

Synthesis of submissions on existing tools and methodologies for implementing capacity-building activities that enable countries to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement

I. Introduction

A. Mandate and background

1. In total, 18 submissions were received and included in this report.¹ These include submissions from various types of organizations, including both Party and non-Party stakeholders. Moreover, the submitting entities operate at different levels, ranging from local to global.
2. COP 21 decided that the PCCB will have the aim of addressing 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 of capacity-building activities under the Convention.²
3. The PCCB 2021 – 2024 workplan sets out an activity on the collection of information on capacity-building tools and methodologies, including through a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on existing tools and methodologies for implementing capacity-building activities that enable countries to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.³
4. The call for submissions was published on October 5 on the dedicated PCCB web page⁴ and closed on November 30, 2021.

B. Objective

5. The objective of this document is to synthesize submissions on existing tools and methodologies for implementing capacity-building activities that enable countries to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, and to provide a knowledge base for further work on identifying and disseminating capacity-building tools and methodologies.

C. Scope of the report

6. This report synthesized the information provided by parties and non-Parties stakeholders in the submissions referred to in paragraph 10 above. Chapter II. A-D is structured in accordance with the guiding questions contained in the call for submissions.
7. In total, 18 submissions were received and synthesized in this report⁵
 - (a) Two submitting entities identified as a United Nations or affiliated organization; one as a non-governmental organization; one as a government; one as a private sector entity; one as an intergovernmental organization; one as a non-profit think tank; and one as a university/education/training organization. Three did not specify;⁶
 - (b) In total, ten submitting entities are based in developed countries, four are based in developing countries and four did not specify where they are based;

¹ Submissions were published on the following web page: <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/resources/submissions-to-the-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb#eq-3>

² Decision 1/CP.21

³ FCCC/SBI/2020/13, activity B.2 of the workplan

⁴ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/submissions-paris-committee-on-capacity-building#eq-1>

⁵ Submissions were published on the following web page: <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/resources/submissions-to-the-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb#eq-3>

⁶ Seven entities identified with multiple options.

(c) A total of seven submitting entities identified as operating on a global scale, one on a local scale, one on a national scale, and three did not specify the scale of operation;⁷

(d) In total, three entities are operating in Africa, one in Asia Pacific, and nine did not specify.⁸

8. This document aims to provide a synthesis rather than an exhaustive account of all inputs received by the submitting entities. In some instances, the document refers to the submitting entities in an effort to facilitate possible follow-up activities or discussion. References are intended to be illustrative and facilitative for follow-up rather than a direct reflection of the viewpoints and areas of work of submitting entities. All received submissions are available on the PCCB submissions web page for reference.⁹

II. Synthesis of the submissions

9. This chapter contains four subchapters. The first three correspond to the guiding questions in the call for submissions. Chapter II.A presents the characteristics and features of good examples of tools and methodologies used by different actors for implementing capacity-building activities that enable countries to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Chapter II.B outlines the types and components of tools and methodologies for capacity-building proven to be the most effective ones. Chapter II.C discusses which kind of tools and methodologies to support the efficient design, implementation, and monitoring/ evaluation of meaningful capacity-building intervention are currently lacking. Chapter II.D explores in which thematic areas of the Paris Agreement are new tools and methodologies for capacity-building most required in order to achieve long-term goals of the agreement. Finally, chapter II.E provides a selection of best practices, tools and other relevant resources related to the implementation of capacity-building activities in the context of achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

A. Characteristics of good tools and methodologies that enable countries to achieve long-term goals of the Paris Agreement

10. The following paragraphs synthesize the general categories and characteristics of good tools and practices that will enable countries to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

11. Two submissions stress that training experts is a valuable strategy on which to focus tools and methods to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Establishing certificate courses and training modules that integrate elements relevant to these long-term goals into livelihoods and skills development, particularly taking into account regional and contextual elements of those being trained, is seen as a key action by one submitting entity.¹⁰ Another submission recognizes the value of climate change training programmes for different stakeholders such as the media, parliamentarians, other ministries, departments, and agencies, as well as Youth Climate Advocacy trainings and Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) training programme for technical experts.¹¹

12. Some submitters highlight the importance of webinars as helpful tools that can address many different topics. In this regard, one submission specifies that webinars can be targeted to accredited National Implementing Entities (NIEs) and developing countries seeking access to climate finance. It is further emphasized that during such events, participating developing country focal points and representatives of accredited NIEs can learn how to obtain accreditation and subsequently access climate finance for specific projects and/or programs on the ground.¹²

13. A number of submissions share similar views on the importance of online courses in helping countries achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. These entities emphasize that online courses aimed at improving the capacity of national and subnational actors to address various issues

⁷ Six entities identified with multiple options.

