



Integrated Assessment for Article 6: The IAA6 Approach

Briefing

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1. What is the IAA6 Approach?

The IAA6 Approach is a **systemic framework** designed to support governments in engaging with **Article 6** of the Paris Agreement in a robust and ambitious manner. It systematically identifies essential elements for enhancing implementation and coordination, offering practical tools and resources to assist countries throughout the process.

Unlike conventional guides, the IAA6 Approach offers a holistic way to engage with Article 6. It connects cooperative approaches, transparency, climate policies and actions, and stakeholder engagement, emphasizing transformational change and sustainable development. As a comprehensive framework, it acts as a **compass**, guiding countries through the complexities of Article 6 by building on their existing progress.

The IAA6 Approach is part of the **IAA6 project**, funded by the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA) and implemented by the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC). It is co-developed by CPSU and RAND Corporation, alongside UNEP-CCC and the participating countries. A draft version will be piloted in **Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Peru**.





2. Core components of the IAA6 Approach

The IAA6 Approach consists of three interconnected components, summarized in Figure 1:

- i. Conceptual Structure**
This framework outlines key elements for implementing Article 6 from a systemic perspective. It includes aspects related to stakeholder engagement, the ambition cycle (NDC and LT-LEDS), transparency, and cooperative approaches. It serves as a capacity-building tool to help stakeholders understand the interlinkages, governance principles, and compliance requirements associated with the Paris Agreement.
- ii. Deployment**
This step-by-step process applies the Conceptual Structure to assess a country's progress in engaging with Article 6. It identifies areas for improvement, with a Decision Support Framework as a key outcome. This framework consolidates insights and guides strategic actions. The **SiSePuede model** plays a central role by providing an open-source modeling solution for data-driven Article 6 decision-making.
- iii. IAA6 Handbook**
A comprehensive resource that provides reference information, including tools, guides, and case studies, showcasing lessons learned from the implementation of technical elements of the Conceptual Structure.

The IAA6 Approach is being developed as an interactive PDF for easy navigation, even in low-connectivity settings.

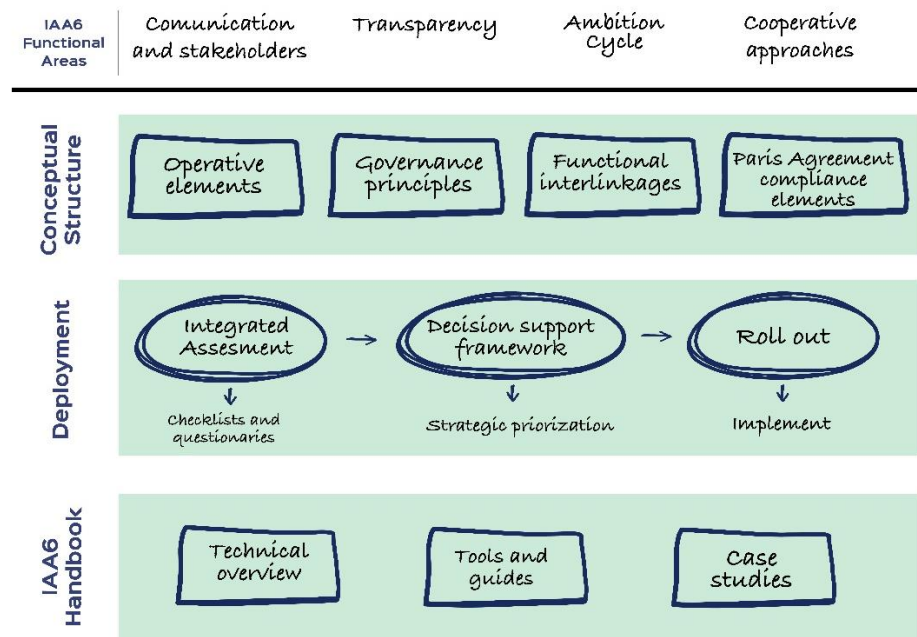


Figure 1. Core Components of the IAA6 Approach





3. IAA6 Conceptual Structure

The **IAA6 Conceptual Structure** forms the backbone of the approach, outlining over 140 key elements that countries should consider addressing at the national level for robust engagement with Article 6. Countries are already working on many of these elements, so rather than constituting a “to-do list”, the Conceptual Structure provides a systematic way to think through all the components required for a holistic engagement with Article 6. These elements are grouped into four **functional areas**, which address critical operational functions, governance requirements, interlinkages, and compliance with the Paris Agreement:

- **Communication and stakeholder engagement**

This functional area seeks to ensure that stakeholders are effectively integrated into climate action and engaged in ongoing consultation. It emphasizes building mechanisms for continuous communication, sharing progress and outcomes related to climate action and Article 6 implementation. Through stakeholder co-creation and trust-building, it fosters a sense of ownership which enhances transparency, accountability, and long-term sustainability of policies and actions.

- **Ambition Cycle**

This area aligns each country’s implementation of Article 6 with its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), its Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS), and the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. It involves leveraging cooperative approaches in service of these plans and strategies and assessing how they contribute to delivering the necessary ambition. By doing this, countries can use Article 6 to promote development pathways that deliver on national priorities and are aligned with global decarbonization goals.

- **Transparency**

This functional area underpins the data management, reporting, and tracking systems essential for meeting Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) requirements and Article 6-specific reporting obligations. It includes building systems that align Article 6 reporting and tracking with broader ETF processes. Transparency functions support compliance with Paris Agreement rules and enable data-driven decision-making.

- **Cooperative Approaches**

This area focuses on the national-level processes and governance structures which are specific to the implementation of Articles 6.2 and 6.4. It covers the development of institutional arrangements for overseeing the planning, implementation, and management of Article 6 engagements, ensuring alignment with national priorities and international commitments. It also addresses the authorization processes for Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs), including eligibility criteria and procedural steps to seeking to ensure environmental integrity.



