



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

**COP26 CATALYST
FOR CLIMATE
ACTION**



Wilton Park



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021
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COP26 CATALYST FOR CLIMATE ACTION

3rd Capacity-building Hub COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action Day

Wilton Park COP26 Catalyst: presenting the action recommendations

Event Summary

Effective capacity building can help to unlock the Paris Agreement's full potential by enabling all countries to take effective climate action, particularly those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Members of the four Catalyst Action Groups for adaptation communications, participation in carbon markets, access to finance, and transparency and reporting reflected on the main capacity-building challenges faced by developing countries and presented recommendations for action, which are a result of consultations with hundreds of global stakeholders over the course of 2021.

While there are many positive examples of successful capacity building efforts around the world, many countries still raise concerns that action to support full participation in the Paris Agreement has not yet delivered results on the scale needed. There is often a disconnect between those taking action in developing countries and those providing capacity-building and financial support, which still shows a tendency to be fragmented and short-term in its approach. A main message from the session was that collaboration, cooperation and partnership are key to improving capacity for climate change.

Adaptation communications recommendations highlighted the need for long-term and iterative support, built inclusively across sectors in a nationally sustainable way. National-level institutions, universities and think tanks can be the central hub for capacity-building.

Carbon market participation recommendations highlighted the need to raise awareness of the benefits of carbon markets to drive political will, to support regional and national actors to establish and oversee inclusive institutional frameworks for carbon market participation, and to provide capacity-building support with a learn-by-doing approach, to ensure nationally owned technical capacity.

Access to finance recommendations highlighted that conventional models of providing finance are not working, with processes being too burdensome for countries. The finance system needs to be transformed and finance providers should build their own capacity to adapt their modalities to allow the finance to reach countries in the intended ways.





Transparency and reporting recommendations highlighted that governments need to raise the profile and visibility of climate transparency and recognize the additional benefits it brings. Capacity-building providers should commit to long-term programmatic and institutional support that encourages the retention of capacities.

The action recommendations from all four groups collectively call for urgent, transformational change in the way that capacity-building and financial support for climate action is designed and implemented.

All capacity-building efforts should be nationally owned, and countries need to engage the whole-of-society in capacity-building approaches. This includes raising awareness and visibility of the range of climate-related issues and commitments, building political will, and creating governance structures necessary to ensure effective climate action.

Donors need to better coordinate with each other to create complementary programming, and to remove barriers to entry by streamlining processes. Support must move from project-based to programmatic approaches and take a longer-term perspective. True capacity-building fosters the expertise of in-country experts, is responsive to local needs, and builds lasting institutional capacity. It takes a whole-of-society approach and helps to build the political will to mainstream climate action and Paris Agreement compliance across all that we do.

Related links:

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action: Action recommendations for capacity-building
<https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/cop26recommendations/>

Action recommendations on Adaptation Communication
<https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Wilton-Park-COP26-Adaptation-Communication-FINAL.pdf>

Action recommendations on Participation in Carbon Markets
<https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/COP26-Catalyst-recommendations-on-Participation-in-Carbon-Markets-1-Nov-2021.pdf>

Action recommendations on Access to Finance
<https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Wilton-Park-COP26-Access-to-Finance-FINAL.pdf>

Action Recommendations Transparency and Reporting
<https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Wilton-Park-COP26-Transparency-and-Reporting-FINAL-1.pdf>