⁸ Five entities identified with multiple options.

⁹ <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/resources/submissions-to-the-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb#eq-3>

¹⁰ SLYCAN Trust

¹¹ Zimbabwe

¹² The Adaptation Fund

are useful because they can be self-paced, tailored to countries and regions, and can also be adapted customized.¹³ The fact that they are online courses is also cited as an advantage for capacity-building during the COVID-19 pandemic.

14. The usefulness of workshops is further underlined by some submissions. One entity points out that workshops can generate knowledge and capacity building products through a collaborative process, and that validation and further input can also be achieved by sending drafts to workshop participants and then to other external experts and stakeholders.¹⁴ One institution highlights those workshops organized in partnership with local associations can be a valuable way to support women entrepreneurs and/or women-led small businesses through training aimed at building their entrepreneurial capacities.¹⁵

15. A large number of submissions highlight the importance of case studies as tools for sharing experiences and best practices. Some submitters emphasise that case studies of their own projects are an important capacity-building tool aimed at improving institutions' understanding of the application of such projects and capturing best practices that have been tested and could be replicated in different contexts.¹⁶ In addition to presenting case studies of their own projects, contributors also highlight the usefulness of a general collection of case studies on different approaches and organizations, such as country profiles, best practices for Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, and lessons learnt related to capacity building to facilitate comprehensive risk management.¹⁷ One submission also points out that the digital collection of oral histories can be a useful way to capture the human perspective of people involved in projects and initiatives.¹⁸

16. Entities further stressed that tools and methodologies focused on strengthening capacity and expanding opportunities for countries and stakeholders to access climate finance are essential to achieving long-term goals. Two submissions nuanced their contribution to enabling evidence-based formulation and financing of climate projects and actions, with the overarching goal of providing resources to strengthen institutional capacity, governance mechanisms, and planning and programming frameworks to identify a transformative long-term climate change agenda for developing countries and ultimately achieve the goals of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.¹⁹ Moreover, one submitting entity also notes that hosting webinars and workshops to provide developing country focal points and representatives of accredited NIEs with knowledge of funding mechanisms is an important prerequisite for them to implement specific projects and/or programs in the field.²⁰

17. A number of submitting entities underline the importance of tools to improve risk assessment capacity, such as online repositories of information on insurance and risk transfer to facilitate comprehensive risk management strategies, databases of case studies on capacity building related to risk transfer, and tools to help developing countries conduct better assessments of the near-term economic recovery potential of climate action.²¹

18. Moreover, submissions also note the relevance of tools to introduce measures for education systems. Two entities added that countries need to include environmental and climate topics in curricula and promote teacher training on these topics, as well as create didactic materials that include scientific topics related to climate change and look at the issue from a social perspective to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the issue and promote climate action.²²

19. Some submitting entities highlight tools and methodologies that focus on promoting better communication of project impacts on the SDGs, such as appointing climate ambassadors, promoting

¹³ The Adaptation Fund, FAO, UITP

¹⁴ SLYCAN Trust

¹⁵ WOMENVAI

¹⁶ FAO, The Adaptation Fund, GCF, ACAI

¹⁷ MECCE, ExCom, SDI

¹⁸ Mirroring Hope

¹⁹ FAO, GCF

²⁰ The Adaptation Fund

²¹ FAO, ExCom, ICAT

²² Mexico, Zimbabwe

awareness campaigns, disseminating climate information through radio and television broadcasts, and using social media platforms to better engage the young public.²³

20. Finally, several entities mention specific issues for which tools and methodologies are relevant. One entity emphasizes that South-South country exchanges have been an approach to improve capacity for climate finance planning at the local level.²⁴ Another entity holds that action needs to be taken to raise awareness of climate action among out-of-school youth.²⁵ One submitter also believes that gender-sensitive tools and methods are important.²⁶

B. Components of tools and methodologies for capacity-building proven to be the most effective ones

21. This section synthesizes the aspects identified that contribute to tools and methods being effective.

22. At a general level, submitters highlight participatory tools and methods as the most effective. Two respondents cite inclusive participatory approaches that focus on free expression, hands-on training, active listening, dialogue, and decision-making to best integrate the desires of all project stakeholders.²⁷ Other entities add to this by emphasizing the value of promoting workshops, mentoring, technical visits, and interactive small group sessions that encourage sharing and networking to expand background knowledge and build skills.²⁸

