

Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)

Call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders:

Experience, good practices and lessons learned related to enhancing the ownership of developing countries of building and maintaining capacity

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

As part of its continuing efforts to respond to these priorities, the PCCB determined in its 2021-2024 workplan, to make a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on:

Experience, good practices and lessons learned related to enhancing the ownership of developing countries of building and maintaining capacity.

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*

How will the inputs be used?

The inputs will feed into upcoming deliverables under Activity B.3 of the 2021-2024 PCCB workplan, including a technical paper in 2022, a technical session at the 5th Capacity-building Hub in 2023, and recommendations to the COP and CMA.

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: 30 November 2021

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:

SouthSouthNorth

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) <small>Click or tap here to enter text.</small> |

Organization Location

City: Cape Town

Country:South Africa

Scale of operation:

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

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

Many across Latin America, Africa and South Asia.

Experience, good practices and lessons learned related to enhancing the ownership of developing countries of building and maintaining capacity.

Enhancing country ownership of capacity-building, is a topic that the PCCB has explored from the start as part of its mandate. Article 11.2 of the Paris Agreement notes that capacity-building “should be country-driven, based on and responsive to national needs, and foster country ownership of Parties, in particular, for developing country Parties, including at the national, subnational and local levels.” Parties and other stakeholders in the UNFCCC process have variously noted that a lack of country ownership and local leadership is a key cause behind existing capacity gaps and constraints in developing countries.

Under its new workplan for 2021–2024, the PCCB will collate, review and share information on experience, good practices and lessons learned related to enhancing the ownership of developing countries of building and maintaining capacity, and providing recommendations in this regard.

What are good examples of lessons learned and best practices in enhancing country ownership of capacity-building efforts?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognising existing in-country expertise, experience and ability: Local economic modelling experts used in development of medium-term mitigation scenarios in Latin America (Peru, Colombia, Brazil and Chile) in the Mitigation Action Plans & Scenarios (MAPS) Programme.• Engaging in medium to long-term mutual capability strengthening efforts that include thorough scoping, iterative processes and on the job mentoring: Substantial initial scoping done in Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) phase II has resulted in a clear understanding of where capability strengthening interventions will be useful and where not. Relationships were strengthened and capability strengthening interventions built on previous interventions resulting in enhanced country ownership e.g. mainstreaming gender and climate change in Ethiopia.• Building strong relationships based on trust and mutual respect: in the Future Climate for Africa (FCFA) Programme harmonious and well-managed partnerships as opposed to individual excellence were found to have enhanced leadership within the programme.
In your experience, how can country ownership of capacity-building efforts best be ensured and enhanced?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An acknowledgement of power imbalances existing within capacity-building projects and interventions.• An emphasis on respectful relationships based on trust.• Recognition of existing capacity; expertise and experience.
What are key challenges (incl. e.g. knowledge and institutional barriers and capacity gaps) with regard to effectively enhancing country ownership of capacity-building efforts?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uni-directional flow of knowledge from the global North to the global South.• Assumption of the validity and applicability of Northern Knowledge to all contexts and situations (the universality of Northern Knowledge) and the disregard for different knowledges e.g. indigenous, experiential, local.• The way in which donor funds are programmed in capacity building projects can create unintended systemic barriers to in-country leadership and capacity development.• Tacit power imbalances and hierarchies that can be a barrier to leadership opportunities for local partners.
Useful sources:

*Please give examples of useful sources relevant to this topic
(e.g. webpages and portals, publications, fora, organizations working on this issue)*

- https://southsouthnorth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/SSN-learning-on-strengthening-capability_FINAL.pdf (SSN learning on capability strengthening)
- <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2020.1870915> (Sokona, Y, 2021. Building capacity for 'energy in development' in Africa: four decades and counting)
- <https://futureclimateafrica.org/resource/19380/> (Araujo, J et al. 2020. A critical reflection on learning from the FCFA Programme)
- <https://open.uct.ac.za/handle/11427/30508> (Du Toit, M, 2019. Assisting Africa: a critical analysis of technical assistance in low carbon development practice)

Open comment:

Click or tap here to enter text.