

# **Synthesis of submissions on the 2022 focus area of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building: “Building capacity to facilitate the coherent implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery”**

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Mandate and background**

1. The Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session decided that the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) will annually focus on an area or theme related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity-building, with the purpose of maintaining up-to-date knowledge on the successes and challenges in building capacity effectively in a particular area.<sup>1</sup>
2. At its fifth meeting in June 2021, the PCCB decided 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”.<sup>2</sup> This builds on work undertaken under a previous focus area on capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement.
3. The PCCB 2021–2024 workplan sets out an activity on the collection of information on capacity-building through a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the annual PCCB focus area.<sup>3</sup>
4. The call for submissions was published on 5 January 2022 on the dedicated PCCB web page<sup>4</sup> and closed on 1 March 2022.

### **B. Objective**

5. The objective of this document is to synthesize submissions on the annual focus area of the PCCB for 2022 to provide a knowledge base for further work on capacity-building for coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery.

### **C. Scope of the report**

6. This report synthesizes the information provided by Parties and non-Party stakeholders under the call for submissions referred to in paragraph 4 above. Chapter II.A–H is structured in accordance with the guiding questions contained in the call for submissions.
7. Given the close alignment of the annual focus area of the PCCB in the years 2021 and 2022, the document puts a greater focus on emerging themes that were not already covered in the 2021 submissions, in order to avoid duplication. This document should be read in conjunction with the synthesis of submissions on the annual focus area of the PCCB for 2021<sup>5</sup>.
8. In total, 30 submissions were received and are synthesized in this report:<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 1/CP.21, para. 74.

<sup>2</sup> PCCB/2021/8, para 60.

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBI/2020/13, subactivity C.1.1

<sup>4</sup> Available at: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/submissions-paris-committee-on-capacity-building>.

<sup>5</sup> Available at: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/PCCB\\_2021FocusArea\\_Synthesis%20%281%29.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/PCCB_2021FocusArea_Synthesis%20%281%29.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Submissions are available on the following web page: <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/resources/submissions-to-the-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb#eq-1>.

(a) 9 submitting entities represented governments or public entities; 7 identified as a United Nations or affiliated organization; 6 were non-governmental organizations; 5 were research or university/education/training organizations; 1 identified as an intergovernmental entity; 1 as an international network, coalition or initiative; and 1 as a regional network, coalition or initiative;

(b) In total, 19 submitting entities are based in developing countries, 9 are based in developed countries and one did not specify where they are based;

(c) A total of 9 submitting entities indicated their scale of operating as 'national'. Another 9 chose multiple levels, 7 indicated 'global', 3 chose 'regional', and 2 did not specify the scale of operation;

(d) In total, 9 entities are operating in Africa, 8 globally, 5 in Asia Pacific, 4 in multiple regions, 2 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 2 did not specify.

9. 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.<sup>7</sup>

## II. Synthesis of the submissions

10. This chapter contains nine subchapters. The first eight correspond to the guiding questions in the call for submissions. Chapter II.A presents key interventions on coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery. Chapter II.B discusses enabling conditions, while chapter II.C outlines the main institutional barriers to the coherent implementation of NDCs. Chapters II.D and II.E explore capacity-building gaps and needs, and knowledge and skills priorities, respectively. Chapters II.F to H discuss how capacity-building efforts could be improved at the sub-national, national and regional levels, respectively. Finally, chapter II.I provides a selection of best practices, tools and other relevant resources related to the coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery.

### A. Key interventions

11. With regard to key interventions, some submissions reiterated previously identified capacity-building aspects pertinent to the coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans, including the:

(a) Pivotal role of institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms across ministries and sectors at all levels;

(b) Importance of building capacity to integrate climate policy in national development planning across sectors (whole-of-government approach);

(c) Need to build technical and institutional capacity to access financial resources and to track, monitor, evaluate and report progress on the implementation of national development plans and NDCs in a transparent manner; and

(d) Significance of multi-stakeholder engagement and fostering local ownership of capacity-building efforts (whole-of-society approach).

12. The following paragraphs outline key emerging themes highlighted in relation to capacity-building interventions for coherent implementation of NDCs and national development, as well as those focused on sustainable recovery. Some of these interventions are also addressed and further elaborated in subsequent chapters.

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<sup>7</sup> Available at: <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/resources/submissions-to-the-paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb#eq-1>.

13. Several submissions emphasized the importance of **strengthening capacity-building interventions at the sub-national level** to foster local-level planning and implementation processes for climate actions and boost the resilience of communities in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Suggestions included:

- (a) Setting up institutions tasked with formulating climate sound recovery measures in line with the NDC targets and based on context-driven knowledge and priorities;
- (b) Improved engagement of local actors (public and private sector and civil society organizations) in the prioritization and implementation of NDCs, and formulation of local solutions;
- (c) Acknowledgement and adoption of local knowledge and endogenous practices including those held by indigenous peoples and local communities.

