



Paris Committee on Capacity-building

01 June 2026

**Tenth meeting
Bonn, 15–17 June 2026**

Background note on the taxonomy of capacity gaps and needs

Expected actions by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building

The Paris Committee on Capacity-building will be invited to...:

- a) Consider the background note on the taxonomy of capacity gaps and needs;
- b) Review and reflect on the use of the observed themes as a working thematic reference to inform the development of the state of capacity-Building report.

I. Possible actions for consideration by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building

1. The Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) may wish to:
 - (a) Take note of the research undertaken and the observed themes in the reporting of capacity gaps and needs as presented in this paper and its annex;
 - (b) Review and reflect on the observed themes;
 - (c) Consider how the observed themes and evidence base presented in this note can be taken forward in the development of activities and outputs of the PCCB, including the state of capacity-building report.

II. Background and purpose

2. As set out in the PCCB workplan for 2025–2029,¹ Priority Area B focuses on identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them. In support of this priority, the PCCB has compiled and reviewed existing knowledge and research on capacity gaps and needs. This paper presents the findings of that review for PCCB consideration and sets out how it can be put to practical use, in particular to inform the development of the state of capacity-building report.
3. The paper provides an overview of what capacity-building means in the UNFCCC context, how capacity gaps and needs are currently reported and analyzed, and what patterns emerge from the existing approaches listed below and Party reporting. It does not propose a classification or set of agreed definitions. The observed themes it presents are drawn from reported information and are intended to serve as a practical working thematic reference for organizing and comparing capacity gaps and needs, rather than a formal structure.
4. Identifying capacity gaps and needs in developing countries and recommending effective ways to address them sits at the heart of the mandate of the PCCB. A more coherent and shared understanding of those gaps and needs would support stronger evidence-based analysis, enable more targeted recommendations and strengthen the evidence base for the technical work under the PCCB. More specifically, it would provide the analytical reference for the state of capacity-building report,

inform the design of the annual focus area of the PCCB, knowledge products, and activities and exchanges through the PCCB Network.

5. The sections that follow set out the definitions and concepts underpinning this work, identify the sources drawn on, summarize the key findings and explain how the observed themes could be applied in practice to inform the state of capacity-building report. The annex to this paper presents the observed themes in the reporting of capacity gaps and needs and sample of recurrent capacity gaps and needs reported.

III. Scope and definitions

6. This background note draws on a review of existing work undertaken to identify and assess capacity gaps and needs, including the following sources:

- (a) PCCB technical paper on national-level pilot exercise assessing capacity gaps and needs for implementing NDCs;¹
- (b) PCCB toolkit to assess capacity gaps and needs to implement the Paris Agreement;²
- (c) Annual technical papers of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) on capacity-building needs in preparing national communications and transparency reports;³
- (d) Compilation by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) of gaps and needs related to the formulation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans;⁴
- (e) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) analysis of capacity gaps based on Voluntary National Reviews submitted to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (2019);⁵

7. In addition, it considers capacity gaps and needs as reported by Parties in their national reports submitted under UNFCCC processes, which provide the most direct available evidence of capacity challenges experienced and articulated at the country level.

8. Under the UNFCCC, capacity-building is recognised as a critical means of implementation alongside finance and technology, across the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. Despite this central role, the term lacks a single agreed definition and is often used interchangeably with “capacity development.” It is also frequently conflated with narrower activities such as training, technical assistance, and knowledge transfer. While these activities form part of capacity-building, they do not capture its full scope.

9. In the UNFCCC context, capacity-building is anchored in the decisions 2/CP.7⁶ and Article 11 of the Paris Agreement⁷ and refers to the process of strengthening the abilities of countries, particularly developing countries, to effectively mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This involves enhancing knowledge, skills, institutions, and material resources, e.g. training materials, guidelines and toolkits, to support climate adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer, access to climate finance, research, education, public awareness, transparency and other climate-related topics. Capacity-building is guided by principles of country ownership and needs-based approaches, ensuring that countries can implement climate policies and fulfil their commitments under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

¹ See https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tp2025_01.pdf.

