



## Paris Committee on Capacity-building

11 June 2025

Ninth meeting  
Bonn, 23-25 June 2025

### Draft concept note for the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub at the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties

#### *Recommended actions by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building*

The Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) will be invited, during its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, to:

- a) Consider the draft concept note for the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub at the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), as contained in the annex;
- b) Agree on appropriate next steps with regard to the planning and organization of the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub at COP 30.

## I. Possible actions for consideration by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building

### A. Planning and organization of the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub

1. The PCCB may wish to consider and discuss the draft concept note for the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub that is set to take place at COP 30 in Belém, contained in the annex, with a view to finalizing the thematic focuses, modalities of sessions and timeline of action for the implementation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub intersessionally.
2. In terms of concrete actions at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the PCCB may already wish to appoint members to join the Hub's Steering Committee to pursue and guide work related to the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub during the intersessional period. Discussions could take place via conference calls or other virtual means. The PCCB may also wish to invite external experts from the PCCB Network to join the Steering Committee as advisers, to help oversee the integration of cross-cutting issues across the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub's programme.
3. The PCCB may further wish to agree that final decisions on the themes and dates of the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub be taken by all members of the PCCB on a no-objection basis.

## II. Background

4. Responding to the requests by Parties and non-Party stakeholders at the first meeting of the PCCB in May 2017 and at the 7<sup>th</sup> Durban Forum on capacity-building in May 2018, the PCCB established the Capacity-building Hub at COP 24 in Katowice as a space of representation and collaboration for a wide array of stakeholders active in capacity-building. At the 1<sup>st</sup> Capacity-building Hub, over 130 experts from close to 90 institutions, networks, organizations, Parties, the constituted bodies and the UNFCCC took part in over 40 events on topics relevant to climate-related capacity-building.
5. Built upon the outcomes of the first Hub, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Capacity-building Hub at COP 25 in Madrid succeeded in representing a rich diversity of voices, experiences and topics relevant to the work of the PCCB on climate-related capacity-building. Over the course of seven thematic days, the PCCB

hosted over 60 events with more than 260 experts and 210 institutions involved. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Capacity-building Hub was visited by over 1,200 participants on-site and reached an even wider audience online.

6. The success and significance of the Capacity-building Hubs were acknowledged by a wide array of actors during COP 25, placing capacity-building in the spotlight of the Conference. As Parties reviewed the work of the PCCB and agreed on its extension at COP 25, they also decided for the Hub to become a mandated annual event.

7. Building on the successful experience of previous years, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub at COP 26 in Glasgow continued to be a space for sharing experiences, solutions and ideas that can enable greater climate action as the world gathers speed towards “a climate for a sustainable world”. More than 4,700 participants attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub in person or followed the sessions online. In total, more than 250 experts from approximately 190 institutions were engaged in 42 sessions over the course of six thematic days. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub successfully fostered dialogues on climate-related capacity-building efforts and effectively created a physical and virtual space for collaboration across diverse climate actors. Four cross-cutting issues, including gender responsiveness, human rights, Indigenous Peoples’ and local knowledge systems, and the role of youth, were mainstreamed across the programme of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub.

8. At COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, the 4<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub continued to provide a space for representation, collaboration and knowledge-sharing with regard to climate-related capacity-building. The 4<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub was attended by over 3,500 participants over the course of seven thematic days, during which the PCCB hosted 56 diverse organizations in conducting 48 sessions. The fourth edition of the Hub also explored newer modalities such as a dedicated thematic day on the Open Space approach, as well as the addition of the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) topic as the fifth cross-cutting issue mainstreamed across the Hub’s programme.

9. With COP 28 in Dubai being a milestone moment when the world took stock of its progress in relation to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the fifth edition of the Hub created a platform where the importance of capacity-building with regard to the Paris Agreement and its progress was highlighted. Nearly 6,000 participants visited the 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub at COP 28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and engaged in 57 capacity-building sessions organized by 131 organizations. Over 330 experts from 200 institutions shared their experiences, knowledge and perspectives. The fifth edition of the Hub continued to mainstream the five cross-cutting issues and integrated innovative modalities across the programme.

