

Informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG)

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Summary report of the third meeting

(held on 7 June 2022, 13:30-15:00 CEST)

I. Background

ICG establishment and objective

In line with the workplan of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) for 2021-2024¹, the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG) was established in early 2021.

The ICG currently meets twice per year on the margins of existing sessions. A first meeting was held virtually in June 2021 in conjunction with the fifth meeting of the PCCB², and the second meeting was held in a hybrid format in conjunction with COP 26 in November 2021.³

The purpose of the ICG is to create a conducive space for representatives of constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to coordinate climate change-related capacity-building plans and activities, and allow for better sharing of information, coherence, and identification of opportunities.⁴

ICG membership

The ICG currently (as June 2022) comprises 26 members from 15 constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant UNFCCC processes. The full list of members is available on the dedicated ICG website.⁵

Third ICG meeting

The third ICG meeting (ICG 3) was held on Tuesday, 7 June 2022, 13:30–15:00 CEST, in conjunction with the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid manner with virtual participants connected through MS

¹ Available here:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Workplan%20of%20the%20Paris%20Committee%20on%20Capacity%202021-4.pdf>.

² Meeting summary available here:

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/1st%20ICG%20Meeting_Summary%20Report_final.pdf.

³ Meeting summary available here:

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/2nd%20ICG%20Meeting_Summary%20Report.pdf.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2020/13 Annex II

⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/PCCB-ICG>.

Teams. The agenda of the meeting can be found in the annex to this document. ICG 3 was moderated by PCCB member Jeniffer Hanna.

Anticipated participants were the members of the ICG, including members of PCCB working group 1 and nominated representatives of the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) process, Adaptation Committee (AC), Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) secretariat, Consultative Group of Experts (CGE), Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM ExCom), Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP), Global Environment Facility (GEF) secretariat, Green Climate Fund (GCF) secretariat, Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures (KCI), Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), Lima Work Programme on Gender, Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), and Technology Executive Committee (TEC). The final list of participants of ICG 3 is contained in the annex of this report.

To aid members in preparing for the meeting, the PCCB updated the forward-looking overview of capacity-building activities undertaken by constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant processes represented in the ICG. ICG members actively contributed to the updating of this document. This document is available on the ICG webpage.

II. Meeting Summary

Findings from 2021 ICG-wide survey on efforts to address capacity gaps and needs

Following welcoming remarks by Jeniffer Hanna (PCCB) and a round of introductions, the ICG members turned to agenda item 2, which focused on a presentation by the PCCB on the findings from an ICG-wide survey undertaken in the second half of 2021.

Following guidance from the COP, the PCCB determined in its 2021-2024 workplan to interact with constituted bodies, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to gather information on activities related to addressing capacity gaps and needs in areas relevant to their mandates to provide input to their work, as appropriate (Activity B.1). In this context, a survey was circulated among members of the ICG in June 2021, to gather information on and best practices related to addressing capacity gaps and needs in the respective work of the bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG.

The PCCB received ten submissions, constituting a 71% participation rate. 70% of the submissions provided recommendations to other ICG members or shared lessons learned on how to effectively address capacity gaps and needs of developing countries. 80% of the responses provided suggestions on how the PCCB could best support ongoing efforts of bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG in this regard. The purpose of the survey was not to establish a comprehensive list of capacity-building efforts undertaken by bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG, given that such a list is already being compiled as part of the annual compilation and synthesis reports of the secretariat on the capacity-building related

work of UNFCCC bodies and entities.⁶ Instead, the survey sought concrete good practices and lessons learned from specific activities which ICG members consider to be valuable for the PCCB and other members in the group.

The findings from the survey include key considerations and recommendations shared by ICG members in their survey inputs, as well as possible areas for synergy or collaboration among various bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG, which were either suggested by ICG members in their survey responses or identified by the PCCB through an analysis of the inputs received. Following a presentation of the key findings from the survey by Jeniffer Hanna, she announced that these have been included in a briefing note to be shared with ICG members for their review following the conclusion of the meeting. Once ICG members have completed their review of the document the briefing note will be published on the ICG website in July 2022.