14. Multiple submissions called for building capacities that are conducive to comprehensive review and greening of **national and sub-national planning and budgeting processes**, as both a necessity and an opportunity to ensure that public expenditures – towards recovery or otherwise – are not only done following the 'do no harm' principle with regard to the social, economic, and environmental aspects (i.e. by applying relevant safeguards), but are also aligned with the NDC targets and take into account climate risks. In this context, submissions referred inter alia, to the following as potential objectives for capacity-building interventions:

- (a) Updated protocols for the programming of projects eligible for public investment;
  - (b) Improved institutional interactions between the ministries of environment and economy/finance in order to accelerate the mainstreaming of climate change issues in public investment projects;
  - (c) Training of staff on project tagging and labelling;
  - (d) Incremental improvements in the banking systems to align with the Paris Agreement;
- and
- (e) Enhanced tracking systems for public spending across all governance levels.

15. Much like in the submissions from the previous year, several submissions pointed to the significance of enhanced capacity for improving data-related systems, processes and skills in order to enable evidence-based, equitable, and cross-sectoral planning and implementation of the NDCs. Many submissions pointed out that improved capacities for producing **quality data and enhanced transparency in reporting** would assist cities, states, and countries to better assess the impacts of NDCs and their economic, societal, and environmental co-benefits, and effectively communicate their needs with regard to recovery and climate finance, thereby mobilizing further support. Submissions highlighted that data-related competencies are necessary to ensure recovery measures and sectoral policies are in line with the national and sub-national climate priorities and targets, and the identification and selection of public policy and expenditure is based on climate-science information and lead to just outcomes for sectors and communities that are most affected by climate change and socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.

16. Related to the topic of finance, many submissions pointed to the importance of improved capacities for mobilizing and incentivizing private investments in the implementation of the NDCs and climate-sound recovery measures. One submission highlighted that the improving institutional capacity and technical expertise of national and local governments to **use public finance (both domestic and international) as a strategic leverage for unlocking private finance** could bolster the achievement of climate goals and realizing a sustainable recovery. Another submission touched upon the capacity-building needs in the financial and banking systems pertaining to the integration of climate risks and resilience measures in their portfolios.

17. Several submissions highlighted the need for capacity-building interventions that help governments put in place and enact **legislative measures and economic instruments to prioritize, incentivize, and support climate-sound economic activities and promote whole-of-society engagement in the implementation of NDCs**, e.g. by reducing the cost of clean technology and promoting public and private investments in the energy transition, in line with the NDC targets. Many submissions stated that the insights from other relevant processes such as the preparation of national adaptation plans (NAPs), technology need assessments (TNA), and long-term, low-carbon development strategies could provide a basis for strengthening the implementation of NDCs and

policy coordination across priority sectors. As such, capacity-building interventions that take a holistic approach to the public and climate policy could yield more coherent results and facilitate the implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery.

18. Another topic of focus was the **importance of targeted skill development** – e.g. through on-the-job training, demonstration activities, e-learning courses, and manuals – in order to ensure the domestic workforce (i.e. public administration staff, sectoral experts and technicians, and youth) is equipped with the relevant knowledge and skills needed to carry out the implementation of the NDCs in coherence with national development plans and other international frameworks (e.g. Agenda 2030, Sendai Framework, Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework), and supporting a sustainable recovery. Submissions highlighted the role of academia, technical vocational and education training (TVET) institutions, labour unions, and industry and private sector associations in this regard.

19. Many submissions focused their inputs on capacity-building interventions related to the processes for the **formulation, communication, implementation, and tracking of the NDCs**, highlighting that:

(a) The process of updating NDCs offers a critical opportunity to ensure coherence between climate plans and recovery measures, in particular by strengthening the focus on priority sectors for both climate action and sustainable recovery (e.g. through fiscal and policy instruments) and mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender responsiveness and indigenous peoples' knowledge);

(b) Action plans for the implementation of NDCs may be developed and updated with a view to favouring climate-informed recovery measures with long-term impacts, and to bolstering the development and execution of bankable projects that aim to boost economic growth (including related to the green and blue economy concepts), reduce emissions, and strengthen climate resilience;

(c) Well-functioning, inclusive and transparent institutional processes and functions for the implementation of NDCs are key to strengthening horizontal and vertical integration of the NDCs across sectors and various governance levels. Capacity-building interventions for supporting such processes and functions may aim at enhancing cross-institutional coordination at the national and sub-national levels towards achieving/localising climate targets, improving knowledge and information management, and strengthening the engagement of all sectors of the society (including vulnerable and underrepresented groups) in the implementation of NDCs;

(d) The implementation of the NDCs, and the relevant actions tied to sustainable recovery, should be robustly tracked across all governance levels by setting up necessary measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems;

(e) Awareness-raising and outreach efforts should ensure the NDC targets are communicated clearly and effectively, tailored to the characteristics of different target groups, in order to secure the stakeholder buy-in from the leadership level at the national and sub-national levels (e.g. politicians, mayors, community leaders), industry and sectoral experts, and local communities.

