

Concept note

“Strengthening institutions at the national level to support capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in developing countries”

World Conference Center Bonn (room Nairobi)
Thursday 20th June 2019 (14:00-17:00)

Background

The Durban Forum on Capacity-building was established in 2011 under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to further enhance the monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building under the Convention.¹ It has served as an annual, in-session discussion platform for Parties, representatives of the constituted bodies under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, and relevant experts and practitioners to share their experiences and exchange ideas, best practices and lessons learned on the implementation of capacity-building activities in the context of specific thematic areas.

With the establishment of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)², the work on capacity-building has been further strengthened and, similar to the 7th Durban Forum held in 2018, the lessons learned and outcomes of the 8th Durban Forum are expected to directly feed into the work of the PCCB.

At the 7th Durban Forum on Capacity-building held in May 2018, Parties and non-Party stakeholders reiterated the need for more time and space for informal and formal discussions on capacity-building related matters in order to exchange knowledge on case studies, success stories, lessons learned and how to support capacity-building in developing countries. Responding to this request, the PCCB agreed to implement a dedicated space (Capacity-building Hub) from 5-12 December 2018 to present a series of events featuring presentations, networking opportunities and showcasing hands-on training of tools to strengthen collaboration and outreach efforts on capacity-building activities at COP 24.³

The organization of this year’s Durban Forum took into consideration the COP decision which requests SBI to thematically align future meetings of the Durban Forum with the annual focus area of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building, taking note of the recommendation of the Committee contained in its 2018 technical progress report.⁴ In addition, the 8th Durban Forum builds on previous years’ discussions of the forum on capacity-

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 144.

² FCCC/SBI/2018/9.

³ Further information on the Capacity-Building hub is available at <https://unfccc.int/node/1822266>.

⁴ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp24_aov_pccb.pdf.

building in developing countries in relation to NDCs. The focus of the 7th Durban Forum was on Enhancing capacities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of the Paris Agreement, and the 6th on enhancing capacities for adaptation in the context of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and NDCs.⁵

Scope and Sub Topics

Scope

Strengthening institutions at national level to support capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in developing countries”

Sub-topics

1. The role of academia, research institutions and other national or subnational institutions in strengthening and retaining capacities in developing countries;
2. Enhancing coherence and coordination amongst national and international stakeholders (such as inter alia. government institutions support providers, civil society organizations, subnational authorities, academia and research institutions, and the private sector) for the design and delivery of capacity-building activities supporting NDC implementation;
3. Best practices and available tools or methodologies for assessing the impact and effectiveness of capacity-building activities in strengthening national institutions capacity to implement NDCs.

Objective

The 8th Durban Forum will be guided by the following objectives:

- To provide a platform for various stakeholders to present their experiences and lessons learned and exchange knowledge.
- To explore how to better engage academia, research institutions and other national or subnational institutions in capacity-building activities efforts to help build and retain developing countries’ capacity for NDC implementation;
- To provide insights for partners to better align the support provide for capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in developing countries;
- To inform related thematic discussions of the PCCB in the context of its 2019 annual focus area or theme and its 2017-2019 rolling workplan.
- To learn from best practices and available tools or methodologies used for assessing the impact and effectiveness of capacity-building activities in strengthening national capacity.

⁵Further information on the annual meetings of the Durban Forum is available at http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/7486.php.

Programme outline

Opening 14:00 – 14:15	
Opening Remarks	Emmanuel Dlamini <i>Chair of the SBI and Chair of the Durban Forum on Capacity-building</i>
Introductions	Russell Miles Co- Facilitator
Special address 14:15 – 14:30	
“Strengthening institutions at the national level to support Capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in developing countries”	Jakob Rhyner Scientific Director of the Bonn Alliance for Sustainability Research and the Innovation Campus Bonn United Nations University
Panel discussion and Q&A 14:30 – 15:30	
Panel discussion <i>Discussion scope:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How to better engage academia, research institutions and other-Party stakeholders in strengthening and retaining capacities,</i> • <i>Challenges and opportunities for enhancing coherence and coordination in the design and implementation of capacity building activities</i> • <i>What needs to be done to better monitor and assess the impact of capacity- building activities</i> • <i>What type of support is needed for strengthening national institutions to support capacity-building activities</i> 	<u>Moderator</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stella Gama Co- Facilitator <u>Panelists</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E Sonam Phuntsho Wangdi Chair of the LDC Group • Pierre Jacquet President of the Global Development Network (GDN) • Roberta Ianna Senior Advisor - Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea • Mizan R. Khan Programme Director of the Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC) • Rebecca Carman Technical climate specialist, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

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Breakout group discussions 15:30 – 16:30		
<p><u>Breakout group 1</u></p> <p>The role of academia, research institutions and other national or subnational institutions in strengthening and retaining capacities in developing countries;</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u> Edith Ofwona Adera Senior Program Specialist, International Development Research Center</p>	<p><u>Breakout group 2</u></p> <p>Enhancing coherence and coordination amongst national and international stakeholders (such as inter alia. government institutions support providers, civil society organizations, subnational authorities, academia and research institutions, and the private sector) for the design and delivery of capacity-building activities supporting NDC implementation;</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u> Robert Bradley Director of Knowledge and Research, NDC partnership</p>	<p><u>Breakout group 3</u></p> <p>Best practices and available tools or methodologies for assessing the impact and effectiveness of capacity-building activities</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u> Benito Muller Director, Oxford Climate Policy</p>
<p>Report back by discussion leaders of breakout groups 1-3 16:30 – 16:50</p>		
<p>Wrap-up and closing remarks by co-facilitators and UNFCCC Secretariat 16:50– 17:00</p>		