² Available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/activities-pccb-network/pccb-toolkit-to-assess-capacity-gaps-and-needs-to-implement-the-paris-agreement>.

³ Available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/consultative-group-of-experts-cge/transparency-needs-assessment>.

⁴ See: <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/national-adaptation-plans-naps/gaps-and-needs-related-to-the-naps>.

⁵ Available at https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/Draft%20report_VNR_capacity_gaps_analysis_formatted_rev2.pdf.

⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/documents/2516>.

⁷ Available at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf.

10. Capacity-building support under the UNFCCC is commonly understood across three levels, which are widely referenced across existing frameworks and provide a useful analytical lens:

(a) Individual level: developing knowledge, skills, and behaviours through education, training, and awareness-raising activities, including improving performance, management, and accountability at the level of individuals and practitioners;

(b) Institutional level: strengthening organisational performance and functioning, addressing the ability of institutions to adapt to change, and fostering cooperation between organisations, institutions, and sectors, including across their missions, mandates, structures, competencies, and human and financial resources;

(c) Systemic level: addressing the broader enabling environment within which institutions and individuals operate, including economic and regulatory policies, governance arrangements, and accountability frameworks.

IV. Findings of the research undertaken

A. Overview

11. The research reviewed a range of existing analytical approaches that compile and categorise capacity gaps and needs. While none of the sources reviewed provides a complete or systematic classification, taken together they reveal consistent patterns across regions and reporting instruments. They reinforce the relevance of the three levels of capacity, individual, institutional and systemic, and point to a common set of functional domains, including capacity gaps and needs related to data and information systems, institutional coordination, finance, planning and implementation, and monitoring, evaluation, and learning. These consistent patterns provided the analytical foundation for identifying the observed themes presented in this paper.

12. The research also considered whether the evidence base was sufficient to support the development of a formal taxonomy of capacity gaps and needs or more structured classification system with agreed terms, definitions and hierarchical categories. While a taxonomy of this kind, would in principle provide a consistent reference framework, it became evident that developing a formal taxonomy is premature at this stage, for the reasons set out below.

13. Based on the analysis of information submitted by Parties through national reports, it was identified that the information on capacity gaps and needs varies widely in structure, scope, timeframe, and level of detail, and that Parties use diverging terminology for similar issues. Agreed definitions of key terms remain absent, and the evidence base is not yet consistent or comparable enough to support a validated classification structure. The identification and categorisation of capacity gaps and needs also involves a degree of subjective interpretation. Even with commonly observed themes, countries may understand and describe similar challenges differently, reflecting their national circumstances, institutional contexts and priorities. In addition, formalising definitions may give rise to sensitivities or obligations that were not previously anticipated. For these reasons, the research was refocused toward identifying observed patterns from existing reporting as a more proportionate and robust foundation for analytical work at this stage.

14. The evidence compiled through this research nonetheless provides a practical and credible basis for advancing the work on capacity gaps and needs undertaken by the PCCB. The observed patterns that emerge across sources and reporting instruments offer a starting point that is grounded in what Parties themselves report, sensitive to the diversity of national contexts, and able to evolve as reporting practice improves and the evidence base develops over time. It should be noted, however, that the information submitted by Parties varies widely in structure, scope, timeframe, and level of detail, which means that the analytical work will need to account for these limitations.

B. Observed themes

15. The analysis identified that capacity gaps and needs are inherently context-specific. They reflect a country's particular national circumstances, institutional arrangements, development priorities, and climate objectives. What constitutes a critical gap in one country may be of lower

priority or already addressed in another. Any effort to analyze or compare capacity gaps and needs across countries must therefore be sensitive to these contextual differences and avoid imposing classifications that obscure rather than illuminate the realities that Parties themselves report.

