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# Capacity-building work of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol

Compilation and synthesis report by the secretariat\*

### *Summary*

This report was prepared to inform discussions at the 13<sup>th</sup> Durban Forum on capacity-building and the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building. It compiles and synthesizes information on capacity-building from reports of UNFCCC constituted bodies, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund Board published in 2023.

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\* The present report was submitted to the conference services for processing after the deadline in order to include all relevant inputs.



## Abbreviations and acronyms

AC	Adaptation Committee
AF	Adaptation Fund
Article 6.4 mechanism	mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement
BTR	biennial transparency report
BUR	biennial update report
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency
CBIT–GSP	joint programme of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency and the Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports by developing country Parties
CDM	clean development mechanism
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
CPDAE	community of practice for direct access entities of the Green Climate Fund
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network
DNA	designated national authority
DNA Forum	Designated National Authorities Forum
ETF	enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement
FWG	Facilitative Working Group
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
ICG	informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement
KCI	Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures
LCIPP	Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform
LDC	least developed country
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NAP	national adaptation plan
NC	national communication
NDC	nationally determined contribution
NDE	national designated entity
NGO	non-governmental organization
NIE	national implementing entity
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
RCC	regional collaboration centre
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
SIDS	small island developing State(s)
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
TNA	technology needs assessment
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WIM	Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The COP requested the secretariat to compile and synthesize the information on capacity-building contained in the reports prepared by the relevant bodies established under the Convention since the most recent meeting of the Durban Forum and to make the resulting report available to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its sessions coinciding with the meetings of the Durban Forum in order to facilitate the discussions at the latter.<sup>1</sup>
2. COP 21 decided to include the compilation and synthesis report on the capacity-building work of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol in the inputs to the PCCB.<sup>2</sup>
3. CMA 2 requested the secretariat to include in the compilation and synthesis report information on work pertaining to capacity-building undertaken by bodies serving the Paris Agreement.<sup>3</sup>

### B. Scope

4. This report synthesizes information relevant to capacity-building from the:
  - (a) Report of the AC;<sup>4</sup>
  - (b) Report of the CGE;<sup>5</sup>
  - (c) Report of the WIM Executive Committee;<sup>6</sup>
  - (d) Report of the KCI;<sup>7</sup>
  - (e) Reports on the 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> meetings of the LEG;<sup>8</sup>
  - (f) Annual technical progress report of the PCCB;<sup>9</sup>
  - (g) Joint annual report of the TEC and the CTCN;<sup>10</sup>
  - (h) Report of the SCF;<sup>11</sup>
  - (i) Report of the Supervisory Body for the Article 6.4 mechanism;<sup>12</sup>
  - (j) Annual report of the CDM Executive Board;<sup>13</sup>
  - (k) Report of the GCF to the COP;<sup>14</sup>
  - (l) Report of the GEF to the COP;<sup>15</sup>
  - (m) Report of the AF Board.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Decisions 2/CP.17, para. 146, and 1/CP.18, para. 78.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 1/CP.21, para. 79.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 3/CMA.2, para. 6.

<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SB/2023/5.

<sup>5</sup> FCCC/SBI/2023/20.

<sup>6</sup> FCCC/SB/2023/4 and Add.1–2.

<sup>7</sup> FCCC/SB/2023/6.

<sup>8</sup> FCCC/SBI/2023/7 and FCCC/SBI/2023/17.

<sup>9</sup> FCCC/SBI/2023/14.

<sup>10</sup> FCCC/SB/2023/3.

<sup>11</sup> FCCC/CP/2023/2–FCCC/PA/CMA/2023/8 and Add.1–6.

<sup>12</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2023/15.

<sup>13</sup> FCCC/KP/CMP/2023/5.

<sup>14</sup> FCCC/CP/2023/8 and Add.1.

<sup>15</sup> FCCC/CP/2023/6.

<sup>16</sup> FCCC/KP/CMP/2023/2–FCCC/PA/CMA/2023/6.

5. The report includes information on capacity-building elements contained in the second workplan of the LCIPP, for 2022–2024, operationalized by the FWG. Relevant information is available on the LCIPP web portal.<sup>17</sup>

6. Information available to the secretariat on capacity-building-related activities undertaken by the bodies in 2023 after the publication of the reports referred to in paragraph 4 above was also taken into account in preparing this report to ensure that it was up to date.

7. A compilation of information on specific capacity-building-related activities undertaken by bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol is provided in the addendum to this document.<sup>18</sup>

## II. Key findings and emerging trends

8. As in previous years, bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol undertook various capacity-building activities in 2023 and continued to collaborate in areas of work in which they were able to identify potential for synergy.

9. For this report, the scope has been expanded to include capacity-building activities reported by the Supervisory Body for the Article 6.4 mechanism. This is significant because project activities and programmes of activities registered under the CDM or listed as provisional as per the temporary measures adopted by the CDM Executive Board may transition to the Article 6.4 mechanism.

10. The total number of capacity-building-related activities reported by UNFCCC constituted bodies increased from 174 in 2022 to 230 in 2023 (see the table below for the number of activities in both years by body). The category with the most activities reported in 2023 is events, technical meetings and forums (61), followed by tools and handbooks (50), training and workshops (45), technical assistance and support (41) and webinars, tools and courses (33).

