

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:

NDC Partnership

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergovernmental organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Development bank / financial institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UN and affiliated organization | <input checked="" 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: Washington, DC

Country: USA

Scale of operation:

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

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

There are more than 200 country, institutional, and associate members (<https://ndcpartnership.org/members>) of the NDC Partnership, including more than 100 developing country members. Of these, more than 80 countries are receiving support to enhance their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) through the Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) and ongoing Country Engagement (CE), along with support for 31 countries and the African Union Commission (AUC) to prepare climate compatible recovery packages in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, under the Economic Advisory Initiative (EAI): Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Benin, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Liberia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nigeria, Paraguay, the Philippines, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Tajikistan, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

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?

In the context of the Economic Advisors Initiative (<https://ndcpartnership.org/economic-advisory-support>), key sustainable recovery interventions on which the advisors are supporting governments cover three broad areas:

- 1) National planning and budgeting: As countries increasingly elevate climate change to a national priority, it is important to integrate it into national short- and long-term planning and budgeting. This includes, for instance, preparing climate-informed recovery strategies and budgets and identifying entry points for recovery through revised or new National Development Plans (NDPs), NDC implementation plans, long-term strategies (LTS), and national climate budgeting.
- 2) Project pipelines and preparation: To implement these plans, countries are identifying and preparing shovel-ready, bankable green projects that aim to boost economic growth, reduce emissions, and strengthen climate resilience. This includes preparing concept notes, pre-feasibility studies, and other preparation documents.
- 3) Climate finance: To implement these projects and other priority green recovery actions identified by governments, advisors are also supporting public and private climate finance mobilization and identifying and designing fiscal policies and instruments, such as green bonds and carbon pricing.

In addition, to help ensure that climate action led by ministries of finance and planning does not end with these time-limited green recovery projects, follow-on support is also needed for capacity building.

4) Capacity building: Although country engagement and support has been effective and perceptions related to climate-compatible development have begun to improve among ministries of finance and planning, there are still major capacity gaps on implementing climate investments and policies at both the national and subnational levels. Several countries have mentioned capacity gaps related to mainstreaming climate considerations into sectoral and subnational plans, implementing climate budget tagging, and mobilizing and accessing climate finance. Some advisors have integrated this into their work through trainings, workshops, and related support, but further support for capacity building still needs to be scaled up and improved.

the enabling conditions?

Following COP26, as countries take steps to implement their NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery, many still need further support to enhance the enabling conditions for implementing the actions needed to achieve their targets. While needs and priorities vary by country, they can broadly be categorized into five key areas: (1) climate policies, laws, and regulations (develop and revise legal documents and technical guidance); (2) institutional capacities (define the responsibilities of all ministries on NDC implementation and enhance knowledge and skills on climate action among sectoral ministries, ministries of finance and planning, subnational entities, and other stakeholders); (3) coordination mechanisms (strengthen overall and cross-sectoral coordination among stakeholders and across all levels of government, including through NDC Partnership in-country facilitators, with the capacity to expand coordination to new partners such as central banks, financial institutions, industry associations, and businesses); (4) climate finance (mobilize public and private resources for NDC implementation, implement risk screening tools, integrate climate considerations into national investment guidelines and capital markets plans); and (5) monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), (develop and enhance systems and capacities to supervise implementation).

the key institutional barriers?

Most ministries of finance and planning in developing countries have not been very involved in climate change yet, or only recently, but this is beginning to change. To address this limited institutional knowledge and experience, several countries, including those supported by the Partnership's Economic Advisory Initiative, have begun to build institutional capacities through trainings on climate finance, green jobs, green growth, capital markets, carbon pricing, and other related topics (e.g. Benin, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Zimbabwe).

the capacity gaps and capacity-building needs?