## **B. Enabling conditions**

20. This section synthesizes the inputs related to creating the conditions that enable coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery. In addition to the focus on the importance of **'institutional arrangements', 'coordination mechanisms', 'stakeholder engagement and participation' and 'transparency'** that were identified in the synthesis of previous year's submissions, the following aspects were the key recurring themes across the submissions in 2022.

21. With regard to **political awareness and buy-in** as a key enabling condition for the implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery, several submissions referred to the importance of capacity-building efforts targeted at political leaders. In particular, it was highlighted that national, sub-national and local leaders should be capacitated in order to understand the NDCs (i.e. the purpose, objective, policy alignment) and communicate them to their constituents. In this context, submissions highlighted that, in addition to

the technical capacity of individuals, strengthening the institutional capacities for a well-functioning flow of information and institutional mandates is key to ensure the messaging around NDC implementation is coherent and coordinated both across government ministries and between the national and sub-national governments.

22. Related to the topic of communicating NDCs, many submissions shed light on the importance of **articulating NDC targets at the sectoral level**. It was highlighted that government officials at the national and sub-national level should be able to understand the NDC targets in order to mainstream them in their line of work, and devise instruments (e.g. fiscal incentives and labelling programmes) for sectoral stakeholders (i.e. the industry and private sector) to take an active role in implementation of NDCs. In turn, industry and sectoral experts should be capacitated in order to take up an active role in the achievement of sectoral targets, including through climate-informed investments, development and transfer of low-emission and resilient technologies, formulation of bankable project proposals, and execution of transformative projects and programmes.

23. Several submissions pointed to **climate awareness, literacy, and green skills** as a critical foundation for sensitization of the public and ensuring all-of-society participation in the implementation of NDCs and recovery plans. To achieve higher climate awareness, a range of means could be utilized, e.g. celebrity patronages, social dialogues and multi-stakeholder forums, and participation in international frameworks and summits. To foster green skill development, interventions may include reforms in the public education system, greening of TVET systems, and reskilling and upskilling programmes for in-service workers.

24. Given the impact of the pandemic on economies across the world, many submissions referred to the key role that **macroeconomic policies and business enabling environment** could play in bolstering a climate-informed sustainable recovery. The economic advisory initiative<sup>8</sup>, one of the flagship initiatives built on this premise, aims to strengthen ‘whole-of-economy’ approaches to addressing climate change in developing countries, including by working with central banks, financial regulators, and ministries of trade, in addition to ministries of finance and planning.

25. Several submissions pointed out the importance of building and strengthening technical and institutional capacities of national entities and staff tasked with NDC implementation to **develop long-term roadmaps, and short- to medium-term action plans** as measures that are conducive to enhanced coherence and coordination in climate and development interventions on the ground. Capacity-building support should enable national governments to develop:

- (a) Step-by-step processes and guides for identifying priority sectors and projects (for both climate change and sustainable recovery);
- (b) Sub-national action plans with localised NDC targets;
- (c) Assessment of existing and required resources and needed support; as well as
- (d) Investment plans and sectoral pathways for achieving the NDC targets.

26. The **integration of cross-cutting issues** including gender responsiveness, youth engagement, elements of ACE, and indigenous peoples’ knowledge was brought up in multiple submissions as an enabling condition for coherent implementation of climate and recovery plans. One submission suggested that having a focal point system at the national and sub-national levels for ACE and capacity-building would allow for a smoother integration of cross-cutting issues in the implementation of NDCs.

### C. Institutional barriers

27. The submissions list several obstacles to implementing NDCs, national development plans and recovery measures in a coherent manner, many of which echo the issues identified in the previous year’s synthesis. The following aspects reflect the main barriers that were brought up by several entities in their submissions:

<sup>8</sup> Submitted by NDC Partnership.

- (a) **Insufficient or inefficient institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms** across ministries and various governance levels to ensure horizontal and vertical integration of NDCs and harmonization of targets, in particular at the sub-national level;
- (b) **Political instability and high turn-over** of both leadership and technical staff in charge of planning and implementation of climate and development actions;
- (c) Absence or **inadequacy of legislative frameworks and policy instruments** that incentivize the engagement of the private sector and other non-state actors in the implementation of NDCs and recovery measures, particularly with regard to the development and transfer of climate technologies;
- (d) Lack of **reliable data and/or robust tracking systems** for NDC implementation at national and sub-national levels, caused by gaps in technological, technical, and institutional capacities;
- (e) Inadequate **expertise and administrative capacity** for project development and pipeline management, execution of plans including through procurement processes, and monitoring and assessment of results, at both national and sub-national levels;
- (f) Inadequate **engagement frameworks, multi-stakeholder fora and networks** for convening stakeholders at various levels and mobilizing orchestrated action on the ground; and
- (g) Insufficient **expertise and skills in the body of government for sectoral integration** of the NDCs, particularly with regard to setting up sectoral and sub-national climate targets, assessing the GHG and non-GHG impacts of sectoral policies and projects, and costing of mitigation and adaptation options.