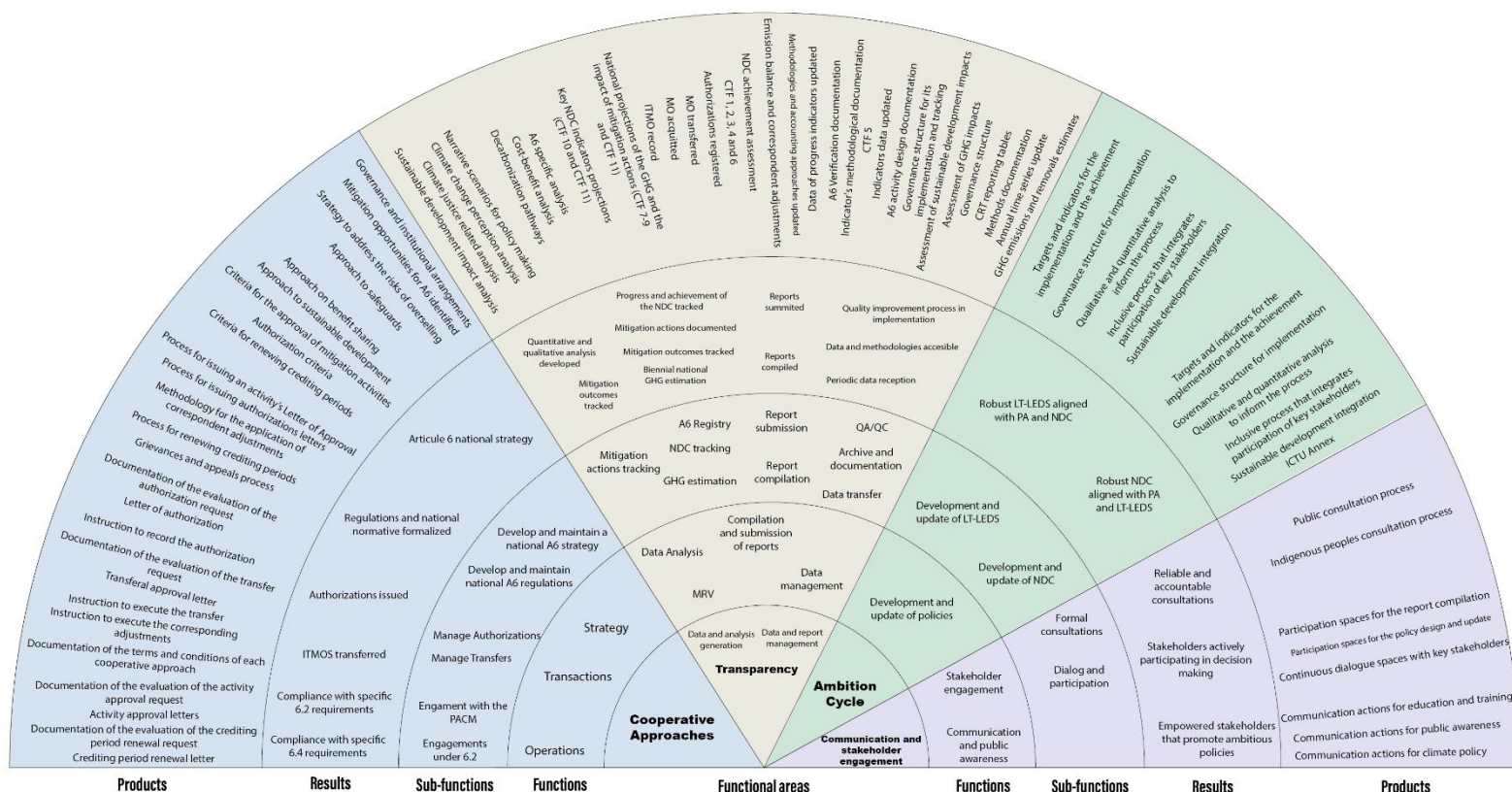


Figure 2. Operative elements of the IAA6 Conceptual Structure.

4. The role of modeling in the IAA6 Approach

Modeling plays a structural role in the IAA6 Approach, enabling data-driven decision-making, enhancing compliance with reporting requirements, and facilitating effective communication and stakeholder engagement. Recognizing the complexity and uncertainty inherent in climate action and Article 6 implementation, the IAA6 Approach emphasizes modeling as a tool to help address these challenges systematically across all functional areas:

i. Informing Decision-Making

Modeling supports key decisions related to national decarbonization pathways and Article 6 strategies. This includes assessing the potential impact of various mitigation actions, estimating their costs and benefits, and analyzing trade-offs between different policy options. For instance:

- *Decarbonization Planning:* Simulations of sector-specific and cross-sectoral actions to align with NDCs, LT-LEDS, and enhanced ambition.





- *Article 6 Strategy and Regulations:* Modeling the implications of cooperative approaches on national targets, helping design regulations to ensure environmental integrity.
- *Integrated Assessment and Decision Support Framework:* By analyzing country-specific data, models identify priority actions and inform the structuring of the Decision Support Framework.

ii. Complying with Reporting Requirements

Article 6-specific reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and the Paris Agreement requires robust data management and accurate reporting systems. Modeling supports this through:

- Quantification of ITMOs, including their corresponding adjustments to avoid double counting.
- Scenarios exploring ITMO interaction with national inventories and NDCs.
- Producing data for Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) requirements, particularly tracking progress on cooperative approaches.
- Producing data for Article 6-specific reporting requirements.

iii. Communication and Stakeholder Engagement

Models provide a platform for stakeholder engagement by translating complex data into accessible insights, forming the basis of communication strategies and fostering inclusivity in decision-making.

The SiSePuede Tool

The SiSePuede model is integrated as the default modeling solution in the IAA6 Approach. It is designed to address challenges faced by many low- and middle-income countries in building decarbonization modeling capabilities. SiSePuede is open-source, transparent, and adaptable, making it particularly useful in contexts with limited technical resources.