10. Building on the best practices of the past years, the 6<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub continued to be a platform for capacity-building providers and recipients to exchange experiences and share knowledge. At COP 29 in Baku, a new feature was introduced to offer hands-on capacity-building and workshops through the Capacity-building Hub Academy, led by the Vice-Rectorate in Europe of the United Nations University, drawing on interdisciplinary expertise from across various United Nations University institutes. The 6<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub at COP 29 in Baku counted with over 1,500 participants and activities were also streamlined online. Participants were able to engage in 42 different sessions conducted by 55 organizations. Over 242 experts from 151 institutions were able to share experiences, lessons learned and knowledge.

11. Over the years, the Capacity-building Hub at the sessions of the COP has become an integral space for the climate-related capacity-building community, bringing together the knowledge and experience of experts, scholars, and activists at the local and global level, fostering the creation and dissemination of knowledge and embodying the spirit of collaboration within the capacity-building community. The Hub has also increasingly served as a dynamic platform for knowledge co-creation and shared learning, where diverse perspectives intersect to generate innovative approaches and mutual understanding. In this way, it reinforces participatory processes and collective knowledge as essential pillars of effective capacity-building. The Capacity-building Hub continues to be a space of representation and collaboration for a wide array of stakeholders active in capacity-building-related activities.

## Annex

### Draft concept note for the 7th Capacity-building Hub

#### I. Background

1. The Capacity-building Hub serves as one of the flagship activities of the PCCB, encompassing a series of sessions that delve into different capacity-building themes over the course of a week, coinciding with the sessions of the COP. Following the mandate from COP 25, the PCCB continues to organize the Capacity-building Hubs annually in conjunction with the COP.<sup>1</sup>

#### II. Objectives

2. The Capacity-building Hub is a direct response to the mission of the PCCB in enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, addressing current and emerging capacity gaps and needs, and facilitating greater awareness of the scope and impact of capacity-building efforts. By hosting the Hub as a gathering for the capacity-building community, the PCCB strives to:

(a) Amplify a rich diversity of voices, experiences and topics relevant to the PCCB's work, enhance stakeholder awareness of and engagement on the scope and impact of capacity-building efforts, and facilitate the exchange of experience, knowledge and insights on the role of capacity-building to support enhanced climate efforts in 2025 and beyond;

(b) Strengthen collaborations among bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement and across institutions, sectors and regions, and synergize the knowledge and experience of experts at the local, national, regional and global level to boost collective capacity-building efforts;

(c) Strengthen the ties with relevant bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement to enhance coherence and coordination in capacity-building efforts needed to step up collective and collaborative efforts and encourage their participation in the PCCB Network;

(d) Enhance exchange of knowledge and information (including case studies, good practices and lessons learned), as well as the promotion and dissemination of tools and methodologies for implementing solutions to address capacity-building gaps and needs;

(e) Encourage and showcase synergies between capacity-building actions and cross-cutting issues such as gender responsiveness, human rights, Indigenous Peoples' and local knowledge systems, ACE and youth voices.

#### III. The 7th Capacity-building Hub

3. The 7th Capacity-building Hub is scheduled to take place at COP 30 (10–21 November 2025 in Belém, Brazil) and will showcase efforts made to enhance climate action through the lens of capacity-building. Celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the Paris Agreement, COP 30 is also a milestone for the third round of updated NDCs aiming at increasing countries commitment to meet the Paris Agreement goals. The seventh edition of the Hub aims to create a platform that highlights the central role of capacity-building in advancing the Paris Agreement and strengthened commitments, while also showcasing and accelerating climate action that delivers enduring, transformative results.

