Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)
Call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders:
2023 PCCB focus area
'Capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans'

Background

The PCCB aims to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhance capacity-building efforts. Current priority areas are:

> a) Enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention;
> b) Identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them;
> c) Promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement.

To learn more about the work of the PCCB, you can access its annual reports and other documents [here](#).

Topic for submissions

The PCCB annually focuses on an area related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity-building. It determined, in its 2021-2024 workplan, to make calls for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the annual PCCB focus area.

The PCCB focus area for 2023 is:

'Capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans (NAPs)'

The focus area was agreed after the PCCB participated in a coherence and collaboration dialogue with constituted bodies held by the Adaptation Committee (AC) on 14 June 2022, aiming at jointly catalyzing enhanced support in that regard.

Through its 2023 focus area the PCCB aims to contribute to a better understanding of existing and emerging capacity gaps and needs as well as challenges, case studies, good practices, tools and lessons learned with regard to capacity-building support for adaptation, especially as it relates to addressing gaps and needs of developing countries in formulating and implementing their NAPs. In implementing its 2023 focus area and as part of its mandate to enhance the coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts under the Convention and Paris Agreement, the PCCB will liaise closely with the AC and aims to directly engage the AC, LEG and other relevant bodies and entities in its work, with a view to effectively building on their previous, relevant efforts as well as informing and contributing to their ongoing and future work in this area.

Who can submit?

The call is open to all UNFCCC Parties and non-Party stakeholders, such as public and private sector entities, government and non-government organizations, philanthropic organizations, academic and research organizations, international and regional organizations or initiatives, and UNFCCC constituted bodies.

How will the inputs be used?

The inputs will feed into the PCCB's workplan activities in 2023, including a focus area day at the 5th Capacity-building Hub at COP 28, and envisaged regional activities and webinars. The inputs will also inform the design and preparations of the 12th Durban Forum on capacity-building to be held during the Bonn Climate Change

Conference in June 2023. The PCCB supports the SBI in aligning the theme of the Durban Forum on capacity-building with the annual focus area of the PCCB at the request of the COP.

Submissions form
We thank you in advance for filling out this template with concise, evidence-based information and for referencing all relevant sources. There are 2 sections in this template:
- *Details about your organization*
- *Guiding questions about capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans (NAPs)*

Further information:
You are welcome to provide any other information and suggestions that your organization/entity would like to highlight in response to this call for submissions.

Address for submission: pccb@unfccc.int
Deadline for submissions: 28 February 2023

PART I:
Please only fill out sections relevant to the work of your organization. Please note that no section is mandatory.

Organization or entity name:

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

☒ Intergovernmental organization	☐ Development bank / financial institution
☐ UN and affiliated organization	☐ Non-governmental organization
☐ International network, coalition, or initiative	☐ Research organization
☐ Regional network, coalition, or initiative	☐ University/education/training organization
☐ Public sector entity	☐ Private sector entity
☐ Development agency	☐ Philanthropic organization
	☐ Other (Please specify) _____

Organization Location

City: Bangkok
Country:Thailand

Scale of operation:

☐ Global	☒ Regional
☒ Local	☐ Subregional
☒ National	☒ Transboundary

City(ies)/Country(ies) of operation (if appropriate):

Country Offices:

Islamabad, Pakistan
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Colombo, Sri Lanka
Kathmandu, Nepal

Country Representation:
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Yangon, Myanmar
Manila, Philippines
New Delhi, India
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PART II:
Please only fill out sections that are relevant to the work of your organization/entity:

In your experience, <u>what are the key capacity gaps and needs</u> of developing countries related to formulating and implementing NAPs?

Key area (please choose all appropriate):

☒ Accessing financial support   ☐ Implementation strategies
☐ Access to and use of technology   ☐ Monitoring, evaluation and learning
☒ Institutional arrangements and coordination   ☒ Linkage with the development agenda
☒ Climate scenarios, science, and translation to   ☐ Active learning from practice
local context   ☒ Other (Please specify) Meaningful participation
☒ Risk and vulnerability assessment and risk   of climate vulnerable groups
management

Gap/need identified: The gaps and needs mentioned below are based on ADPC's institutional experience under various projects. Starting from access to finance, countries in Asia still require adequate financial support to cover adaptation costs. High-vulnerable countries such as Nepal have recently developed the NAP. However, the costs required to implement adaptation activities cannot be covered by domestic finances alone and require external or international climate finance support. Accessing financial support also includes the gaps in national and sub-national capacities to develop and submit funding proposals and the availability of guidance on available financial support, such as the process to access GCF. The availability of domestic financial support, especially for the local-level implementation of adaptation practices – such as LAPA requires significant support to ensure that communities and the most vulnerable groups have access to funding to implement climate vulnerability and adaptation practices. Barriers to accessing international climate finance persist, with multiple actors, multiple lines of funding mechanisms, and multiple requirements and processes resulting in bottlenecks for countries to access financial support. There continues to be a gap in institutional arrangements and coordination, especially towards the implementation of activities – while climate policies and legislations provide legal mandates for agencies and ministries, this is not taken into practice, especially for countries that utilize a top-down approach during the formulation of NAPs - therefore resulting in a lack of coordination and cooperation between national/federal versus provincial and local levels leading to duplication of initiatives, wasting financial and human resources, and implementing activities that are not consistent with the NAP. Gaps in institutional arrangements and coordination are also due to

