

The GST and Beyond: Understanding the Strategies and Influence of Civil Society Actors

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The Independent Global Stocktake (iGST) is a consortium of civil society actors working together to support the Global Stocktake (GST), the formal process established under the Paris Agreement to periodically take stock of collective progress toward its long-term goals. The iGST aligns the independent community — from modelers and analysts, to campaigners and advocates — so we can push together for a robust GST that empowers countries to take greater climate action. www.independentgst.org

The Early Career Scholars for an Inclusive Stocktake (ECSIS) program recognizes the importance of GST research and seeks to create opportunities for its advancement by providing a supportive environment for these endeavors. Additionally, the program places a strong emphasis on promoting diversity and inclusiveness among early-career scholars. This not only enriches the research landscape but also helps to ensure that the GST reflects a broad range of perspectives and experiences, thereby improving its relevance and effectiveness.

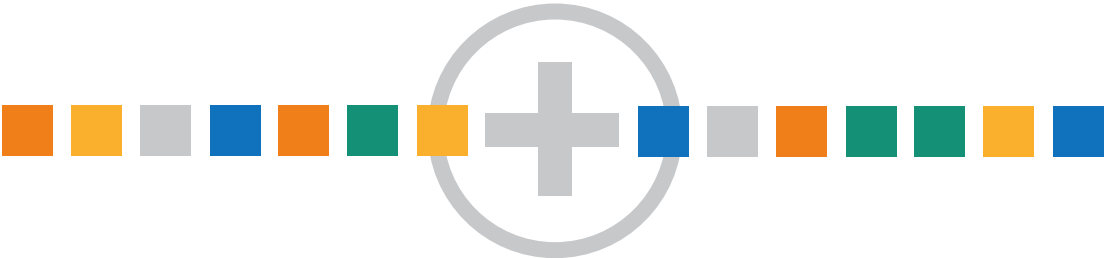
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+ Key Messages



- Understanding civil society participation and engagement in the GST is critical for inclusive climate governance as well as a strong outcome of the GST for ambitious climate policy at the national and international level.
- This analysis is grounded in rigorous empirical research, including document analysis, creation and examination of a database tracking 165 civil society submissions and 206 engagements in the GST process, as well as a survey sent to 242 emails associated with the submitted inputs.
- There is growing participation of civil society actors in GST processes over time but many of these actors come from internationally-operating networks, alliances and organizations with limited engagement from subnational and local actors.
- Capacity building and improved access to resources, networks and spaces for engagement is needed for subnational and local actors to be better represented in the GST
- More research into civil society perspectives, strategies, mobilization and engagement pathways is needed to augment the effectiveness and inclusivity of CSAs within and beyond the GST.
- While civil society engagement in the GST has increased, subnational and grassroots actors remain underrepresented, pointing to systemic barriers to access and participation that must be addressed.
- Targeted capacity building and simplified engagement pathways are critical for localized civil society voices to meaningfully inform ambitious, equitable climate progress through the GST.
- Sustained research into diverse civil society strategies and influencer channels can support more inclusive multi-level governance and feedback loops between global and local climate action.
- The GST presents a vital opportunity to synthesize civil society knowledge and lived experience for catalyzing climate progress, but realizing this potential requires transparent information flows and sustained participatory mechanisms.
- Simplified procedures, alternative engagement formats and transparent feedback channels could enhance accessible and inclusive civil society participation throughout the iterative GST process.

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- Preliminary survey findings indicate ambiguity and uncertainty around the impact and uptake of civil society inputs, underscoring the need for transparent feedback loops and sustained engagement post-GST to maintain stakeholder interest and investment.



+ 1. Introduction



Civil society and non-state actors have an important role in global climate governance by influencing decision-making processes through channels inside and outside the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Eastwood 2011; Beuermann et al. 2020). One such emerging channel is that of the Global Stocktake (GST) which has the primary objective of assessing collective progress towards the Agreement's long-term climate goals as well as informing and enhancing country-led climate action and support every five years, including through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) (Paris Agreement 2015; Català and Wyns 2022). In this regard, Parties will have a frontline role through their involvement in high-level events and negotiations at the Conference of Parties (COP) 28. However, the GST process has also sought to be more inclusive of civil society participation, and civil society actors (CSAs) have responded by contributing to the process through discussions, submissions and technical inputs (IISD 2022; Milkoreit and Haapala 2019). Civil society actors (CSA) are also expected to continue informing the political phase of the GST, formulating positions in response to its outcomes as well as utilizing GST outcomes to catalyze climate action. Despite this, we know very little about who are the CSAs that are actively participating in the GST, how they are participating and what their perspectives, strategies for influencing and expectations from the GST process are for advancing global climate goals.

Thus, in this working paper, we map the geographies and participation of CSAs in the first GST to highlight the strengths, challenges and capacities needed for inclusive CSA participation in the GST. We also outline our methodology and preliminary findings on NGO perspectives, strategies and expectations in the GST. Our research finds that while civil society actors have been increasingly engaged in GST processes and bring a diversity of perspectives, this engagement comes largely from internationally-operating networks, alliances and organizations with limited engagement from subnational and local actors. More engagement from a wider range of CSAs is needed so that the GST remains inclusive and effective for enhancing climate action.

+ 2. Background



The Global Stocktake (GST) is a critical five-yearly process established under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement to assess collective progress and opportunities for enhancing ambition on climate action. Occurring every five years starting in 2023, the GST aims to identify achievements, gaps, and solutions for advancing climate change mitigation, adaptation, finance flows, and technological and capacity support. This enables strengthening international cooperation to achieve the Paris Agreement's long-term temperature and adaptation goals.