4. The 7th Capacity-building Hub welcomes all interested individuals and entities involved in climate action across all sectors and regions to take part in debates and contribute to focused capacity-building discussions by sharing:

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<sup>1</sup> See decision 9/CP.25.

(a) Experience and achievements in building and retaining capacity at different levels to support the enhancement of nationally determined contributions and climate action in 2025;

(b) Lessons learned and knowledge gained in identifying capacity-building gaps and needs, and solutions for addressing those gaps and needs;

(c) Opportunities for introducing innovation and scaling-up actions by collaborating with other actors and combining climate efforts at the national level;

(d) Ideas for capacity-building actions that are aligned with low-carbon and climate-resilient development strategies.

5. The PCCB hopes to engage a broad range of stakeholders in the 7th Capacity-building Hub, including government actors, public sector representatives, and international entities, as well as non-State actors such as academics, private sector experts, representatives of philanthropic organizations and foundations, champions, youth representatives, Indigenous Peoples and local communities' and women's organizations, local artists, activists, media figures, influencers, journalists, and storytellers.

6. Following the successful engagement of external experts on cross-cutting issues, including gender responsiveness, human rights, Indigenous Peoples' and local knowledge systems, ACE and the role of youth, as advisers to guide the integration of cross-cutting issues across the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub's activities, the PCCB will also continue to apply this approach in the preparatory stage of the 7th Capacity-building Hub at COP 30 to form the Steering Committee of the 7th Capacity-building Hub alongside selected PCCB members

7. Following the successful engagement of external experts on cross-cutting issues—including gender responsiveness, human rights, Indigenous Peoples' and local knowledge systems, ACE, and the role of youth—as advisers guiding the integration of these themes across past Capacity-building Hubs, the PCCB will continue this approach in the preparatory stage of the 7th Capacity-building Hub at COP 30. The Steering Committee for the 7th Hub will be formed with the involvement of interested PCCB members, alongside external experts, to ensure diverse and inclusive guidance in shaping the Hub's activities.

## **IV. Scheduling**

### **A. Programme**

8. The 7th Capacity-building Hub will take place over the course of six days during both weeks of COP 30 to enable a broader range of participants to take part in the Hub. When scheduling the programme of activities, the Steering Committee will attempt to avoid overlaps with activities with a similar focus.

### **B. Thematic days**

9. The 7th Capacity-building Hub will be organized into thematic days focusing on issues directly linked to capacity-building with a view to supporting enhanced climate action at all levels. Thematic days will shed light on the different aspects of capacity-building efforts in 2025 and feed into the work of the PCCB, including its 2025 focus area "Capacity-building for holistic investment strategies, bankable projects, and stakeholder engagement to strengthen the implementation of NDCs and NAPs in developing countries" and the PCCB Network. The cross-cutting issues, namely gender responsiveness, Indigenous Peoples' and local knowledge systems, youth voices, human rights and ACE, are going to be streamlined in all the thematic days.

10. The Capacity-building Hub Academy will continue to be organized throughout the thematic days, offering diverse workshops and hands-on capacity-building activities that tackle and address some of the capacity-building gaps and needs related to the thematic days. The Academy will be led by the Vice-Rector in Europe of the United Nations University, bringing interdisciplinary expertise from different United Nations University institutes around the world, academic partners and PCCB Network members. These activities will require registration prior to the events to offer an engaging

programme tailored to the needs of the participants, as well as to foster targeted peer-to-peer learning opportunities.

- (a) **Capacities for the Energy Transition Day.** The energy transition is a critical pathway to achieving global climate goals, requiring accelerated action and strengthened capacities across all countries. While nations in the Global South advance clean energy solutions amid technical and institutional capacity gaps, countries in the Global North also face the urgent need to scale up efforts to meet shared climate commitments. Following the UAE Consensus, which commits Parties to tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency by 2030, capacity-building remains essential to unlocking this global potential.