16. Nevertheless, several recurring themes emerged from what Parties report as their capacity gaps and needs. These themes are broadly consistent across regions and appear across all three levels of capacity: individual, institutional, and systemic. They reflect the language and framing used by Parties in their own reporting and should be read as a synthesis of reported experience rather than as fixed or exhaustive categories. A detailed overview of the observed themes and the capacity gaps and needs reported within each is set out in the annex to this paper. As the analytical work develops, additional themes may be identified and incorporated as appropriate.

17. Capacity gaps related to data and information systems are among the most consistently reported themes, spanning data collection, quality, management, and the use of data for decision-making across sectors and levels of governance. Institutional coordination emerges as a persistent challenge, reflecting weak mechanisms for collaboration across ministries, sectors, and levels of government, as well as limited integration of climate action into broader planning and policy frameworks. Technical and human resources represent a third cross-cutting area, encompassing shortages of skilled personnel, limited access to training, and insufficient in-house expertise to apply guidelines, tools, and methods effectively.

18. Access to climate finance and reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework are increasingly prominent themes, reflecting the growing demands placed on developing countries as NDC ambition increases and transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement come into effect. Gaps in policy and legislative frameworks, monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), and technology access and transfer also recur consistently, often reinforcing and compounding one another.

19. The observed themes are not mutually exclusive. Many reported gaps and needs span more than one thematic area, as shown in the annex, reflecting the interlinked nature of capacity challenges. The themes also appear across climate topics, including mitigation, adaptation, transparency, and cross-cutting areas, as well as sectors such as energy, agriculture, water, transport, and health. This interconnected character of capacity gaps and needs is itself an important finding, suggesting that targeted support in one area will often depend on and reinforce progress in others. The themes also reflect capacity gaps and needs related to gender equality, the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, and youth, which cut across all thematic areas and levels of capacity.

C. Limitations

20. The evidence base presented in this paper has several limitations that should be kept in mind when using the recurring themes as a working thematic reference. The information drawn on derives primarily from national reports submitted under UNFCCC processes, which vary considerably in structure, scope, and level of detail. What Parties report as capacity gaps and needs may not fully reflect the range or depth of challenges they face, particularly where reporting capacity itself is limited. The themes identified are therefore shaped by what has been reported rather than representing a comprehensive picture of actual needs.

21. The analysis has focused on the identification of capacity gaps and needs and has not considered the ways in which those gaps and needs are, or could be, addressed. An analysis that incorporates existing and potential responses may surface different patterns and lead to a different set of observed themes.

22. Capacity gaps and needs also evolve over time as countries strengthen their institutions, update their NDCs, and engage with emerging climate topics and reporting requirements. The themes should therefore be treated as a starting point for analysis rather than a fixed or definitive account and updated regularly and supplemented with new themes as new information becomes available and the analytical work develops.

23. Notwithstanding the limitations, the observed themes presented in this paper represent a first step toward a more structured and evidence-based understanding of capacity gaps and needs, which can be developed further as the evidence base matures.

V. Application of the observed themes

24. The observed themes that emerged from this research provide a practical working thematic reference that can be applied directly to the development of the state of capacity-building report. Rather than requiring a formal classification system to be agreed in advance, the themes can be used to organize and compare information across Party reports, UNFCCC processes and other sources. The observed themes can also inform the identification of the annual focus area of the PCCB, so that each focus area cycle can address the specific capacity needs of developing countries.

25. Applied in this way, the themes would enable the state of capacity-building report to go beyond a point-in-time picture of reported gaps and needs. By using a consistent working reference across successive editions of the report, it would become possible to identify trends over time, track where persistent capacity gaps remain unaddressed, highlight emerging needs as they arise, and identify misalignments between the capacity-building support available and the needs that Parties report. This cumulative dimension would significantly strengthen the analytical value and policy relevance of the report, moving it from a periodic stocktake toward a living evidence base that informs PCCB recommendations and priorities across reporting cycles.

