

Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)
Call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders:
2023 PCCB focus area

‘Capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans’

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](#).

Topic 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.

The PCCB focus area for 2023 is:

‘Capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans (NAPs)’

The focus area was agreed after the PCCB participated in a coherence and collaboration dialogue with constituted bodies held by the Adaptation Committee (AC) on 14 June 2022, aiming at jointly catalyzing enhanced support in that regard.

Through its 2023 focus area the PCCB aims to contribute to a better understanding of existing and emerging capacity gaps and needs as well as challenges, case studies, good practices, tools and lessons learned with regard to capacity-building support for adaptation, especially as it relates to addressing gaps and needs of developing countries in formulating and implementing their NAPs. In implementing its 2023 focus area and as part of its mandate to enhance the coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts under the Convention and Paris Agreement, the PCCB will liaise closely with the AC and aims to directly engage the AC, LEG and other relevant bodies and entities in its work, with a view to effectively building on their previous, relevant efforts as well as informing and contributing to their ongoing and future work in this 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 2023, including a focus area day at the 5th Capacity-building Hub at COP 28, and envisaged regional activities and webinars. The inputs will also inform the design and preparations of the 12th Durban Forum on capacity-building to be held during the Bonn Climate Change

Conference in June 2023. The PCCB supports the SBI in aligning the theme of the Durban Forum on capacity-building with the annual focus area of the PCCB at the request of the COP.

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 capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans (NAPs)*

Further information:

You are welcome to provide any other information and suggestions that your organization/entity would like to highlight in response to this call for submissions.

Address for submission: pccb@unfccc.int

Deadline for submissions: 28 February 2023

PART I:

Please only fill out sections relevant to the work of your organization. Please note that no section is mandatory.

Organization or entity name:

Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) designed by the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

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: New York

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):

The LoCAL Facility works in different regions and supports local adaptation planning and implementation, aligned with the NDCs and NAP process. As of 2022, LoCAL has engaged more than 328 local governments, representing over 15 million people in 17 countries: Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, The Gambia, Ghana, Lao PDR, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Uganda, Tanzania and Tuvalu. Another 17 countries have expressed interest in joining LoCAL: Côte d’Ivoire, Fiji, Guinea, Jamaica, Liberia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Madagascar, Tunisia, Vanuatu and Zambia (these are in the scoping/design phase) and are expected to begin Phase I in 2023/2024 as resources are mobilized. Combined, a total of 34 countries are engaged with LoCAL, of which 27 are LDCs, 8 are SIDS and 24 in Africa, and with a potential scale up reach to half a billion people.

PART II:

Please only fill out sections that are relevant to the work of your organization/entity:

In your experience, <u>what are the key capacity gaps and needs</u> of developing countries related to formulating and implementing NAPs?	
<i>Key area (please choose all appropriate):</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessing financial support <input type="checkbox"/> Access to and use of technology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Institutional arrangements and coordination <input type="checkbox"/> Climate scenarios, science, and translation to local context <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management	<input type="checkbox"/> Implementation strategies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring, evaluation and learning <input type="checkbox"/> Linkage with the development agenda <input type="checkbox"/> Active learning from practice <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____
<p><i>Gap/need identified:</i> Accessing financial support at the local level is even more challenging for adaptation. In fact, only a small portion of climate finance, particularly for adaptation, targets initiatives at subnational level, overlooking the potential role of local stakeholders, in particular local government authorities and communities as climate champions. In addition, evidence shows that most local governments in developing countries, in particular in the LDCs, cannot contribute effectively to climate change adaptation and resilience building due to lack of technical and financial capacities. Another challenge LoCAL has identified and also identified by IPCCWGII- AR6 is the lack of frameworks (awareness) on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation action and results. Furthermore, adaptation needs and gaps are higher in low-income households (communities).</p>	
In your experience, what have been the key challenges with regard to the <u>provision of capacity-building support</u> in this area to date?	
<p><i>Challenge:</i> Most of the current climate change and risks reduction activity support targets large-scale interventions and projects at the central and sector levels, and often through use of a project-based, time-bound approaches. <i>Limited capacity development programmes are designed for accessing adaptation finance, risk assessment and monitoring and evaluation. Or the programmes are small-scale and time-bound, making them less impactful. These challenges are more significant at sub-national and local levels.</i></p>	

How could this challenge be addressed? LoCAL Facility aims to address these challenges by supporting long-term strategies, including the LDC 2050 Vision for all LDCs to deliver climate-resilient development pathways by 2030 and net zero emission by 2050, and aligning with LoCAL adaptation support with NDCs & NAPs to achieve the Paris Agreement goal. To achieve these, LoCAL implements different instruments: sensitization and capacity building to attain effective local climate governance, supporting the design and development of country-based methodologies for the collection and analysis of climate data at the local level for assessing risks and identifying adaptation/resilience intervention, integration of adaptation into local planning and budgeting process, supporting countries direct access, either via accreditation or via support to proposal development, support the implementation of adaptation plans through performance-based climate resilience grants (PBCRG) and monitoring & evaluation of adaptation results, through a structured framework, i.e. the Assessing Adaptation to Climate Change Framework (ACCAF).