### Number of reported capacity-building-related activities undertaken by UNFCCC constituted bodies in 2022–2023

<i>Constituted body</i>	2022	2023
AC	14	5
CDM Executive Board	16	4
CGE	13	17
CTCN	21	19
FWG of the LCIPP	7	12
KCI	10	11
LEG	43	51
PCCB	18	29
SCF	5	5
Supervisory Body for the Article 6.4 mechanism	0	48
TEC	14	16
WIM Executive Committee	13	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>230</b>

11. Significantly more activities were reported under training and workshops in 2023 than in 2022, with an increase of approximately 164 per cent. Similarly, activities reported under tools and handbooks also increased significantly, by 56 per cent. Activities reported in 2023 under webinars, tools and courses increased by 18 per cent compared with in 2022, and those reported under events, technical meetings and forums increased by 15 per cent when compared with the previous year. A slight decrease of 6.3 per cent from 2022 was noted in activities reported under technical assistance and support in 2023.

<sup>17</sup> <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/>.

<sup>18</sup> FCCC/SBI/2024/3/Add.1.

12. The significant increase in activities reported under training and workshops in 2023 alludes to a return to in-person hands-on capacity-building work for the first time since the start of the restrictions related to the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic (an annual decrease of approximately 40 per cent was noted for this category in 2020–2022). Nonetheless, virtual participation has continued to be enabled or enhanced across all activities, allowing a broad audience to learn about and access the capacity-building work of the bodies. The category events, technical meetings and forums includes many activities organized on a regular basis by the constituted bodies, such as the Capacity-building Hub, NAP Expo and SCF Forum.

13. In 2023, web-based activities included webinars and dialogues; e-learning courses such as those offered by the CGE and the PCCB; news bulletins produced by the AC, the Supervisory Body for the Article 6.4 mechanism, and the PCCB; and maintenance and development of portals such as NAP Central, developed under the guidance of the LEG, and the Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer, maintained by the WIM Executive Committee.

14. Technical assistance and support was provided in 2023 by, for example, the LEG for formulating and implementing NAPs; the GCF, through its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, for enhancing countries' institutional capacities and planning frameworks; the GEF for developing feasibility studies and enhancing project bankability; and the AF Board for facilitating countries' access to climate finance and adaptation programming through support for long-term institutional and technical capacity-building.

15. Most bodies developed tools and handbooks in 2023, on an array of climate-related topics; for example, gender-responsive adaptation action and monitoring and evaluation of adaptation at the national and subnational level (AC); country-driven best practices for implementing just transition and economic diversification strategies (KCI); capacity-building resources (PCCB); and stimulation of the uptake of technologies in support of NDC implementation (TEC).

16. The bodies addressed topics in their capacity-building-related activities that are aligned with the priority areas for capacity-building outlined in the framework for capacity-building in developing countries established under decision 2/CP.7,<sup>19</sup> as well as more recently emerging topics such as climate finance access and readiness, country ownership of responses and actions related to climate change, just transition, operationalization of the ETF and NDC implementation. Several bodies, namely the AC, the CTCN, the FWG of the LCIPP, the PCCB and the TEC, addressed one or more cross-cutting issues in their capacity-building-related activities in 2023, such as gender-responsiveness (e.g. CTCN Gender-Just Climate Solutions upscaling programme), human rights (e.g. PCCB online introductory course on climate change and human rights), Indigenous Peoples' knowledge (e.g. LCIPP regional gathering for the Arctic) and youth (e.g. LCIPP annual youth round table).

17. The capacity-building-related activities of the bodies targeted a wide range of stakeholders, including government actors, academia, the private sector, civil society, Indigenous knowledge holders and youth. The ICG continues to provide a space for representatives of constituted bodies, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to share information and enhance coherence and coordination in relation to their climate change related capacity-building plans and activities.

### **III. Capacity-building elements in the work in 2023 of bodies established under the Convention**

#### **A. Adaptation Committee**

18. The AC continued to provide technical support and guidance to Parties concerning adaptation action and means of implementation (finance, technology and capacity-building).

<sup>19</sup> Decision 2/CP.7, annex, para. 15.

19. The AC published the fifteenth issue of the Adaptation Finance Bulletin, which provides news and updates to Parties and other stakeholders on recent developments in international adaptation finance, and shared it with approximately 5,000 recipients.

20. The AC hosted an event at the Adaptation Futures 2023 conference centred on shaping the future of adaptation-related monitoring, evaluation and learning, where it informed stakeholders of new developments and tools and shared with them insights on designing and implementing coherent and effective monitoring, evaluation and learning systems.

21. The AC published a technical paper on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation at the national and subnational level; a reference paper on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support (in collaboration with the LEG); and a policy brief on progress, good practices and lessons learned in prioritizing gender-responsiveness and incorporating it into adaptation action.

## **B. Consultative Group of Experts**

22. The CGE continued to enhance the capacity of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention to prepare NCs and BURs and implement the ETF, and to enhance the capacity of experts nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts to conduct the technical analysis of BURs. During 2023, 348 experts had registered for the e-learning course covering vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation assessment and national greenhouse gas inventory preparation for national experts involved in preparing NCs. Meanwhile, 440 experts qualified to take part in the technical analysis of BURs in the sixteenth round of the relevant training programme.

23. The CGE organized three regional training workshops on reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including on support needed and received for adaptation. The workshops were attended by a total of 157 participants from 78 countries.

24. The CGE conducted three regional webinars to introduce its updated training materials for reporting on mitigation actions under the ETF, which were attended by a total of 155 experts. It also organized two side events: one held at SB 58 on promoting data collection for reporting under the ETF, attended by approximately 70 participants; and one held at COP 28 on CGE achievements and upcoming activities, as well as national insights into the preparation of BTRs, attended by approximately 40 experts.