Coordination efforts in the ICG

Under agenda item 3, ICG members had a coordination-focused discussion on the basis of the forward-looking overview of capacity-building-related activities of bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG.

The WIM ExCom representative in the ICG, Co-Chair Jerome Ilagan, appreciated the opportunities to build on the synergies with the work of the PCCB and other members of the ICG and provided some recent examples of engagement with the PCCB, such as the PCCB's participation in the ExCom's Expert Group on Action and Support through Mahawan Karuniasa and the WIM ExCom's inputs to two PCCB calls for submission in late 2021 or the PCCB toolkit for assessing capacity gaps and needs related to implementing the Paris Agreement. He noted that the new 5-year rolling workplan of the ExCom is currently under development and that besides this workplan, the plans of action of the different expert groups, task forces and technical expert groups supporting the ExCom, including the Expert Group on Action and Support, the Task Force on Displacement and the Expert Group on Non-economic Losses, also embody specific activities that provide opportunities for engagement on capacity-building. Mr. Ilagan concluded by noting that the ExCom looks forward to further capacity-building-related work and collaborative activities to be undertaken with the PCCB and the other ICG members.

The TEC representative in the ICG, Sergio Motta, explained that the TEC is currently developing its new workplan to start in 2023 and that it would thus be premature to announce any coordination or collaboration proposals at this point in time. However, he pointed to ongoing activities, for which the TEC will continue to seek collaboration with other actors, including a paper on gender and technology and the development of a roster of gender experts with CTCN, a compilation of best practices related to national systems of innovation, as well as another joint publication between TEC and CTCN on technology and NDCs, which has been released and is intended to be updated over time. With regard to this activity, he noted that the

⁶ The report and addendum published in 2022 can be accessed at: <https://unfccc.int/documents/461332> and <https://unfccc.int/documents/470412>.

TEC is exploring the idea of organizing a dialogue together with the PCCB, LCIPP and the NDC Partnership to identify capacity-building needs particularly of indigenous peoples.

The FWG representative in the ICG, Co-Chair Natasha Museba Banda, briefly reported on a recently conducted capacity-building webinar series focused on ethical and equitable engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the context of climate change policy and action. She then noted that under the new three-year workplan of the FWG, a series of two annual capacity-building workshops will be organized, with the first workshop recently taking place during SB 56 and the second training workshop to be organized in conjunction with COP27. Ms. Museba Banda noted that this workshop will focus on capacity-building for indigenous peoples related to their participation in the UNFCCC process. She noted that the PCCB has been identified in the workplan as one of the contributors to this activity and also invited other ICG members to attend.

ICG member Gabriel Kpaka, from the LEG, welcomed opportunities to utilize linkages with other work programmes and bodies. As activities that may be of interest to other ICG members, he pointed to the Open NAP Initiative, a platform that mobilizes inputs from various actors, and the NAP writing workshops that support LDCs to formulate project proposals and access resources, with one workshop coming up for the Asia-Pacific region in July 2022 in Cambodia. He also, inter alia, noted the LEG's recent and ongoing efforts to conduct training sessions for LDCs on the Paris Agreement and to establish a roster of national and regional experts on national adaptation plans to which other ICG members are welcome to contribute.