How can existing capacity-building efforts be improved and what kind of new or additional capacity-building efforts are needed to ensure the effective formulation and implementation of NAPs?

At the subnational level: Scaled-down adaptation assessment of risks vulnerability, identification of adaptation intervention (climate risk informed local adaptation plans), improved access to finance and human & institutional capacity development

At the national level: Support for mainstreaming and vertically integrating adaptation planning and budgeting, aligned with the NDCs and NAP process

At the regional level: Enhance experience sharing platforms and support for regional climate modeling

Who should be the target recipients of such capacity-building, and who could provide it?

Recipients: National and local governments in the LDCs, SIDs and African States. But it is also important that other developing countries will also require adaptation support for enhancing resilience and implementation.

Providers: Different stakeholder, intergovernmental institutions, UN organization and financial mechanisms. LoCAL Facility also welcomes the opportunity to share its experiences of working with more than 34 countries on adaptation planning and implementation.

Case studies, good practices, tools, lessons learned, or examples of support:

Please describe any that build capacity to formulate and implement NAPs

Vertical integration of the NAP process

LoCAL places local and community adaptation needs at the centre of climate change action and creates intentional linkages and frameworks for planning, financing, implementing and monitoring of nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans at subnational and community levels (i.e. vertical integration). LoCAL increases awareness and capacities to respond to climate change at the local level, integrates climate change adaptation into local governments' planning and budgeting systems in a participatory and gender-sensitive manner, and increases the amount of finance available to local governments for climate change adaptation.

The [LoCAL experience guidelines](#) were endorsed by the LDC Expert Group to the UNFCCC as supplementary material to the NAP technical guidelines of the UNFCCC aimed to provide methodological guidance to countries, in particular the LDCs, and other developing countries in promoting the vertical integration of the NAP process.

LoCAL countries have also worked together to develop a standard for a mechanism for financing local adaptation to climate change using the performance-based climate resilience grants (ISO 14093:2022), launched at COP27 in Egypt, in 2022.

Methodology for Assessing Climate Risks & Vulnerabilities – for adaptation planning

LoCAL provides capacity building and technical assistance to local governments to help them better assess climate risks and vulnerabilities and integrate climate change adaptation into their planning and budgeting processes – thus improving preparedness for, awareness of and resilience to climate change. More specifically, it supports countries in developing climate risk and vulnerability assessments that include the local dimension, downscaling climate models, identifying and mapping climate risks, exposure, and vulnerabilities at the subnational and local/community levels, and prioritizing climate change adaptation activities and investments. Climate risk assessments seek to understand the nature and level of climate risks on an exposed territory by determining the probability of occurrence of climate-related events (e.g. droughts, floods, windstorms) and slow-onset events (e.g. increased temperature, changing weather patterns) and their impacts at the subnational and local levels. Furthermore, the global and regional climate change models provide climate projections under various scenarios and local levels. To the extent possible, local climate risk assessments should draw on the downscaling of national scenarios using available methods, rely on quantitative data, and are spatialized (risk mapping).

Climate risk and vulnerability assessments are complementary processes, each of which enhances the government’s understanding of the risks it faces due to climate change as well as its capacity to address them. Vulnerability assessment offers a way to circumvent the absence of detailed climate change projections at the local scale. Vulnerability is applied as an additional layer or filter on top of the results of a risk assessment of local governments to compare areas of risk and vulnerability in order to prioritize their response. For example, there may be areas where a local government faces medium risk but has a high vulnerability, in which case action may be more urgent. Alternatively, it could be useful for a local government to conduct a vulnerability assessment and then use a risk assessment framework to analyse the areas of key vulnerability.

LoCAL climate risk assessments- examples

- In Niger, with financial support from the NDC Partnership, LoCAL finalized a climate risk assessment focusing on climate change impacts on food security, as Niger, with its dependence on agriculture for sustaining local livelihoods, is extremely sensitive to climate change effects on food system productivity. The climate risk assessment used an experimental Food Insecurity Climate Change Risk Index, which brings together available subnational data sets of key socioeconomic and environmental parameters contributing to and/or deterring food security (exposure and vulnerability) and future downscaled projections of climate change (hazards). Building on the assessment’s findings, LoCAL is supporting Niger in undertaking an integrated cost-benefit analysis of prioritized adaptation options; this should ultimately support national and subnational stakeholders in closing the loop for risk-informed and effective decision-making in adaptation planning.

Building on a methodology developed by LoCAL with the Korean Environment Institute which produced the first report of this kind in Ghana in 2020, Mali, São Tomé and Príncipe and Uganda are finalizing or have finalized climate risk assessments consisting of (i) a climate downscaling of past and future climate projections at a lower resolution than data available from most climate models; and (ii) a risk and vulnerability analysis exploring climate stressors and the vulnerability causality chain, trends and main drivers.

