

Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) Call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders:

'Experience, best practices and lessons learned related to improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts'

Background

The PCCB aims to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhance capacity-building efforts. Current priority areas are:

- a) Enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention;
- b) Identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them;
- c) Promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement.

To learn more about the work of the PCCB, you can access its annual reports and other documents [here](#).

As part of its continuing efforts to respond to these priorities, the PCCB determined in its [2021-2024 workplan](#), to make a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on:

Experience, best practices and lessons learned related to improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts.

Further information on the submission topic is provided below.

Who can submit?

The call is open to all UNFCCC Parties and non-Party stakeholders, such as public and private sector entities, government and non-government organizations, philanthropic organizations, academic and research organizations, international and regional organizations or initiatives.

This call for submissions primarily aims to gather information on capacity-building-related coherence and coordination efforts of bodies and under processes outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including, but not limited to, efforts of government agencies, civil society organizations, development cooperation agencies, United Nations agencies and international organizations, private sector organizations, universities and research institutions.

How will the inputs be used?

The inputs will feed into upcoming deliverables under Activity A.2 of the 2021-2024 PCCB workplan, including a synthesis report and recommendations to the COP and CMA on how to improve coherence and coordination of capacity-building and avoid duplication of efforts.

Submissions form

We thank you in advance for filling out this template with concise, evidence-based information and for referencing all relevant sources. There are 2 sections in this template:

- *Details about your organization*
- *Guiding questions about improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts*

Further information:

You are welcome to provide any other information that your organization thinks would highlight suggestions made in response to this call for submissions.

Address for submission: pccb@unfccc.int

Deadline for submissions: 31 October 2022

Please only fill out sections that are relevant to the work of your organization. Please note that no section is mandatory.

Organization or entity name:

Climate Change Competencies Center (4C Morocco)

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergovernmental organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Development bank / financial institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UN and affiliated organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International network, coalition, or initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> Research organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional network, coalition, or initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> University/education/training organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public sector entity | <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector entity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Philanthropic organization |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) : Public Interest Grouping |

Organization Location

City: RABAT

Country: MOROCCO

Scale of operation:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local | <input type="checkbox"/> Subregional |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary |

City(ies)/Country(ies) of operation (if appropriate):

Morocco, Basin Congo Climate Commission and Climate Commission for the Sahel Region members.

The submissions topic

Enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building has always been a key element of the mandate of the PCCB. The PCCB began its work thereon in 2017 by establishing a dedicated working group, followed by a range of activities, including publishing a technical paper in 2019, hosting annual round tables and establishing the PCCB Network and the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG) in 2020 and 2021, respectively.

Through the ICG, the PCCB regularly interacts with representatives of the UNFCCC constituted bodies, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to coordinate climate change related capacity-building plans and activities, to foster better sharing of information and greater coherence, and to seek recommendations related to enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

In order to complement and expand on this work, this call for submissions primarily aims to gather information on capacity-building-related coherence and coordination efforts of bodies and under processes outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including, but not limited to, efforts of government agencies, civil society organizations, development cooperation agencies, United Nations agencies and international organizations, private sector organizations, universities and research institutions.

Of particular interest to the PCCB would be information related to the following aspects:

a) For enhancing coherence and coordination of climate-related capacity-building efforts in developing countries, please give good examples of effective existing policies, arrangements (e.g. legal, institutional, operational, financial), processes, guidance, actions or tools

Relevant transferable examples related to coherence and coordination of non-climate-related capacity-building efforts are also welcome to capture good practices and lessons learned from other areas of sustainable development.

i. at the international level

The Climate Change Competencies Center (4C Morocco) is a national platform for dialogue and capacity building set up to support the design and the implementation of climate policies, at the local, regional, and African level. The Climate Change Competencies Centre (4C Morocco) has benefited since its inception from financial support and technical assistance from various international donors and agencies, among them: the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the German Agency for International Development (GIZ), the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), Ouranos (Canadian consortium on regional climatology and Adaptation to Climate Change), Global Affairs Canada, and Alinea International. These international donors and technical agencies have chosen to support, both financially and technically, a developing country centre specialised in climate-related capacity building, hence using, and strengthening an existing national capacity-building system and basing their funding action on objectives, needs and strategies set by Morocco. These funding choices should be multiplied and encouraged because they increase the ownership, effectiveness, and sustainability of climate-related capacity-building efforts in developing countries. Furthermore, international cooperation effectiveness and impact would be increased by untying aid. Indeed, reducing transaction costs and improving the ability of recipient partners to set their own course would increase coherence and coordination of climate-related capacity building efforts in developing countries.

