



Submission by Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)

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On

Call for Submission Information on capacity building activities for the implementation of
nationally determined contributions in the context of the Paris Agreement

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Climate Change issues will not be solved without the nations of the world making learning and training a significant part of the process and the political goodwill. A nation cannot implement mitigation or adaptation policies to climate change without also having the capacity to do so. This is why capacity building is a greater part of the UNFCCC negotiating process since its inception, two decades ago.

Below we discuss some approaches that can be adopted to enhance capacity building of Non-Party Stakeholders especially the Civil society Organization in the implementation of NDCs in the context of Paris Agreement.

1. Communication

In view of need to foster communication between institutions and organizations undertaking capacity-building activities, initial communication to the PCCB on already undertaken, ongoing and planned capacity building activities is imperative. To facilitate this, a communication tool that incorporates aspects important for learning including challenges, experiences best practices should be developed to guide communication. Progressive communication will be of great support to PCCB's work and global community

2. Flexibility

Civil Society Organizations needs and the surrounding conditions often differ, thus approaches to capacity building must be flexible. A one-size-fits-all model is likely to produce inappropriate and ineffective out comes. The remedy to this is doing a big picture analysis, to inform the model and to act as a starting point. The purpose of this step is:

- To obtain a variety of perspectives through discussions with Civil Society Organizations.
- To identify areas of concern and target specific needs.
- To mobilize local support and resources for a capacity-building initiative.

Tailoring the capacity-building model to local needs and organizational readiness is likely to require some flexibility. This is specifically in the approach used and expected outcomes since it that it differs from region to region.

3. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation largely can inform on areas of weakness, especially in capacity, of civil society organizations over time. Once you establish the reasons for strengthening Civil Society



Capacity, and the results expected, it is important to be able to put structures in place to monitor and evaluate changes in civil society capacity. These structures will take into account:

- Context in which civil society functions
- Use of resources and accountability
- Key players both social, political and economical
- The role of authority and legislative

Understanding existing capacities and more understanding on how the environment enables or constrains the development of those capacities can help in creating better models.

4. Feedback

Building NGO capacity is not a short-term undertaking hence a need for assessment on a periodic basis. As implementation is going on, environmental conditions change, periodic assessments will help guide the process. Mid-course adjustments are likely to rise as new conditions unfold and new needs arise. The process of ongoing feedback and adjustment can both strengthen the CSO's and promote wise use of resources.

This means that Capacity-building designers for the Civil Society Organization should consider what is done beyond trainings. This can be applied as:

- Designing a feedback and response mechanism
- Follow up through written and physical assessments.

5. Networking

Peer-connection is the most effective in capacity building. This happens when there are opportunities for networking, mentoring, and information sharing. This could be training workshops, conferences, regional dialogues and publications. The outcome is:

- Reaching a large audience both CSOs and donors.
- Increased network and collaboration.
- Shared information and resource.

6. Timeliness and readiness

For capacity building to be effective, it should happen in a balanced space. This ensures all action both slow and fast is relevant even in a complex context. Timeliness of the capacity building should be a priority. Readiness also is a key indicator of effective capacity building. This is when the Civil Society Organizations are ready to receive the training (e.g. the nonprofit is not in the midst of a major campaign that would make it unable to benefit from the training at that time) or vice versa. Sometimes the need for capacity building can be great, but the readinensses for it is low and if not managed can be ineffective.

7. Research

Countries are required to 'formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies' in their NDCs. These strategies require research to generate knowledge on what would work in a country and how. A capacity-building activity to strengthen in-country research in developing, LDCs and SIDs is important taking note of research needs in these countries.



In conclusion all these aspects listed above when dealt with in-depth can ensure effective capacity building for CSOs in climate change. This can be a tool for accountability since the aspects form a fivefold pillar to CSO Capacity Building as represented.