25. The CGE updated several of its publications, including its technical paper on problems, constraints, lessons learned and capacity-building needs in preparing NCs and BURs, of which it also produced a distilled version. Updates were also made to the technical handbook for developing country Parties on preparing for implementation of the ETF and to the adaptation and mitigation training materials for reporting under the ETF. Two case studies (from Cuba and Zambia) were added to the CGE toolbox on institutional arrangements. Furthermore, the CGE produced a stocktake report on developing country Parties' transparency-related gaps and needs.

## **C. Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism**

26. The WIM Executive Committee undertook capacity-building activities aimed at advancing understanding, coordination and action relating to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. One significant initiative was the high-level event and photo exhibition at COP 28, celebrating 10 years of the WIM and highlighting advances in institutionalizing efforts to address loss and damage. The exhibition featured visual storytelling of managing climate change impacts that result in loss or damage using various approaches, scalable solutions and good practices. Additionally, the second Glasgow dialogue facilitated discussion on funding arrangements for activities concerning loss and damage and provided insights into good practices, challenges and lessons learned relating to existing finance arrangements.

27. The Executive Committee published the WIM Explainer to provide stakeholders with an overview of the functions of the WIM and issued its first newsletter to inform stakeholders

of recent developments under the WIM and available technical and knowledge products. It also maintained the Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer, which serves as a repository for information on insurance and risk transfer.

28. The technical expert group on comprehensive risk management implemented its plan of action through various activities, including developing technical guidance on applying climate information to comprehensive risk management. The group also conducted an online course on synergizing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, for which over 8,500 people registered; produced two reports, on addressing loss and damage and what can be learned from NAPs, and on the role of early warning action in minimizing loss and damage; and held a technical expert forum on tracking hazardous events and disaster loss and damage.

29. Similarly, the task force on displacement implemented its plan of action through activities such as a technical conference, a workshop, and two events held during the NAP Expo and UN4NAPs Forum. These events aimed to foster knowledge-sharing on approaches to integrating human mobility considerations into NAPs with a focus on averting, minimizing and addressing displacement associated with climate change impacts. Additionally, the task force organized a capacity-building event for youth on displacement and migration due to climate change, which also provided clarity on opportunities for youth to engage in the UNFCCC process and activities under the WIM.

#### **D. Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform**

30. The FWG continued to facilitate further operationalization of the LCIPP and implementation of the Platform's three functions, which include building the capacity of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to engage in the UNFCCC process and the capacity of Parties and other stakeholders to engage under the Platform and with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including in the context of implementing the Paris Agreement and other climate change related processes.<sup>20</sup>

31. The FWG hosted three modular training workshops to advance the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the UNFCCC process and strengthen their capacity to actively engage in climate policymaking at the national and international level. The workshop modules, which were organized in advance of the meetings of the FWG, were accompanied by an informal briefing on the forthcoming meeting agenda and opportunities for engagement for LCIPP contributors. In addition, the FWG conducted a training workshop for Parties and constituted bodies on transforming climate action by engaging Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

32. The FWG held LCIPP regional gatherings for the Pacific and the Arctic in order to identify and address the impacts of climate change and bring together strategies and techniques to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resilience in a manner that respects and promotes human rights, which, inter alia, built the capacity of Indigenous Peoples and local community representatives to engage in the UNFCCC process. Furthermore, the FWG held its 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> meetings. The agendas for FWG meetings include an item on collaboration with relevant bodies and processes under and outside the Convention to enhance the overall coherence of action under the LCIPP.<sup>21</sup>

33. The FWG held several events at COP 28 as part of the LCIPP second three-year workplan: the LCIPP annual youth round table, for sharing intergenerational knowledge and engaging Indigenous youth and youth from local communities in designing and implementing climate policies and action at all levels; the third LCIPP annual gathering of knowledge holders, for exploring water, energy and food interconnectedness and promoting climate action anchored in Indigenous values and knowledge systems; the LCIPP multi-stakeholder dialogue, held in collaboration with the TEC, for sharing Indigenous technologies and traditional practices and discussing how they can be ethically and equitably

<sup>20</sup> Decision 2/CP.23, para. 6.

<sup>21</sup> In accordance with decision 2/CP.24, para. 20.

applied in climate policymaking and action; and the annual LCIPP Indigenous curricula and educational materials round table, for demonstrating the impact of integrating Indigenous values and knowledge into education systems on climate action.

## **E. Katowice Committee on Impacts**

34. The KCI continued to address the effects of implementing response measures under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement by enhancing cooperation among Parties and non-Party stakeholders; enhancing Parties' understanding of the impacts of mitigation actions; and enabling the exchange of information, experience and best practices among Parties to increase their resilience to those impacts.

35. The KCI published a compilation of country-driven best practices for implementing just transition and economic diversification strategies, setting out challenges and opportunities relevant to low-emission development strategies and policies; and a technical paper on the impacts of emerging industries and businesses resulting from the implementation of response measures.

36. The KCI organized several events for the 2023 climate weeks: two for MENA Climate Week, one on harmonizing the achievement of climate action and socioeconomic prosperity, and the other on diversifying the economy while achieving climate objectives; two for Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week, one on understanding how the private sector is accelerating climate action and the other on understanding the socioeconomic impacts of just transition and taking them into account in policy planning; and two for Asia-Pacific Climate Week, one sharing the experience of Asian private sector leaders in climate action and resilience-building and the other focusing on delivering the Paris Agreement by integrating just transition policies into NDCs and long-term low-emission development strategies.

37. In conjunction with SB 58 the KCI held a side event on just transition in the energy sector. At COP 28, the KCI held a side event at the just transition pavilion on just transition and sustainable development, focusing on understanding the role of macroeconomics in policy planning; and an event at the 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub on the necessary path to low-emission cities, focusing on sharing best practices and socioeconomic opportunities and challenges.

