

Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)

Call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders:

Annual PCCB focus area

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](#).

Topics 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.

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 implementing NDCs and national development plans in developing countries*

How will the inputs be used?

The inputs will feed into the PCCB's workplan activities in 2021, including a focus area day at the 3rd Capacity-building Hub at COP 26, and envisaged regional activities and webinars. The inputs will also inform the design and preparations of the 10th Durban Forum on capacity-building envisaged to be held during the Bonn Climate Change Conference in June 2021. Responding to the request of the COP for the SBI to align the theme of the Durban Forum on capacity-building with the annual focus area of the PCCB, the PCCB has been working to ensure alignment between discussions at the annual Durban Forum and the work of the PCCB related to its annual focus area.

Further information:

You are welcome to provide any other information that your organization thinks would highlight suggestions made in response to this call for submissions.

Address for submission: pccb@unfccc.int

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

Organization or entity name:

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergovernmental organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Development bank / financial institution |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN and affiliated organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International network, coalition, or initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> Research organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional network, coalition, or initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> University/education/training organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public sector entity | <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector entity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Philanthropic organization |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ |

Organization Location

City: Vienna

Country: Austria

Scale of operation:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local | <input type="checkbox"/> Subregional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary |

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

The annual PCCB focus area.

At its fourth meeting in June 2020, the PCCB agreed on the following focus area for 2021:

*‘Building capacity to facilitate coherent implementation of NDCs
in the context of national development plans’*

The Paris Agreement aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change through the implementation of NDCs and national development plans, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty. This presents ample opportunities for synergies and the PCCB, with its strong mandate to engage with other bodies under and outside the Convention, is well positioned to promote coherence in achieving climate and development objectives.

To foster coherence in the implementation of NDCs and national development plans, an enhanced understanding of the key barriers and capacity-building gaps and needs hindering their coherent implementation, as well as of existing solutions is needed.

Introduction

UNIDO is the specialised agency of the United Nations with the mandate to promote international industrial cooperation and foster development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability. Since the Lima Declaration on December 2013, UNIDO has become the central coordinator of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) in the United Nations system. Said mandate, reaffirmed UNIDO's crucial role in accelerating the achievement of Goal 9 on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation, along with all other industry-related targets of the 2030 Agenda. By addressing the decoupling of economic prosperity, from excessive employment of natural resources and environmental degradation, ISID promotes an industrialisation that enhances climate action. Achieving high degrees of convergence with ISID, entails progress towards industrial patterns that minimize GHG emissions, through sustainable energy solutions, resource-efficient technology and cleaner production and consumption.

In pursuance of ISID and for the achievement of NDCs, UNIDO promotes circular economy as a model towards social and environmental prosperity, where resources are kept in use for as long as possible, maximum value is extracted from them and waste is relocated from the end of the supply chain to the beginning, giving the used materials a new life. A transition to the circular model, aims at adopting resource efficient and cleaner production system, allowing industries to increase their competitiveness without negatively impacting the environment.

In order to transition towards a widespread adoption of the circular business model, capacity-building is crucial to maintain an adequate level of coordination across industrial assets and between the public and private sector. By developing a cross-sectoral network that identifies and connects waste with the necessary inputs for a new production process, industries can aspire to achieve high levels of resource and energy efficiency. UNIDO supports capacity-building in light of circularity through:

- Training both private and public personnel to identify and take advantage of synergies
- Transferring technology to develop e-waste management and upgrade supply-chains
- Advising policymakers on the conservation and the expansion of the cyclical process
- Innovating the regulatory environment to attract green investments

In implementing NDCs and national development plans in a coherent manner, in your experience, what are:

the key interventions?

While laying out roadmaps and priorities to NDCs, play a recognised role in national development plans, the **identification of procedural obstacles to implementation** is widely excluded from governmental blueprints. Determining these institutional weaknesses and shortcomings are essential to drive prospective transition to circular economy, and should be regularly **incorporated to NDCs**.

Pursuing sustainable growth with a significant impact, requires **high degrees of harmonisation between stakeholders**. To this regard, UNIDO encourages the coordination across governmental 2

agencies particularly involved with the life-cycle of goods and stimulates multilevel governance for a bottom-up approach to circular transition.