To further equip local governments in accounting for climate change risks and to plan adequate responses while making climate data more accessible, other LoCAL countries are also setting up and rolling out a Local Information System for Adaptation (LISA). This is the case of Ghana, The Gambia and most recently Benin.

In Bangladesh, a Climate Vulnerability Index is being launched that will map exposure (whether a district is prone to extreme weather events), sensitivity (the likelihood of an impact on the district by the extreme weather event), and adaptive capacity (level of response or coping mechanism of the district) down to the local level. Using this index, local administrations will be able to formulate appropriate responses to projected climate-induced disasters; at the national level, higher-vulnerability areas can be prioritized for early action or medium-/long-term adaptation interventions. A risk atlas has already been developed for 7 districts, 18 upazilas and 72 unions to help union parishads and communities understand the nature of climate change impacts and future forecasts..

The LoCAL-supported combination of tailored technical assistance to produce and make quality science-based climate data and information readily available is bridging the data gap issue at the local level. Capacity-building support and learning-by-doing in managing these tools and using them for local adaptation planning are further bridging the capacity gap. As of 2023, 309 local governments engaged with LoCAL regularly collect, update and analyse climate change information.

Methodology for adaptation implementation

LoCAL applies principles of fiscal decentralization and effective local planning and public financial management to climate change. It combines performance-based climate resilience grants (PBCRGs) innovative finance modality, which ensures programming and verification of climate change expenditures at the local level, with technical and capacity-building support.

PBCRG provide a financial top-up to cover the additional costs of making investments climate resilient and are channelled through existing government fiscal transfer systems (rather than parallel or ad hoc structures). International climate finance is channelled through national treasuries to the local level, with special accounts ensuring traceability and additionality.

The PBCRGs methodology has been deployed in 17 countries and another 17 countries are currently preparing to activate the mechanism (including 27 LDCs), in accordance with their needs to incentivize local government to implement adaptation measures, in line with the NDCs and NAP Process, while enabling verification of climate change expenditures at the local level.

Future case studies can be accessed from the 2021 LoCAL Annual Report
<https://www.uncdf.org/article/7713/local-annual-report-2021>

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)

- The [LoCAL experience guidelines](#) were endorsed by the LDC Expert Group to the UNFCCC as supplementary material to the NAP technical guidelines of the UNFCCC;
- As a result of the engagement with the Adaptation Committee of the UNFCCC, LoCAL was recognised as tool and method for subnational adaptation and included as such on the UNFCCC [adaptation knowledge portal](#);
- LoCAL was referenced by several UNFCCC bodies in official reports to the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) and COP (on adaptation, finance and NAP) while the LDC negotiating group at the UNFCCC recognized it as one of the LDC long term initiatives that supports transition towards a climate resilient future.
 - The UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance [2021 Biannual Report \(paragraph 304\)](#) refers to LoCAL as an "initiative supporting domestic national budget systems to target adaptation actions at the local level, while reinforcing transparency and reporting through those systems".
 - The 53th SBI session further approved the [report of the stocktaking meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group](#) which includes the work with LoCAL as "financing mechanism for subnational and local climate action based on performance-based climate-resilient grant systems and for integrating adaptation into subnational development plans" among experience, good practices and lessons learned in relation to support provided by organizations to the least developed countries.
 - The UNFCCC Secretariat included in its Note on "[Progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans](#)" activities to integrate climate change adaptation into local government planning and budgeting systems under the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility.
 - LoCAL was the most frequently cited prospective non-market approaches (NMA) for facilitation in all three initial focus areas in the [UNFCCC Secretariat's synthesis report](#) to the fifty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice. The Report collated submissions made by party members and observers on NMAs as referred to in Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement.
 - [The Fifth Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows](#), issued in 2022, by the UNFCCC Secretariat, refers to LoCAL as "an example of an initiative supporting domestic national budget systems to target adaptation actions at the local level, while reinforcing transparency and reporting through those systems".
- LoCAL countries have worked together to develop a standard for a mechanism for financing local adaptation to climate change using the performance-based climate resilience grants (ISO 14093:2022), launched at COP27 in Egypt, in 2022.
- The Doha Programme of Action recognizes the importance of resilience building in developing countries and identifies LoCAL as a vehicle for supporting implementation of countries' adaptation to climate change

Additional publications:

Financing locally led adaptation

<https://www.uncdf.org/article/7714/local-brochure-2022---financing-locally-led-adaptation>

Global standard for financing local adaptation action

<https://www.uncdf.org/article/8026/local-iso-14093-a-global-standard-for-financing-local-adaptation-to-climate-change>

LoCAL's Framework for Climate Change Adaptation Monitoring and Evaluation

<https://www.uncdf.org/article/7738/accaf-a-uncdf-local-framework-for-climate-change-adaptation-monitoring-and-evaluation>