This thematic day will bring together members of the PCCB Network's Energy Cluster and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge, identify and address capacity gaps in energy policies, technologies, and financing mechanisms. It will also emphasize advancing equitable and inclusive energy transitions by strengthening local capacities, empowering communities, and fostering enabling environments that respond to diverse contexts and needs.

- (b) **Cultural Heritage and Arts Day.** The intersection of climate, culture, art, and capacity-building provide a vital foundation for inclusive and locally grounded climate action. Storytelling, language, performance, visual arts, and other cultural expressions are not only mediums for transmitting knowledge, but also essential tools for building the capacities of communities to strengthen identity, foster resilience, and co-create climate solutions.

The Cultural Heritage and Arts Day will explore how cultural heritage and creative expression enhance capacity-building by equipping communities with emotional, social, and imaginative tools to co-create narratives that resonate deeply and support meaningful engagement. By elevating the voices of youth, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, artists, and cultural practitioners, the day will highlight how culture-driven approaches contribute to inclusive, equitable, and context-responsive climate solutions. Artivism and participatory creative practices will be showcased as vital components of people-centered capacity-building, broadening access, integrating local knowledge, and inspiring new pathways for climate action. In line with the COP 30 presidency's emphasis on culture and the Global Ethical Stocktake, the day aims to embed cultural and artistic expression into the design and delivery of climate solutions at all levels.

- (c) **Capacities for the Future Day.** Futures literacy is an essential skill for navigating today's climate crisis and imagining bold, alternative paths forward. In a world shaped by uncertainty and complexity, the capacity to question assumptions, reframe challenges, and envision new possibilities is crucial. Futures literacy enhances capacity-building by empowering people to reimagine solutions beyond conventional approaches, fostering creativity, systemic thinking, and innovation. Tools like the Three Horizons framework enable individuals and institutions to think about current assumptions, emerging changes, and possible and desired futures, thereby open the window for them to work towards such desired futures.

In line with the Paris Agreement's long-term goals call for transformative capacity building, this day invites governments, civil society, and individuals to co-create visions of a regenerative, equitable future through knowledge brokering, imagination, and open dialogue. The goal of the Capacities for the Future Day is to democratize access to futures literacy, build systemic foresight capacity, and catalyse inclusive climate governance. By fostering the ability to "use" and understand the future more effectively and in an interdisciplinary way, it can empower creative and innovative actions today that can help everyone to become more resilient, sustainable and inclusive.

- (d) **Means of Implementation Day.** Means of implementation, encompassing climate finance, capacity-building, and technology are central pillars of the Paris Agreement and critical enablers of effective and sustained climate action. This thematic day will explore the interconnected technical, institutional, and systemic capacities required to unlock, coordinate, and operationalize these pillars in a coherent and mutually reinforcing manner to accelerate progress under the Paris Agreement.

The day will aim to foster a better understanding of existing tools and practical approaches that can enable countries to access, mobilize, and scale up support across climate finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building. It will highlight the importance of reinforcing institutional and technical capacities to assess needs, align support streams, and implement climate strategies effectively. Discussions will also explore how gender-just and inclusive approaches, along with the uptake of context-appropriate and endogenous technologies, can enhance the coherence and impact of means of implementation efforts. By highlighting these enabling conditions, the day aims to enhance the effectiveness of climate action, through better coordination of the support architecture and stronger alignment with long-term climate goals.

- (e) **Nature and Science-Based Solutions Day.** This thematic day spotlights the critical role of ecosystems, traditional knowledge, and scientific innovation in addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation. The day will showcase best practices and success stories in climate adaptation and mitigation, with a particular focus on locally grounded initiatives led by communities and local governments. Emphasis will be placed on nature-based solutions (NbS), ecosystem restoration, disaster risk reduction, and the integration of Indigenous Peoples' and local knowledge systems. These approaches aim to enhance resilience and protect biodiversity, generate co-benefits for livelihoods, food security, water resources, and human well-being, especially in vulnerable regions, and bridge the science-policy gap.

