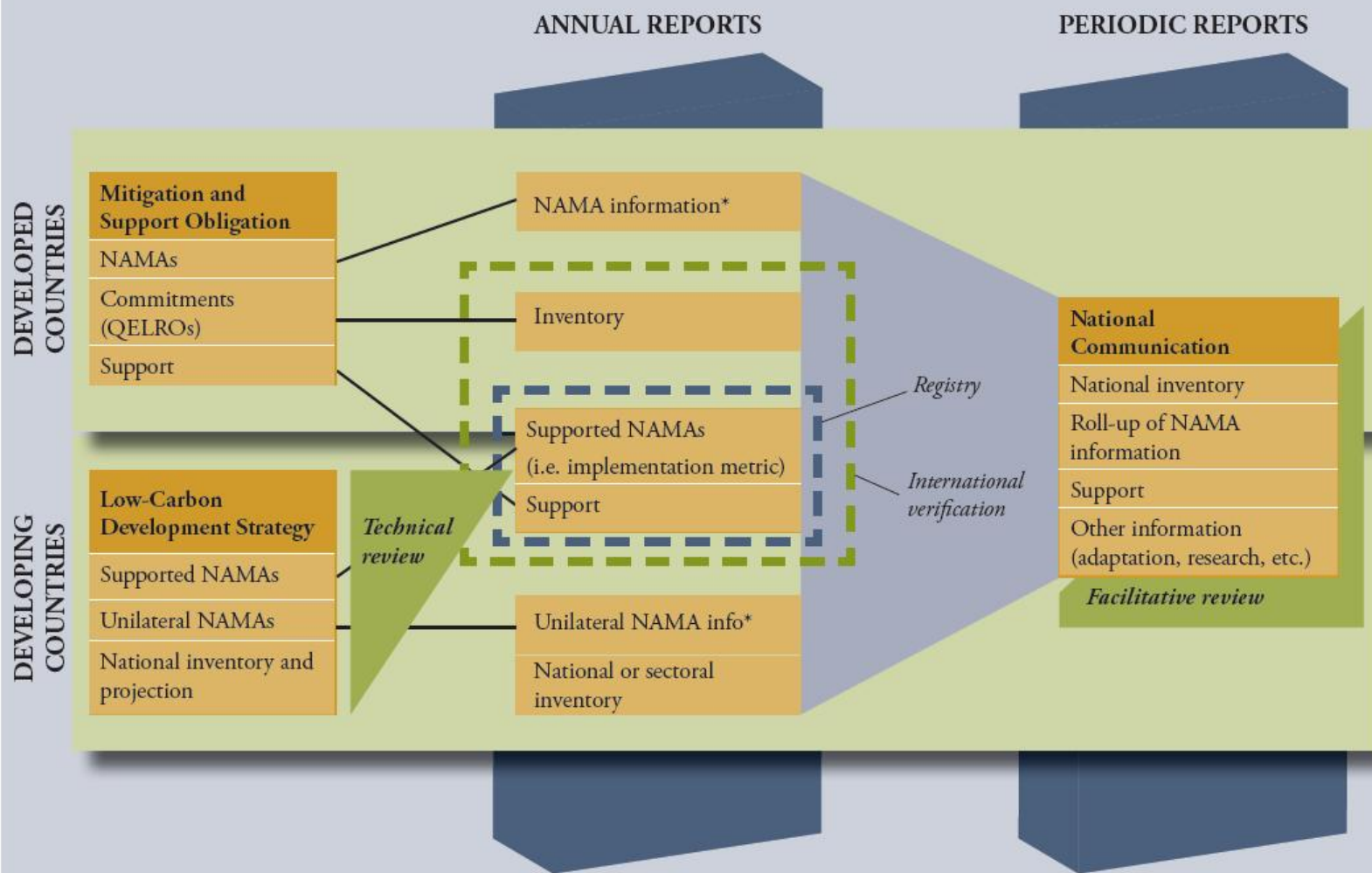
Level and type of support dependent on national capabilities

USA

National plans

- Concept: National planning process to articulate low-carbon, sustainable-development pathways – identify and provide context to NAMAs
- Major questions:
 - Who prepares – developing countries or all countries?
 - Role of plans and relationship to NAMAs, registry, support?
 - Should they be reviewed and by whom?

Figure 1. Schematic of a Prospective MRV Process



*National verification according to international guidelines

Observations on proposed processes

- Proposed processes have the potential to bridge some of the gaps between existing processes and MRV objectives
 - MRV actions/support
 - Link actions with support
 - Strengthen case for international support
- Lack of clarity around functions of proposed processes and how/whether they would interact with existing processes
- Significant technical capacity needs implied

Recommendations

- MRV framework should cover “mitigation actions,” not just the emissions reductions resulting from these actions
- Not all individual mitigation actions will result in direct and measurable emissions reduction – develop criteria for defining NAMAs
- Reporting and verification could be bolstered - give a more comprehensive picture of what actions have been taken and what outcomes have resulted

Questions

- What characteristics (such as mitigation benefits, cost and timeframe, proposed process to MRV) might define NAMAs and support that would be considered under a post-2012 agreement?
- What goals, principles, institutions or processes must be included in a Copenhagen agreement in order to facilitate successful MRV post-2012? What can be worked out later?
- Robust processes vs. immediate mitigation and capacity needs – how to reconcile?



Thank You!

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