Key features of SiSePuede include:

- **Integrated GHG Inventory and Decarbonization Actions:** Simulates over 70 mitigation actions based on IPCC guidelines, analyzing costs, benefits, and combined impacts.
- **Flexible Database Management:** Uses open-access data sources for 120 countries, enabling automated data population and reducing reliance on costly proprietary datasets.
- **Robust Decision-Making (RDM):** Analyzes thousands of scenarios to identify strategies that are effective across diverse futures, addressing uncertainty in long-term climate planning.

Applications of modeling within the IAA6 Approach

By leveraging SiSePuede, countries can conduct comprehensive analyses to:

- Quantify plausible emissions trajectories across scenarios, enabling better alignment of NDCs and LT-LEDS with Article 6.
- Identify options to enhance ambition, both in terms of mitigation and sustainable development impacts.





- Support Article 6-specific analysis to inform strategy and decision-making on issues including additionality, baselines and crediting periods, mitigation potential, SDG impacts, and potential for transformational change.
- Perform robustness testing for mitigation strategies to evaluate their effectiveness under uncertain future conditions.

Flexibility for Countries with Existing Modeling Capabilities

For countries already equipped with their own modeling systems, the IAA6 Approach allows seamless integration. Countries can continue using their preferred tools while addressing the critical questions posed by the IAA6 framework. The methodology and insights offered by SiSePuede serve as a benchmark or supplementary resource to enhance national models.

By embedding modeling into all stages of the IAA6 Approach, from integrated assessments to decision support and roll-out, the framework seeks to ensure that Article 6 implementation is both scientifically grounded and contextually relevant.

5. Applying the IAA6 Approach – what are the steps?

The Deployment Process of the IAA6 Approach guides countries through a structured systematic analysis of their Article 6 engagement. It identifies gaps, highlights opportunities for improvement, and supports the prioritization of robust, ambitious actions. The process consists of three consecutive steps:

- **Step 1: Integrated Assessment**

The Integrated Assessment provides a detailed analysis of the country's current state of preparedness for a robust engagement with Article 6. It is not an evaluation but a practical exercise that maps existing processes, governance structures, and technical components based on the IAA6 Conceptual Structure.

The assessment is guided by structured checklists and questionnaires, articulated through document reviews, interviews, and workshops. In essence, the Integrated Assessment provides a snapshot of the country's progress in engaging with Article 6 in a robust and ambitious way, including gathering the necessary information to facilitate the setup of "SiSePuede."

- **Step 2: Decision Support Framework**

The Decision Support Framework translates the insights from the Integrated Assessment into an actionable strategy. Action priorities are identified through a process involving key stakeholders, as well as relevant Article 6 analyses, including SiSePuede results. The Decision Support Framework is designed to be a living document, evolving as progress is made and new opportunities or challenges emerge.

- **Step 3: Roll-Out**





This step involves the implementation of prioritized actions, managing non-prioritized actions, and monitoring the implementation of actions and their results. The timeframes and activities of the Roll-Out step will be tailored to the specific needs and context of each country. The successful completion of the Roll-Out establishes a foundation for continuous improvement and scaling.