ii. at the regional level

South-South cooperation has the potential to strengthen capacities to achieve climate goals on the ground and across countries. Developing countries have accumulated precious experience in the past decades, gathered knowledge relevant to their specific local circumstances and developed their capacity in a wide range of climate change fields. Aware of the major role that South-South cooperation plays in climate-related capacity building, the Climate Change Competencies Centre of Morocco has engaged many partnerships with multiple developing countries' organisations. In fact, the Centre supports the Congo Basin Climate Commission and the Climate Commission for the Sahel Region, and the Small Island States Climate Commission, through: support for the creation of regional climate funds, support for the design, financing, and deployment of bankable projects, capacity building on topics related to the fight against climate change. The three commissions were set up following the "Declaration of African Heads of State" at the African Summit Action for Continental Co-Emergence organized at the initiative of His Majesty the King of Morocco on the side-lines of COP22 in 2016. The Centre has also organised many exchange workshops with African countries on the topics of adaptation, capacity-building, climate finance and climate-smart agriculture.

iii. at the national level

The creation of the 4C Centre was an action first recommended in the 2014 Climate Change Policy of Morocco. Several studies and various exchanges were then held between all national stakeholders concerned by and involved in the fight against climate change, and aimed at developing an institutional solution that would, in part, ensure the coherence and coordination of climate-related capacity building activities in Morocco. Indeed, one of the four main missions of the Center is to contribute to building the capacity of national actors in the field of climate change, so that they're empowered to turn their climate commitments into action on the ground. The 4C Centre, established as a Public Interest Grouping in 2016, brings together more than 40 members, from various backgrounds, including the public and private sectors, the scientific research community, civil society, and local authorities. The Centre activities are partly financed by members' contributions. The Center is structured around three main departments: the Capacity Building Department, the Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Department, and the Support and Communication Department. The three departments work jointly on the implementation of numerous actions aiming at strengthening climate-related capacity building efforts in Morocco and in multiple countries in Africa. At the national level, the 4C Centre has implemented multiple climate-related capacity building activities, notably:

- Supporting universities in mainstreaming climate change into their academic modules, developing master's degrees dedicated to climate change and building university professors capacities through training of trainers' workshops,
- Offering long-term training to young university students, young graduates, and young professionals from the public and semi-public sectors on adaptation, mitigation, climate negotiations and climate finance,
- Establishing a scientific watch for the benefit of researchers and practitioners to strengthen the science-policy interface in the field of climate change in Morocco,
- Organising capacity building workshops, webinars, and exchange workshops for the benefit of civil society organisations and NGOs on different climate-related subjects: mainstreaming climate change in local planning, climate advocacy, climate finance, climate sensitive budgeting, etc.,
- Organising capacity building workshops and trainings for decision makers at the national level on multiple topics such as: climate finance, mainstreaming of climate change into public policy, climate negotiations, etc.,
- Developing decision-making tools, through the publication of guides, studies, briefing notes, etc. and the development of online platforms (online MRV platform, website dedicated to local initiatives, etc.),
- Supporting climate projects throughout the climate finance process, from design to implementation and providing technical support to prepare bankable projects based on Morocco's NDC,
- Providing technical support to mainstream climate change in sectoral public policies,
- Regular monitoring, dissemination, and

communication on latest development related to climate change through the Centre's different channels: website, LinkedIn page (3000 followers), Twitter (1100 followers), YouTube, weekly newsletter (1016 subscribers from 14 different countries). The establishment of the 4C Center is one of the flagship initiatives undertaken by the Kingdom Morocco, a pioneering approach that considers capacity building as an integral and independent objective in its efforts to combat climate change. The 4C Center aims to become a "one-stop shop" in capacity building and climate policy support in Africa, that enables all regional, national, and local organizations to acquire the knowledge, the capacities and the skills needed to build climate resilience.