By aligning with the objectives of the Rio Conventions, supporting the priorities of the COP 30 Presidency, particularly the protection of tropical forests and the empowerment of local communities, and recalling the mandate from the Conference of the Parties to constituted bodies to integrate and strengthen ocean-based action in their existing mandates and workplans, the Nature and Science-Based Solutions Day aims to foster global dialogue, south-south cooperation, and partnerships that enable scaling-up of effective and context-specific solutions. This thematic day will create a platform to break silos between climate, biodiversity, and land agendas, while promoting inclusive and evidence-informed action toward meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement.

- (f) **PCCB's Focus Area Day.** This thematic day seeks to provide a space to explore the annual focus area of the PCCB for 2025: "Capacity-building for holistic investment strategies, bankable projects, and stakeholder engagement to strengthen the implementation of NDCs and NAPs in developing countries". Stakeholders will have the space to discuss and share knowledge on the mobilization and scale of climate finance, enhancing the skills for accessing climate finance, and creating enabling environments for effective climate action through systemic and institutional capacity building.

This thematic day aims to promote a space to share best practices and lessons learned, as well as connect finance institutions and capacity-building providers, as well as improve coordination and coherence among capacity-building institutions and initiatives.

## C. Session modalities

11. Each thematic day will accommodate a diversity of modalities to foster interactive exchanges and effective dialogues among the participants on-site and online. The Capacity-building Hub will foster knowledge co-creation and shared learning through innovative modalities and methods, including open space modalities, and exchange with participants on-site and virtually. When assessing the expressions of interest, the Steering Committee will favour a diverse set of modalities.

**Table 1: List of innovative session modalities**

<p><u>For interactive engagement</u></p> <p><b>Round-table dialogues:</b> open discussions within a small group setting to exchange ideas and perspectives.</p> <p><b>Fishbowl discussions:</b> open dialogues where a small group of participants seated in an inner circle actively discuss a topic, while participants in an outer circle listen, and participants can switch between the two circles to contribute their thoughts.</p> <p><b>World cafés:</b> participants move through multiple discussion tables in a café-like set-up to delve into various topics.</p> <p><b>Workshops:</b> promoting practical skills and knowledge on a specific subject.</p> <p><b>Role-play sessions:</b> dynamic scenarios assigning specific roles to participants so that they can gain insights into diverse perspectives and interactions.</p> <p><b>Simulations:</b> replicated environments to study complex systems and predict outcomes in controlled scenarios.</p> <p><b>Networking sessions:</b> connecting and building relationships with fellow participants.</p>	<p><u>For dynamic communication</u></p> <p><b>TED-style talks:</b> engaging and thought-provoking talks in the style of TED talks, focusing on sharing ideas, experiences and insights.</p> <p><b>Lightning talks:</b> delivering ultra-brief presentations to capture participants' attention.</p> <p><b>Pitch sessions:</b> presenting innovative ideas, projects or concepts, similar to 'shark tank' presentations.</p> <p><b>Open mic sessions:</b> allowing participants to take the stage briefly and share their thoughts, stories or insights with the audience.</p>
<p><u>For creative/artistic expression</u></p> <p><b>Storytelling:</b> conveying messages, emotions and lessons through the art of storytelling.</p> <p><b>Theatre or dance performances:</b> thought-provoking performances through movement, dialogue and expression.</p> <p><b>Live music or poetry:</b> musical performances or poetry readings that evoke emotions and convey messages through artistic expression.</p>	<p><u>For visual and multimedia displays</u></p> <p><b>Marketplace showcases:</b> displays of products, ideas or services in an open and interactive setting.</p> <p><b>Poster or photo exhibitions:</b> displays of information, photos or artworks to gain insights in a physical or digital space.</p> <p><b>Video projections:</b> watching multimedia presentations projected onto screens or surfaces.</p>