## **F. Least Developed Countries Expert Group**

38. The LEG continued to facilitate the provision of support to the LDCs for formulating and implementing NAPs.

39. The NAP Expo, organized by the LEG, was attended by almost 400 participants – 230 from Parties and 150 from United Nations entities, international organizations, the private sector, youth networks, academia, and national and subnational authorities. The Expo helped to produce ideas for scaling up adaptation planning and implementation; promote the establishment of communities of practice on specific adaptation themes; enhance regional cooperation on, inter alia, responding to transboundary climate risks; and produce joint publications and products, such as supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

40. The Regional NAP Expo for Asia and the Pacific, part of Korea Global Adaptation Week 2023, was held to showcase transformative adaptation action in the region; address the matters of early warning systems, food security and multi-stakeholder engagement in relation to NAPs; consider regional approaches to implementing NAPs; explore access to adaptation finance through national and regional entities; and scale up support for transformational adaptation action at the local level in the region.

41. To support NAP country teams, the LEG hosted NAP writing workshops for the African and Asian LDCs. As at 14 September 2023, 40 of the 46 LDCs had developed a total of 92 project ideas, of which 3 had been submitted as proposals for funding to the GCF and 4 had been developed into GCF concept notes. One project idea had been successfully converted into a project proposal with a corresponding request for funding approved by the



GEF for funding under the LDCF.<sup>22</sup> Further, the LEG hosted an event at Africa Climate Week on regional approaches to preparing and implementing NAPs.

42. The LEG produced a publication on the mapping of sources of finance for climate change adaptation for the LDCs, a publication on progress in the formulation and implementation of NAPs, a technical paper on climate change adaptation project profiles from the LDCs and a synthesis report on efforts of the LDCs in implementing adaptation projects.

## **G. Paris Committee on Capacity-building**

43. The PCCB undertook capacity-building-related activities as set out under its three priority areas, namely enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building; identifying capacity gaps and needs and recommending ways to address them; and promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement. These activities were also aligned with its annual focus area, namely capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing NAPs. The PCCB published a synthesis of 31 submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on its focus area, outlining capacity gaps and needs across 13 areas, including access to financial support, and monitoring, evaluation and learning.

44. Under its priority area of enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building, the PCCB held two meetings of the ICG. The PCCB also regularly updated and made publicly available its forward-looking overview of capacity-building work under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Further, it published six e-booklets prepared by the ICG on various thematic areas showcasing 172 capacity-building resources of bodies, entities and processes represented in the group.

45. The PCCB released Arabic, French and Spanish translations of its toolkit for assessing capacity gaps and needs to implement the Paris Agreement to improve the toolkit's accessibility. The PCCB continued for a third and final year its online course, developed together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on integrating human rights related concerns into climate action. As at 31 December 2023, 25,620 participants from 187 countries had registered for the course and 7,620 certificates had been awarded.

46. The PCCB published a synthesis of five submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on experience, best practices and lessons learned related to improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts, and organized a session focused on key aspects of coherence and coordination at the 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub. At the Hub, the PCCB also hosted a session that built on the findings of its technical paper on enhancing developing country ownership of building and maintaining capacity for climate action with a focus on South–South cooperation as a capacity-building modality for fostering country ownership. Furthermore, the PCCB published Arabic, French and Spanish translations of the technical paper to improve its accessibility.

47. The PCCB hosted a series of regional thematic dialogues at the regional climate weeks to enhance the visibility and significance of capacity-building for NAPs. A total of 74 individuals expanded their knowledge on best practices to enhance the capacities of countries to formulate NAP implementation strategies, which led to a global discussion on the region-specific findings at the 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub.

48. At COP 28 the PCCB hosted its 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub, which was attended by approximately 6,000 on-site participants and online viewers and comprised 57 events organized by 131 partners. The Capacity-building Hubs are mandated events held annually at the sessions of the COP with a view to facilitating exchange of experience, knowledge, success stories and lessons learned on how best to support capacity-building in developing countries; presenting tools and methodologies for capacity-building; and enhancing collaboration and partnerships among capacity-building stakeholders.

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<sup>22</sup> See document FCCC/SBI/2023/17, paras. 23–25.

49. The PCCB organized a follow-up webinar to the 12<sup>th</sup> Durban Forum, which emphasized the synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and the importance of community engagement and capacity-building. On-the-ground best practices and lessons learned were shared.

50. The PCCB, in collaboration with the LEG and the World Resources Institute, hosted an event at NAP Expo 2023 on creating a national adaptation programme and building long-term capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement. At the event, three PCCB resources that support country-owned, sustainable capacity-building efforts towards implementing the Paris Agreement were presented.

51. The PCCB continued to coordinate work under the PCCB Network, which as at 31 December 2023 had 395 voluntary members from 99 countries engaged in climate-related capacity-building. The PCCB took steps to enable its members to collaborate on activities; develop new partnerships; share experience, good practices and tools; and increase their climate-related knowledge and capacity.

52. Other capacity-building activities of the PCCB included regularly adding resources to the capacity-building portal.

## **H. Technology Executive Committee and Climate Technology Centre and Network**

### **1. Joint activities**

53. The TEC and the CTCN continued to collaborate to support implementation of the technology framework. Leveraging their joint expertise, they organized a series of events and developed several publications to support climate action worldwide. At COP 28 they co-hosted, under the Technology Mechanism, a high-level event on artificial intelligence for climate action, an event on fostering innovation through collaborative climate technology research, development and demonstration, and an event on enhancing the digital readiness of developing countries for climate action. The three events attracted in total over 600 in-person attendees and 130 online viewers. The two bodies also convened events at Africa Climate Week and Asia-Pacific Climate Week to disseminate valuable insights on artificial intelligence for climate action.

