

Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)
Call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders:
2022 PCCB focus area

‘Building capacity to facilitate the coherent implementation of nationally determined contributions
in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery’

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](#).

Topics for submissions

The PCCB annually focuses on an area related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity-building. It determined, in its 2021-2024 workplan, to make calls for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the annual PCCB focus area.

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, and UNFCCC constituted bodies.

How will the inputs be used?

The inputs will feed into the PCCB's workplan activities in 2022, including a focus area day at the 4th Capacity-building Hub at COP 27, and envisaged regional activities and webinars. The inputs will also inform the design and preparations of the 11th Durban Forum on capacity-building to be held during the Bonn Climate Change Conference in June 2022. Responding to the request of the COP for the SBI to align the theme of the Durban Forum on capacity-building with the annual focus area of the PCCB, the PCCB has been working to ensure alignment between discussions at the annual Durban Forum and the work of the PCCB related to its annual focus area.

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 implementing NDCs and national development plans in developing countries in a coherent manner, while supporting a sustainable recovery*

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: 25 February 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:

International Atomic Energy Agency

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergovernmental organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Development bank / financial institution |
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ |

Organization Location

City: Vienna

Country: Austria

Scale of operation:

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

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

Global, 173 Member States as of 7 April 2021

The annual PCCB focus area

At its fifth meeting in June 2021, the PCCB agreed on the following focus area for 2022:

‘Building capacity to facilitate the coherent implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery’

The Paris Agreement aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change through the implementation of NDCs and national development plans, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty. This presents ample opportunities for synergies and the PCCB, with its strong mandate to engage with other bodies under and outside the Convention, is well positioned to promote coherence in achieving climate and development objectives.

Building closely on the PCCB’s 2021 focus area on building capacity to facilitate coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans, the 2022 focus area is dedicated to the question of how this process can support a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated multiple crises, and solutions for economic recovery efforts need to be responsive to the climate emergency and facilitate a transition to a greener, fairer, and more sustainable world, and capacity-building is a key enabler for this.

The [PCCB’s work on its 2021 focus area](#) contributed to an enhanced understanding of the key barriers and capacity-building needs and gaps hindering the coherent implementation of NDCs and national development plans, as well as of existing solutions. Through this call for submissions, **the PCCB seeks to contribute to a better understanding of how the coherent implementation of NDCs and national development plans can be aligned with and support a sustainable recovery.** What good practices and lessons learned exist with regard to aligning NDC implementation and national development planning with recovery efforts that are focused on sustainability and what are the major capacity-building needs and gaps in this area?

To facilitate coherent NDC implementation and planning in developing countries that are aligned with and support a sustainable recovery, in your experience, what are:

the key interventions?

Capacity building activities in energy system analysis and planning are key elements to facilitate NDC implementation and planning. The energy sector is often the most significant contributor to GHG emissions. Thus, local capability to produce quantitative and internally consistent scenarios of a country’s energy sector development is crucial in order to understand the needed institutional, incentive, technological, and financial requirements. Building and enhancing local expertise is fundamental in IAEA’s long-standing technologically-neutral capacity building programme for Energy planning (through workshops, fellowships, expert missions, trainings on energy system tools), so that countries can conduct analysis and elaborate informed energy plans, assessing all sources of energy including nuclear energy if a country is considering it, develop climate strategies including NDCs as well as policies without relying extensively on external consultants and experts.

the enabling conditions?

A committed national team with support from senior officials is essential. The team should be given enough resources, including the time that is needed, i.e. their work is recognized as part of their daily duties. The team needs to be multidisciplinary and include experts from planning offices and statistics office(s), multiple ministries, specialized agencies, and academia. Having multidisciplinary teams assures establishing effective links, cooperation and communication, and thus complements work and avoids overlaps.

the key institutional barriers?

Planning without subsequent implementation is an ineffective use of resources. Institutional framework needs to be strengthened in many facets: to ensure the availability of funding, to ensure the timely readiness of the information and data needed for energy infrastructure investment decision making, and to have a mechanism to oversee progress and control quality of the implementation.

the capacity gaps and capacity-building needs?

Support is required to understand and improve energy data, to establish reliable processes and sustainable workflow for its collection and access; to enhance skilled human resources to perform energy system analysis (centred around energy demand and supply tools), to bridge gaps between modellers, energy analysts and policymakers, and thus to build a sustainable national capacity to undertake the planning. Besides a robust national energy planning process, there is also a need to align national and regional-level planning to enhance trade, efficiency and security of energy supply or reap the benefits of economy of scale production.

the knowledge and skills priorities?

