

Outcomes Article

Capacities needed for the horizontal and vertical integration of nationally determined contributions (NDCs)

- Regional Meetup -



**November 16th 2022 , PCCB Focus Area Day
4th Capacity-building Hub, COP27**

The session was organized by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) in collaboration with the NDC Partnership and took place at COP27, as part of the PCCB Focus Area Day at the 4th Capacity-building Hub. The event sought to present outcomes of the PCCB's regional thematic dialogue series on the horizontal and vertical integration of national determined contributions (NDC) in 2022. Throughout the event experts from Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia-Pacific, and MENA regions shared the status quo of NDC implementation and the role of capacity-building in this context. Beyond that, various stakeholders working on policy coherence and NDC implementation came together, discussed, and identify key capacity-building gaps and needs across regions related to the status quo of NDC integration.

BACKGROUND

In light of the annual focus area, the PCCB set out to facilitate the exploration of what capacities are needed for the horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs. The horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs provides opportunities for greater policy synergies, efficiency, and coherence. Through the two regional thematic dialogues organized in 2022 at the Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week in Santo Domingo and the Africa Climate Week in Libreville, the PCCB sought to create a space to discuss such approaches of integration as part of PCCB's efforts to promote strategic stakeholder engagement to foster exchange on capacity-building through outreach activities at the national or regional level.



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KEY OUTCOMES OF THE REGIONAL THEMATIC DIALOGUE SERIES



PCCB working group 2, lead Rosibel Martinez opened the session with a summary of outcomes from the PCCB's thematic dialogue at the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Climate Week in Santo Domingo. Some capacity needs and gaps identified to scale-up horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs discussed were the need for governments to conduct initial capacity assessments, stocktaking the capacities of banks and financial institutions, the need for NDCs to be

integrated with finance discussions, and system-wide approaches to promote systemic change around the NDCs. At the same time, experts from LAC also reported back successful capacity-building measures for the implementation of their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) as part of their national efforts of NDC implementation. [RD1] It was noted that, in the LAC region, efforts to integrate NDCs were made especially by academia and teaching institutions for greater vertical integration. Overall, the PCCB's side event at the LAC Climate Week concluded in a common agreement that collaborations play a central role, particularly regarding South-South networks. [RD1] Was this a best practice to draw from for NDCs or it was an example of NDC inclusion in NAP implementation? This needs to be clarified.

Fellow PCCB member, Farhat Mbarouk, continued by presenting the outcomes from the PCCB's thematic dialogue at the past Africa Climate Week in Libreville. Farhat emphasized that the session brought together a range of participants from governments, NGOs, and many others, towards knowledge-sharing on horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs. The PCCB side event presented regional success stories of NDC implementation and highlighted challenges faced by African states, such as limited access to information and resources. The importance of agriculture and smallholder farmers for horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs across African states was also emphasized. Following the outcomes from the LAC Climate Week, all stakeholders commonly agreed on the need for a system-wide approach of NDCs at regional, national, and local levels as one of the outcomes of the event, with special emphasis on mainstreaming crosscutting issues like gender and youth.



KEY OUTCOMES OF THE OPEN DISCUSSION

Kishan Khoday, Regional Coordinator & Team Leader at United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) from the Regional Bureau for Arab States, laid emphasis on combining policy support for integrated solutions within the NDC implementation in the countries of the MENA region. Through such an approach, a solid base could be set up for scaling up action to achieve successful NDC implementation. The horizontal NDC implementation in the MENA region is supposed to be enabled through dialogues across country's ministries and committees to address sectoral issues of their developing agenda. The regional expert emphasized the connection between climate action and a country's fragility during different kinds of crises must be considered in the MENA region. Regarding vertical NDC implementation, Kishan shared that the focus in the MENA region lies on city-specific actions for climate mitigation and adaptation in the most vulnerable and at-risk communities. Lastly, Benjamin Basmaci, climate change specialist at the UNDP regional hub for Arab states highlighted the integration of youth consultancy in the process of local NDC implementation for sustainable capacity-building.

Pemy Gasela, the Director of the International Climate Change, Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment – Republic of South Africa, contributed to the open discussion by sharing that capacity-building for NDC implementation in the case of South Africa includes coordination, collaboration, and communication across sectors. She highlighted that a sector-wide bottom-up approach mixed with a top-down approach is needed for successful capacity-building as part of the NDC implementation. Additionally, she emphasized that enhancing the engagement of civil society by using virtual communication platforms, as well as of the governmental sector is crucial for integrating NDC targets.

Dr. Fernanda Carvalho, Global Policy Manager at Climate & Energy WWF International, brought up that in the LAC region participatory governance plays a role in the NDC implementation (except in the cases of Brazil and Cuba). She highlighted that transparency and a focus on development in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are needed for sustainable horizontal and vertical integration of NDC targets. Also, analyzing the country's individual cases regarding their adaptation, systemic change, inclusivity, finance, and governance will be necessary for future NDC implementation strategies.

PCCB member Kunzang added as part of the session's audience to the discussion that in the Asia-Pacific region policy-level cross-sectoral government engagement and coordination takes place at various levels. The challenge, in this context, is differing levels of capacity and enabling effective capacity-building. She ended her intervention and the session with an emphasis on data and information limitations. Limitations of data and information are obstructive to successful NDC implementation, thereby, data and information sharing could enable horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs.



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FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE EVENT

For further information on the event, its recording and materials, please visit its [event webpage](#).

For further information on the 4th Capacity-building Hub and the PCCB Focus Area Day, please follow [this link](#).



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