### **2. Technology Executive Committee**

54. The TEC remained committed to capacity-building, delivering a range of knowledge products and events. Its activities served to disseminate valuable insights to Parties, policymakers and other technology stakeholders, enriching their knowledge base and expanding the reach of its work.

55. The TEC produced a number of publications and case studies addressing topics such as establishing national systems of innovation (on which it prepared a summary for policymakers showcasing good practices and lessons learned) and stimulating the uptake of technologies in support of NDC implementation.

56. In collaboration with children and youth NGOs, the TEC organized a session at the Global Sustainable Technology and Innovation Community conference 2023 engaging around 100 participants on youth-led innovative approaches to climate technologies and adaptation.

57. The TEC initiated implementation of its rolling workplan for 2023–2027 as part of its first year implementing the joint work programme of the Technology Mechanism for 2023–2027. The rolling workplan is structured around four workstreams, defined to assist the TEC in delivering on its mandate by promoting science-based and systemic approaches to innovation and technology development and transfer, bolstering transformative technology solutions with a focus on high-impact sectors and high-potential actions, and leveraging collaborative partnerships. The TEC actively engaged with stakeholders while implementing the workplan and, to support its implementation, established 16 open-ended activity groups, co-led by TEC members and supported by the secretariat, for activities with outputs

envisaged to be delivered in 2023–2024. More than 40 representatives of the following constituencies have joined and contributed to the work of the groups: business and industry NGOs, children and youth NGOs, farmers and agricultural NGOs, Indigenous Peoples organizations, research and independent NGOs, and the women and gender constituency.

### 3. Climate Technology Centre and Network

58. The CTCN undertook a wide array of capacity-building activities at both the global and regional level aimed at fostering knowledge exchange and promoting the adoption of climate technologies.

59. The CTCN continued its efforts to disseminate knowledge and promote regional collaboration through workshops and webinars. The CTCN organized three NDE forums in the Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa regions, engaging with a total of 87 NDEs. The CTCN also organized capacity-building workshops for NDEs in the three regions to enhance their knowledge of green hydrogen technology and its enabling environment. These workshops were delivered in collaboration with key regional partners, such as the West African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Green Energy Institute, engaging with a total of 42 NDEs. Additionally, the CTCN organized several webinars to foster collaborative research, development and demonstration on climate technologies that focus on the water–energy–food nexus and energy systems transformation in Africa, nature-based solutions for buildings and resilient infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean, business and industry in MENA, and sustainable mobility in Asia and the Pacific.

60. The CTCN produced a knowledge brief on green hydrogen projects,<sup>23</sup> a knowledge product on harnessing technology in the circular economy for climate action in Africa,<sup>24</sup> and, in collaboration with UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, the *Climate Technology Progress Report 2023*.<sup>25</sup>

61. The CTCN engaged with the GCF in the GCF Regional Programming Dialogue with Asia and the Pacific and with the AF in the annual climate finance readiness seminar for accredited NIEs of the AF. The CTCN conducted an online training for 334 junior climate experts from developing countries to enhance their knowledge on climate technology and the UNFCCC process.

## I. Standing Committee on Finance

62. The SCF continued to address key issues in climate finance through a series of capacity-building-related activities with the overarching aim of promoting coherence in the mobilization and delivery of climate finance. The SCF Forum on financing just transitions brought stakeholders together to discuss topics related to climate finance, with a particular focus on financing transition pathways aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum, held in Bangkok, attracted over 130 in-person and 60 virtual attendees representing diverse stakeholders, including governments, United Nations agencies, international organizations, multilateral climate funds and civil society organizations. Discussions highlighted the critical importance of capacity-building for empowering stakeholders, including vulnerable groups such as women, youth and the workforce, to facilitate their just transitions.

<sup>23</sup> UNEP, CTCN and Green Energy Institute. 2023. *Green Hydrogen Technologies for Systems Transformation: Building a compilation of national strategies, plans and projects*. UNEP, CTCN and Green Energy Institute. Available at [https://www.ctc-n.org/sites/default/files/resources/H2\\_System\\_transformation.pdf](https://www.ctc-n.org/sites/default/files/resources/H2_System_transformation.pdf).

<sup>24</sup> Kivati G, Mwangi C, Mwangi G, et al. 2023. *Harnessing Technology in the Circular Economy for Climate Action in Africa*. Nairobi: UNEP and CTCN. Available at [https://www.ctc-n.org/sites/default/files/CTCN\\_Circular\\_Economy\\_Africa\\_Fin.pdf](https://www.ctc-n.org/sites/default/files/CTCN_Circular_Economy_Africa_Fin.pdf).

<sup>25</sup> Bertoldi P, de Coninck H, Dhar S, et al. 2023. *The Climate Technology Progress Report 2023*. Copenhagen: UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, CTCN and TEC. Available at <https://unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/the-climate-technology-progress-report-2023-web.pdf>.

63. The SCF undertook several initiatives to improve understanding of reporting mechanisms for and definitions of climate finance. It published a report on the doubling of adaptation finance,<sup>26</sup> which analysed information reported by developed and developing countries on adaptation finance provided and received. The findings from the report underscored the importance of capacity-building in enhancing countries' ability to identify needs, effectively use adaptation finance and track its impacts. The SCF also published a report on clustering types of climate finance definition in use, which provides guidance for countries on developing and applying climate finance definitions and highlights the role of capacity-building in strengthening national reporting mechanisms.