26. Over time, as the evidence base deepens working thematic reference could also serve as the basis for a more structured approach to classifying capacity gaps and needs. At this stage, the observed themes provide a grounded and practical starting point for the PCCB's analytical work on capacity gaps and needs. They can be built upon, refined, and supplemented with new themes as the evidence base matures over time.

Annex

Observed themes

***Observed themes in the reporting of capacity gaps and needs and sample of recurrent capacity gaps and needs reported**

| <i>Observed theme</i> | <i>Capacity gaps in or capacity needs related to:</i> |
|---------------------------|--|
| Access to climate finance | <p>project preparation and proposal development, including the preparation of investable, climate-aligned projects that meet the technical, fiduciary, and procedural requirements of climate funds</p> <p>accessing and managing international climate funds, including capacities of focal points, national authorities, accredited entities, and implementing agencies</p> <p>inter-ministerial coordination on resource mobilization, including alignment of national priorities, plans, and pipelines with the requirements and investment criteria of climate finance mechanisms</p> <p>designing, structuring, and mobilizing blended finance and risk-sharing instruments, including knowledge and awareness of private-sector financing instruments and modalities</p> <p>financial risk assessment and allocation in climate investments, including adaptation and resilience financing</p> <p>tracking, reporting, and demonstrating the use of climate finance, including systems for monitoring, reporting, transparency, and accountability</p> <p>integrating climate finance into budget planning, public investment management, and expenditure tracking, including climate-responsive budgeting and financial management tools</p> <p>engaging and leveraging private sector climate finance, including collaboration with financial institutions, investors, and developers</p> <p>inclusive and gender-responsive access to climate finance, including integration of gender equality and social inclusion considerations into design, access, and implementation of climate finance instruments and programmes</p> <p>climate finance strategies and enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, including national climate finance strategies, coordination mechanisms, and supporting policies</p> |
| Data and information | <p>training and skills development at national, sub-national, sectoral, and community levels, including technical staff, local authorities, practitioners, operators, and decision-makers, for the use and application of climate data, tools, and systems</p> <p>training design and delivery, including workshops, continuous learning initiatives and sector-specific training programmes, to support climate action planning, implementation, and monitoring</p> <p>data collection, availability, reliability, quality, and disaggregation, including national, sub-national, sectoral, and local-level climate, emissions, vulnerability, risk, economic, and social data</p> <p>data management systems, including the establishment, operation, and maintenance of integrated, centralized, interoperable, and digital platforms and databases</p> <p>monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems, including development of unified frameworks, indicators, methodologies, QA/QC procedures, sectoral baselines, and performance tracking for mitigation, adaptation, and non-GHG measures</p> <p>national GHG inventory systems, including emissions estimation, development of country-specific emission factors, modelling, scenario analysis, and alignment with IPCC guidelines and refinements</p> <p>open data, data sharing, and interoperability, including institutional arrangements, protocols, and tools to enable data exchange across sectors, levels of governance, and stakeholders</p> <p>generation, interpretation, and use of climate information, including climate downscaling, seasonal forecasting, risk and vulnerability assessments, spatial analysis (e.g. GIS), and climate forecasting products</p> <p>local and sub-national application of climate data, including access to data and the integration of climate information into development planning, investment programmes, and territorial strategies</p> |

