

Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day

Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week
(LACCW) | 19 August 2019

Strengthening engagement of universities and research institutions in building capacity for the preparation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and for raising ambition in climate action

Background

Even when there is a great variety of institutional arrangements for climate change mitigation and adaptation in every country, the continuous participation of local, national and regional stakeholders, including research institutions and universities is considered crucial to enhance climate action and ambition. The lack of engagement of and insufficient coordination among these relevant actors is a recurring issue in discussions on capacity-building within the UNFCCC process. It is necessary to find better ways to mobilize local and policy relevant knowledge to address climate change issues and to make informed decisions.

universities and research institutions in developing countries, including the least developed countries, have a central role to play in the preparation and implementation of NAPs and NDCs, however it will be important for them to think across boundaries such as geographic, disciplinary, and theme-based, to close the gap between knowledge and action. While universities in developing countries are already building local capacities, promoting **South-South and South-North knowledge sharing** among universities and including relevant stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of NAPs and NDCs could yield great benefits.



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building



Canada



Financial support provided by:
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

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Changement climatique Canada



NDC
PARTNERSHIP



UNITED NATIONS
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UNU-EHS
Institute for Environment
and Human Security

Partners

PCCB

The **Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)** is mandated to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention.

UN
Climate
Change

The **UN Climate Change** supports a complex architecture of bodies that serve to advance the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement through provision of technical expertise in analysis and review of climate change information reported by Parties and in the implementation of the Kyoto mechanisms. It also maintains the registry for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) established under the Paris Agreement.

IDRC

The **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** is a Canadian Public Corporation, which funds research in developing countries to promote growth, reduce poverty, and drive large-scale positive change. IDRC provides the resources, advice, and training they need to implement and share their solutions with those who need them most.

IISD
NAP GN

The **International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)** is an independent think-tank and a registered charitable organization that seeks to promote human development and environmental sustainability through research, analysis and knowledge sharing. It is serving as secretariat for the **NAP Global Network**, an initiative aiming at enhancing national adaptation planning and action in developing countries through coordination of bilateral support and in-country actors.

NDC
Partnership

The **NDC Partnership** is a coalition of 98 countries, 30 institution and 16 Associate Members collaborating to drive transformational climate action while enhancing sustainable development. Based on the guidance of country governments members, the NDCP mobilize resources and coordinate amongst its institutional members to provide support for the implementation of NDCs.

UNU-
EHS

The **United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)** is a think tank conducting research on risks and adaptation related to environmental hazards and global change. The institute also works with leading universities and research institutes in UN Member States, functioning as a bridge between the international academic community and the United Nations system.



Objectives

The above listed partners are organizing a series of regional workshops, in the coming Regional Climate Weeks, where universities and research institutions will have the opportunity to exchange views and experiences on addressing capacity-building gaps and needs, with relevant stakeholders involved in the preparation and implementation of NAPs and NDCs with a view to accelerating climate action and ambition.

The main rationale for the cooperation between the PCCB, IDRC, NAP Global Network, NDC Partnership, UNU-EHS and the UN Climate Change in the Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week (LACCW) 2019, is to provide a space where universities and research institutions will be able to interact and exchange experiences with relevant stakeholders involved in building capacity for the design and implementation of NAPs and NDCs, thereby creating momentum towards the UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019. More particularly the regional workshops aim to:

- Increase the understanding of capacity-building gaps and needs of developing countries when it comes to boosting ambition and accelerating action to prepare and implement NDCs and NAPs and of the role universities and research institutions can play in building and retaining the required capacity;
- Foster dialogue and facilitate the sharing of experiences and good practices related to effective collaboration among universities/research institutions, governments and the private sector for designing and providing tools, guidance, platforms, and advisory support aimed at strengthening capacity for preparing and/or implementing NAPs and NDCs;
- Encourage a discussion on how to interpret and match knowledge needs when enhancing implementation and increasing ambition of NDCs and NAPs, aiming to translate these into researchable questions;
- Jointly prioritize the capacity-building gaps with a view to discussing and identifying ways to build the capacity of universities and research institutions and governments to collaborate and bridge these gaps.

Way Forward

During COP25, the results from the workshops in Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week (LACCW) and the Asia-Pacific Climate Week (APCW) will be presented at the 2nd Capacity-Building Hub, hosted by the PCCB, opening a space for discussing and brainstorming with other stakeholders and actors on the next steps. A third workshop is envisaged to be organized during the Africa Climate Week in 2020.

The outcomes and recommendations of each workshop will be synthesized in a Discussion Paper/Policy Brief which will be developed by all the partners and launched in 2020 (subject to the availability of resources).



COP25



Agenda

Time	Description of the session	Facilitation
8:30-9:00	REGISTRATION	
9:00-9:15	Welcoming remarks Alejandro Kilpatrick, Capacity-building Team Leader, UN Climate Change	
9:15-9:30	High-level champion's special address Tomasz Chruszczow, Special Envoy for Climate Change from the Ministry of Environment in Poland	
09:30-10:30	<p>Panel discussion: Fostering effective collaboration between universities and national research institutions with national/regional stakeholders: lessons learned</p> <p>Moderator: Alejandro Kilpatrick Capacity-building Team Leader, UN Climate Change</p>	<p>"Strengthening engagement of academia in capacity-building for climate action: the work of the PCCB" Marzena Anna Chodor Co-chair of the PCCB</p> <p>"Collaboration between universities and regional stakeholders" Enrique Maurtua Konstantinidis Regional coordinator, Proyecto LatinoAdapta</p> <p>"CLIMATE LEADERS Regional Capacity Building initiative" Andrea Carrion Hurtado Project coordinator, FLACSO Ecuador</p> <p>"Intellectual Capacity Building for a Climate-Resilient Future: the New Humanism Approach" Gaston Meskens Member of RINGO Steering Committee - Project coordinator, New Humanism Project</p>
10:30-10:45	COFFEE BREAK	
10:45-11:45	<p>Session 1: Identifying developing countries' capacity-building gaps and needs related to the preparation and implementation of NAPs and NDCs</p>	Facilitation by organizing partners
11:45-12:45	Results	
12:45-13:45	LUNCH	
13:45-14:45	<p>Session 2: Bridging capacity-building gaps and needs: the role of local, national and regional universities and research institutions</p>	Facilitation by organizing partners
14:45-15:30	Results	
15:30-15:45	COFFEE BREAK	
15:45-16:45	<p>Session 3: Next steps: Identifying response actions to collaborate and bridge capacity-building gaps and needs at a regional level</p>	Facilitation by organizing partners
16:45-17:30	Results	
17:30-18:00	Closing remarks and next steps James Grabert, Coordinator of Executive Direction and Management, UN Climate Change	

For further information, contact

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