64. Moreover, the SCF prepared a synthesis of views of Parties and non-Party stakeholders on ways to achieve Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement, emphasizing the importance of capacity-building and readiness support for public and private actors. The report outlines activities and actors relevant to the implementation of Article 2, paragraph 1(c), and emphasizes the need for capacity-building initiatives to support understanding and implementation of the Paris Agreement. The SCF held a webinar on its work relating to Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement to disseminate findings from the report and it was attended by Parties and non-Party stakeholders, including experts from ministries of finance and international financial institutions. The webinar highlighted the crucial role of capacity-building in advancing climate finance objectives.

## **J. Supervisory Body for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement**

65. A new international carbon crediting mechanism was established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement – the Article 6.4 mechanism. The Supervisory Body for the Article 6.4 mechanism was established in decision 3/CMA.3 and tasked with supervising the requirements and processes needed to operationalize the mechanism, including developing and approving methodologies, registering activities, accrediting third-party verification bodies and managing the mechanism registry. The extensive outreach efforts of the Supervisory Body underscored its commitment to fostering capacity-building and knowledge-sharing among stakeholders, thereby facilitating effective implementation of Article 6 and advancing global climate action.

66. The Supervisory Body held its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in July 2022. In 2023 the Body undertook an extensive array of capacity-building activities aimed at enhancing understanding and facilitating implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. These activities were organized under two main categories: providing support to forums and stakeholders, and providing support to regions. The capacity-building activities of the Supervisory Body attracted over 2,000 participants, averaging 35 per activity. The outcomes of these activities were disseminated via RCC web pages and newsletters, ensuring broad sharing of knowledge and best practices.

67. Under the first category, a series of dialogue and training sessions was conducted for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and MENA and South Asia, providing opportunities for 73 representatives of DNAs for the Article 6.4 mechanism and carbon market experts to deepen their understanding of carbon pricing mechanisms, international compliance and various aspects of Article 6. Additionally, a webinar series on Article 6 was conducted, attracting stakeholders from around the world and providing them with valuable insights into the intricacies of the Article 6.4 mechanism.

68. In support of regional initiatives, the Supervisory Body organized 42 activities, including workshops, seminars and training sessions, across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, MENA, and Latin America and the Caribbean. These activities were aimed at providing tailored support to regional stakeholders, including government officials, youth groups and private sector representatives, on topics such as carbon pricing, climate finance and the transition from the CDM to the Article 6.4 mechanism.

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<sup>26</sup> As per decision 1/CMA.3, para. 18.

69. The secretariat established and maintains, as part of the RCCs, a network of six regional carbon pricing and Article 6 experts that provide awareness-raising, capacity-building and support, as needed, to countries for their engagement in the Article 6.4 mechanism.

70. Project activities and programmes of activities registered under the CDM or listed as provisional as per the temporary measures adopted by the CDM Executive Board may transition to the Article 6.4 mechanism provided that they meet certain criteria. RCCs have supported Parties and activity proponents in meeting these criteria for transition, in particular by supporting the establishment of DNAs for the Article 6.4 mechanism and notifying the Supervisory Body of their intention to transition from the CDM.

#### **IV. Capacity-building elements in the work in 2023 of bodies established under the Kyoto Protocol: Executive Board of the clean development mechanism**

71. The CDM Executive Board continued to provide capacity-building support to forums and stakeholders, particularly through regional DNA Forums, aimed at facilitating information exchange among DNA representatives and allowing them to share experience related to the CDM and address common issues and concerns and bring them to the attention of the CDM Executive Board. Regional DNA Forums were held in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and MENA and South Asia, in collaboration with the Supervisory Body. A total of 73 DNA representatives participated, gaining clarity on topics such as temporary measures under the CDM, transition of CDM activities to the Article 6.4 mechanism and readiness to implement Article 6, as well as discussing capacity-building needs specific to their regions. Overall, the activities of the CDM Executive Board demonstrated its commitment to fostering capacity-building efforts and facilitating dialogue among stakeholders to support climate action through the CDM.

#### **V. Capacity-building support reported by the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund Board**

##### **A. Green Climate Fund**

72. As reported in the twelfth report of the GCF to the COP,<sup>27</sup> the GCF continued to provide capacity-building support through the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (Readiness Programme), the Project Preparation Facility and approved projects and programmes.

73. An integral component of projects and programmes receiving GCF funding is the support of capacity-building activities. Following the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GCF Board, GCF funding for climate action increased to USD 13.5 billion for 243 climate change projects and programmes that will be implemented in 129 developing countries. As at 31 October 2023, 203 projects and programmes, totalling USD 10.5 billion of GCF-approved funding, supported by the GCF secretariat and accredited entities, were under implementation.

74. At its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board adopted the Readiness Strategy 2024–2027,<sup>28</sup> a revised strategy for the Readiness Programme. The Programme aims to enhance the enabling environment needed by recipient countries, including increased institutional capacity and robust country climate change strategies, to implement transformational projects and programmes in line with national climate change priorities (including those set out in NDCs, NAPs and TNAs) and GCF result areas. The Programme also helps to build institutional capacity in key sectors such as energy, agriculture and forestry and promotes collaboration and knowledge-sharing between countries and stakeholders.

<sup>27</sup> FCCC/CP/2023/8 and Add.1.

<sup>28</sup> Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/readiness-strategy-2024-2027>.

75. As at 31 October 2023, the GCF had approved 719 readiness requests covering 142 countries, including requests for support for the formulation of NAPs and other adaptation planning processes, under the Readiness Programme. As at that date, USD 538.7 million had been committed in the form of grants, technical assistance and readiness events for those 719 readiness requests, 536 of which were under implementation and 134 of which had been completed. As at 31 October 2023, the GCF had approved 105 adaptation planning proposals, while another 34 were at various stages of the review process.

