

Concept note

“Building capacity for addressing climate and development goals coherently”

Venue: Virtual
Wednesday 2nd June 2021 (1:00-4:30 pm¹)

Background and scope

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.² It is an in-session discussion platform for Parties, representatives of the constituted bodies under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, and relevant experts and practitioners to, on an annual basis and in the context of specific thematic areas, share experience and exchange ideas, best practices and lessons learned in relation to implementing capacity-building activities.

COP 24 requested the SBI to thematically align meetings of the Durban Forum with the annual focus area of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB).³ Thus, the outcomes of the 10th Durban Forum are expected to feed directly into the work of the PCCB as per its workplan for 2021–2024⁴. The 2021 focus area of the PCCB is *Building capacity to facilitate coherent implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the context of national development plans*.

Aligned with the 2021 PCCB focus area, the 10th Durban Forum on capacity-building will be held under the theme “Building capacity for addressing climate and development goals coherently”.

The Paris Agreement mandates that countries carry out climate actions in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Yet, despite great opportunities for synergies, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement are still insufficiently linked up.

Particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, efforts by countries to recover from the impacts of this current crisis provide an opportunity for better integrating climate and sustainable development goals into national recovery plans and policies in a coherent manner.

¹ All times are Central European Time

² Decision 2/CP.17, para. 144.

³ Decision 15/CP.24, para. 6.

⁴ PCCB workplan

Objectives

The overarching objective of the 10th Durban Forum on capacity-building is to facilitate the sharing of relevant knowledge, experience and lessons learned on capacity-building actions aimed at promoting greater coherence in achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement and fulfilling the sustainable development goals (SDGs) from the 2030 Agenda.

More specifically the forum aims to explore and shed light on:

- Key capacity gaps and needs that impede the coherent implementation of both agendas - including gaps/needs in building capacity for a sustainable recovery from the current crisis;
- How to build capacity for enhanced coordination across different ministries, agencies and government levels that lead efforts on the 2030 Agenda and climate change;
- How to build capacity to align national climate and SDG-relevant targets;
- Experience and good practices for building capacity to mainstream climate and development goals into policy planning;

The forum will also inform related thematic discussions under the PCCB in the context of its 2021 focus area.

Subtopics

In line with the above objectives, discussions at the forum will focus on few subtopics, which are listed below. These subtopics also draw on inputs by Parties, observers and other organizations submitted in response to a PCCB call for submissions on its 2021 focus area⁵.

1. Building capacity for mainstreaming climate and development goals into policy planning;
2. Building capacity for enhancing institutional arrangements and vertical and horizontal coordination;
3. Building capacity to align national climate and SDG-relevant targets;
4. Building capacity to assess sustainable development co-benefits and impacts of climate actions and policies.

Across the different subtopics, attention will be given to capacity-building in the context of a sustainable recovery from the current crisis.

Program

The virtual event will start at 1:00 pm with the launch of a new online training developed by the PCCB and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/resources/submissions-to-the-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb#eq-4>

with support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the UNFCCC secretariat:

<p align="center">Training launch pre-event 1:00 – 1:30 pm</p>	
<p align="center">‘Introduction to Climate Change and Human Rights’</p>	

The 10th Durban Forum on capacity-building will then commence at 1:30 pm.

<p>Opening 1:30 – 1:40 pm</p>	
Opening remarks	Marianne Karlsen, Chair of the SBI
Introduction	Co-Facilitators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shehnaaz Moosa, Director at SouthSouhNorth, South Africa • Makoto Kato, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan
<p>Special address 1:40 –2:00 pm</p>	
The experience of Costa Rica implementing its National Decarbonization Plan	Agripina Jenkins, Advisor at the Climate Change Office, Costa Rica
<p>Panel discussion 2:00 – 3:00 pm</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the major challenges and constraints that countries face to address climate and development goals more coherently? How can capacity-building contribute to overcome them? • How can countries better identify the capacities needed for better integrating the implementation of climate policy instruments with SDGs? • How can peer-learning and international cooperation contribute to identify best practices for 	<p><u>Panellists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agripina Jenkins, Advisor at the Climate Change Office, Costa Rica • Dr. Malle Fofana, Representative of Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire at the Global Green Growth Institute • Vositha Wijenayake, Executive Director at SLYCAN Trust, Sri Lanka

<p>coherently implementing the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda in developing countries?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lena Katzmarski, Team Lead Climate Finance & Mitigation at the Climate Policy Support Programme, GIZ • Dr. Clara Brandi, Head of Research Programme at the German Development Institute
<p>Breakout group discussions 3:00 – 4:00 pm</p>	
<p>Breakout group 1</p> <p>Building capacity for mainstreaming climate and development goals into policy planning</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u></p> <p>Vositha Wijenayake, Executive Director at SLYCAN Trust, Sri Lanka</p>	<p>Breakout group 2</p> <p>Building capacity for enhancing institutional arrangements and vertical and horizontal coordination</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u></p> <p>Dr. Malle Fofana & Siddhartha Nauduri, Global Green Growth Institute</p>
<p>Breakout group 3</p> <p>Building capacity to align national climate and SDG-relevant targets</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u></p> <p>Lena Katzmarski, Team Lead Climate Finance & Mitigation at the Climate Policy Support Programme, GIZ</p>	<p>Breakout group 4</p> <p>Building capacity to assess sustainable development co-benefits and impacts of climate actions and policies</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u></p> <p>Daniel Morchain, Policy Advisor at the International Institute for Sustainable Development, Canada</p>
<p>Feedback of the breakout groups 4:00 – 4:20 pm</p>	<p>Discussion leaders</p>
<p>Wrap-up and closing remarks 4:20 – 4:30 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Facilitators • Daniele Violetti, Director of the Means of Implementation Division at UNFCCC