incoherent horizontal and vertical coordination, primarily due to a lack of comprehensive understanding of decision-makers on newly developed plans, frameworks, acts, etc., requiring climate policy coherence. The institutional arrangements and coordination are also relevant to accessing financial support – mechanisms are not yet in place to channel climate finance for the local governments and actors. Developing climate scenarios, science, and translation into local context and risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management while using different methods are intricately linked. The critical gap is the utility of the climate scenarios and risk and vulnerability assessments for decision-making processes. The basis of utility is also tied to the extent of capacity available within government agencies to generate climate scenarios and climate information. The end-users of the climate information also need to understand how to make decisions and inform their initiatives, especially at the local level. These require the production of user-friendly methodologies and ensuring that the data collection, generation, and utility process is highly inclusive and participatory. Linking NAP with the development agenda is another critical gap – especially in mainstreaming adaptation into development processes. The NAP and adaptation planning must be intricately linked to national, sub-national, and sectoral development processes to ensure that it supports the achievement and increases the likelihood of achieving medium and long-term development goals by integrating adaptation across sectors and various levels of government. Tools, training, and frameworks must be provided for national, sub-national, and sectoral government agencies to ensure efficient mainstreaming of adaptation into development by linking NAP and national, sectoral, and local development plans and strategies. The mainstreaming process also requires integrating climate change into the planning and public finance process – particularly within the planning and budgeting systems. While tools and frameworks such as climate change financing frameworks and climate change budgeting and tagging are inherently available, building government agencies' capacities is needed to implement these tools and frameworks. While the NAP calls for a continuous, progressive, and iterative process that is gender-sensitive, participatory, and fully transparent, there is a significant need to ensure that measures to address adaptation practices consider the direct and indirect implementation of human rights. Utilizing a rights-based approach leads to a more effective climate action because it incorporates the voices and knowledge of indigenous peoples, women, youth, and local communities while ensuring their full and effective participation. In addition, integrating human rights into climate actions will necessitate higher levels of ambition and improve mitigation and adaptation strategies by making them more effective and inclusive. Therefore, the linkages between human rights and climate change should be addressed explicitly and intentionally in formulating and implementing NAP. This requires technical support to the country's actors and stakeholders to strengthen climate action to fulfill the minimum conditions necessary for the life of all human dignity for all persons in the context of a changing climate.

In your experience, what have been the key challenges with regard to the <u>provision of capacity-building support</u> in this area to date?

Challenge: The first key challenge is about conducting project-based training and capacity-building support, which leads to unsustainable practices. Capacity-building initiatives, by tradition, are conducted based on the need to support the stakeholders or clients in building capacities to enhance their knowledge and, in general, provide them with competencies and skills in a subject area. However, many of these capacity-building initiatives are project-based and implemented by CSOs, UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations, and other technical agencies. While these initiatives, such as training and technical assistance, have positive intentions, they are often unsustainable and ineffective once the project ends. Another key challenge is the translation of knowledge into practices as evidence-based impact. As mentioned above, capacity building should enhance knowledge and, more importantly, ensure that the targeted recipients of capacity building can effectively and sustainably

utilize tools and implement activities, and roll out frameworks. The impact of training should not only focus on the number of trained persons but on how well these trained persons can translate knowledge into practice, which should then be the basis of evaluating the impact and sustainability of the capacity-building initiative. For example, after the training, how is community X able to effectively translate this new knowledge into their practices, and how many percent of the recipients can retain the knowledge? Lastly, the (3) participation and capacity building of vulnerable groups to enable their participation in the process remain a challenge. Vulnerable individuals groups should be seen beyond their vulnerabilities – training should empower these vulnerable individuals and groups to enable them to participate in the formulation and implementation processes. However, their participation in training alone is not well accounted for. There are many pieces of evidence where training (although not on purpose) has been exclusive for those with access. This has been most evident during the pandemic. While pieces of training have been conducted online and were able to reach a more significant number of people, not everyone had the same opportunities due to lack of internet, or individuals without a laptop or computer to be able to attend these training – in addition to individuals who have a multi-sensory impairment. In addition, when working with government agencies, especially in countries public offices are male-dominated, increasing the participation of women in training at all levels, especially from the public sector, has been challenging. We have seen women's attendance being ad-hoc to ensure that the training is able to achieve a 50% rate of women attending.

How could this challenge be addressed? The challenge of (1) conducting project-based training and capacity-building support, which leads to unsustainable practices, can be addressed by formalizing modules and integrating these into formal systems such as for government training institutions or universities which can be professionally certified. The modules can also be integrated into the public education systems. Under the challenge of (2) translation of knowledge into practices as evidence-based impact, organizations can develop simplified tools that enable the monitoring of how knowledge is translated into practices (Ex. Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices Assessment Tools – KAP Tools) and develop and standardize capacity building initiatives at the regional and national levels. The (3) participation and capacity building of vulnerable groups can be addressed by ensuring meaningful participation of vulnerable groups by conducting targeted training such as training specifically for women or developing child-friendly modules. This should also include the conduct of inclusive training, such as having a sign-language translator or ensuring that the training is located in a PWD-accessible area which also should be a standard.

