

# How Institutional Arrangements can enhance the capacity of developing country parties

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# Introduction

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- Capacity building is the process of strengthening a system or organization in order to increase its effectiveness, impact and achieve its goals and sustainability over time.
- Institutional arrangements are policies, systems, processes and structures used by organizations to legislate plan and manage their activities efficiently and to effectively coordinate with others in fulfilling their mandates.
- So institutional arrangements for capacity building are the necessary policies, systems and structures used to plan and manage the process of capacity building for an organization in a holistic manner.



# Why institutional arrangements for CB

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- As an issue dealt with by several bodies under the Convention and outside the Convention someone has to take stock of what is happening and provide guidance where necessary.
- There is need to track progress and adapt approaches to meet emerging needs (need to set performance targets and indicators for the targets)
- Need to ensure adequacy of action in the different fields and completeness with regard to fulfilling the objective of the convention.
- Need to have a systematic, holistic and sustainable system where individual efforts from different players contribute to and to implement activities in a coordinated manner.

# How institutional arrangements can help the process of CB

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- Under the SBI, experience have shown that as an implementation body the SBI requires an additional hand to do the actual work on the ground, if not there are usually no result. Eg. (Meetings of the SBI are usually packed, long agendas, and capacity building meets only for a few sessions).
- We have seen it in the finance, technology development and adaptation that the SBI alone with the limited time which is structured in form of negotiations there is minimal ground that could be covered.
- That the main reason CB have not moved under the convention.
- Having dedicated institutional arrangements could help address CB in a comprehensive manner.



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- Need to provide clear linkages with different players and use of joint strategies as a vehicle for impact.
  - Learning from the submitted INDCs it is clear that capacity building is only a developing country party issue; majority of developing country parties have cited capacities as a conditionality while developed country parties did not even mention it.

# What have we covered so far

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- (a) Institutional capacity building, including the strengthening or establishment, of secretariats or national focal points;
- (b) Enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment;
- National communications
- (d) National climate change programmes;
- (e) GHG inventories, emission and national systems for collecting and managing activity data and emission factors;
- (f) Vulnerability and adaptation assessment;
- (g) Capacity building for implementation of adaptation measures;
- (h) Assessment for implementation of mitigation options;
- (i) Research and systematic observation, including meteorological, hydrological and climatological services;
- (j) Development and transfer of technology;
- (k) Improved decision-making, including assistance for participation in international negotiations;
- (l) Clean development mechanism;
- (m) Needs arising out of the implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention;
- (n) Education, training and public awareness; and
- (o) Information and networking, including the establishment of databases



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# Good decisions, no implementation

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- REDD+ implementation: Many countries have prepared their REDD+ readiness plan, but up to now many of these plans have not moved to implementation stage. Some of the reasons for lack of implementation include lack of adequate resources to implement the proposed programme and limited skills and expertise of local experts, coupled with limited mainstreaming of the REDD+ into national planning and development processes. For example, some of the National REDD+ strategies are not embedded within the National Forest Programme thus remains stand alone donor projects.
- In most of the REDD+ countries in Southern Africa do not have experts that could do a simple forest carbon assessment.



# Good decisions no implementation

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- Para 6 of Decision 2/CP.7 “**Urges the operating entity of the financial mechanism to adopt a streamlined and expedited approach in financing activities within this framework**”.
- **Para 8** “Encourages bilateral and multilateral agencies, and other intergovernmental organizations and institutions, to consult with developing countries in formulating programmes and action plans to support capacity-building activities in accordance with the annexed framework”
- **There have been no follow up on these issues mainly because there is no dedicated body for CB and the only forum where capacity building is discussed is during the negotiations (where people have a lot of issue to follow and CB MIGHT BE AT THE BOTTOM OF THEIR PRIORITY LIST.**

# Challenges in sustaining national capacities

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- Most capacity building initiatives implemented under the Convention are at the individual level with no systemic an institutional capacities to support it.
- For example: in 2010, out of the **54** countries in Africa, only **2 (3.7 %)** had national systems for national communications.
- Every reporting cycle most of these countries uses new experts and this is reflected even in the quality of the nat coms submitted by African countries.
- There is therefore need for a programmatic approaching that will systematically address capacities across the different evels.