| <i>Observed theme</i> | <i>Capacity gaps in or capacity needs related to:</i> |
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| | <p>knowledge management and learning systems, including national and sub-national platforms for experience sharing, dissemination of results, lessons learned, and scaling up of good practices related to NDC implementation</p> <p>public access to climate information, awareness, and participation, including development of inclusive platforms, educational resources, consultation mechanisms, and citizen engagement systems</p> <p>loss and damage data, methodologies, and information systems, including definitions, risk assessment approaches, identification of data needs, integrated data management, and stakeholder awareness</p> <p>institutional coordination for data and information management, including designation of sectoral focal points, harmonization of climate policies with sectoral and territorial strategies, and vertical and horizontal coordination mechanisms</p> <p>observation networks and early warning systems, including technical expertise, monitoring infrastructure, data integration, and translation of observational data into usable decision-support information</p> <p>tracking and monitoring climate action and support, including systems to track mitigation and adaptation measures as well as finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building support</p> |
| Institutional Coordination | <p>inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination, including weak mechanisms for collaboration across ministries, agencies, and sectors responsible for climate mitigation, adaptation, transparency, and related policy areas</p> <p>clarity of institutional mandates, roles, and responsibilities, resulting in overlapping functions, fragmented implementation, and inconsistent accountability across institutions</p> <p>vertical coordination between national, sub-national, and local levels of government, including limited alignment of responsibilities, planning instruments, and implementation functions</p> <p>coordination structures for NDC implementation, including the absence or weak functioning of central coordination bodies, inter-agency task forces, and technical working groups.</p> <p>integration of climate change into sectoral and territorial planning frameworks, including weak articulation between national strategies, sectoral plans, sub-national plans, and development budgets</p> <p>institutional coordination for planning, implementation, monitoring, and reporting, including uneven capacities across institutions to participate effectively throughout the climate action cycle</p> <p>coordination between climate governance bodies, including climate change units, sectoral ministries, gender coordination mechanisms, disaster risk management institutions, and other thematic bodies</p> <p>institutional coordination with non-state stakeholders, including the private sector, academia, civil society, and communities, and the absence of structured multi-stakeholder collaboration frameworks</p> <p>institutional coordination for loss and damage, including policy, planning, and institutional arrangements to manage responses and engage with international mechanisms</p> <p>institutional coordination for public investment and policy coherence, including mainstreaming climate change into public investment programmes, M&E systems, and development plans across institutions</p> <p>organizational structures and operational capacity, including weaknesses in institutional organigrams, internal procedures, and coordination workflows needed for effective climate governance</p> <p>institutional coordination for project implementation, including coordination among implementing agencies, local authorities, and sector institutions for climate projects and programme regional, South–South, and international institutional cooperation, including structured mechanisms for peer learning, experience sharing, and coordinated capacity building</p> |
| Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) | <p>institutional arrangements for MEL, including mandates, coordination mechanisms, and responsibilities across mitigation, adaptation, and cross-cutting actions</p> <p>regular monitoring of GHG emissions and removals, including sector-specific monitoring (e.g. agriculture, AFOLU, industry), activity-data pipelines, and measurement systems</p> |