Victoria Novikova, one of two ICG members appointed by the CGE, pointed to the CGE's compilation of capacity-building needs, including gaps and constraints, as reported in national communications and biennial update reports submitted by developing country Parties, that the CGE compiles annually in the context of its work of supporting developing countries with their transparency-related obligations. She also highlighted a number of capacity-building resources, that could be further disseminated such as a toolbox on institutional arrangements to facilitate MRV and transparency of action and support that includes the Handbook on Institutional Arrangements to Support MRV/transparency of Climate action and Support, available in all six UN languages, a compilation of country experiences and lessons learned related to transparency, as well as the training materials on adaptation and vulnerability and mitigation assessment that the CGE is currently updating to ensure that developing country Parties are well equipped with the latest knowledge on methodological tools and models and recent scientific findings contained in the IPCC 6th Assessment Report and three special IPCC reports: Global Warming of 1.5⁰C (SR1.5), Climate Change and Land (SRCCL) and the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROOC). In terms of upcoming activities, she highlighted three regional training workshops to be held from August to October 2022 on tracking progress of NDCs under the enhanced transparency framework, and three regional webinars from July to August on how climate transparency arrangements matter for the national level. To decrease language barriers, these workshops and webinars will be held in different UN languages.

CTCN representative Rajiv Garg noted that the CTCN works through a country-driven approach in providing its technical assistance and ingrained capacity-building support. The CTCN actively coordinates and collaborates with various stakeholders and as an example for

its efforts to enhance coordination at national level, a CTCN capacity-building programme for its national focal points at the UNFCCC regional climate weeks was mentioned to which the focal points of the GEF and GCF are also invited to attend. The CTCN representatives further invited ICG members to regularly consult the CTCN website which is the key channel for the CTCN to share knowledge and information, including technical assistance requests from its designated national entities.

Dorji Tshewang from the GEF secretariat, similarly to the previous speaker from the CTCN, underlined the country-driven approach applied by the GEF and that capacity-building is embedded across GEF projects. Furthermore, the GEF manages the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency and supports various enabling activities. He recalled that since COP 26, the GEF has concluded its 8th replenishment and adopted its climate change adaptation strategy funded by the Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. It was noted that ongoing or upcoming activities relevant to the PCCB and other ICG members include the GEF's stakeholder empowerment series, country dialogue, and outreach events with the GCF on the implementation of long-term visions on complementarity and coherence and ICG members were invited to observe one such event held on 8 June 2022 at the Bonn Climate Change Conference. The GEF newsletter, GEF Academy and a forthcoming series on good practices and lessons learned from implementation of GEF's activities were also mentioned as potentially of interest to the wider ICG.

One of the two AC representatives in the ICG, Rita Mishaan, noted the appreciation of the AC to be able to participate in the coherence and coordination efforts of the ICG and invited the members of the ICG to join several activities of the AC in September and November 2022. She underlined that the AC sees great merit in coordinating capacity-building-related work across bodies, entities and processes and in cross-participating in each other's activities, as well as noting the importance of ensuring that the different databases and portals of different UNFCCC bodies, entities and processes are managed in a coordinated fashion to ensure easy and inclusive access to information. As regards the ongoing work related to the Global Goal for Adaptation, Ms. Mishaan noted that the main challenge will be how to assess collective progress on adaptation, including mutually-agreed indicators at the national and regional level, and that capacity gaps and needs of Parties will need to be addressed throughout the process.

For the PCCB, Jeniffer Hannah thanked the CTCN, the GEF and the SCF for their valuable contributions to the PCCB launch event of the PCCB toolkit for assessing capacity-building gaps and needs related to implementing the Paris Agreement in March 2022. She also noted that the PCCB looks forward to further concretizing the intended collaborations with the SCF in the remainder of 2022, including a PCCB contribution to the next part of the SCF forum on financing for nature-based solutions. The PCCB further thanked the AC for the invitation to the coherence and collaboration dialogue taking place on 14 June 2022 and noted that the committee looks forward to jointly exploring with the AC how the PCCB can best support the AC's efforts related to capacity-building support for adaptation, in particular related to filling gaps and needs related to the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Jeniffer Hanna also thanked the Adaptation Fund, the GCF and the WIM ExCom for submitting inputs in response

to two PCCB calls for submissions on tools and methodologies for implementing capacity-building and on enhancing country ownership and local leadership of capacity-building, respectively.