76. The GCF continued to provide tailored support through its Readiness Programme for the development of national and subnational gender strategies relevant to climate change. The GCF mobilized readiness grants to support gender mainstreaming in developing countries, including for conducting gender assessments as part of country programmes; developing guidelines, policies, procedures, data and reporting systems on the basis of gaps and needs analyses through enhanced stakeholder engagement; and providing training and capacity-building.

77. The integrated results management framework of the GCF sets out the approach to assessing how the Fund's investments deliver climate results. It is mandatory for the framework to be applied to all GCF projects and programmes approved at or after the thirty-second meeting of the Board. In line with the roll-out of the framework, an updated template for funding proposals with a subsection on capacity-building and technology development and transfer was introduced seeking to enable the structured collection of data on capacity-building activities undertaken as part of GCF projects and programmes. A series of capacity-building initiatives for accredited entities on results management, measurement and reporting systems for framework implementation has been completed – these initiatives included webinars, online video training modules and tailored support. In addition, 10 sectoral guides covering the eight GCF result areas were prepared;<sup>29</sup> these serve as capacity-building materials for accredited entities and other stakeholders, helping them to prepare high-quality funding proposals for transformational climate action.

78. The GCF Private Sector Facility provides resources and support for building critical capacity to address project-level barriers and limitations in attracting private investment. Furthermore, the Facility provides capacity-building and technical support for developing feasibility studies on investment opportunities; bankable projects; and metrics, tools and indicators for assessing the impacts of mitigation and resilience-building projects. It also provides capacity-building to empower enhancement and stewardship for local communities and capacity-building of women and girls, to enable greater roles for them in environmental stewardship and capacity-building to demonstrate to the market new financial solutions in the mitigation sector and partnerships with local private sector corporations, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, to build the capacity of local markets in relation to mitigation.

79. Finally, the GCF continued to engage with constituted bodies and under UNFCCC processes, including by attending meetings and consultations for, and providing inputs to, calls for submission and technical papers.

## **B. Global Environment Facility**

80. In its reporting period (July 2022 to June 2023), the GEF continued to provide financing for country-driven climate change mitigation and adaptation, technology transfer, and transparency and reporting projects through the GEF Trust Fund, the LDCF and the SCCF. Capacity-building elements are integrated into project and programme design. The projects financed by those Funds cut across 11 of the defined priority areas for capacity-building, with most mitigation projects addressing support for NCs; education, training and public awareness; and enhancement of enabling environments and institutional capacity-building.

81. In 2022, the Funds provided technical assistance for 33 stand-alone and multifocal area projects with various capacity-building priorities, including 3 under the CBIT, 11 on

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<sup>29</sup> In response to GCF Board decision B.17/08.

mitigation and 19 on adaptation. GEF funding for supporting these capacity-building activities totalled approximately USD 78.3 million, including USD 31.1 million for activities under 23 projects providing support to 15 SIDS and LDCs. In 2022, the GEF also provided more than USD 9.8 million towards education, training and public awareness through its regular climate change mitigation and adaptation programming.

82. The GEF continued to manage CBIT projects focused on institutional capacity-building for implementing transparency reporting arrangements; preparing greenhouse gas inventories; managing emission databases; and developing systems for collecting, managing and using activity data and emission factors. Adaptation-related projects focused on capacity-building for implementing adaptation measures; conducting education, training and public awareness-raising; and enhancing enabling environments.

83. As at 30 June 2023, the CBIT project portfolio comprised 89 projects: 83 individual country projects, 1 regional project and 5 global projects (of which 59.5 per cent are under implementation and 23.6 per cent have been approved or endorsed) supporting 87 countries. In the reporting period, the GEF secretariat approved eight country projects with USD 10.7 million of GEF project financing, project preparation grants and agency fees.

84. The GEF funded the continuation of the CBIT–GSP, which focuses on the global provision of streamlined capacity-building and coordination support to help developing countries to meet the requirements under the ETF, while continuing to provide support for the preparation of NCs.

85. Since its inception, the GEF has supported various types of climate change related enabling activity, including the preparation of NCs, BURs, TNAs and national adaptation programmes of action. They fulfil essential communication requirements under the UNFCCC and provide information that enables policymaking and decision-making. In the reporting period, the GEF significantly scaled up its support – in terms of both financial resources and awareness-raising and capacity-building activities – for the preparation of BTRs.

86. In the reporting period, several capacity-building activities were conducted under the TNA global project phase IV, including two regional workshops, two technical support missions in the African region and 12 bilateral meetings on the margins of COP 27 with TNA coordinators. In addition, a guidebook on TNAs was published. The GEF secretariat held a series of webinars together with CBIT–GSP and the UNFCCC secretariat on GEF support for BTR financing and access modalities, and a side event at COP 27 and consultations during SB 58 on GEF support of the ETF.

87. The GEF secretariat convenes the GEF Gender Partnership, of which the UNFCCC secretariat is a member. The Partnership leverages the rich expertise of all members in the different thematic areas of the GEF to raise awareness and enhance understanding of gender mainstreaming and to undertake joint capacity-building activities in support of implementing the gender-specific mandates of the five Conventions that the GEF serves.

88. The LDCF has extended support to the LDCs for formulating and implementing NAPs<sup>30</sup> and national adaptation programmes of action, strengthening the capacity of meteorological and hydrological services regarding weather and climate information. In the reporting period, the LDCF/SCCF Council approved LDCF resources to support seven LDCF projects amounting to USD 71.68 million. These projects address adaptation-related areas such as climate-smart agriculture, coastal zone management, ecosystem restoration, climate resilience in key crop value chains, and food security through crop diversification and protection. The seven projects are expected to provide capacity-building for 704,699 people and training for about 354,524 people (of which 49.8 and 50 per cent respectively are women).

