



Capacity-building for negotiators in the UNFCCC process

Course Objectives:

- Raising awareness and understanding of the UNFCCC process and the implementation of the Paris Agreement.
- Building the capacity of negotiators to engage in climate policymaking process at national and international levels.
- Gain a better understanding of the UNFCCC processes, including its governing and subsidiary bodies, and negotiating groups.
- Review negotiation skills and techniques to foster collective objectives for negotiating groups under the UNFCCC.
- Understand how communications, conflict-resolution, and collaboration play a central role in successful negotiations processes.

Course Design:

The course will be designed by UNFCCC in collaboration with other stakeholders (e.g., CEMUNE). A survey will be launched to understand the gaps making the course needs based.

Course Target Audiences

- Party Negotiators
- Young practitioners of climate change
- Negotiating / Regional Groups
- Legislators
- Parliamentarians

Course Delivery:

- A mix of in-person training, online live sessions and online courses and videos.
- The delivery will follow a modular approach; participants can attend all modules or just those of immediate interest.
- The in-person activities can take place in Bonn during SBs sessions, as part of the Regional Climate Weeks, back-to-back to other UNFCCC or UN events in particular at regional level.
- An online, web-based platform will be developed to assist with the registration to the courses, share information, access online resources, and maintain a database of participants.

Course Methodology

- Module lectures with micro-activities.
- Interactive, participatory approach.
- Negotiations simulations, individual and small group activities.
- Module recommended readings.
- Training of the Trainers (ToT), including staff at the Regional Collaboration Centres.



Climate Negotiator Competencies:

- UNFCCC Structure and Processes
- Climate Negotiation Tracks
- Process Management
- Persuasive Communications
- Strategic Thinking and Leadership
- Decision-making and Good Judgement
- Collaboration

Course Modules:

The course consists of seven core modules:

Module	Description / Learning Outcomes
Module 1: Climate Negotiation Fundamentals and Communication, Conflict, and Collaboration	<p>Outlines negotiation skills critical for managing interdependencies, leveraging power, and influencing outcomes in the negotiating arena. Reviews negotiation tools for securing beneficial agreements at the international level. Topics covered include decision-making, negotiation processes of conferences, and rules of procedure and engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UNFCCC and Multilateral Environmental Agreements▪ Role of the Negotiator▪ Negotiation Strategies or Approaches▪ Negotiation Technique and Tools <p>Explores effective communication strategies for negotiations, main challenges that arise during climate negotiations and key collaborative strategies across a range of contexts. Participants practice navigating difficult conversations that can arise during climate negotiations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Activity based on a real-world scenario
Module 2: Legal and procedural issues of the UNFCCC process	<p>Provides an overview of the negotiation environment provided by the UNFCCC including its governing bodies, subsidiary bodies, negotiating groups. International conventions and platforms, UNFCCC governance structure, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement, SBSTA and SBI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UNFCCC Governance and Structure<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Structure, platforms, initiatives, and bodies that operate under the UNFCCC Framework.▪ UNFCCC – Draft Rules of Procedure and Process▪ UNFCCC – Code of Conduct▪ Negotiating Groups under UNFCCC▪ Conference of the Parties (COP)
Module 3: Managing the Negotiation Process	<p>Focuses on pre, during and post-conference process management activities required for successful negotiations. Information sharing,</p>



	<p>management, and disseminations, planning, coordination, and logistics are discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Preparing for COP:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pre-sessional meetings.○ Negotiating positions of Parties/Groups on different tracks.○ Provisional agenda and annotations for SBI 63 and COP 30.○ Latest update on different negotiation tracks. i.e., pre-session and in-session conference documents.○ Drafting Documents – Climate negotiation terminology and language.
Module 4: Climate Science Basics	<p>Covers the impact of climate trends and projections and how to source and review climate data to participate in climate negotiations based on relevant and appropriate science and knowledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fundamentals of climate science▪ Planetary vital signs and planetary boundaries▪ Credible and reputable sources of information on climate change. i.e., IPCC Reports and role of IPCC▪ Why is science relevant to climate negotiators?
Module 5: Climate Negotiation Thematic Areas	<p>Introduction to key negotiation tracks required for implementing the Paris Agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Intersessional meetings and climate negotiation tracks.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Adaptation, Mitigation, Loss and Damage, Climate Finance, Just Transition, Carbon Markets, Transparency, The Technology Mechanism, Action for Climate Empowerment and Capacity Building, Gender and Climate Change, etc.▪ Information stemming from UNFCCC processes i.e., past decisions.▪ Outcomes of past COPs and potential areas of interest for SB 61 and COP 30.
Module 6: Artificial intelligence in negotiations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Role of AI in negotiation.▪ Engaging with AI-driven tools to support and enhance negotiation analysis and decision-making.
Module 7: Training of Co-facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The What – Technical and procedural considerations▪ The How – Reflection, strategies and tools

In addition, there are stand-alone activities that allows participants to apply the information they gain from each of the six modules using real-world scenarios. This activity seeks to put in practice competencies regarding the understanding and mastery of the UNFCCC Structure and processes, negotiation tracks, process management, and collaboration. The activity can be in the form of:

- World Cafe'
- Preparing for a Press Conference
- Informal Consultation / Contact Group