#### D. Capacity gaps and capacity-building needs

28. This section reflects on the capacity-building gaps and needs faced by developing countries for the implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery. There is a close alignment between the identified needs and gaps in the submissions from 2022 with those outlined in the previous year, for example with regard to the need for: stronger institutional arrangements and coordination, improved access to climate data and information, strengthened access to climate finance, and enhanced transparency and reporting.

29. In addition, submissions highlighted the following areas where capacity gaps exist and there is need for strengthening the structures, competencies, and resources of individuals, institutions, organizations, and sectors:

- (a) Technical capacity to **formulate synergistic policies and programmes** that take into account priorities for climate change and sustainable recovery priorities, and the expertise to **assess their social, environmental and economic impacts** (e.g. programmes for economic recovery and job creation in the context of the NDCs);
- (b) Technical capacity to develop **bankable project proposals that are compatible with the technical jargon** in the field of climate change and relevant sectors, and aligned with the programming direction of climate and recovery funds;
- (c) Administrative capacity for the **monitoring and management of knowledge and information** related to existing plans and ongoing project, with a view to avoiding duplication and leveraging existing structures and resources, including for tracking NDCs and financial flows;
- (d) Administrative capacity for **adopting greener operational structures, procurement processes and business models** in the implementation of NDCs and recovery measures, and sustaining the enhanced workflows over time;
- (e) **Availability of and access to policy-relevant data and information** that could inform coherent implementation of NDCs and recovery plans, and the skills and expertise to **analyse the existing data and formulate policies**;
- (f) Institutional and engagement processes to mobilize **the scientific community and academia at the national and sub-national level as providers of technical knowledge** (e.g. in emerging areas such as circular economy, nature-based solutions, and bioengineering), **policy-**

**relevant and locally-specific research** and advisory services, and **data-related skills** (e.g. analysis of hydrometeorological data and climate modelling); and

(g) Experience and methods for **design and execution of awareness-raising efforts in order to ensure a sound understanding of NDC targets by all stakeholders**, including government officials at the national and sub-national level, the industry and private sector, the academic community, local communities.

## E. Knowledge and skills priorities

30. This section reflects the knowledge and skills priorities for coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery, as expressed by the submitting entities. Submissions made references to **both technical and non-technical (soft) skills** as critical to the implementation of the NDCs. While there was no specific question on the level at which such skills and knowledge should be prioritized, some submissions included considerations for knowledge and skills priorities at the sub-national level. These inputs are covered in section F.

31. With regard to technical skills, submissions pointed to, inter alia:

(a) Expertise in **collecting, analysing, and managing climate data and information**, including with regard to climate modelling, scenario planning, GHG calculation, and climate services;

(b) **Sectoral expertise** for assessing sector-specific climate risks, the impacts of sectoral policies and their long-term implications on national climate targets, disaggregating NDC targets across sectors and sub-sectors, formulating low-emission and resilient sectoral pathways towards a sustainable recovery (i.e. in the energy sector), and technical knowledge on specific subject matters e.g. nature-based solutions, clean energy, and circular economy;

(c) Skills in **mobilization and access to climate finance**, including knowledge of the programming frameworks, jargon, and eligibility criteria of climate and recovery funds, conducting cost-benefit, pre-feasibility, and feasibility studies for climate projects, accounting for sustainable development co-benefits in those projects, and planning of contingency scenarios and safeguards for de-risking climate investments;

(d) Skills in conducting **policy-relevant, contextually-appropriate, inter-disciplinary and action-oriented research** in order to ensure the planning and implementation of NDCs and recovery measures is conducted in a coherent manner, is based on evidence, leads to practical solutions, and addresses interlinkages across various climate and development arenas (e.g. the linkage between employment policy and just transition);

(e) Knowledge and experience in **formulating contextually appropriate economic policies and instruments** for incentivizing the implementation of NDCs and recovery plans (e.g. green fiscal stimulus, green bonds, de-risking mechanisms, private sector engagement and climate finance, carbon pricing, and greening capital markets and central banks);

(f) Skills related to tracking the implementation of NDCs (with regard to both action and support) and **measuring, reporting and verification (MRV)** of relevant activities.