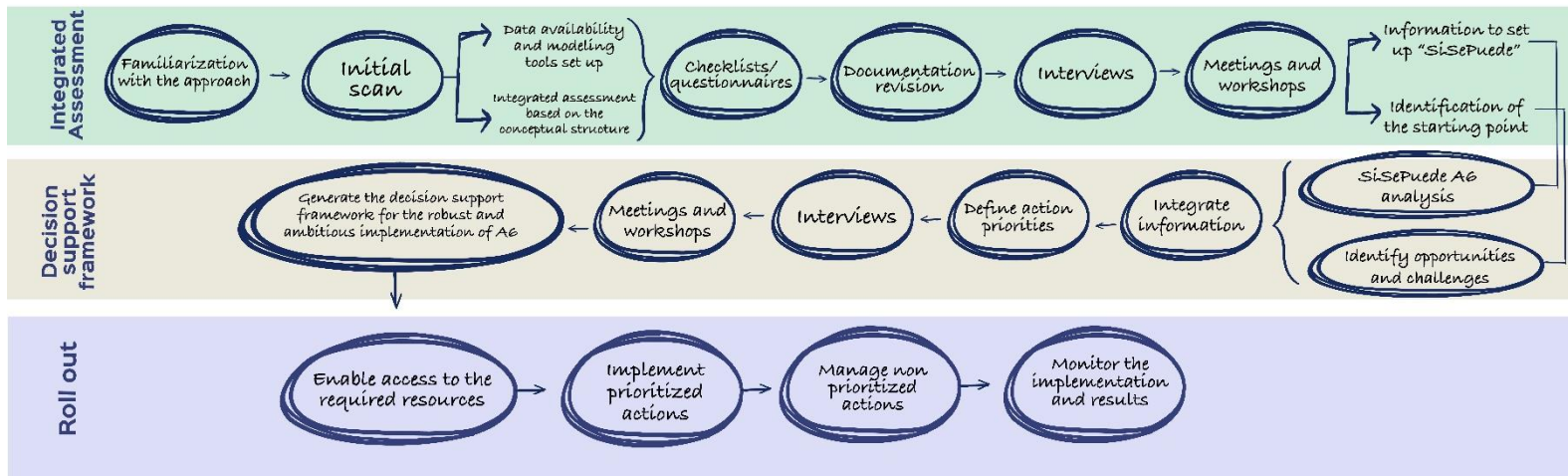


Figure 3. Summary of the Deployment Process of the IAA6 Approach

6. Why is the IAA6 Approach useful?

The IAA6 Approach provides a unique framework for countries aiming to effectively engage with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Its utility lies in its systemic perspective, which supports countries in navigating the complexities of cooperative approaches while maintaining alignment with national priorities and international obligations and commitments.

- **Comprehensive Systemic Analysis:** The approach considers the entirety of the systems required for robust Article 6 implementation, avoiding the pitfalls of fragmented efforts.
- **Evidence-Based Decision-Making:** At the heart of the IAA6 Approach is a data-driven methodology supported by the SiSePuede modeling tool. By grounding decisions in robust data, the approach allows countries to strategically prioritize actions that maximize both environmental integrity and economic benefits.
- **Strategic Prioritization:** The Decision Support Framework translates technical findings into concrete actions and strategies, helping countries focus their efforts on high-impact areas that consider not only mitigation and decarbonization, but also sustainable development impacts.
- **Builds on Existing Progress:** The approach offers a flexible structure that adapts to each country's unique needs and priorities, leveraging existing climate action progress rather than





starting from scratch. Using the IAA6 Approach does not impose large additional burdens on the countries but supports them to fill remaining gaps.

- **Supporting Capacity-Building:** The IAA6 Approach is particularly beneficial for countries where specific institutional and technical capacities require strengthening. The approach facilitates bolstering technical capabilities across institutions, seeking to ensure that countries are not only Article 6-ready but also equipped to sustain long-term climate action.
- **Alignment and Coherence:** One of the challenges of Article 6 implementation is ensuring coherence with national and international climate commitments. The IAA6 Approach facilitates this by mapping the interlinkages between Article 6 and key policy instruments such as NDCs, LT-LEDS, and the Enhanced Transparency Framework. This alignment seeks to ensure that Article 6 implementation contributes to, rather than detracts from, achieving broader climate goals.
- **Driving Long-Term Transformative Impact:** By emphasizing iterative learning, adaptability, and continual improvement, the IAA6 Approach lays the foundation for sustained progress. Its design seeks to facilitate countries using their Article 6 engagement to catalyze broader policy shifts, such as transitioning to a low-carbon economy.

7. Next steps and contact information

The first draft of the IAA6 Approach is now ready for piloting in Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Peru. This process will support the three countries and provide valuable insights to further refine the framework and its tools, ensuring their effectiveness in enabling robust and ambitious Article 6 engagement at the national level.

For more information about the IAA6 project, its activities, and its impact, please visit the UNEP-CCC website:

[IAA6 Project Page](#)