23. Two submissions underline the importance of in-person events and trainings as more effective in fostering better interaction among different stakeholders and facilitating the orientation of frameworks/tools and their approaches.²⁹ One entity specifically emphasizes the importance of in-person national climate change meetings and open forums as venues for knowledge dissemination and capacity building through various workshop and institutional linkages.³⁰

24. Several entities share similar views on the role of networks and local communities in increasing the effectiveness of capacity-building interventions through integrated partnerships. Regional hub networks, learning institutes, and communities of practitioners are mentioned as initiatives that promote knowledge exchange and stimulate action among policymakers, researchers, and practitioners through self-organization.³¹ A number of submissions further highlight the importance of working with key stakeholders and local communities to leverage their local expertise, promote activities through various networks, and develop bottom-up approaches to capacity building that enable a two-way flow of knowledge among stakeholders.³²

25. Some submissions also accentuate capacity-building tools and methods that take into account country-specific circumstances. These entities point to the importance of considering domestic priorities and developing methods that consider regional and culturally specific approaches so that stakeholders see them as relevant and effective.³³

26. A few submissions note the importance of tools and methods for using practical examples and case studies to explain technical issues and processes and/or demonstrate the relevance and applications of already existing tools.³⁴

²³ SDI, Zimbabwe

²⁴ The Adaptation Fund

²⁵ ACAI

²⁶ FCPEEP RDC

²⁷ ACAI, FAO

²⁸ UITP, WOMENVAI, Zimbabwe, FCPEEP RDC

²⁹ Climate Group, Mexico

³⁰ Mexico

³¹ MECCE, The Adaptation Fund

³² ACAI, The Adaptation Fund, WOMENVAI, MECCE, Climate Group

³³ FAO, ICAT, MECCE

³⁴ FAO, UITP, ICAT

27. Beyond the use of practical examples, several submitters also emphasize the importance of easy-to-understand language to make the tools and methods more user-friendly and increase their usability.³⁵

28. Relatedly, some entities acknowledge that web-based and electronic media and methodologies are valuable because they can preserve the confidentiality of data through secure organizational intranets and facilitate knowledge sharing in times of a pandemic.³⁶

29. One submission emphasizes the need for tools and methodologies to be able to be adopted through low-cost interventions to ensure widespread use.³⁷

30. Finally, one entity underlines the importance of developing capacity-building tools and methodologies targeting Indigenous communities and youth groups, in addition to valuing their knowledge and ensuring their participation in the formulation of initiatives.³⁸

C. Lack of tools and methodologies to support the efficient design, implementation, and monitoring/ evaluation of meaningful capacity-building intervention

31. The paragraphs below address the tools and methods that are lacking in the effective design, implementation, and monitoring/evaluation of meaningful capacity-building interventions.

32. Several submitting entities highlight the importance of developing tools and methodologies to measure the longer-term impact of capacity-building interventions. Such resources would be linked to ex-post analysis of the effectiveness of capacity-building interventions, accompanied by systemic learning and the adoption and sharing and dissemination of knowledge.³⁹

33. Tools and methodologies to help establish coordination mechanisms and/or collaborative platforms are further considered as key resources by some submissions. These would facilitate data collection, information sharing, and knowledge dissemination over longer periods of time and in a cumulative process that builds on existing elements at the national and subnational levels.⁴⁰

34. The relevance of data collection and analysis was also noted by a few submissions. In this regard, two entities highlight the important role of tools aimed at improving the capacity of Parties to collect and analyse data, such as guides, training, software, and other platforms.⁴¹ One submitting entity also points to the development of new data sources that can enable comparisons across countries and regions based on ACE-related indicators and support reporting and decision-making through data analysis and visualization.⁴²

35. It was also highlighted by one submission that there is a lack of tools and methods aimed at using behavioural science as a cross-cutting task to remove cognitive biases and heuristics, thereby reducing barriers to implementation.⁴³

36. One entity calls for tools and methodologies aimed at linking elements of capacity building with interventions and environments from different sectors, focusing on co-benefits, synergies, and mutual reinforcement of interventions from a holistic perspective.⁴⁴

37. Finally, tools and methodologies to assist Parties in implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, including monitoring and promoting the benefits of Article 6 activities for sustainable development, were also highlighted by one submitting organization as lacking resources.⁴⁵

³⁵ FAO, ICAT, SDI

³⁶ GGMI, Mexico, Zimbabwe

³⁷ FAO

³⁸ Zimbabwe

³⁹ Climate Group, FAO, GCF

⁴⁰ FAO, SLYCAN Trust

⁴¹ ExCom, ICAT

⁴² MECCE

⁴³ FAO

⁴⁴ SLYCAN Trust

⁴⁵ SDI

D. Thematic areas of the Paris Agreement where new capacity-building tools and methods are most needed to achieve the Agreement's long-term goals.