32. With regard to **non-technical skills**, the following elements were most frequently cited:

(a) Skills related to **communications** including in relation to the articulation of scientific findings to a non-technical audience, awareness raising, and activism with a view to encouraging behavioural change;

(b) Skills related to **stakeholder engagement**, with a view to fostering inclusiveness, gender-responsiveness, public participation, and equitable outcomes for all stakeholders (in particular vulnerable groups);

(c) Skills related to **leadership and advocacy** (particularly for community leaders and youth) to mobilize and convene stakeholder groups, build networks, and promote locally-led climate and recovery actions;

(d) Skills related to **project design and management**, including the mapping of stakeholders, developing a logical framework, formulating suitable capacity-building activities, project pipeline management, and monitoring and evaluation of results;

(e) Skills in **implementing capacity-building activities**, including in relation to promoting climate literacy and skill training at the national, sub-national and sectoral levels.

33. With regard to knowledge priorities, in addition to the technical knowledge related to the skills mentioned above, multiple submissions emphasized the importance of bolstering and utilizing **local and territorial knowledge and expertise**, recognizing **indigenous knowledge and practices**, and incorporating **endogenous technologies and capacities** in the implementation of NDCs (e.g. in approaches related to water management, and biodiversity and nature conservation).

## F. Improving capacity-building efforts at the sub-national level

34. With regard to **suitable modalities for capacity-building activities** at the sub-national level, submissions referred to the following points:

(a) Short-term activities such as in-person and virtual workshops, alongside medium-term and long-term modalities of capacity-building including communities of practice, peer-learning training of trainers, field visits, and study tours;

(b) Use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for capacity-building including through virtual workshops, e-learning opportunities, and digital forums and strengthen digital connectivity of local communities through accelerate investment in relevant infrastructures and skills;

(c) Coalition building, advocacy and awareness raising to bolster climate activism and promote participatory governance in the implementation of NDCs and recovery plans;

(d) Collaborations with the scientific community and securing long-term finance for establishing research institutes, scholarships or grants to increase local expertise and retain climate-related capacities;

(e) Raising awareness of the content of the NDCs through collaboration with academic and educational institutions, mobilization of climate champions, use of locally popular media outlets, and organization of solution-oriented social dialogues; and

(f) Convening regular multi-stakeholder discussion forums to foster knowledge and experience exchange, facilitate sharing of lessons learned and promote co-creation of locally appropriate solutions.

35. With regard to **thematic areas** where capacity-building support is most needed at the sub-national level, the following were highlighted:

(a) Tools and resources that help sub-national level actors localise and interpret the NDC targets and align sub-national planning and budgeting with national targets;

(b) Expertise and tools to mobilize and access climate finance (both public and private), including those pertaining to the development of bankable project proposals and enhanced readiness for climate investment;

(c) Training on effective means of engaging vulnerable groups, and mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues in the implementation of climate and recovery plans on the ground;

(d) Technical understanding of MRV systems for both action and support at the sub-national and local level, and the capacity for collection and treatment of relevant data (for governmental and non-governmental stakeholders);

(e) Technical and operational capacity to develop green sectoral roadmaps and relevant operational mechanisms, in coherence with long-term climate and development goals.

36. With regard to **considerations for improving capacity-building activities** at the sub-national level, submissions referred to the following points:



(a) Utilizing local expertise and recognizing indigenous knowledge and endogenous capacities e.g. in water management technologies and practices.

(b) Investing in skill development for local youth and promoting locally available green jobs;

(c) Improving the communication skills of sub-national governments, politicians and community leaders to be able to articulate NDC targets for various stakeholder groups i.e. sectoral actors, businesses, and local communities;

(d) Promoting needs-based and bottom-up approaches to the design and implementation of capacity-building activities, including through joint assessment of needs and priorities by providers and recipients of support, and provision of long-term support;

(e) Broadening the recipients of capacity-building support to include academic experts, community leaders, youth leaders, private sector experts, and implementing partners.

37. Submissions frequently referred to universities and educational organizations as key domestic partners in the design, delivery, and retention of capacity-building efforts. When asked about target recipients of capacity-building support at the sub-national level, submissions frequently referred to: mayors and local community leaders, local government staff, local experts active in the private sector particularly those involved in NDC priority sectors, members of non-governmental organisations, farmers and extension officers, young entrepreneurs, women, educational and research institutions, and local financing organisations.

## G. Improving capacity-building efforts at the national level

38. With regard to **suitable modalities for capacity-building activities** at the national level, submissions referred to the following points:

(a) Integrated capacity-building frameworks with a focal point system for mainstreaming NDCs and other sustainable development goals across ministries and different levels of government, and modalities for knowledge and information sharing;

(b) Capacity-building efforts are more effective when provided over medium and long-term, e.g. exchange programs, peer-learning, and well-functioning and active networks of experts;

(c) Collaborations and partnerships with academic and training institutions to mainstream climate education and greener skills at all levels and over time, e.g. through updating school curricula; establishing centres of excellence, and training of trainers;

(d) One-off trainings, short workshops or study tours should be followed by demonstration and mentoring exercises.