Developing energy balances and energy projections; shaping energy supply and trade scenarios; estimating financing and institutional support; understanding broader view for sustainable development (climate, land, energy, water) and cross-sectoral impacts.

How can existing capacity-building efforts be improved and what kind of new or additional capacity-building efforts are needed to ensure that coherent NDC implementation and planning in developing countries are aligned with and support a sustainable recovery? Who should be the target recipients of such capacity-building?

At the subnational level:

Not applicable for these IAEA activities

At the national level:

Capacity building should be seen as a long-term process. The governments should invest in their own local expertise rather than extensively relying on short-term or ad hoc external support. Having centres of excellence, academic curriculums for learning and other tertiary institutions could facilitate the creation of its sustainability. Ideally, this should build well-functioning and active networks of experts, trainers and trainees, and would ensure that the planning process is sustainable and will continue after short-term assistance ends. It is also important to stress that energy planning is not a one-time exercise. It should be a continuous process aligned with national policy, and it should be repeated and refined with time.

At the regional level:

Cooperation and coordinated efforts are essential. IAEA partners with UN and other international and regional organisations, academia/research institutions in providing capacity building support to developing countries. These activities take many forms: joint trainings, energy modelling platforms and schools, joint tool developments and exchange, improved data accessibility, etc. These cooperations and coordinated efforts should be maintained and further enhanced, e.g, UN regional commissions and their training centres could play an important role here.

Good case studies, best practices, tools and methodologies, lessons learned, or examples of support:

Please describe any that build capacity to facilitate coherent NDC implementation and planning in developing countries that are aligned with and support a sustainable recovery

An example of a project in a small Caribbean island country for strengthening capacities in planning process for sustainable energy development. A total of 12 experts benefited from capacity building activities through fellowships, expert missions, scientific visit and national training courses (12 face to face activities in total) during the two-years project. Through initial set of activities, counterparts were guided in reviewing national energy data using IAEA's Energy Balance Studio (EBS) tool, in developing concepts and methodologies for the missing data and in developing synergies in data preparation/collection with other institutions. The refined set of data was used in the subsequent activities to develop a national energy demand assessment until 2050 using IAEA's Model for Analysis of Energy Demand (MAED) tool, and to identify cost-efficient measures for saving energy at the end-use. Then, IAEA's Energy Scenarios Simulation Tool (ESST) was used to conduct comparative assessment of various energy supply options for meeting energy demand and to develop alternative energy scenarios reflecting national goals for GHG emission reduction and sustainable development. In addition, valuable insight on the energy planning process was gained from the Scientific Visit organized by the IAEA in a comparable small island developing country in Africa with similar experiences concerning energy security and high GHG emissions from electricity generation. Furthermore, the capacity of the national team has been enhanced to analyze electricity supply options with a focus on integration of batteries into the grid for the purposes of frequency stabilization needed with the increasing share of intermittent renewables in the system. National experts gained knowledge on the use of IAEA's energy system analysis tools and

their application to analyse low carbon and resilient national energy system. Finally, the national workshop was organized where the local team presented the results of the project and informed decision makers with the valuable insights from their analysis.

Useful sources:

Please give examples of additional useful sources relevant to this topic

(e.g. webpages and portals, publications, fora, organizations working on this issue)

[IAEA Continues Support for All-Source Energy Planning for Countries Despite Pandemic](#)

[Planning for a Sustainable Future: Energy Experts in Latin America and Caribbean Analyse Future Demand](#)

[Supporting Energy Integration in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

[As Countries Look to Low-Carbon Energy Sources, IAEA Offers Support for Modelling Future Energy Demand](#)

[Designing Power Systems and Managing Markets to Achieve the Low-Carbon Transition](#)

[The IAEA Supports Member States in the Implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change](#)

[Regional Training Course on Evaluation of Cost-Effective Energy Technologies, Including Nuclear Power, as NDCs for Climate Change Mitigation](#)

[Joint ICTP-IAEA College on the Evaluation of Cost Effective Energy Options as Nationally Determined Contributions for Climate Change Mitigation](#)

[Energy Modelling Platform - Africa 2021](#)

[Joint Summer School on Modelling Tools for Sustainable Development](#)