| <i>Observed theme</i> | <i>Capacity gaps in or capacity needs related to:</i> |
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| | <p>monitoring mitigation, adaptation, and non-GHG measures, including tracking implementation progress, outcomes, and effectiveness</p> <p>adaptation monitoring and evaluation, including evaluation of adaptation plans, climate and disaster risk monitoring, attribution studies, and monitoring of slow-onset events</p> <p>technical expertise for MEL, including skills in data collection, analysis, indicator development, evaluation methodologies, and interpretation of results</p> <p>sub-national and local-level MEL, including monitoring, evaluation, and feedback mechanisms at regional and community levels</p> <p>learning and feedback mechanisms, including systematic use of MEL results to inform policy revision, programme design, project adjustment, and scaling up of good practices</p> <p>gender-responsive and inclusive MEL, including the ability to assess differentiated impacts and effectiveness using gender- and vulnerability-sensitive indicators</p> <p>capacity-needs assessments for MEL, including conducting systematic assessments as part of NDC implementation planning, with consideration of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles</p> |
| Policy and legislative | <p>formulation, revision, and updating of climate-relevant laws and policies, including frameworks to mainstream circularity, climate action, and sustainability across key sectors</p> <p>mainstreaming climate change into sectoral policies and regulatory frameworks, including IPPU, water, WASH, agriculture, waste management, biodiversity, social services, and circular economy policies</p> <p>integrating Loss and Damage considerations into national climate policies and strategies, including policy updates and new policy development</p> <p>embedding climate-proofing into routine policy development, planning, and decision-making processes</p> <p>policy coherence and alignment, including harmonisation of climate policies with national development policies, sectoral plans, sub-national plans, and Official Community Plans</p> <p>legal and regulatory frameworks for climate action, including development, update, and enforcement of laws governing climate action, sustainability standards, safeguards, and incentives</p> <p>institutional and legal frameworks that enable effective implementation and enforcement, including internal administrative regulations, mandates, and accountability mechanisms</p> <p>legislative and oversight functions, including engagement of parliaments, audit institutions, judicial bodies, and enforcement agencies to scrutinise, enforce, and ensure accountability of climate policies and expenditures</p> <p>policy and legal readiness to access international mechanisms, including frameworks required to engage with international carbon markets, climate finance institutions, and Loss and Damage mechanisms</p> <p>regulatory and contractual capacity, including legal expertise for financial structuring, contracting, compliance, and participation in emerging mechanisms such as carbon markets</p> <p>governance frameworks across sectors and administrative levels, including multilevel policy frameworks and regulatory consistency across national and sub-national levels</p> <p>policy frameworks for safeguards and participation, including integration of social and environmental safeguards and public participation requirements into policies and legislation</p> <p>specialised legal, regulatory, and policy expertise, including shortages of trained technicians and legal professionals to draft, interpret, implement, and update climate-related laws and regulations</p> <p>development of policy frameworks, benchmarks, standards, and guidance documents necessary to operationalise climate legislation and policy commitments</p> |
| Reporting | <p>reporting under the ETF including preparation of BTRs, national submissions, and compliance with Article 13 requirements</p> <p>design, operationalisation, and updating of MRV systems for reporting purposes, including unified frameworks aligned with ETF requirements</p> <p>national GHG inventory reporting, including development of country-specific emission factors, methodological improvements, tier upgrades, QA/QC procedures, and compliance with IPCC guidelines and refinements</p> |

| <i>Observed theme</i> | <i>Capacity gaps in or capacity needs related to:</i> |
|---|---|
| | <p>regular reporting schedules and institutional workflows, including continuity, documentation, and institutional memory for reporting cycles</p> <p>technical expertise for reporting and verification, including compilation of reports, verification processes, third-party review mechanisms, and audit readiness</p> <p>tracking and reporting of support, including finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building support provided and received</p> <p>integration and interoperability of reporting systems, including alignment between MRV systems, national registries (e.g. carbon registries), digital planning platforms, and international registries</p> <p>data governance and reporting infrastructure, including interoperable databases, data-sharing protocols, secure repositories, and institutional responsibilities for transparency reporting</p> <p>carbon market-related reporting, including MRV and reporting requirements for Article 6 mechanisms and carbon credit registries</p> <p>legal and policy frameworks for reporting, including mandates, standards, and procedures to institutionalise transparency and reporting obligations</p> <p>human resources for transparency and reporting, including shortages of specialised staff and reliance on external consultants for ETF-related reporting</p> |
| Technical/ Technology | <p>local technical expertise and institutional capacity to operate effective early warning systems (EWS) and translate observation data into actionable warnings</p> <p>expanding, maintaining, and managing monitoring networks, including staffing, technical skills, and operational capability for systematic observation</p> <p>climate-proofing development programmes and mainstreaming DRR/climate considerations into urban development and planning processes</p> <p>specialist technical skills (e.g., climate-resilient engineering, material sciences, circular economy practices), including shortages of technical specialists</p> <p>technical and human capacity to implement and enforce sectoral standards (e.g., building code enforcement; capacity to implement a legislative restriction on high-emitting used vehicle imports)</p> <p>capacity of teachers and technical training centres, including capacity to integrate climate education at all levels and strengthen technical/vocational education and training for green skills</p> <p>technical extension and training systems (e.g., continuous training for farmers, technicians, rural associations; accessible agricultural extension mechanisms)</p> <p>technical capacity building at sub-national level, including sustained technical capacity for locally led climate initiatives (e.g., County Climate Change Units)</p> <p>technical capacity for disaster risk management, including training, equipment, protocols, preparedness, and response strategies</p> <p>in-house technical expertise for Loss and Damage, including conducting gap analyses, localising definitions, developing methodologies, conducting risk assessments, identifying data needs, and developing integrated data management approaches</p> <p>public sector technical capacity and resourcing, including capacity of civil servants and public institutions to use tools, digital systems, and facilities/equipment for data handling, analysis, reporting, and scenario-based planning</p> <p>skills and knowledge for implementation of climate action in specific sectors</p> <p>project design, preparation, and public-sector project management capacity, including ensuring implementation quality and timeliness and seeking technical support where needed</p> <p>local capacity to install, operate, and maintain projects and technologies, including contexts with limited local installation and maintenance capacity and long supply chains</p> |
| Stakeholder and public awareness and engagement | <p>public awareness and understanding of climate change, including its impacts, risks, and response options, across communities, sectors, and governance levels</p> <p>designing and implementing awareness-raising campaigns, including targeted campaigns on climate risks, mitigation and adaptation options, health impacts, waste management, nature-based solutions, and low-carbon transitions</p> <p>access to climate information and citizen participation, including inclusive mechanisms for meaningful public engagement in climate decision-making processes</p> |