Ms. Hanna informed ICG members that during the summer period the PCCB will share an invitation for stakeholders to submit their expressions of interest to join the 4th Capacity-building Hub at COP 27 and she also invited ICG members to express at their earliest convenience any interest in contributing to the new PCCB event series at the 2022 UNFCCC regional climate weeks focused on the topic of capacities for horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs. The PCCB expressed thanks for the confirmed support from the FWG to help with the identification of resource persons from indigenous communities in the respective regions to ensure that indigenous peoples' knowledge continues to be mainstreamed across the PCCB's regional events.

In the ensuing exchange of views, the FWG and GEF secretariat agreed to get in touch with each other on the GEF's indigenous peoples' advisory group and regarding indigenous peoples' engagement in the GEF Academy. Furthermore, the FWG co-chair expressed interest in exchanging information with the CGE about the group's workshops at regional level to explore if synergies could be created with the FWG's planned engagement at regional level.

Karina Barrera, representing the AC in the ICG, highlighted the need to further enhance the capacity of vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change and the need for mainstreaming approaches promoting gender responsiveness and intersectionality. She noted the importance of engaging and coordinating with national designated authorities (NDAs) and going beyond the organization of workshops to ensure meaningful engagement of indigenous peoples and ensure no one is left behind.

PCCB member Renilde Ndayishimiye encouraged the PCCB to explore coordination with national focal points of various constituted bodies, operating entities and processes with a view to improving the implementation of capacity-building activities at the national level and to bridge the gaps in the work of different bodies at the national level.

The CGE representative suggested that existing training materials could be shared at thematically related events and meetings of other bodies. Distribution directly at events could be helpful as locating all relevant information on the UNFCCC websites can be challenging for stakeholders. In this context she noted that, for instance, the CGE's adaptation assessment related resources may be of interest to the AC and its stakeholders, and that the Capacity-building Initiative on Transparency, managed by the GEF, might benefit from the CGE training materials on mitigation assessments. Victoria Novikova also suggested for 2023 to explore in the ICG the production of short brochures on different thematic areas that showcase the various products and resources developed by bodies, entities and processes in the ICG on specific topics at a glance and in one place.

Other matters

No matters were raised under this agenda item.

Closing

Jeniffer Hanna closed the meeting by notifying ICG members that the ICG 3 summary report and the briefing note on the findings of the 2021 ICG survey will be shared in due course for their review and that the PCCB will discuss and agree on follow-up activities resulting from ICG 3 at its 6th meeting, held from 13 to 15 June 2022 in Bonn.

The fourth meeting of the ICG is planned to be held on the margins of COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. Further information will be shared with ICG members in due course.

Annex: Agenda and List of Participants of the third ICG meeting

Agenda

1. Welcome remarks and round of introductions.
2. Findings from the 2021 ICG-wide survey on efforts to address capacity gaps and needs.
3. Informal coordination based on the forward-overlooking overview of activities.
4. Other matters.
5. Closure of the meeting.

List of Participants

Name	Body/entity/process
Karina Maribel Barrera Moncayo	AC
Marzena Chodor	PCCB
Christina Dengel	AFB secretariat
Rajiv Garg	CTCN
Catherine A Goldberg	KCI
Peter Mari Govindasamy	KCI
Jeniffer Hanna	PCCB
Juan Pablo Hoffmaister	GCF secretariat
Roberta Ianna	PCCB
Jerome Ilagan	WIM ExCom
Omedi Moses Jura	CTCN
Gabriel Kpaka	LEG
Sergio La Motta	TEC
Silvia Mancini	AFB secretariat
Rita Mishaan	AC
Natasha Museba Banda	FWG

Renilde Ndayishimiye	PCCB
Victoria Novikova	CGE
Dorji Tshewang	GEF secretariat
Yongxiang Zhang	PCCB
Capacity-building Team	UNFCCC