iv. at the subnational level

The Centre has a whole work programme dedicated to subnational climate action, through which it develops multiple climate-related capacity building activities: •Organising capacity building workshops, webinars, and exchange workshops for the benefit of civil society organisations and NGOs at the local level and strengthening political dialogue between local authorities and local NGOs, •Organizing capacity building workshops for the benefit of local authorities on mainstreaming climate change in local planning, on climate finance, etc.; •Addressing the need for capacity to design and prepare projects for climate finance, •Assessing and modelling climate vulnerabilities at the local level. The Centre action falls within a wider regulatory, legal, and political framework that aims at strengthening the role of subnational action in Morocco, including with regards to climate change: •New organic laws relating to the role and mandate of local authorities have come into being in recent years, leading to the implementation of a new subnational architecture for Morocco based on advanced regionalization (law 111.14, law 112.14 and law 113.14), •Local authorities are now under the obligation to develop local development plans and the Centre intervenes at this level to support local authorities in integrating climate change into existing projects and local development plans, •Morocco's New Development Model, presented to His Majesty the King in May 2021, stipulates it is necessary to strengthen the role of the territories in the fight against climate change, •Morocco's National Sustainable Development Strategy (2017) recognises and strengthens the role of territories in climate action, •Morocco's National Climate Plan fourth pillar aims at ensuring a low-carbon resilient local development.

b) For the examples provided under (a)

i. Please explain in concrete terms how greater coherence and coordination of the capacity-building effort(s) was achieved:

The implementation of national climate commitments generates positive interactions between stakeholders involved in climate action but can lead also sometimes to overlap and duplication of efforts. Capacity building action is one of the areas where such overlaps are most noticeable. The Centre role is to coordinate efforts at the national level and to offer the most complete and exhaustive information on what has been achieved, what is being implemented, and what is planned in terms of climate-related capacity building, including with regards the normative, legislative, and regulatory field. Its unique institutional and legal status allows the Centre to maintain a constant dialogue with public actors and local authorities' representatives that oversee the elaboration and implementation of national and local development strategies. This allows the Centre to be aware of national and local authorities needs and adapt its offer accordingly. The Centre co-designs capacity building actions with the beneficiaries in a participative approach, while also being a source of proposal, when relevant. Indeed, some actors need support and guidance in understanding what would be the most effective and relevant action to undertake to mainstream climate change into their policy and action and build their climate resilience. In its mission to support the widest possible range of actors in Morocco since 2016, the Climate Change Competencies Centre encompasses four Platforms (Public Sector and Territories Platform, Private Sector Platform, Scientific Research and Expertise Platform, and Civil

Society Platform). These Platforms bring all our members together and aim to represent the main categories of climate change actors in Morocco. The Platforms allows the Centre to conduct a real-time stock-take of capacity needs in these different sectors. The Centre encourages dialogue and exchange within each Platform, and between the four Platforms, and hence contributes to ensuring coherence and coordination between many of these stakeholders, and to avoid “working in silos” on the issue of climate change. The Centre has developed a capacity building offer coherent with the country needs and context. In the case of Morocco and based on a needs assessment study realized in 2019, the Centre chose to first focus its attention on climate finance and climate change mainstreaming in planning while also making sure that it’s able to respond to specific capacity building demands (the Centre capacity building catalogue spans over 30 subjects that can be easily delivered to a wide variety of actors from national and local policymakers to elected officials and Civil Society Organizations). We’re currently in the process of updating the 2019 study to identify good practices and avenues for improving our action to make it efficient, impactful, and sustainable. This work will be based on an inventory of national and local needs in terms of climate-related expertise and should lead to a strategy for climate action support. One of the objectives of the strategy will be to amplify the Centre's action by expanding its fields of expertise, when relevant. The strategy will be accompanied by a new system for monitoring and evaluating the Center's work.

ii. What was the impact of the coherence and coordination improvements on the outcome and sustainability of the respective capacity-building intervention(s)?:

Capacity building is still often a short-term, ad hoc, primarily supply-driven exercise in which no capacity building "system" is put in place to sustain the efforts. The need for a long-term approach to capacity building is increasingly recognized at the national and international level and the Centre has been set up to provide such a long-term impactful sustainable action. The Centre is working on setting up capacity retention systems that are sustainable over the long term and that can serve future generations. In that sense, the Centre has engaged partnerships with universities and research centres, aware of the role of scientific research in strengthening and retaining national capacities, including with regards to climate action. Through its long-term training offered to young people, the Centre has contributed to the creation of networks of young experts on climate that exchange regularly.

c) Based on relevant practical experiences at the international, regional, national or subnational level, how do coordination- and coherence-related arrangements, mechanisms, platforms or tools need to be designed and set up, to ensure that:

- i. Local and national priorities and long-term climate and development strategies are adhered to in capacity-building efforts;
- ii. Financial and human resources available for capacity-building efforts are used more efficiently;
- iii. Systematic monitoring of progress, effectiveness and impact of capacity-building efforts is possible;
- iv. All stakeholders, including vulnerable and underrepresented groups, are well informed and meaningfully engaged in capacity-building efforts;
- v. Cross-cutting issues, such as gender responsiveness, human rights, indigenous peoples’ knowledge and practices or youth-related issues, are well integrated in capacity-building efforts;
- vi. Capacity-building results become more sustainable?

If applicable, indicate the area(s) the response addresses (from the list above or other aspects); if possible, provide examples of coordination arrangements/mechanisms/platforms/tools that have achieved some or all of the above.

The areas that the response addresses from the list above, are as follow: • Local and national priorities and long-term climate and development strategies are adhered in capacity-building efforts, •Systematic monitoring of progress, effectiveness and impact of capacity-building efforts is possible, •All stakeholders, including vulnerable and underrepresented groups, are well informed and meaningfully engaged in capacity building efforts, •Cross-cutting issues, such as gender responsiveness, human rights, indigenous people’s knowledge, and practices of youth-related issues, are well integrated in capacity-building efforts, • Capacity building results become more sustainable. These aspects were achieved through multiple coordination arrangements and mechanisms such as: •Constant dialogue is maintained with local and national authorities since they’re members of the Centre, •Capacity-building effort targets key political moments (elaboration of new local development plans, climate policies revision, elaboration of sectoral policies, etc.) to ensure long-term and sustainable impact, •Focus is given to mainstreaming climate change into public policy and local planning, •The Centre includes a department devoted to capacity building action and dedicated to monitoring its progress, effectiveness, and impact, •A wide range of actors are involved in co-designing capacity-building action and the Centre works on strengthening dialogue and collaboration between them, •A gender action plan is currently being developed to better integrate gender equality in capacity-building efforts.

d) To further enhance the coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts

i. What gaps need to be filled?

•Financial gap and lack of dedicated funding for capacity building actions, •Human expertise gap (availability and number of climate change experts in developing countries, particularly in African countries, especially in specific areas such as: development of MRV platforms, climate risk mapping, and access to climate finance. • Lack of collaboration between the scientific community and public/local authorities to build and retain capacities, •Lack of long-term technical assistance, needed specially at the local level.

ii. What actions need to be taken by capacity-building recipients and providers, respectively?

•Recipients need to become knowledge brokers in their own institutions and ensure the diffusion of their knowledge to their peers, •Recipients need to ensure coherence and coordination with the different international donors, •Providers should assess beneficiaries' needs regularly to identify and be able to respond to their evolution, •Providers needs to be reactive to the changing nature of the discussions around climate change and emerging needs (e.g., Article 6, transparency, etc.), •Providers need to better target capacity building at the systemic level and work at developing and strengthening capacity-building systems, •Providers need to better adapt their offer to the context and background of the recipient to ensure effectiveness and impact, •Providers need to better use opportunities offered by digitalization, •Providers need to focus on long-term assistance, specially at the local level.

e) What are useful sources relevant to this topic?

(e.g. webpages and portals, publications, fora, organizations working on this issue)
https://twitter.com/4CMaroc?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor