

**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](mailto: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:

United Nations University – Institute of Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) -  
Transformative Urban Coalitions

#### 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 checked="" 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: Bonn

Country:Germany

#### 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):

Click or tap here to enter text.

PART II:

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

In your experience, what are the key capacity gaps and needs of developing countries related to formulating and implementing NAPs?

Key area (please choose all appropriate):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessing financial support   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation strategies           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to and use of technology   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring, evaluation and learning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Institutional arrangements and coordination                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Linkage with the development agenda            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate scenarios, science, and translation to local context | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active learning from practice       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____                   |

*Gap/need identified:* While cities account for 75% of carbon emissions worldwide, it is also clear that human health, livelihoods and key infrastructure in urban settings are increasingly [affected by climate impacts, even more amongst the economically and socially marginalized urban residents](#). In return, cities can be powerful actors in driving climate action. This makes urban leadership critical not only for achieving zero carbon, more resilient and sustainable cities, but also to accomplish transformations that are inclusive and driven by the needs and views of diverse groups of stakeholders. Hence, the inclusion of diverse actors is key to achieve lasting change, moving beyond the already existing networks bringing together mayors and formal urban actors. When formulating and implementing National Adaptation Plans, there is a need facilitate not only more successful collaboration between local (urban) and national governments, civil society organizations and international agencies, but also to include the unique expertise of the diverse range of urban actors (community leaders, neighborhood organizations, youth, etc.), practitioners and researchers. Thereby local capacities can be captured, developed, and sustained beyond existing formal governance schemes. This is particularly important in countries and cities with weaker governance setups.

In your experience, what have been the key challenges with regard to the provision of capacity-building support in this area to date?

*Challenge:* When [addressing urban and human settlement issues in National Adaptation Plans](#), capacity-building initiatives are mainly focused on strengthening the capacities of local and national governments. Thereby, support was mostly limited and tailored to formal actors and the climate sector. However, to ensure coherent and sustainable strategies that are rooted in real needs and priorities, other urban actors such as community leaders, neighborhood organizations, youth, practitioners and researchers, are and will be more involved in the national adaptation planning process. This opens a space for innovative capacity-building programmes that are inclusive and allow the exchange of knowledge and perspectives between diverse stakeholders and actors. However, this requires the identification of relevant actors beyond those responsible for NAPs on national scale, and the development of specific capacity-building initiatives tailored to these new audiences.

*How could this challenge be addressed?* One way of addressing the existing challenges is using new ways of co-developing meaningful solutions. Here urban labs as a space where new actor coalitions exchange

ideas, knowledge and perspectives can be a powerful tool to drive inclusive innovation. While urban or living labs so far have mostly been implemented in Europe or North America, there is growing evidence that they can be an accelerator of change towards more inclusive and sustainable cities in Global South countries as well.

**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:* At the subnational level, increased knowledge on national and international processes and increased awareness on suitable measures to counteract climate change could support the implementation of NAPs. In return, better knowledge on how to inform drafting and reporting on NAPs would have a huge potential to draft more meaningful NAPs that speak to the sub-national capacities and capabilities. This is particularly true for cities and their huge climate change adaptation and mitigation potentials.

*At the national level:* National actors already comprise of knowledge on drafting and implementing NAPs. Nevertheless, they could benefit from more knowledge particularly on the capacities of cities and urban actors as multipliers of climate action and drivers of urban transformation.

*At the regional level:* While national actors responsible for NAPs would be familiar with international processes, regional capacity building and platforms to exchange knowledge might contribute to improving NAPs. This is particularly true for exchanges on regional specificities, for example with respect to ecosystems, but also urban planning and governance.

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

*Recipients:* Recipients of such capacity-building can and should be on 1) national scale: sectoral decision-makers, including those responsible for urban and regional planning affairs, 2) urban decision-makers, particularly those dealing with climate adaptation and mitigation, to become familiar with NAPs and how cities can become a game-changer in climate action, and 3) urban actor groups to become aware on the importance of local climate action and how local coalitions working on urban climate action can be linked to NAPs.

*Providers:* Providers can be 1) members of the Transformative Urban Coalitions consortium (including UNU-EHS, WRI, IIED and IDOS), but also 2) members of the TUC Urban Labs that can contribute with meaningful insights into building local coalitions towards just and zero-carbon cities, or 3) other urban climate experts from UNU-EHS network.

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

*Please describe any that build capacity to formulate and implement NAPs*

n.a.

**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)*

With respect to scaling national climate action to cities and vice versa, the TUC city profiles can serve as reference. TUC City Profiles is a series of short reports developed as part of the Transformative Urban Coalitions (TUC) project under the International Climate Initiative, led by UNU-EHS. The series shares insights into the existing challenges and opportunities to address cross-cutting urban sustainability transformation and development issues through inclusive climate action in Latin American cities. link: <https://ehs.unu.edu/news/announcement/new-transformative-urban-coalitions-city-profiles.html>