

Input by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building on work relevant to pre-2020 implementation and ambition

The Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) was created in 2015 and aims to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing countries and further enhance capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention. An important part of the work of the PCCB is the analysis of climate capacity-building issues and the development of policy recommendations to support countries in enhancing their climate action.

The PCCB was established through the decision adopting the Paris Agreement (Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 71). The decision requested the PCCB to manage and oversee the capacity-building work plan for the period 2016–2020, including the following nine activities (paragraph 73):

1. Assessing how to increase synergies and avoid duplication among Convention bodies, including through collaboration with institutions under and outside the Convention.
2. Identifying capacity gaps and needs and recommending ways to address them.
3. Promoting development and dissemination of tools and methodologies for capacity-building implementation.
4. Fostering global, regional, national and subnational cooperation.
5. Identifying and collecting good practices, challenges, experiences and lessons learned from capacity-building work by Convention bodies.
6. Exploring how developing countries can take ownership of building and maintaining capacity over time and space.
7. Identifying opportunities to strengthen capacity at the national, regional and subnational level.
8. Fostering dialogue, coordination, collaboration and coherence among relevant processes and initiatives under the Convention, including through exchanging information about activities and strategies of Convention bodies.
9. Providing guidance to the secretariat on the maintenance and further development of the web-based capacity-building portal.

The PCCB became operational with the adoption of its working modalities, rules of procedure, and rolling workplan at its first meeting in May 2017. While the focus area of the PCCB for the years 2017 – 2019 is capacity-building activities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions and a big part of its work is aimed at supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement, other work undertaken by the Committee supports pre-2020 implementation and ambition.

To foster dialogue, coordination, collaboration, coherence and networking on capacity-building, the PCCB initiated targeted collaboration with non-Party stakeholders at COP 23 on plans to raise awareness of climate-related capacity-building activities and opportunities through the use of the capacity-building portal and social media tools. The portal aims to facilitate the identification of best practices, gaps and opportunities for cooperation, with a view to enabling coordination of capacity-building support provided to developing countries. Further enhancements to the capacity-building portal were made throughout 2018, including the posting of training materials from other constituted bodies and the provision of additional links to relevant initiatives, information and knowledge portals of constituted bodies and other stakeholders. The PCCB also continues its work on enhancing functionalities of the capacity-building portal. In parallel, the PCCB intensified its collaboration with Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the use of social media tools to support the

PCCB in its outreach activities. Work on a Capacity-building Hub on Facebook managed by the PCCB has been initiated and the Facebook page is expected to be launched ahead of COP 24.

The PCCB also collaborated with the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action in 2018 and in this context actively contributed to events during the Latin American and Caribbean Climate Week, held from 20 to 23 August 2018 in Montevideo. Furthermore, the PCCB supports efforts of initiatives aimed at building alliances among universities for climate action and, among others, actively contributes to the organization and implementation of the Capacity-building Days at the COPs. The first Capacity-building Day took place at COP 23 and the second Capacity-building day will be organized at COP 24.

In addition, in support of the goals under the Lima work programme on gender and its action plan, the PCCB is promoting the integration of gender consideration in capacity-building for climate policy and action, by organizing a webinar and a technical workshop in the second half of 2018 in collaboration with the UNFCCC secretariat.

Importantly, to support Parties in enhancing climate action, the PCCB has developed concrete recommendations for consideration by the COP at its twenty-fourth session, and these are included in the annual technical progress report of the PCCB for 2018 (FCCC/SBI/2018/15). These recommendations have a strong focus on sustainable capacity-building and highlight the importance of institutional strengthening at the national level as well as the value of drawing on local expertise. They also reflect the outcomes of the dialogues held by the PCCB with other constituted bodies as well as some of the good practices, challenges, experiences and lessons learned which these bodies reported from their own capacity-building work.

Finally, with regard to its work on identifying capacity gaps and needs, the PCCB launched a pilot exercise to identify capacity gaps and needs at the national level. While the exercise is focused on gaps and needs related to NDC implementation, the results, which are expected for 2019, may well bear relevance for more general enhancement of the implementation of climate action.