Structured in three phases, the inaugural GST spanned 2021-2023. The information collection phase gathered inputs from countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), adaptation communications, greenhouse gas inventories, and other sources. Civil society organizations (CSOs) provided additional perspectives through technical analysis, policy ideas, and lived experiences grounded in climate justice. The technical assessment integrated these diverse inputs into thematic reports, summaries, and key messages. CSO participation in technical dialogues and submissions provided crucial context to enrich this evidence-based review. The consideration of outputs phase at COP28 will synthesize the comprehensive GST findings to inform the Global Dialogue on furthering ambitions and commitments.

While national governments lead the GST, CSO participation enhances inclusivity, informs ambition, and catalyzes climate action. CSOs offer technical expertise and represent impacted communities, complementing governmental and scientific inputs. CSO advocacy also mobilizes public pressure for ambitious outcomes. The private sector and international organizations like the IPCC provide further relevant insights.

This collective stocktake identifies cross-cutting opportunities and solutions for scaling up equitable climate action worldwide. By assessing collective progress using the latest climate science, the GST facilitates cooperation and mutual learning to implement strengthened policies. GST outputs provide tailored guidance to enhance NDCs, channel climate support where most needed, and align finance flows with Paris Agreement goals. Building on previous cycles, future GSTs will track emerging priorities. In this regard, a unique feature of the GST is its potential to commonly acknowledge the current state of climate change as well as the collective progress and give recommendations on actions within the structure of the UNFCCC (Owen-Burge 2022). As such, the outcome of the GST could provide actors such as CSOs with more agency and legitimacy to hold parties accountable than through the use of climate science and recommendations originating outside of the UNFCCC process (Hermwille and Siemons 2018). Thus, an effective and inclusive GST informing ambitious cooperation is critical for driving climate progress through iterative 5-year ambition cycles. As climate impacts accelerate, science-based and participatory stocktakes will be essential for upholding the Paris Agreement's vision.



+ 3. Why improve CSO participation?



Greater CSO participation can make the GST process more inclusive through inputs that are representative of a wider range of needs and perspectives and give us a more holistic picture of where and what kinds of expertise, knowledge and implementation experience we can draw on for making collective progress on our global climate goals. CSOs have also played a role in the past in advocating for increased and more meaningful participation of marginalized groups, structural changes in global governance mechanisms and institutions, and climate justice for the Global South (e.g. see Flavell 2023; Baker 2021; Reid et al. 2012; S nit 2020). However, the geographies, contexts and capacities of CSOs who participate in the UNFCCC can vary greatly (Reid et al. 2012) with implications for the kinds of influence they can exert on decision-making, as those located in the Global North or transnationally are likely to have more resources, capacities and access than those located in the Global South (Falzon 2023). Moreover, this could mean that despite vibrant CSO involvement in the GST, we are missing knowledge and experience that can enhance the GST process including how and what we learn from it, better demonstrate gaps in implementation where more support and capacity building is needed, and overall raise the ambition as well as equity implications of our global and domestic climate goals and action across the Global South and North. Furthermore, CSOs can provide the link between the sphere of international climate negotiations and the implementation of ambitious climate policy at the national level (Jeffery et al. 2019). This transfer function has several aspects such as explaining the outputs of the GST to the national public and its policymakers as well as exerting pressure for ambitious climate policy in light of the collectively agreed upon knowledge and recommendations. Thus, understanding the landscape of CSO participation into the GST is essential for an inclusive GST.

+ 4. Methodology



The central goal of this project is to identify civil society actors, their perspectives, strategies for influencing and expectations for the Global Stocktake. To accomplish this goal, we are employing a mixed-methods approach that includes actor mapping, surveys, interviews and thematic analysis of a wide range of data sources including written documents such as technical inputs to the GST found on the UNFCCC submission portal, reports on the GST as well as interviews and surveys sent to CSAs who have participated in the GST process. At this stage of the project, we have carried out actor mapping by creating and analyzing a database tracking participation of CSAs through the information collection and preparation and the technical assessment components of the first GST between 2021-2023. We have also sent out surveys to all identified CSAs with the aim of better understanding their contributions to the GST. Additionally, we have preliminary findings based on analysis of documents (policy briefs, technical inputs and working/research papers) by some of the most prominent and frequently-participating environmental NGOs and advocacy networks in the process. For the next stage, we plan to conduct interviews, analyze survey replies and continue analysis of written documents to develop a fuller understanding of CSA participation in the first GST.

Our goal for the actor mapping was to identify who are the CSOs participating in the GST and in what processes are they engaged. To accomplish this, we created two databases: the first comprised of 165 entries submitted to the UNFCCC submission portal during the information collection and preparation component (listed on the portal as 'Admitted non-governmental organizations (NGOs)'), and the second comprised of 206 entries of CSO representatives that participated in the technical assessment component of the GST through roundtables on different areas of climate action (mitigation, adaptation including loss and damage, means of implementation, response measures which were included in mitigation for TDs 1.1 and 1.2), poster sessions, creative spaces and focused exchange across three technical dialogues in June 2022, November 2022 and June 2023. For each entry, we identified the CSO's name, region/country in which they operate (international or several continents, regional, national, local or subnational), the type of CSO, participation in NGOs and contact information. Repeated inputs and participation by the same CSO was counted as separate entries. Therefore, while this data is not exhaustive because there was CSO engagement that was not captured by documents (e.g. World Cafe events which were much more fluid and did not have a fixed participant list) or is currently ongoing (e.g. a currently open call for inputs on the GST portal), this database provides us with a more holistic view of the CSOs that participated throughout the GST process.

Thus, the sections that follow describe who are the CSAs participating in the GST and how, as well as the perspectives that the most prominent international environmental NGOs and advocacy networks are bringing to the GST.



Survey Methodology

A survey was conducted to gather perspectives from civil society organizations (CSOs) engaged in the Global Stocktake (GST) process. The survey was administered online and distributed via email to all CSOs identified as having submitted inputs to the GST information collection and preparation phase based on the UNFCCC submissions portal.

The survey questions were designed to elicit both specific details about the organizations as well as perspectives around motivations, challenges, expectations and perceived impact of engaging with the GST process. The open-ended questions allowed respondents to provide detail and elaboration in their own words. Closed-ended questions offered pre-defined response options to facilitate comparative analysis. In total, the survey enabled capturing both structured insights around organizational characteristics and participation factors as well as qualitative, experiential perspectives from civil society actors that submitted inputs aimed at informing the GST process.

Survey	
No.	Question
1	With which organization, institution or entity are you primarily affiliated? (Open response)
2	In which geographical location is your organization principally headquartered? (Open response)
3	Which of the following categories best describes the nature and scope of your organization, institution, or entity? (Multiple choice) - Local, grassroots, or community-based organization - National Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) - International Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with presence and/or operations in multiple countries - Think Tank - Academic and/or Research Institution - Private Sector/Industry group - Foundation/Philanthropic organization - Other (open response)
4	What factors underpinned your organization's decision to engage in the Global Stocktake (GST) process? (Open response)

5	<p>Which of the following factors served as constraints, barriers, and/or challenges in preparing and presenting your organization's contributions to the Global Stocktake (GST) process? (Multiple choice, select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource constraints: funding and technical requirements - Limited organizational capacity: personnel and skills limitations - Information gaps: limited or unclear information about the process and its phases - Procedural complexity: intricacy of the process and its stages - Timing and logistics: schedule and organizational aspects of the process - Institutional barriers: lack of access or recognition within the official channels - Geopolitical limitations: inadequate representation in UNFCCC processes - Other (open response)
6	<p>What specific outcomes or impacts does your organization expect arising from its contributions and engagement in the Global Stocktake (GST) process? (Open response)</p>
7	<p>In your opinion, to what extent has your organization's contribution been acknowledged or integrated within the Global Stocktake (GST) process? (Open response)</p>
8	<p>Have you observed any tangible or intangible impacts arising from your organization's engagement in the GST process? This may include challenges, barriers, frustrations, or positive outcomes. (Open response)</p>



+ 5. Who is Participating in the GST?

From 165 entries made during information collection and preparation, 127 came from alliances, partnerships or organizations that work internationally across several countries and regions of the world and/or do advocacy, consulting or other forms of engagement in international forums, platforms and governance regimes. In contrast, there were 18 inputs from regional, national or subnational CSOs (see Figure 1). Additionally, a large portion of these submissions came from partnerships between one or more CSOs with research institutions submitting 73 inputs and other inputs coming primarily from networks and associations, as well as nonprofits and foundations (Figure 2).

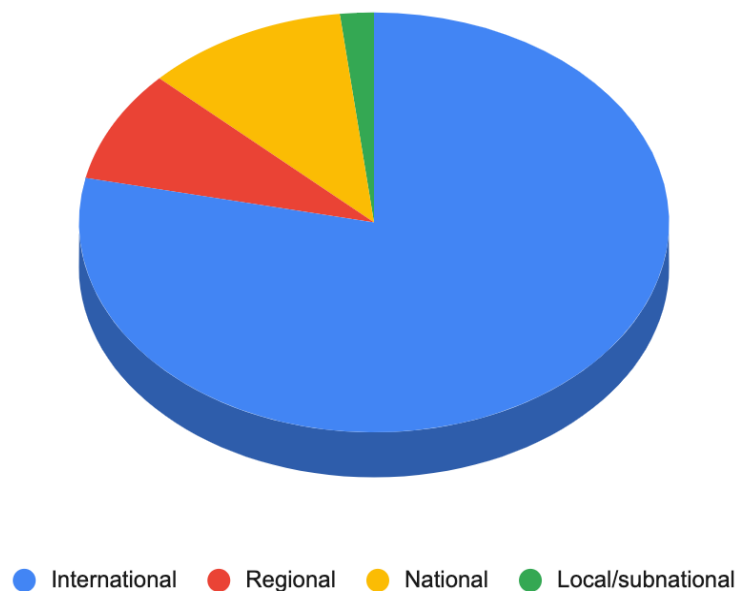


Figure 1. Scale of Operation of CSAs Participating in Information Collection and Preparation Component of GST.