# Current Top down approach for CB

Decisions taken  
at COP level

- Eg. INDC
- BURs

Global capacity  
building

- Global  
workshops
- Regional  
workshops

National  
Projects

- Specified  
timeframes
- Limited budgets

National  
capacity  
building needs  
strategies and  
plans

Usually the global processes are not compatible with  
the national plans

# Example: Capacity building Needs

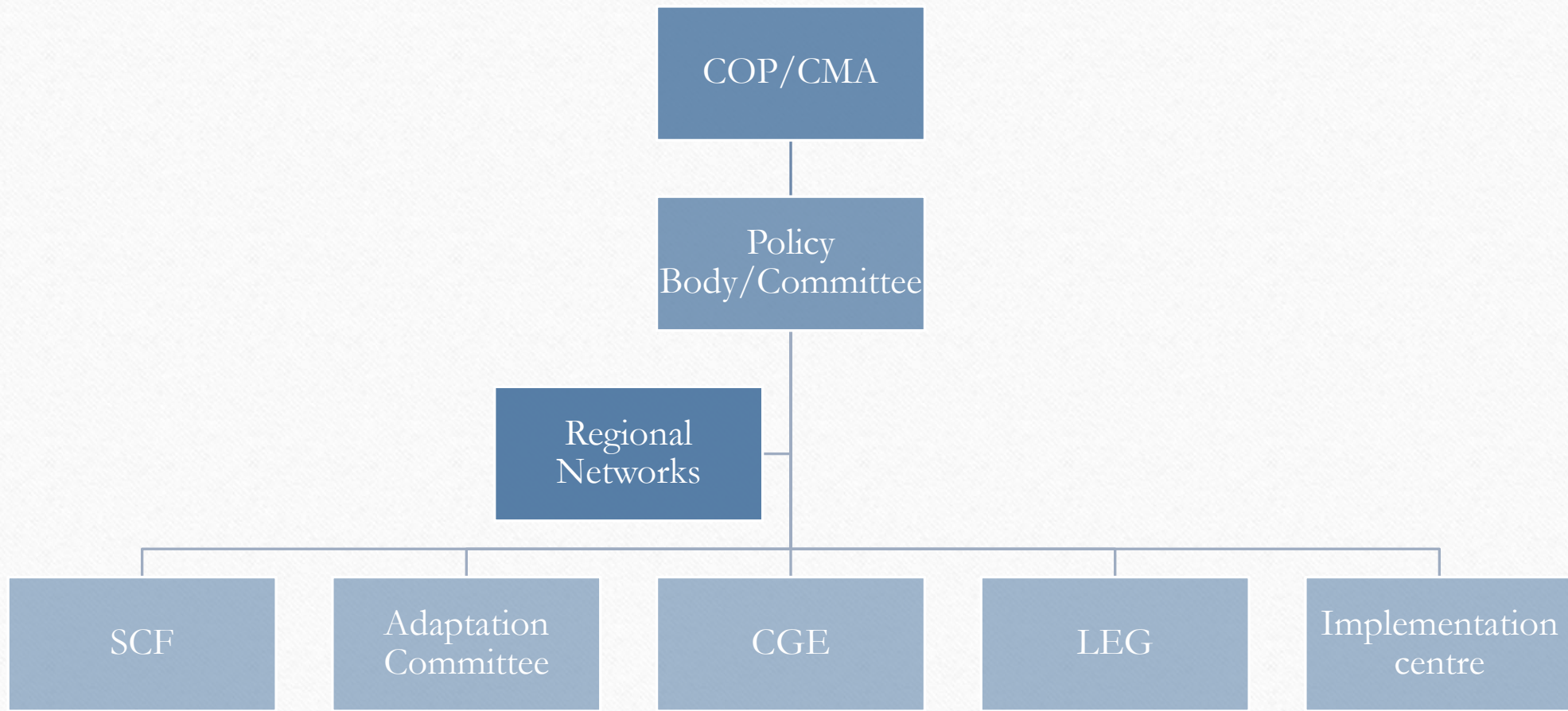
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- Out of the 54 African countries non have done capacity building needs for implementation of mitigation and adaptation (Swaziland preparing her own).
- A few countries benefited from the GEF supported National Capacity Needs Self Assessment project which was focusing on UNFCCC and other MEAs.
- Then whos needs is the current work on capacity building responding to? The COP's?
- This is because the mode of work currently in use is not country driven at all.



HOW?

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# How

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- **Functions of the policy component:**

- Consider and recommend actions to promote capacities in developing countries, in order to accelerate action on mitigation and adaptation.
- Facilitation of the effective implementation of capacity-building interventions at the national and regional levels
- . Provision of normative guidance on capacity-building related issues concerning this agreement to inform other institutions and mechanisms established under the Convention serving this agreement
- Promotion of coherence between relevant institutions and mechanisms established under the Convention and this agreement.
- Facilitation for developing country Parties of elaborating plans and strategies for achieving climate resilience and sustainable development .

# New Institutions vs Old Institutions

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- The new institutional arrangements called for will not replace existing institutions neither will they take responsibilities from existing institutions.
- Will complement the working done by the other institutions and facilitate coordination and coherence and o foster joint efforts
- Ensure that every institution carrying out capacity building action is doing so in a comprehensive manner and according to the required targets.
- Ensure that CB activities carried out by other institutions are across the different levels.



# Conclusions

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- Important not to confine CB only to the MRV aspect of the Convention but to the ultimate objective which is reduction of GHG emissions (concrete mitigation and adaptation actions).
- There is need to view CB building as holistic element that requires a holistic solution and not just a mere gap filling of issues.
- Existing institutions with their existing mandates could probably do limited efforts to address the existing gaps with regard to capacity building activities.

THANK YOU

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