39. With regard to **thematic areas** where capacity-building support is most needed at the national level, the following were highlighted:

(a) Training in development and management of GHG inventories, and assessing the GHG impacts of climate and recovery policies and projects;

(b) Knowledge and experience for assessing mitigation and adaptation needs of the country and sectors, and costing of mitigation and adaptation options, and their sustainable development co-benefits;

(c) Enhanced technical knowledge of institutions tasked with the implementation of NDCs in sectors that are priority for both climate change and sustainable recovery such as energy, waste, transport;

(d) Knowledge and capacity to develop proposals for bankable projects in line with the NDC targets and recovery plans;

(e) Capacity-building for public administration staff with regard to knowledge and information management, as well as inter-agency coordination, communications and engagement with stakeholders, setting up feedback mechanisms, sharing of lessons learned (from both successes and failures), and reporting of progress;

(f) Setting up contextually appropriate MRV and knowledge management systems to track NDC implementation;

(g) Developing a national taxonomy for sustainable finance, utilizing tools and methodologies for climate-related budget tagging in the financial flows of national and sub-national governments, and sensitization of financial institutions to incorporate climate risk in their investment portfolios;

40. With regard to **considerations for improving capacity-building activities** at the national level, submissions referred to the following points:

(a) Promoting country-driven and territorial approaches in planning and implementation of NDCs and recovery plan, in particular by strengthening knowledge and skill sharing between scientific community and implementing partners;

(b) Expanding the range of capacity-building recipients and trainees to include trainees from industry, private sector, academia, and NGOs, in addition to government officials;

(c) Devising policies and action plans for reskilling and upskilling of the workforce, compatible with the sectoral targets set out in the NDCs;

(d) Integrating gender-responsive approaches and youth empowerment in the process of updating and implementing NDCs, to ensure inclusiveness and equitable outcomes; and

(e) Utilizing media channels (conventional and social) in order to raise awareness of the NDC targets, priority sectors for both climate change and sustainable recovery, and opportunities and challenges for aligning recovery measures with climate actions.

41. Submissions frequently referred to the private sector, academia, and non-governmental organizations as key domestic partners in the design and delivery of capacity-building efforts, awareness-raising activities, and skill development programmes. When asked about **target recipients** of capacity-building support at the national level, submissions frequently referred to: high-level officials and policy makers, NDC implementation unit and relevant focal points across different ministries (i.e. finance, energy, industry, labour and education) and government levels, industry leaders and technicians in NDC priority sectors, staff in national and local governments/administrations including the national meteorological services, private sector including the large corporates, educational and research institutions, non-governmental and civil society organizations, youth, and local communities.

42. Examples<sup>9</sup> of initiatives aimed at improving capacity-building at the national level included the development of a ‘national gender and climate action plan’, which seeks to mainstream gender in the actions of the NDC commitments, and an ‘academy on climate change for young leaders’ with the aim to provide youth with knowledge on climate change, mitigation and adaptation measures, how to create resilient projects and how to communicate it to the key actors.

## H. Improving capacity-building efforts at the regional level

43. With regard to **suitable modalities** for capacity-building activities at the regional level, submissions referred to the following points:

(a) Regional trainings, workshops, field visits and seminars, combined with mentoring support and peer exchanges;

(b) Regional networks on sustainable recovery and NDC implementation that facilitate countries’ access to funding mechanisms, formulation of multi-country solutions, and development of joint programmes and products (e.g. development of tools for NDC tracking);

(c) Regional platforms for collection, analysis, tracking, and archiving of climate-related data and information that improve access to reliable data across the region and reduce resource burden on individual countries;

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<sup>9</sup> Submitted by Panama

(d) Regional initiatives and frameworks that reflect a shared vision and help harmonize approaches and strengthen alignment on issues pertinent to the climate and development goals in the region, including through establishing common bylaws and ordinances; and

(e) Regional multi-stakeholder forums for knowledge exchange and experience sharing activities, including both failure and success stories.

44. With regard to **thematic areas where capacity-building support is most needed** at the regional level, the following were highlighted:

(a) Development of an NDC implementation toolkit that would serve as a useful theoretical and practical tool for parties and non-party stakeholders on guidance for NDC implementation in a region;

(b) Development of NDC roadmaps, benchmarks and targets, as well as region-wide policy and fiscal instruments that would accelerate the implementation of NDCs and recovery plans (e.g. carbon pricing mechanisms);

(c) Addressing transboundary challenges and climate risks.