38. The submissions list several thematic areas that require new capacity-building tools and methods to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. These areas are synthesized in the following paragraphs.

39. In terms of thematic areas where new capacity-building tools and methods are needed, a number of submissions point to the importance of incorporating gender responsiveness into these resources, such as promoting women's entrepreneurship and incorporating gender considerations into climate programming.⁴⁶

40. Several submissions emphasize the need for tools and methodologies related to GHG emissions. A number of submitters point to tools that can be adapted to the needs of the country and specific sectors, and ultimately improve the capacity to produce GHG inventories, the data collection for them, and the reporting of this information in accordance with the requirements of the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework.⁴⁷

41. Moreover, some submitting entities add that more attention needs to be paid to tools and methodologies to improve and promote Actions for Climate Empowerment related to Article 12 of the Paris Agreement.⁴⁸

42. Two submitters stress the need to strengthen efforts to develop tools and methods to assess and manage climate-related risks associated with water management and coastal areas, such as scalable solutions that prevent waste dumping and chemical fertilizer leaching into waterways.⁴⁹

43. Other submitters make reference to the challenge of accessing climate funds and emphasize that mobilizing funds remains an issue area where new tools and capacity-building methods are most needed to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.⁵⁰

44. Capacity retention and archiving tools and methodologies are further considered by one submission as thematic areas to be addressed with new tools and methods.⁵¹

45. One entity also highlights the need for tools and methodologies aimed at enhancing technical guidance for NDC tracking.⁵²

46. Furthermore, one submitting entity emphasizes the need for capacity-building programs to provide a good understanding of key sustainable urban mobility concepts and to facilitate the development of new projects through peer reviews and audits and assessments.⁵³

47. Finally, one entity highlights that multi-stakeholder engagement and the inclusion and participation of vulnerable, marginalized, or underrepresented groups and communities, including women and youth, are thematic areas for which new capacity-building tools and methodologies are needed.⁵⁴

⁴⁶ Mirroring Hope, WOMENVAI, Zimbabwe

⁴⁷ Climate Group, FAO, GGMI, ICAT

⁴⁸ MECCE, Zimbabwe

⁴⁹ ExCom, PRC

⁵⁰ ACAI, Zimbabwe

⁵¹ FAO

⁵² FAO

⁵³ UITP

⁵⁴ SLYCAN Trust

E. Selection of tools and methodologies, best practices, lessons learned, examples of support, case studies, and any other relevant sources related to the implementation of capacity-building activities in the context of achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement

Category	Description	Link
<i>GHG emissions</i>	SAGE is an innovative platform that eases data gathering, reduces errors early on, and produces indispensable documentation—for GHG inventories, GHG projections, and mitigation impact quantification. ⁵⁵	Link
	The GHG Abatement Cost Model (GACMO) aims to support countries or regions in analyzing their GHG mitigation options to prepare information for their NDCs, National Communications, or Low-Carbon Development Plans. ⁵⁶	Link
	PROSPECTS+ is a sector-level, bottom-up Excel tool which uses decarbonization relevant activity and intensity indicators to track and project overall and sectoral GHG emissions trends. ⁵⁷	Link
	The Renewable Energy Methodology helps policymakers assess and communicate the impacts of renewable energy policies to ensure that they are effective in mitigating GHG emissions, advancing development objectives, and helping countries meet their sectoral targets and national commitments. ⁵⁸	Link
	The “Good Practice Guidance for the Preliminary Assessment of Sustainable Development in Article 6 Actions” is a simple guidance that may be used to build capacity for conducting a ‘preliminary assessment’ of a potential Article 6 activity. ⁵⁹	Link
	The Country Profiles of Climate Change Communication and Education offer a comparative perspective of country progress on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Targets 4.7 and 13.3. The profiles aim to promote peer learning and policy dialogue between countries on CCE. They are based on reviews of each country’s international commitments and national laws, policies, action plans, and programs. ⁶⁰	Link
	The Greenhouse Gas Data Management (GHG-DM) tool helps GHG inventory compilers manage the information related to the activity data (AD) and parameters in the agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU); energy; industrial processes and product use (IPPU); and waste sectors. Each excel file contains a comprehensive list of AD and parameters that must be collected to estimate all categories within these sectors. ⁶¹	Link
The How to compile a GHG inventory – toolbox is designed for states and regions to provide their environmental or climate change teams with a variety of tools on how to compile an economy wide GHG inventory for their jurisdiction. The resources provide valuable information on how to compile a GHG inventory for the first time and make improvements over time, but also generally support GHG inventory compilers in carrying out their work more efficiently. ⁶²	Link	