How can existing capacity-building efforts be improved and what kind of new or additional capacity-building efforts are needed to ensure the effective formulation and implementation of NAPs?

At the subnational level: Capacity-building efforts conducted with support from civil society and community-based organizations and ensure inclusive participation of targeted groups. Training specifically conducted to establish sub-national coordinating committees for climate change according to mandates. Ensure that modules include climate policy coherence so that local actors are knowledgeable on the most recent policies, frameworks, and plans developed at the national level.

At the national level: Cooperation with national and government training institutes to standardize tools and practices for inclusive capacity-building initiatives. This also includes the formalization of training and modules, including the development of professional certificates.

At the regional level: Inter-agency cooperation, knowledge exchange on capacity building, and regional standardization of tools and practices. Establish a regional platform where nationa-level actors and

share knowledge and good practices. ADPC's regional training courses are also built from on-the-ground, and project experiences.

Who should be the target recipients of such capacity-building, and who could provide it?

Recipients: Decision- and policy-makers at the national and sub-national levels; women's organizations, indigenous peoples, children and youth, PWD groups; local government units

Providers: Inter-governmental organizations, academe, think-tanks, national and sub-national government agencies including government technical agencies, CSOs and CBOs.

Case studies, good practices, tools, lessons learned, or examples of support:

Please describe any that build capacity to formulate and implement NAPs

Tools and guidelines developed by ADPC and relevant to climate scenarios, science, and translation into local context and risk and vulnerability assessment:
- ASEAN Guideline on Integrating Climate Change Projection Into Landslide Risk Assessments & Mapping, as well as case studies and training manuals
  - https://aseandrr.org/guideline/landslide-guideline
- ASEAN Guideline on Integrating Climate Change Projection Into Flood Risk Assessments & Mapping, including case studies - https://aseandrr.org/guideline/flood-guideline
- Web application "Mekong Drought and Crop Watch" - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/mekong-drought-and-crop-watch
- Web application "Rainstorm Tracker" - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/rainstorm-tracker
- Web application "Landslide Hazard Assessment for Situational Awareness for Lower Mekong Region" - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/landslide-hazard-assessment-situational-awareness-lower-mekong-region-lhasa-mekong
- Web application "HydroMet Box" - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/hydromet-box
- Web application "Mekong X-Ray" - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/mekong-x-ray
- Web application "The Hydrologic Remote Sensing Analysis for Floods"
  - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/hydrologic-remote-sensing-analysis-floods-hydrafloods
- Web application "Gender Equality Monitoring" - https://servir.adpc.net/tools/gender-equality-monitoring-gem-platform

Tools and guidelines relevant to gender equality and rights-based approaches
- Regional training on human rights-based approaches https://prezi.com/view/NN2Qszwp48H5V3XanZrH/
- Key International Standard and Guidelines Relevant to Disaster Risk Reduction - https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/key-international-standard-and-guidelines-relevant-disaster-risk-reduction
- The e-Learning courses: Gender in DRR and FIRE Framework
  - https://courses.adpc.net/courses/course-v1:BRDR+BRDR01+2021/about
- A Framework for Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality into Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Resilience - https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/framework-integrating-human-rights-and-gender-equality-disaster-risk-reduction-and

Relevant documents on climate policy, planning and finance
- Bangladesh National Debriefing of the 26th UNFCCC - https://www.adpc.net/igo/category/ID1788/doc/2022-cgw3AN-ADPC-COP26_Expectations_Achievement_and_Way_Forward.pdf

- Gender Mainstreaming policy brief - https://www.adpc.net/igo/category/ID1700/doc/2021-q74Xpc-ADPC-Gender_Mainstreaming_Policy_Brief-ADPC.pdf
- Secotor Brief – Climate policy planning and finance - https://www.adpc.net/igo/category/ID1688/doc/2021-y1Tg83-ADPC-PPP_Sector.pdf
- Innovations in Climate Adaptation and Resilience in South Asia - https://www.adpc.net/igo/category/ID1789/doc/2022-hmc5Gs-ADPC-iCARE_in_South_Asia_ForWeb.pdf

Useful sources:

Please give examples of additional useful sources relevant to this topic
(e.g. webpages and portals, publications, fora, organizations working on this issue)

Useful sources:

- NASA SERVIR - https://servir.adpc.net/
- CARE for South Asia - https://www.careforsouthasia.info/
- South Asia region Climate Knowledge Hub (SAR-Climate) http://sar-climate.adpc.net/
- ADPC On-line courses - https://courses.adpc.net/
- 17th Regional Consultative Committee - https://www.adpc.net/igo/category/ID1844/doc/2022-yEug8K-ADPC-ManilaStatement.pdf