

SUBMISSION TO THE CHAIR OF SBI RELATING TO ENHANCING ACTION FOR CLIMATE EMPOWERMENT (ACE)

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) extends its best wishes to the Chair of SBI and welcomes the opportunity to submit views, on behalf of the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC:Learn), on further enhancing the implementation of training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Paris Agreement (Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 83). **This submission is also supported by Burkina Faso.**

Since 2010 UNITAR has hosted the Secretariat of the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC:Learn). UN CC:Learn is supported financially by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) as well as through varying modalities provided through the UN system. The partnership currently includes 35 international organisations and 16 countries, providing many positive examples of the benefits of a planned, coordinated and long term approach to the provision of high quality learning made available to the largest number of individuals possible in different languages and across all Parties to the Convention.

UN CC:Learn supports the design and implementation of national climate change learning strategies in partners countries, so as to promote recurrent skills development in areas that are aligned with national climate change and development policies. Therefore UN CC:Learn provides a repository of ways in which ACE is being implemented, while also recognizing that much more needs to be done through upscaling, particularly at national and sub-national levels while also taking into account women's empowerment.

UNITAR recommends that Parties consider how support for climate change education, training and public awareness can be scaled up taking into account current examples and good practices. Possible measures to scale up implementation and raise the profile of ACE could include:

- Visible mechanism in place that countries can access to provide technical and financial support. This could be based on the existing UN CC:Learn model.
- A global report on the status of climate change education, training and public awareness, to be delivered through the ACE partnership.
- Integration of ACE principles more visibly within the GCF priorities, principles and approaches to fund implementation.
- Clear reference to education, training and public awareness in NDC guidance and documentation, including a special report as part of the formal NDC review process.
- Promotion of the UN CC:Learn introductory e-course on climate change to build global climate literacy and to ensure gender equality in this process.
- Promotion of youth engagement through an up-scaled programme of Climate Youth Dialogues linking classrooms around the world together in real time, linked to the successful climate change youth leadership camps.
- Appropriate use of technology through enhanced access via mobile platforms, measures to increase accessibility for all forms of disability, use of virtual reality and related research and development to support implementation of these measures.
- Reaching out to various private sector entities including companies, philanthropic funds and foundations, insurance and banking sectors.

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