45. With regard to **considerations for improving capacity-building activities** at the regional level, submissions referred to the following points:

(a) Broadening the range of participants in regional training to include representatives of all key stakeholders e.g. academia, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

(b) Bolstering regional cooperation to strengthen the adoption of the most effective approaches and actions for countries with similar contexts or facing similar challenges or risks;

(c) Pooling resources (institutional, financial and human) to address common challenges across regions, e.g. through establishing regional and sub-regional councils of local governments, developing regional funding mechanisms, and creating a roster of regional expert to reduce reliance on external expertise; and

(d) Leveraging the convening power of regional entities to foster coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts related to NDCs and recovery plans, and facilitate sharing of relevant information including lessons learned and good practices.

46. Submissions frequently referred to UN agencies, intergovernmental organizational, regional research and training centres and regional banks as key regional actors in the provision of capacity-building support. When asked about **target recipients** of capacity-building support at the regional level, submissions frequently referred to: policy- and decision-makers, NDC coordinators and facilitators, technical and economic advisors, large and multi-national corporates, industry leaders, NGOs, and youth leaders and associations.

47. Examples of initiatives aimed at improving capacity-building at the regional level included: ‘climate change and just transition ambassadors programs’<sup>10</sup> that aim to strengthen advocacy on climate change education, social dialogue and coherent and effective NDC implementation; and a Regional NDC Clinic<sup>11</sup> that is a virtual event series designed as a platform to present common challenges faced by Asian countries when implementing NDC actions at a sectoral level.

<sup>10</sup> Submitted by ILO

<sup>11</sup> Submitted by UNEP-CCC

**I. Selection of case studies, best practices, tools and methodologies, lessons learned, examples of support, and any other relevant sources related to the coherent implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery**

Category	Description	Link
Climate science information and services	Global Framework for Climate Services <sup>12</sup> (GFCS), enables the development and application of climate services to assist decision-making at all levels in support of addressing climate-related risks.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Developing the Climate Science Basis for Climate Action <sup>13</sup> provides technical guidance to countries to ensure that climate actions identified in the NDCs are science-based and the design of climate services can respond to the local context, address potential vulnerabilities, and promote resilience to future climatic conditions.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The Climate Information Platform <sup>14</sup> provides access to projections of over a dozen climate change indices for the globe.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Climpact <sup>15</sup> is an online platform for calculation of over 70 indices associated with climate impacts, from historical daily temperature and precipitation data.	<a href="#">Link</a>
NDC enhancement and implementation	EU4Climate <sup>16</sup> is assisting countries of the Eastern Partnership with setting new targets for reducing emissions, engaging a wide range of stakeholders in discussing these targets, and preparing implementation plans for the new NDCs.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Climate Promise <sup>17</sup> supports countries to enhance their NDC status and implementation readiness and reach their climate goals.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Guidance Document ‘Institutional Capacities for NDC Implementation’ <sup>18</sup> describes six types of institutional capacity that are necessary to implement the kind of broad-based climate change management actions found in NDCs.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The NDC Action Project <sup>19</sup> supports 10 partner countries to translate their NDCs into concrete sector strategies and actions ready for financing and implementation, and to increase the ambition of their NDCs.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	A quick start guide by CDKN: ‘Planning for NDC Implementation’ <sup>20</sup> , with examples from countries.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The policy brief ‘Enhancing NDCs Across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region’ <sup>21</sup> seeks to promote the uptake of key lessons from NDC revision processes for the SADC region, with good practice examples drawn from both within and beyond the region.	<a href="#">Link</a>
COVID-19 Recovery instruments and guides	Partnership Action on Green Economy (PAGE) <sup>22</sup> assists partner countries to navigate the recovery, promoting inclusive green economy plans that will create growth, jobs, and prosperity for all while reducing pressures on the planet.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Recovery and Resilience Facility <sup>23</sup> (RFF) is the key instrument to help the EU emerge stronger and more resilient from the current crisis.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Economic Advisory Initiative <sup>24</sup> was launched by the NDC Partnership to support governments in preparing climate compatible recovery packages by embedding economic advisors into ministries of finance and/or planning.	<a href="#">Link</a>

<sup>12</sup> Submitted by WMO.

<sup>13</sup> Submitted by WMO

<sup>14</sup> Submitted by WMO

<sup>15</sup> Submitted by WMO

<sup>16</sup> Submitted by EU.

<sup>17</sup> Submitted by YOUNGO

<sup>18</sup> Submitted by UNEP

<sup>19</sup> Submitted by UNEP-CCC

<sup>20</sup> Submitted by UNEP-CCC

<sup>21</sup> Submitted by South Africa

<sup>22</sup> Submitted by UNEP

<sup>23</sup> Submitted by EU.

<sup>24</sup> Submitted by NDC Partnership.