Formation and training hold crucial positions in national development plans, because they ensure country-driven growth and ambitious NDCs. UNIDO fosters the creation of **green expertise** in public apparatuses with a holistic vision towards a circular strategy, capable to identify opportunities and obstacles to scale-up the approach. UNIDO also diffuses **green skills** in the private sector, in order to enable them to take advantage of the single cyclical process and to design synergetic collaborations across industrial assets.

the enabling conditions?

Regional cooperation between developing countries is an excellent catalyst to capacity-building, providing platforms for collaborations and mutual assistance to states that are venturing away from compatible struggles. UNIDO works to enhance these regional networks, as they support governments to implement their national development plans, by:

- Diffusing best-practices and lessons-learned that can clear pathways towards circularity
- Maintaining an open dialogue between relevant stakeholders that can seize the opportunities for broader and more effective circular synergies
- Promoting trans-national coherence in NDCs.

A **fertile environment to green investments** plays the primary role in igniting a bottom-up approach to sustainable growth, by rewarding innovative entrepreneurship and by giving space to local initiatives. In developing countries, UNIDO actively pursues a political and regulatory environment that fosters sustainable investments, by forwarding the introduction of relevant policy frameworks, crucial to enable and scale-up the transition to a circular economy.

the key institutional barriers?

A major barrier to consistent capacity-building in light of sustainable industrial development, is that of finance. The **absence of dedicated international financial mechanisms for supporting circular economy initiatives**, restrains the ability to mobilise resources and to consolidate adequate readiness, in order to coherently pursue national development plans. UNIDO attempts to bridge the budgeting gap in developing countries, by acting as an intermediary between local entrepreneurs and investors, and by facilitating stakeholders' access to climate finance institutions, it is however financially insufficient for pursuing ambitious NDCs .

Another obstacle to institutional empowerment can be identified in the **inadequate access to new technologies**, which in turn prevents the design of bold NDCs and restricts frameworks of cooperation between stakeholders. UNIDO promotes the transfer of the latest technologies to improve productivity and efficiency of industrial assets, allowing developing countries to deepen the scope of their NDCs and to undertake a country-driven growth with vaster opportunities.

the capacity gaps and capacity-building needs?

A regular inconsistency identified by UNIDO in promoting circular economy in developing countries, is of informational origins, which weakens the transformative process of targeted recipients. Such gap is manifested both at the producing and consuming stage of products, with **key stakeholders possessing insufficient understandings of the potential benefits of circular economy**, and with **communities lacking awareness** of the detrimental impact the current linear economic model is perpetrating to the environment.

Another discrepancy in capacity-building is observed when UNIDO engages public apparatuses, and lies in the **low degrees of coordination between governmental agencies**, where on the contrary, a system of established roles and fixed channels of communication is essential to oversee the development of circular economy. This inadequate organisational structure can as well compromise the formulation of strategic priorities towards comprehensive NDCs' goals, with departments pursuing isolated and undemanding targets.

the knowledge and skills priorities?

Transitioning towards a circular economy requires **interdisciplinary knowledge and skills** extended towards a wide audience of relevant enablers. UNIDO is committed to the spread of expertise that can be categorised in:

- **Technical:** as to deliver appropriate green skills to both public and private stakeholders, in order to widen the audience of participating actors to national development plans and to withstand the backlashes of a circular transition.
- **Political:** as to promote decision-making practices based on empirical data, in order to avoid underestimations of incumbent risks and resource's waste in problem-solving.
- **Normative:** as to advance regulatory systems that promote stakeholders partnerships and incentivise private sustainable investments.

To enhance coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans, who should be the target recipients of capacity-building (e.g. national government officers, local government officers, environmental agencies, civil society)?

Enhancing coherent implementation of NDCs, integrated with circular configuration aimed at reassessing the economic model, requires a response particularly from the businesses and the manufacturing, that constitute the economic apparatus of a country and are accountable to environmental degradation. **Industries and the private sector at large**, are therefore of primary importance for the delivery of NDCs targets, as they have to endure a sustainable transition towards a circular business model and coordinate resources between one another.