## D. Implementation

### (g) Expressions of interest

The 7th Capacity-building Hub will follow the successful practice of the previous Hub by opening a call for expressions of interest in organizing events at COP 30, to be announced on its web pages in July. All interested organizations, initiatives, and entities are welcome to submit proposals. While this call is open, a curated selection of the Hub programme will also be developed in collaboration with existing and strategic partners, such as members of the PCCB Network's Energy Cluster or other stakeholders active in the PCCB's 2025 focus area on capacity-building for holistic investment strategies. This approach ensures a balanced programme that highlights proven expertise and targets key capacity-building priorities. Priority will be given to PCCB Network members with a demonstrated track record in advancing climate action through capacity-building.

### (h) Assessment

The Steering Committee of the 7th Capacity-building Hub will assess the proposals received and allocate a slot on a particular thematic day to those accepted. The assessment is based on the following

predefined criteria to ensure the relevance of proposed activities to climate-related capacity-building and the Hub:

1. **Relevance to capacity-building:** Demonstrated examples of capacity-building and linkages with the thematic day.
2. **Partnership collaboration:** Sessions organized in collaboration with one or more partners will be prioritized, reflecting the value of diverse perspectives and expertise brought forward by co-organizers.
3. **Innovation and engagement:** Prioritizing innovative methodologies and modalities that foster the co-creation of knowledge, shared learning, and meaningful engagement and interaction.
4. **Cross-cutting issues:** The extent to which cross-cutting issues are integrated within the session both in terms of substance and representation.
5. **Inclusiveness and balance:** Guaranteeing gender, regional and sectoral inclusiveness and balance in the session.

Each submission will be evaluated, with points awarded depending on how and to what extent the submission fulfils each criterion. A cut-off threshold will be decided based on the number of slots available, and the top-scoring submissions selected may be allocated slots on all thematic days.

## A. Lead Partners

- i. The Steering Committee will appoint lead partners who will develop the narrative for each thematic day to ensure a coherent flow of activities both within the day and across the overall Hub programme. Lead partners are selected to act as champions, providing leadership and shaping the narrative of the day by offering thematic expertise and ensuring cohesion.

## B. Communications and outreach

- ii. To ensure broad visibility and engagement, the Capacity-building Hub programme and information on each thematic day will be regularly updated on dedicated UNFCCC web pages. Announcements and highlights will also be shared via the UN Climate Change Capacity-building LinkedIn group<sup>2</sup> and the Hub's online page. Building on its successful launch, the PCCB Network's CB Stories: Climate 101 podcast series<sup>3</sup>, co-hosted with the United Nations University, will continue as a creative capacity-building tool to unpack key concepts of each thematic day and help audiences engage more meaningfully with Hub themes through accessible, human-centered content. To broaden reach and participation, the Hub will also mobilize partner communication channels such as those of PCCB Network members and collaborating organizations to promote sessions, share outcomes, and amplify key messages across stakeholder communities.

## C. Post-event synthesis and reporting

- iii. Following the conclusion of the Capacity-building Hub, a summary report will be prepared compiling the key capacity-building gaps, needs, and solutions systematically gathered throughout the different thematic days. These insights, drawn from discussions, presentations, and stakeholder inputs, will inform the future work of the PCCB and contribute to enhancing the overall coherence and effectiveness of global capacity-building efforts. The report will also serve as a valuable resource for partners engaged in climate-related capacity-building. In addition, relevant capacity-building tools and materials shared during the Hub will be made available through the UNFCCC Capacity-building Portal to support broader access to knowledge and resources.

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<sup>2</sup> The UN Climate Change Capacity-building LinkedIn group can be accessed at:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12550724/>.

<sup>3</sup> See CB Stories: Climate Action 101 series:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Kmo8ERkB\\_4&list=PLsnjFp3JYa4i7AiSUCayF98sIo259sXCk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Kmo8ERkB_4&list=PLsnjFp3JYa4i7AiSUCayF98sIo259sXCk)