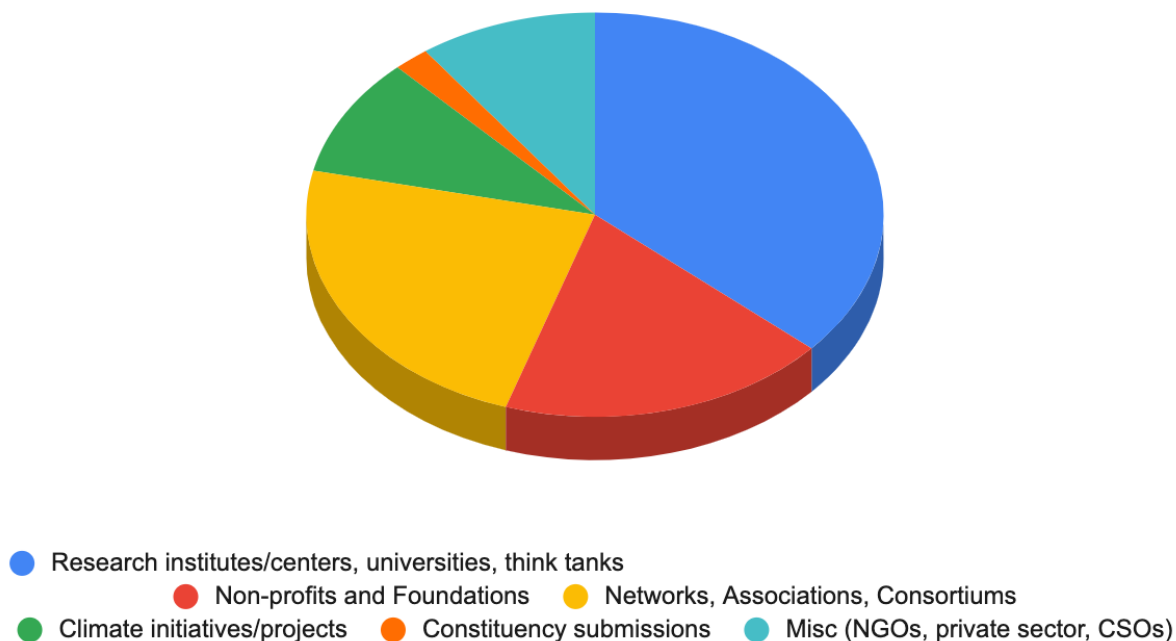


Figure 2. Type of CSAs with Inputs in Information Collection and Preparation Component of GST.

For the three technical dialogues (TD) that were part of the technical assessment component of the GST, 206 CSO engagements took place across three technical dialogues in 2022-2023 with 39 participants in TD 1.1, 85 in TD 1.2 and 82 in TD 1.3. The dialogues were designed to be ‘open, inclusive, transparent and facilitative’ (UNFCCC, nd) and included several different formats for dialogue and engagement (see Figure 3). While 12-14 CSO participants were present at all the roundtables for a total of 131 engagements across all TDs, the poster sessions had 21 participants in TD 1.2 and 31 in TD 1.3 and the focused exchange and creative space in TD 1.2 had 16 and 8 CSO participants respectively. Across the three TDs, 113 of the total engagements came from internationally operating CSOs, 14 from regional, 32 from national and 4 from subnational/locally operating CSOs (Figure 4). When it comes to the type of CSOs, 70 of these were networks, associations, alliances, consortiums or federations, 63 were non-profits, charities or foundations and 50 research institutions, universities or think-tanks in total across the TDs (Figure 5).

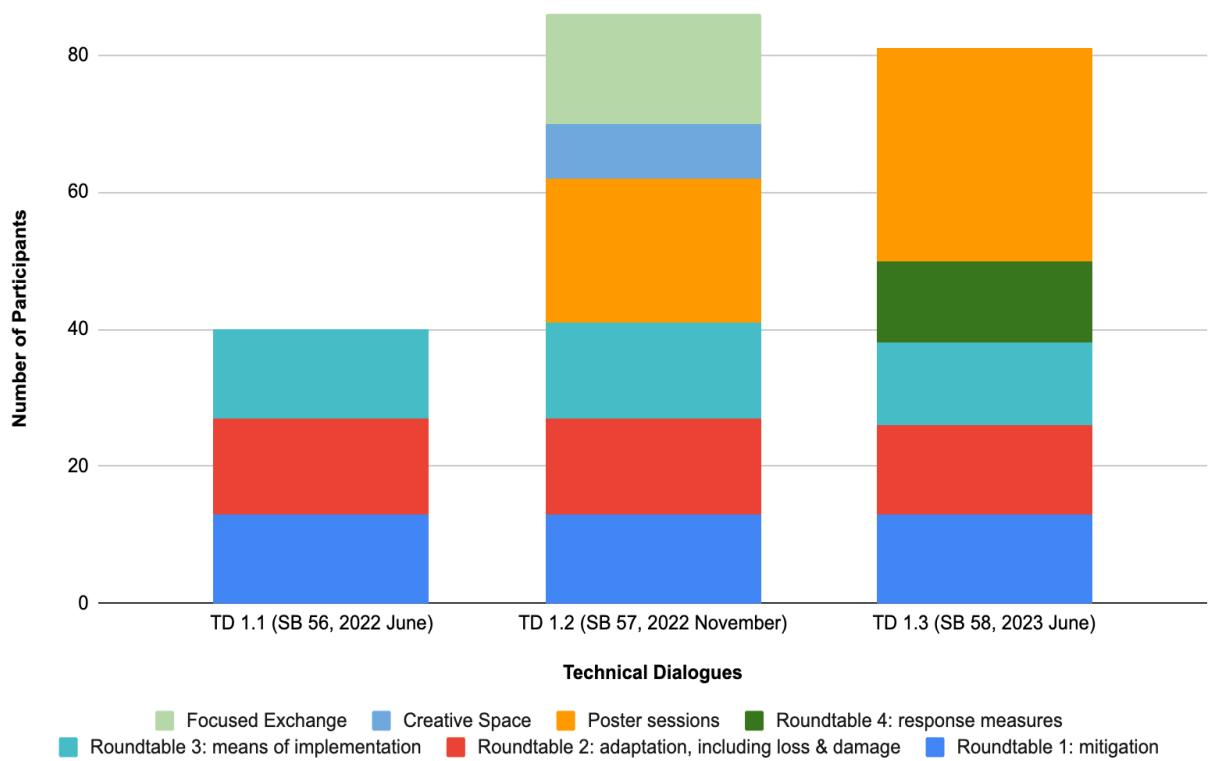


Figure 3. CSO Participation across Formats of Engagement during the Technical Dialogues.

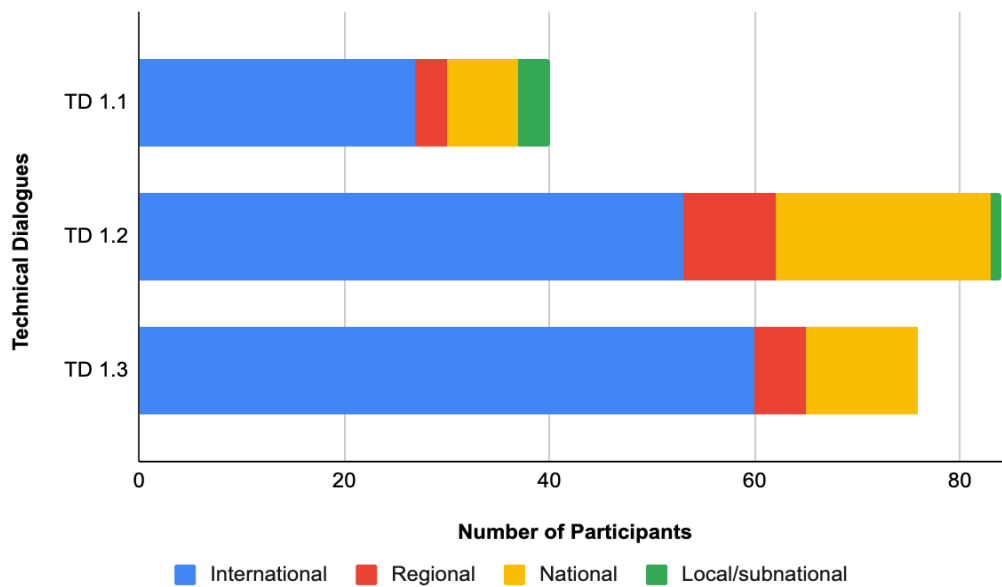


Figure 4. Scale of Operation of CSOs Participating in Technical Dialogues.

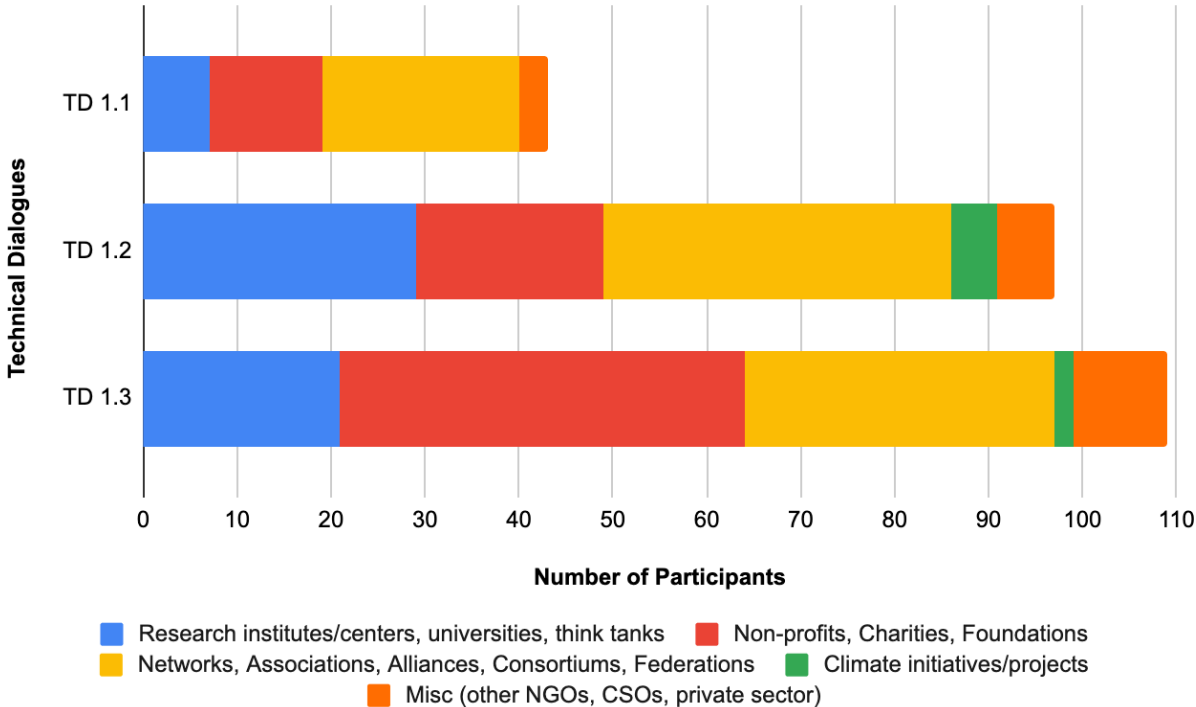


Figure 5. Type of CSOs Participating in Technical Dialogues.



+ 6. What Perspectives are CSOs Bringing to the GST?

Prominent environmental NGOs and advocacy networks perceive the GST as essential for fostering transparency and accountability, promoting collaboration, raising ambition for climate action and as a means for advocating for financial, technical and capacity building support [2,3,5,7,8]. At the same time, they offer diverse views on the implementation gaps and recommendations for increased effectiveness of the GST (see Appendix A).

NGOs note that there is a lack of attention on loss and damage [2], as well as equity within the GST [6]. They raise concerns about approaches and technologies such as carbon capture and storage, geoengineering and nuclear power acting as distractions from the goals of renewable energy and just transitions [1]. The Nature4Climate Coalition offers a distinctive perspective by underscoring the importance of recognizing and supporting nature-based solutions and nature positive finance through the GST [4]. They also call for increasing support to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLC) via the GST [4]. Relatedly, WWF noted the lack of participation of Global South actors and IPLCs as a shortcoming of the GST [8]. Other gaps noted in the GST process include ambiguity and inconsistency in national reporting structures [2] and difficulties with accountability and assigning responsibilities due to the GST's mandate to measure collective rather than individual country-level progress [3].

To increase the effectiveness of the GST and improve uptake of its outcomes, there are suggestions of promoting the GST through relevant events within and outside the UNFCCC [5], producing outputs and conducting dissemination with diverse stakeholders including non-state actors [6, 3], promoting inclusivity and participation throughout the GST process [1] and utilizing the two-year periods between GSTs to revise NDCs and build political momentum [3].

+ 7. Survey Findings



The preliminary results of the survey provide critical insights into the diverse motivations, challenges, and expectations underpinning civil society organization (CSO) engagement in the Global Stocktake (GST). A predominant factor driving CSO participation was the desire to increase attention and inclusion of specific issues in climate plans and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). For example, promoting local climate solutions, sufficiency approaches, and sustainable lifestyles as part of the GST process and recommendations. This aligns with the policy advocacy focus evident across CSO technical inputs and engagement mechanisms throughout the GST.

Resource constraints, limited information, procedural complexity, and institutional barriers posed notable challenges to effective CSO participation in the GST. Limited funding, technical requirements, and intricacies of the GST process stages restricted engagement for some CSOs. Meanwhile, others faced hurdles in gaining access to or recognition within official GST channels. This underscores the need for targeted capacity building and simplified procedures to foster inclusive CSO participation, especially for smaller, localized groups.

CSO expectations centered on the GST catalyzing progress on pressing issues for developing countries and vulnerable groups. This includes climate finance, capacity building, just energy transitions, and achieving Paris Agreement goals. However, the extent of CSO input integration within the GST remains uncertain. Most CSOs were unsure if their priorities were acknowledged across technical dialogues, assessments, and reports. This ambiguity points to an urgent need for transparent feedback loops and sustained post-GST engagement to actualize civil society perspectives within climate commitments.

While tracing direct impacts remains difficult, some CSOs noted emergent positive outcomes like new collaborations, innovative ideas, and issue clarification. However, persisting challenges around translating CSO priorities into national climate action underline complex civil society influence pathways warranting further investigation. Overall, preliminary findings indicate CSOs recognize the value of engaging the GST but desire more meaningful integration and concrete follow-up of their inputs to meet expectations. Targeted support and inclusive follow-up mechanisms are essential to harness the diversity of civil society knowledge for ambitious, equitable climate progress.

Furthermore, while civil society organizations recognized the value in engaging with the Global Stocktake, preliminary findings suggest potential limitations in member interest and investment. As one respondent noted, “Involvement in GST has given new contacts to INFORSE, and new recognition,” yet they also observed that “few members have the time and knowledge to follow the process. For many, it is also a question of priority as the GST seems far away from the daily problems.” This points to a need for enhanced awareness-



building and demonstrating concrete relevance, so that “the call for local solutions is not reflected in the summaries” does not deter civil society member engagement. Similarly, another respondent indicated that “None” when asked about observable impacts, elaborating that “my impression is that it was not much given the ocean of submissions.” Taken together, these perspectives problematize assumed civil society buy-in, underscoring the need for targeted outreach, simplified and localized framings, and transparent impact communication to catalyze interest and convey the value of civil society contributions throughout the entirety of the complex GST process.

+ 8. Discussion



The above mapping of actors and their participation demonstrates which civil society voices are being represented most frequently and effectively in the GST, and through what formal pathways. There is a strong representation of internationally-focused and operating networks, alliances, research institutions, think-tanks and non-profit organizations throughout the GST across both the technical assessment and information collection and preparation processes. In contrast, local and subnational CSAs are largely missing from these processes although it is likely that several are part of the larger networks or alliances that made submissions to information collection and preparation processes, and may have had their voices heard through that. Moreover, our results indicate that CSAs have been included as participants across a range of formats in the GST, and that both the participation of CSAs as well as the formats through which they were engaged grew between the first TD 1.2 in 2022 and the most recent TD 1.3 in 2023. While this indicates that the process is growing more inclusive of CSAs in general, our data was not granular enough to map exactly who are the individuals that have been representing international networks, alliances or organizations in GST processes, as well as which offices of international CSAs submitted technical inputs and where they are located. Further research into these areas is needed to better understand how inclusive the GST processes have been for grassroots and subnational organizations, as well as for voices from the Global South.

Nonetheless, the strong presence of international CSAs and absence of national and subnational CSAs does indicate that more capacity building support and access to GST processes needs to be built into the next GSTs for national and subnational CSAs, as well as for smaller community-based and implementing organizations. Moreover, using alternative formats of online engagement and inviting smaller, subnational and local CSAs may be one way of ensuring better representation in the GST. Our preliminary analysis of the perspectives of prominent international CSAs shows that civil society collectively envisions a robust, transparent and inclusive GST but their perspectives differ when it comes to methodologies and focus areas. These differences underscore the complexities of the GST process, indicating that the more diverse CSA voices we can hear through the GST, the more effective and ambitious climate action we can take moving forward. Thus, we need to continue building a nuanced understanding of different stakeholders' multifaceted perspectives and strategies, including the informal channels of engagement they employ to be heard and to influence the GST.



+ 9. Conclusion



While civil society actors have been participating successfully in the GST processes, there has been little research into who is participating, how and what perspectives they are bringing to the GST. In this working paper, we mapped out the geographies and participation of CSOs during the information collection and processing and technical assessment phases of the GST. Our research indicates that despite increasing participation, internationally-operational CSOs continue to engage more effectively in the GST processes than those that may be more regionally or locally engaged and may hence lack the resources, capacities and access needed to influence the GST process. Nonetheless, in our ongoing research we are seeking to better understand the strategies available to CSOs to influence the GST, including its upcoming political phase, as well as what their expectations are from the GST for enhancing national and global climate goals.

Civil society actors participating in the GST and other UNFCCC processes are definitely not a monolithic group, and while greater CSO engagement should be welcomed in GST processes, we must also ensure that marginalized voices from the Global South and from the grassroots level are heard as much as the voices of more elite CSOs from across the Global South and North. In this regard, CSOs have the capacity to transfer the results of the GST to the national level and exert pressure for more ambitious climate policy. Therefore, capacities and inclusion of CSOs should be more evenly distributed between the Global South and North. This will ensure that the Global Stocktake remains ambitious and inclusive in enhancing climate action globally and at the national level.

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+ Appendix



Civil Society Actors	Expectations from the GST	Criticisms and Limitations	Recommendations and strategies to strengthen the GST
Climate Action Network International [1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GST should be a crucial tool for implementing the Paris Agreement effectively and in a timely manner. • It should encompass all aspects necessary to reach the Paris goals, including mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and support, finance flows, addressing loss and damage, science, technology transfer, and capacity building. • The GST should support raising climate ambition and aim to protect people, their rights and livelihoods, and natural ecosystems from the impacts of climate change. • The GST outputs must propose clear, actionable, and specific paths forward with concrete policies and plans. • Gender-responsive, evidence-based, and human rights-based approaches should be considered in the GST. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current ambition gap to achieve the Paris Agreement Goal is enormous. • Concerns have been raised by civil society organizations about concepts and technologies that could distract from the urgent and deep transformational changes needed to hold global warming to 1.5°C. • These concepts and technologies are not the best solutions for the most affected people, including indigenous peoples, young people, women, and local communities. • They also threaten human rights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure inclusivity, being evidence-informed, and maintaining balance across all elements and mandates of the Paris Agreement. • Emphasize transparency and avoid conflicts of interest, particularly when private interests are involved in the GST. • Deliver scientifically based, properly scoped, inclusive, and methodologically legitimate needs assessments across the full range of challenges.



<p>Center for Science and Environment [2]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The GST should be a robust, transparent, and inclusive process.• It should assess collective progress towards achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.• This includes limiting global average temperature increase, increasing climate resilience, and transitioning to low-carbon development.• The GST should inform parties in updating and enhancing their climate actions and support.• It should enhance international cooperation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The GST process is in its early stages and requires further refinement.• Lack of clarity and consistency in reporting structures for action and support at national levels.• Developing countries face challenges due to the absence of robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) structures.• Loss and damage are excluded from the scope of the GST, despite being a separate pillar in the Paris Agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct the GST process in line with the IPCC review process and ensure openness and transparency.• Start the GST process two years ahead of the Conference of Parties (COP) with preparatory, technical, and political phases.• Establish robust reporting structures for action and support at national levels.• Provide support to developing countries in establishing effective monitoring and reporting structures.• Include loss and damage within the purview of the GST process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Resource Institute• Climateworks Foundation• iGST [3]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The GST should be comprehensive, transparent, and equitable.• It should generate accountability and trust, encouraging countries to strengthen their climate action and support.• The GST should be a participatory process, engaging stakeholders beyond Parties.• It should build political momentum and trigger enhanced ambition and increased climate action from non-state actors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The GST has limitations in directly pointing out country-specific lack of ambition or opportunities to do more.• Its mandate to assess collective progress without singling out countries makes it difficult to address specific issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish coordinating mechanisms early to ensure linkages between the UNFCCC and independent organizations designing a robust GST.• Ensure that the work and suggestions of these organizations are incorporated into the UNFCCC's process.• Conceive the GST as a process rather than an event.• Utilize the two-year period between the end of the

			<p>GST process and the COP effectively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry over the political momentum generated during the GST process into participatory national NDC revision processes. • Use the GST as a feedback mechanism to enhance action and align short-term NDCs with long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.
<p>Nature4Climate Coalition [4]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize and promote the multiple benefits of nature-based solutions (NbS). • Call on Parties to play a stronger role in recognizing NbS benefits, especially for cities and urban areas. • Commit more funding to local governments for implementing NbS. • Ensure transparent and interoperable data related to NbS. • Support interoperability and publicly available data to develop accountability systems that involve citizens and civil society in the transition to a Nature Positive economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implies the need for greater recognition of NbS, more funding for local governments, and better transparency and interoperability of NbS-related data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift harmful agricultural subsidies to incentivize sustainable and regenerative agriculture by 2030. • Enact measures for high integrity carbon markets and finance for REDD+ results. • Strengthen the role, participation, and rights of Indigenous and local communities. • Encourage non-state actor action to support Parties in delivering action and increased ambition. • Ensure companies exposed to forest-risk commodity production adopt policies to halt deforestation and disclose progress by 2025. • Triple investments in NbS by 2030 through