In all countries, the final objective of economic advisory support is to see planned actions implemented and sustained over the long-term in-country through projects and financing, even if this requires additional follow-on support for additional finance and capacity building identified at a later date. For instance, building on the initial phase of economic advisory support underway with the AUC for green recovery coordination, planning, and policy, additional activities to support capacity building and finance mobilization are awaiting endorsement at an inaugural multi-stakeholders meeting planned for early 2022. In particular, the AUC is planning to provide Member States with training on the climate mainstreaming, climate finance, and related policy, institutional, legal and regulatory reforms for green transitions. In other countries, advisors have increasingly mentioned in their quarterly reports that there are capacity gaps at both the national and subnational levels that need to be addressed, including

particularly on the integration of climate and green growth considerations into long-term planning, such as NDPs and LTSs.

the knowledge and skills priorities?

Economic advisors have highlighted the critical need for capacity building that strengthens countries' whole-of-economy approaches to addressing climate change, including by working with central banks, financial regulators, and ministries of trade, in addition to ministries of finance and planning. In this regard, additional support is needed to strengthen the capacity of developing countries in the design and implementation of climate-informed fiscal, financial, trade, and private-sector development policies and investments. In particular, strengthened capacities for climate finance mobilization from both the public and private sectors is critical. This includes, for instance, knowledge and skills related to climate budget tagging, reforming existing and designing new fiscal policies and instruments (e.g. reducing or removing fossil fuel subsidies, introducing carbon pricing schemes, issuing green and blue bonds, deploying de-risking mechanisms such as credit guarantees), greening central banks, and integrating climate considerations into capital markets and trade policy. In addition, capacities need to be strengthened with regards to equity and just transition considerations in order to manage the distributional and poverty impacts of climate shocks and climate policy and address 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:

To ensure that climate action in national budgets and policies is implemented on the ground, capacity building for subnational governments needs to be dramatically scaled up. Although they vary by country (e.g. provinces, districts, states, communes, local government units), they are instrumental for ensuring the effectiveness of climate-related projects that contribute to achieving longer-term goals such as net zero commitments or other targets articulated in long-term strategies (LTSs). Strengthened local knowledge on climate change across a wide range of sectors also has the potential to improve the flow of lessons learned and insights from the local to the national level in order to inform future project pipelines. In addition, municipal governments are increasingly engaging on climate action to transform cities into paragons of sustainable growth. As such, they are critical entry points for capacity building on climate action and finance. However, subnational capacity building has become even more challenging due to COVID-19, with travel restrictions limiting in-person training opportunities and weak digital connectivity in rural areas limiting virtual training opportunities. Support, therefore, will vary by country context, but is anticipated to require financial resources for both short-term activities such as in-person and virtual workshops, alongside accelerated medium-term investments to strengthen digital connectivity.

At the national level:

While ministries of finance are increasingly showing leadership and interest in taking action on climate change, many high-level officials are requesting additional training to better understand how to prioritize and implement specific recommendations (e.g. green fiscal stimulus, green bonds, de-risking mechanisms, private sector engagement and climate finance, carbon pricing, greening capital markets and central banks). In addition to engaging with ministries of environment and ministries of finance and planning on climate action, developing countries are increasingly engaging on cross-cutting issues with a wide range of sectoral ministries as well as on monetary policy with central banks.

At the regional level:

Regional initiatives to strengthen the coordination and implementation of climate commitments in countries NDCs are also increasing. This is particularly relevant for governments seeking to address transboundary challenges or explore multi-country solutions to addressing climate risks. Already, under the NDC Partnership's Economic Advisory Initiative, support is being provided to the AUC for implementation of the regional Green Recovery Action Plan (GRAP). In addition, support is anticipated shortly under the Greening Central Banks Initiative for the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank. Similar regional support could be provided in other regions in the future, along with support for regional knowledge and learning activities to strengthen the adoption of the most effective approaches for countries with similar contexts or facing similar challenges or risks.

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

Case

- Zimbabwe: The advisors have prepared and conducted in-house training sessions with Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) officials on the science of climate change, climate budget

Studies:

tagging, financial de-risking of green projects, and green growth.