Category	Description	Link
	New guidebook by the UN Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN): Ensuring a Climate Resilient Recovery after COVID-19. <sup>25</sup>	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Business brief ‘Changing Finance to Catalyze Transformation’ <sup>26</sup> explores how financial institutions can accelerate the transition to an environmentally sustainable economy.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The Global Call to Action for a Human-centred Recovery from the COVID-19 <sup>27</sup> adopted at the International Labour Conference (ILC) is a campaign that aims to make ‘creating a recovery that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient’ a top priority for public policy.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Indonesia’s Green Recovery Roadmap (2021-2024) <sup>28</sup> provides an analysis of the possibility of implementing green recovery measures and transitioning towards green economy.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Colombia’s Sustainable Recovery Strategy <sup>29</sup> provides 40+ recommendations on infrastructure, bioeconomy, and nature-based solutions (NbS).	<a href="#">Link</a>
Non-state, regional and sub-national climate actions	The African Local Government Academy (ALGA) <sup>30</sup> provides a series of capacity-building opportunities for local governments in Africa, including on topics related to climate change.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRCAP) <sup>31</sup> assists countries to advance their SDGs by providing capacity building, knowledge and information sharing, policy advice, and research including in the field of climate change.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Accessing climate finance	E-learning course on the development of concept notes for the GCF Simplified Approval Process (SAP) which helps learners to take the first step towards the funding proposal stage.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub <sup>32</sup> (CCFAH) helps small and vulnerable member states to unlock the available climate finance.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Platform <sup>33</sup> provides a range of information and resources that can assist countries in the formulation and implementation of GEF-funded projects in the area of transparency.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Adaptation planning	The S8DS <sup>34</sup> is a simple and effective climate change downscaling for National Adaptation Planning and beyond.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Cross-cutting issues	GenderCC – Women for Climate Justice <sup>35</sup> is a global network of organisations, experts and activists working for gender equality, women's rights and climate justice.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative <sup>36</sup> seeks to develop gender-responsive policy recommendations with the aim of empowering citizens with their participation in urban planning processes and implementation.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Vertical integration of climate plans and actions	Vertically-integrated climate action tool (VIA Tool) <sup>37</sup> is an Excel-based critical thinking resource that city or national governments can use to evaluate the vertical integration barriers and enablers that impact their choice of, and ability to, implement climate actions.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Guide for the inclusion of Ecuador's NDCs at the subnational level in territorial planning. <sup>38</sup>	<a href="#">Link</a>
Climate-informed national planning and budgeting	Panama’s ‘Implementation Manual Climate Change Labels for Public Investment Projects’. <sup>39</sup>	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The Green Fiscal Policy Network <sup>40</sup> works to facilitate knowledge sharing and dialogue on fiscal policies for an inclusive green economy.	<a href="#">Link</a>

<sup>25</sup> Submitted by EU

<sup>26</sup> Submitted by UNEP

<sup>27</sup> Submitted by ILO

<sup>28</sup> Submitted by NDC Partnership

<sup>29</sup> Submitted by NDC Partnership

<sup>30</sup> Submitted by UCLG Africa

<sup>31</sup> Submitted by RRC.AP

<sup>32</sup> Submitted by the Commonwealth Secretariat

<sup>33</sup> Submitted by Zimbabwe

<sup>34</sup> Submitted by RRC.AP

<sup>35</sup> Submitted by South Africa

<sup>36</sup> Submitted by South Africa

<sup>37</sup> Submitted by C40

<sup>38</sup> Submitted by FARO

<sup>39</sup> Submitted by Panama

<sup>40</sup> Submitted by UNEP

Category	Description	Link
Sectoral policies and resources	The South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy (SARI/E) <sup>41</sup> offers insights into gaps in policies and regulations for the promotion of renewable energy in the implementation of NDCs in the region.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	Regional Study on Green Jobs Policy Readiness in ASEAN <sup>42</sup> aims to assess policy readiness for promoting green jobs and a just transition to a more environmentally sustainable and resilient future.	<a href="#">Link</a>
	A global analysis on the nexus between NDCs and technology needs assessments. <sup>43</sup>	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The Skills Development for the Renewable Energy Sector (SkiDRES) <sup>44</sup> project in Zambia was a pilot project aimed at developing and building partnerships with the private sector, assessing market needs, developing and testing demand-driven training, and preparing for a three-year Public Private Development Partnership, with sub-regional coverage in Africa.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Knowledge portals and other resources	SLYCAN Trust Adaptation & Resilience Knowledge Hub <sup>45</sup>	<a href="#">Link</a>
	The One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership	<a href="#">Link</a>
	NDC Partnership Knowledge portal <sup>46</sup>	<a href="#">Link</a>

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<sup>41</sup> Submitted by IRADe

<sup>42</sup> Submitted by ILO

<sup>43</sup> Submitted by UNEP-CCC

<sup>44</sup> Submitted by ILO

<sup>45</sup> Submitted by SLYCAN Trust

<sup>46</sup> Submitted by YOUNGO