| <i>Observed theme</i> | <i>Capacity gaps in or capacity needs related to:</i> |
|-----------------------|--|
| | <p>stakeholder engagement across sectors, including engagement of private sector actors, civil society, academia, community organisations, and local authorities in climate action planning and implementation</p> <p>community-level capacity building and empowerment, including awareness, skills, and participation related to adaptation, disaster preparedness, livelihood diversification, and resilience</p> <p>youth engagement, education, and awareness, including initiatives that build climate literacy, support youth led innovation, and integrate intergenerational perspectives into climate processes.</p> <p>education and training systems for climate awareness, including teacher training, integration of climate change into school curricula, higher education, vocational training, and professional accreditation</p> <p>sector-specific awareness and engagement, including in transport, health, agriculture and forestry, waste, tourism, energy and water sectors</p> <p>dissemination and transfer of scientific and technical knowledge, including translating climate science, data, and risk information into accessible formats for decision-makers, practitioners, communities, and the general public.</p> <p>inclusive and gender-responsive stakeholder engagement, including capacities to engage women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable or marginalised groups</p> <p>communication channels and outreach mechanisms, including mass media, digital platforms, local languages, community-based communication, and crisis and risk communication</p> <p>stakeholder awareness related to policy, planning, and budgeting processes, including awareness of national climate priorities, NDCs, national strategies, and sectoral plans among policy-makers, programme managers, and implementers</p> <p>knowledge exchange and experience sharing, including platforms, partnerships, competitions, calls for proposals, and peer-learning mechanisms to recognise good practices and stimulate engagement</p> <p>stakeholder understanding of loss and damage concepts, risks from extreme and slow-onset events, and participation in response and preparedness measures</p> <p>private–public and community partnerships for awareness and engagement, including collaboration with educational institutions, research bodies, NGOs, faith-based organisations, and international partners</p> |

**Disclaimer:* This table presents a synthesised overview of observed capacity gaps and needs drawn from the NDCs submitted between January 2024 and September 2025. The themes and examples reflect commonly reported patterns and should be read as indicative rather than exhaustive. They do not represent the full range of capacity gaps and needs identified by Parties, nor the diversity of country-specific circumstances and priorities. It should also be noted that capacity gaps and needs are dynamic, and the observed capacity gaps and needs may evolve over time.