⁵⁵ Submitted by GGMI

⁵⁶ Submitted by ICAT

⁵⁷ Submitted by ICAT

⁵⁸ Submitted by ICAT

⁵⁹ Submitted by SDI

⁶⁰ Submitted by MECCE

⁶¹ Submitted by FAO

⁶² Submitted by Climate Group

<i>Agriculture</i>	<p>The Climate-Smart Agriculture Manual is designed to deal with the problems that Zimbabwe is facing in the agricultural sector, that mainly stem from climate change, unsustainable farming methods and the lack of training for extension officers on enhancing productivity, climate change adaptation and mitigation—i.e., climate-smart agriculture. The current agricultural education syllabus does not focus on climate-smart agriculture. With the country’s low adaptive capacity, there is an urgent need to address agricultural education so as to develop sustainable solutions vis-à-vis food production, nutrition security, and economic growth and development.</p> <p>The outcome of the project is expected to enhance both students and professionals’ active participation in promoting climate-smart agriculture to the Zimbabwe agriculture community at large.⁶³</p>	Link
	<p>GLEAM-i is a livestock specific tool designed to support governments, project planners, producers, industry and civil society organizations to calculate greenhouse gas emissions using IPCC Tier 2 methods. GLEAM-I can be used in the preparation of national inventories and in ex-ante project evaluation for the assessment of intervention scenarios in animal husbandry, feed and manure management.⁶⁴</p>	Link
<i>Gender</i>	<p>The WOMENVAI Academy is specifically dedicated to female entrepreneurship with women from developing countries as beneficiaries. The WOMENVAI Academy offers, in collaboration with local associations and NGOs, workshops of 2 to 3 days during which training-actions aimed at capacity building in Entrepreneurship are organized and facilitated.⁶⁵</p>	Link
<i>Youth Action</i>	<p>The Global Youth Forum on Climate Change (GYFCC) was first organized in 2016 by SLYCAN Trust in partnership with the Climate Change Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment of Sri Lanka under the Sri Lanka Next programme as well as other national and international partners.</p> <p>The Global Youth Forum has fostered increasing youth participation and focuses on sharing knowledge on key climate change issues, providing a platform for youth to propose ideas on climate action and research, and supporting youth to develop and improve project proposals through capacity-building and networking.⁶⁶</p>	Link
<i>Finance</i>	<p>The Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (the Readiness Programme) supports country-driven initiatives by developing countries to strengthen their institutional capacities, governance mechanisms, and planning and programming frameworks towards a transformational long-term climate action agenda.</p> <p>The Readiness Programme provides grants and technical assistance to National Designated Authorities (NDAs) and/or focal points (FPs). Readiness funding can also be deployed to strengthen Direct Access Entities. The objective is to enhance the capacity of national institutions to efficiently engage with GCF. Dedicated readiness funding may also assist countries in undertaking adaptation planning and developing strategic frameworks to build their programming with GCF.⁶⁷</p>	Link

⁶³ Submitted by Zimbabwe

⁶⁴ Submitted by FAO

⁶⁵ Submitted by WOMENVAI

⁶⁶ Submitted by SLYCAN Trust

⁶⁷ Submitted by GCF

	<p>Within the context of the Adaptation Fund (AF) Medium Term Strategy Implementation Plan, Bridging the Gaps in Accreditation identifies opportunities to further enhance efficiency and effectiveness of the accreditation process through presenting eleven case studies of ongoing or completed accreditations or re-accreditations which represent different types of processes available to applicants in recent years at national and regional level.⁶⁸</p>	Link
	<p>This Adaptation Fund E-training provides an overview of knowledge and learning and guidance on how to complete the application form for the Adaptation Fund learning grants. It is a self-paced course that is freely available to all implementing entities and relevant stakeholders interested in learning more about knowledge and learning under the Adaptation Fund, and how to develop a learning grant proposal with the Fund.⁶⁹</p>	Link
<i>Technology</i>	<p>Bhungroo (“straw” in English), is an innovative program that uses an irrigation technology to turn a humanitarian crisis into a powerful opportunity for women who previously had little voice in their homes or communities. Traditionally, women in India could not own land; however, the Bhungroo project introduced a brilliant work-around strategy to give women rights to the irrigation technology.⁷⁰</p>	Link

⁶⁸ Submitted by The Adaptation Fund

⁶⁹ Submitted by The Adaptation Fund

⁷⁰ Submitted by Mirroring Hope