



3rd Capacity-building Hub PCCB Focus Area Day

PCCB Network Amplifying Networks for Collective Capacity-building

Event Summary

The goal of the PCCB Network is to foster synergies and enhance coherence and coordination in capacity-building efforts for climate action. To that end, the PCCB Network led a session at the 3rd Capacity Building Hub to provide a platform for members to share knowledge, experiences, and successes.

Objectives of the session included the following:

- Showcase the role of networks in climate-related capacity-building;
- Explore how networks can be mobilized to build capacities to facilitate the coherent implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and the sustainable development goals (SDGs); and
- Provide a platform for PCCB Network members to share their experiences and best practices surrounding collective capacities, networks, and how those networks enhance climate action.

The session opened with an introduction by Riddhi Dutta, the PCCB Network Coordinator, followed by a series of lightning talks from the resource persons. This was followed by focused questions for each speaker, open discussion and questions, and finally a closing by Riddhi Dutta.

In the first lighting talk, Jevanice Henry (Assistant Research Officer, Climate Change Section, The Commonwealth Secretariat) described The Commonwealth Secretariat. He noted that it consists of 54 member states who collaborate across regions by sharing technology and knowledge. \$44 million has been distributed from The Commonwealth Secretariat for capacity-building related to climate change, and the organization supports more than 1,700 local government officials and employees in building local capacity. Finally, Jevanic highlighted the Pacific Common Sense Initiative, which uses satellite data to provide evidence for climate finance proposals and to inform decision-making processes. It has currently been implemented in Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. In his focused question segment, Jevanic highlighted the existing successes of engaging so many organizations and countries through networks, but also the remaining challenges of accessing finance. He closed by stating that 60% of the Commonwealth population is youth, and they will play a critical role in green entrepreneurship moving forward.

Next, Jeannette Gurung (Founder and Executive Director, Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN)) described WOCAN, a network of 1,400 members in 113 countries, each with a specific expertise and interest in gender. WOCAN trains individual members, collects data and information, and has created the W+ standard – a new tool to identify and develop standards for gender inclusiveness. In her





focused question segment, Jeannette noted the challenges of linking gender and climate, which have historically not been discussed together until very recently. Progress has been slow and difficult, with funders typically avoiding gender and climate, noting that only 0.1% of climate finance goes to women-focused organizations.

Daniel Morchain (Senior Policy Advisor, National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network) discussed broader capacity-building structures, emphasizing that the Global North has historically maintained power over funding decisions, and therefore has a particular responsibility to address existing gaps and challenges. Capacity-building must be about fighting the existing hierarchy of knowledge and the notion that Western knowledge and values are superior. There should be a refocus so that capacity-building is less technical and re-politicized. Daniel highlighted an example from Costa Rica related to these points, where artists worked with scientists on a climate project and learned from each other through the process. In his focused question segment, Daniel reiterated the importance of collaboration that challenges and rejects historically imbalanced power relations. Related to this, the Global North can learn from the Global South and should integrate traditional knowledge.

Liva Kaugure (Natural Resources Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization-Enhanced Transparency Framework (FAO-ETF)) emphasized that capacity-building networks are at the heart of capacity-building itself. She described the various networks that FAO hosts, including the Thematic Working Group on Agriculture, Security and Land-use Under the NDC Partnership, the Transparency Network in Agriculture and Land-use Sectors, and the FAO Climate Hub. Networks need to be member-driven and facilitate access to resources and tools in order to be successful. Remaining challenges include building synergies across networks, overcoming language barriers for regional inclusiveness, and fostering impactful participation through avoiding duplication and enhancing coordination. In her focused question segment, Liva noted that FAO actively utilizes social media to connect their many networks. She closed by recommending that networks remain flexible to the priorities of members.