While it is important that the trigger towards a circular transition comes from private stakeholders, it is necessary for governments to develop an overarching strategy and accurate NDCs, embodied with a vision concerning sustainable growth. **Public apparatuses** are therefore needed to identify feasible targets based on available resources, and is where green expertise is essential to channel industrial efforts to sustainability and streamline green investments.

Finally, the population performs an influential role in an industrial structure, as it represents the consumers to whom producers appeal to, and can encourage economic actors to make sustainable choices. To this regards, the **civil society** carries out a crucial role in raising awareness across communities, capable to influence the behaviour of individuals towards sustainability and to form a collective conscience that can shape decision-making and set in motion industrial conversions.

To support NDC implementation and planning in developing countries, what are your suggestions on how to improve capacity-building efforts?

At the national level:

Transparent cooperation and open communication between public apparatuses and private actors, are elements that represent the backbone of coordinated efforts towards economic growth and social

prosperity. Materialise these features into **permanent platforms of collaboration**, increases layers of accountability, provides track records of progressions and enhances scopes. In developing countries, UNIDO promotes the establishment of multi-stakeholders partnerships led by hosting governments, as they can facilitate the mobilisation of partners and resources for circular synergy, and effectively identify priorities to NDCs.

At the regional level:

While trade liberalisation towards global value chains exposes local businesses in developing countries to competitive disadvantages and predatory practices, **market integration** scaled back to regions of countries with comparable economic development and similar ambitions to sustainable goals, allows targeted cooperation for mutual achievements. Patterns of regional integration therefore allow broader and deeper industrial synergies, essential to scale up products' cycles to trans-national channels and to accelerate the transition.

Good case studies, best practices, tools and methodologies, lessons learned, or examples of support:

Please describe any that build capacity to align NDC implementation with national development plans and/or to mainstream NDCs into national development plans

Methodology – UNIDO cooperate with UNEP on a joint flagship called **Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP)**, an action scheme devised for over 60 developing and transitioning countries aimed at mitigating incumbent environmental and human risks related to the production of goods. RECP targets SMEs to improve resource efficiency, to minimise environmental impact and to assist local communities.

Model – UNIDO designed an innovative model for accelerating inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Member States, named **Programme for Country Partnership (PCP)**, addressing industrial sectors with high growth potential to meet development goals. PCP entails the establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships led by the host governments, aimed at identifying industrial synergies to ignite circularity and at channelling investments towards prioritised sectors.

Best Practice – The **Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE)**, has been the primary UN-wide response framework post-Rio+20 enabling developing countries to embrace Inclusive Green Economy (IGE). UNIDO's contribution to PAGE encompasses industrial policy advices, green skills spreading and public-private networks establishment.

Case Study – UNIDO closely collaborates with the EU in the Southern Mediterranean region under the vestiges of **SwitchMed**, a regional initiative supporting eight countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia), aimed at speeding up the shift to sustainable consumption and production models, by promoting circular economy approaches. UNIDO particularly engages SMEs to enable greener solutions and to network synergies across businesses.

Case Study – UNIDO hosts the **Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)**, a multilateral public-private partnership aimed at bridging the gap between entrepreneurs and investors. By strengthening 5

the capacity of businesses to design marketable projects and by mitigating investors' risks, PFAN facilitate the funding of innovative low-carbon, climate resilient projects.

Case Study – UNIDO works closely together with the **Parliamentary Action on Climate and Energy (PACE)**, an international cross-party network of legislators, dedicated to preventing dangerous climate change and promoting renewable energy. Composed primarily by sub-Saharan Members of Parliament, PACE is primarily involved in removing barriers and constraints of investments in clean energies and low-carbon technologies.

Useful sources:

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

UNIDO's Mandate to [Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development](#)

UNIDO's [Cross-Sectional Focus on Circular Economy](#)

UNIDO's [Global Consultations on Circular Economy](#)

Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production ([RECP](#))

Programme for Country Partnership ([PCP](#))

Partnership for Action on Green Economy ([PAGE](#))

UNIDO's contributions to [SwitchMed](#)

UNIDO's responsibilities in the Private Financing Advisory Network ([PFAN](#))

UNIDO's activities at the Parliamentary action on Climate and Energy ([PACE](#))