			<p>collaboration among local governments, cities, and urban areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restore 350 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes by 2030.• Establish clear taxonomies with open standards for geospatial NbS data aligned with international accounting standards.
<p>Center for Climate and Energy Solutions [5]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess collective progress towards achieving the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.• Address opportunities for enhanced action and support.• Recognize that higher ambition is a function of urgency and opportunity.• Comprises information collection and preparation, technical assessment, and consideration of outputs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The design of the GST lacks developed interaction with the wider landscape.• Focus on current NDCs limits the assessment of progress towards net-zero by mid-century.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitate timely submission of targeted inputs.• Invite presentations/interventions in the GST's Technical Dialogue.• Organize relevant events within and outside the UNFCCC.• Apply a strong sectoral/thematic lens to the GST.• Engage High-Level Champions (HLCs) and other intermediaries to coordinate inputs.• Generate momentum in the wider governance landscape and enhance accountability and transparency.• Include announcements of key new initiatives and updates.• Consider evolving context, emerging gaps,

			<p>and substantive/process challenges in the GST's design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore reasons for implementation gaps and identify opportunities for ambitious climate action and support. • Present options for availing these opportunities to Parties and Non-Party Stakeholders (NPSs).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project for Advancing Climate Transparency • World Resources Institute [6] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GST should be a robust, effective, and inclusive process. • It should evolve and develop to meet changing needs, priorities, and opportunities. • Assess progress toward the long-term goals and identify opportunities to meet them. • Inform Parties and non-Party stakeholders about cooperation in reducing emissions and mainstreaming climate measures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to deliver all necessary information and manage the volume of information. • Challenges in utilizing thematic expertise. • Inherent conflict as a collective assessment of progress. • Lack of reporting information related to equity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure engagement of a broad range of stakeholders. • Build political momentum at all levels and stimulate implementation. • Identify collective capacity-building and technology needs. • Share best practices and lessons learned from successful implementation efforts. • Assess the effectiveness of policies and support to align finance flows. • Identify needs and gaps in policies and support. • Produce outputs that inform actions and decisions of various stakeholders. • Speak to and inform stakeholders within and outside the UNFCCC.



Greenpeace [7]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure access to rapid and adequate financial resources and technical assistance for the most vulnerable countries and communities affected by climate change.• Provide financial resources for low-income countries to prepare for climate change impacts and decarbonize their economies.• Require all countries to contribute justly and fairly to the phasing out of fossil fuel use and the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of support for dealing with loss and damage from climate change.• Inadequacy of current dialogues in delivering needed support.• Urgent need for a new loss and damage finance facility at COP27.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a Loss and Damage Finance Facility.• Develop a robust and well-resourced Santiago Network (SNLD) governed by an inclusive Advisory Body.• Richer, historically polluting countries should contribute additional financial resources to the global loss and damage finance facility.• Introduce loss and damage finance as a third pillar, alongside mitigation and adaptation, under the Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance.
World Wide Fund [8]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The WWF expects the GST to provide financial, technical, and capacity-building support.• Support should facilitate the participation of Parties and Non-Party Stakeholders, promoting equity, transparency, and quality of inputs.• The findings of the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report should form the basis for the Paris Agreement milestones considered in the GST's technical assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a lack of decision or action regarding the support and participation of actors with low capacity, particularly those in the Global South and representatives of indigenous and vulnerable people.• The WWF calls for a consensus on funding and the architecture of a support mechanism for the GST process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a GST mechanism for financial, technical, and capacity-building support.• Acknowledge the latest climate science, such as the findings of the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report, indicating the need for steep emission reductions.• Provide capacity-building support for Party and Non-Party members in the GST and related UNFCCC processes.

[1] Climate Action Network International, "Third/final CAN submission for the first input phase of the Global Stocktake", March 2023.

- [2] Bhushan, C., & Rattani, V. (2017), “Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement”, Center for Science and Environment.
- [3] Dagnet, Y., Leprince-Ringuet, N., Mendoza, J. M., & Thwaites, J. (2020). “A Vision for a Robust Global Stocktake”, World Resources Institute, Climateworks Foundation, iGST: <https://www.wri.org/research/vision-robustglobal-stocktake>.
- [4] Nature4Climate Coalition, “Nature4Climate Coalition Submission to the Third Technical Dialogue of the First Global Stocktake”, March 6, 2023.
- [5] Rajamani, L., Oberthür, S., & Guilanpour, K. (2022). “Designing a Meaningful Global Stocktake”, Center for Climate and Energy Solutions.
- [6] Northrop, E., Dagnet, Y., Höhne, N., Thwaites, J., & Mogelgaard, K. (2018). Achieving the ambition of Paris: Designing the global Stocktake. Project for Advancing Climate Transparency & World Resources Institute (WRI), Washington, DC. online: <https://wriorg.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/achievingambition-paris-designing-global-stockade.pdf> [28 Sept. 2018].
- [7] Greenpeace, “Putting justice at the heart of climate action”, COP27 Policy Brief, November 2022.
- [8] World Wide Fund, “WWF Briefing Paper: Global Stocktake”, Bonn, June 2022.