- Eswatini: The advisor supported the government to integrate climate change into its 2020-2022 Economic Recovery Plan, recommended several proposals for the upcoming 2023-2026 National Development Plan, and contributed to the preparation of three green investment projects and one long term national capacity building program. The long-term National Capacity Building program will establish the Eswatini Centre for climate change research and specialized training to promote innovations skilling in collaboration with the University of Eswatini. Discussions are underway, on how to mobilise support to fund these projects.

- Uganda: The two advisors to Uganda have collaborated with the government to identify several green recovery recommendations and prepare project concepts for the Ministry of Finance, including for a policy paper on National Financing Vehicle (NFV) that would establish a project pipeline and build the capacities of banks and other project developers and policy makers in climate financing. Uganda is also planning to integrate climate change into its Capital Markets Development Master Plan. This support will enable the country to unlock new and innovative sources of climate finance.

- Benin: The advisor facilitated training workshops on climate budgeting.

- Mozambique: The advisors are providing several trainings at both the national and subnational levels on climate change challenges, economic recovery, climate finance mobilization, project development, and the need for regional cooperation to address climate impacts in key sectors such as water and agriculture. Additional trainings are anticipated in 2022.

- Dominican Republic: The advisor is facilitating hands-on piloting sessions for the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development (MEPYD) technical teams and managers to test a methodology to identify and better align public investment projects with the country's climate and disaster risk management objectives. However, building capacities over the long-term faces several additional challenges, such as limited staff and resources for dissemination as well as for the development of the regulatory instruments that would allow for broader adoption of a system to green the country's public investments throughout the entire project life cycle.

Lessons:

- Support is most effective when there is the flexibility to take different approaches within a common framework, including varied tenures and scopes of work. With the Partnership's framework approach and partnership model, it has been able to rapidly adapt broad scopes of work for specific country needs as they arise, and to quickly identify partners available to provide support for country requests.

- Scaling support that enables increased mobilization of private climate finance is needed, including for building capacities and enhancing enabling environments. While many advisors are successfully integrating their recommendations in forthcoming NDC action plans and budget cycles, public finance alone will not be sufficient to fully implement countries' green recovery responses. Therefore, some advisors are starting to work on scaling up private sector climate finance, including by financing sustainable supply chains, strengthening the enabling environment, establishing public-private partnerships, and strengthening associated capacities to sustain these activities over the medium- and long-term. In addition, some advisors are identifying opportunities for greening the financial sector, including by guiding banks towards greener lending and strengthening risk management mechanisms.

Continuing to scale these types of activities with the private sector are becoming increasingly vital to the effective implementation of governments' green recovery responses and achieving their longer-term climate targets.

- Enhancing national monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems and strengthening institutional capacities to manage them is needed to help ensure the implementation effectiveness of ongoing projects, measure progress towards targets, and inform robust long-term planning and investment. Already, advisors in some countries are planning for MRV activities, including strengthening current MRV systems and associated capacity building training sessions, but more work is still needed.

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)

- [Economic Advisory Initiative webpage](#)
- [COP26 Event: Elevating National Climate Action Through Economic Recovery](#)
- [Liberia's advisor](#) integrated climate in its revised NDP and new Economic Recovery Plan (ERP), which recommends 50+ climate actions, including establishing an environmental unit in the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning.
- [Indonesia's](#) advisors helped prepare a [Green Recovery Roadmap \(2021-2024\)](#).
- [Colombia's advisor](#) helped develop a [Sustainable Recovery Strategy](#) and 40+ recommendations on infrastructure, bioeconomy, and nature-based solutions (NBS).
- [Jordan's](#) advisors, with the World Bank, finalized a [US\\$500 million loan for a Program-for-Results project](#).
- For a broader look at how the Partnership supports countries in mobilizing finance, see the finance section of the [Partnership in Action Report 2022](#).