89. This reporting period corresponds to the first year of implementation of the GEF programming strategy on adaptation to climate change for the LDCF and SCCF for the eighth replenishment period of the GEF.<sup>31</sup> This programming strategy recognizes the unique, pronounced capacity constraints faced by the LDCs and SIDS and, in this context, launches

<sup>30</sup> In line with the key elements of decision 12/CP.18.

<sup>31</sup> See GEF document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.32/04/Rev.01.

Dedicated Programs, an initiative to provide targeted capacity-building support for country planning and programming with a focus on enabling access to finance.

### **C. Adaptation Fund Board**

90. In its reporting period (July 2022 to June 2023), the AF continued to provide support for long-term institutional and technical capacity-building under its Readiness Programme for Climate Finance (Readiness Programme), under which it continued to deliver readiness and capacity-building support to accredited NIEs and developing countries, using both virtual and in-person methods, for accessing climate finance and programming adaptation finance. Such support took the form of seminars, workshops, webinars, country exchanges and learning events. Funding windows under the AF include regular project funding, enhanced direct access, innovation, learning and scaling up of projects.

91. The AF also continued to enhance the effectiveness of readiness and capacity-building support by actively engaging with other organizations that provide capacity-building support for adaptation, which included jointly organizing events, contributing to the development of guidance and knowledge materials produced by external stakeholders, and participating in activities and events sponsored by other organizations in order to deliver capacity-building support to developing countries.

92. Under its second Medium-Term Strategy (2023–2027), the AF seeks to implement an enhanced Readiness Programme, which includes enhancing engagement with countries through training workshops at the subregional level and further strengthening the delivery of capacity-building support tailored to region-specific issues. In this context, events during the reporting period were hosted in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

93. The AF held its annual NIE seminar as an in-person event in Santo Domingo. At the seminar, attended by 23 accredited NIEs and nearly 60 participants in total, discussions centred on monitoring and evaluation of ecosystem-based interventions and adaptation actions, strategies to improve access to climate finance through the Fund's new funding mechanisms and the integration of environmental, social and gender considerations into adaptation projects and programmes.

94. A climate finance readiness workshop on enhanced direct access was held in Kigali. The workshop, in which 23 accredited NIEs participated, provided a platform for countries to share lessons learned, knowledge, and experience in the programming of enhanced direct access funding in order to encourage the programming of climate finance through enhanced direct access, as well as boost countries' confidence in doing so.

95. The AF hosted its 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> climate finance readiness webinars for accredited NIEs. The 14<sup>th</sup> webinar focused on enabling NIEs to share lessons learned on enhanced direct access and innovation in adaptation project design, the 15<sup>th</sup> webinar on defining the climate change reasoning behind adaptation project development and the 16<sup>th</sup> webinar on meeting environmental and social policy requirements post project approval.

96. The AF also hosted a collection of other webinars: one on gender-responsive project and programme design and implementation, one on key updates from the decisions of the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the AF Board and one on the evaluation policy of the AF.

97. The AF and the GCF continued their joint support of the CPDAE throughout the reporting period. Following approval by the GCF of the funding for the CPDAE in January 2023, the CPDAE commenced implementing its action plan, with the German Agency for International Cooperation as delivery partner. Key deliverables under development are a project prioritization tool, a roster of experts, and six papers focusing on sharing the lessons learned and experience of CPDAE members on various topics.

98. The AF hosted a virtual session on challenges and opportunities in the monitoring of locally led adaptation initiatives at the Gobeshona Global Conference. The session brought together national implementing partners from Costa Rica and South Africa and a civil society organization partner from Georgia to share their experience of the Fund's enhanced direct access programme and locally led adaptation projects on the ground. Further, the AF



developed and launched a free-of-charge virtual training course on its enhanced direct access funding window, aimed at NIEs interested in learning more about this access modality. The course was made available in English, French and Spanish.<sup>32</sup>

99. In order to share with stakeholders its knowledge and experience of various adaptation themes and topics, the AF developed knowledge products on:

(a) Lessons learned from the project portfolio on disaster risk reduction and early warning systems;<sup>33</sup>

(b) Lessons learned in relation to addressing climate change adaptation and strengthening long-term resilience in fragile and conflict-affected countries;<sup>34</sup>

(c) Lessons learned from the accreditation of national development banks and trust funds and the role these entities can play in providing funding for climate adaptation action.<sup>35</sup>

100. Other knowledge- and experience-sharing activities included a knowledge fair on ecosystem-based adaptation, where participating NIEs shared lessons learned from and challenges in implementing AF-funded projects in this area. The fair was held as part of a country exchange (Indonesia) hosted by Kemitraan.

101. Progress was made by the AF Board in implementing the updated AF gender policy and gender action plan, including by strengthening efforts to enhance the institutional capacity of AF partners, particularly implementing entities, to integrate a gender-responsive approach into all stages of a project's life cycle and to improve their monitoring of and reporting on gender-related progress in projects and programmes. The AF gender e-learning course on mainstreaming gender throughout the project life cycle is under development.

102. The breakdown of the total grant amount by outcome is tracked under the AF strategic results framework. In the reporting period, the largest amount of grant funding was geared towards outcome 4 of the framework, "Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets", totalling USD 250.2 million (28.2 per cent of total AF funding).

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<sup>32</sup> Available at <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/knowledge-learning/knowledge-products/af-produced-knowledge-products/?type=e-courses>.

<sup>33</sup> See <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/strengthening-resilience-through-disaster-risk-reduction-and-early-warning-systems-interventions-experiences-and-lessons-learned-from-the-adaptation-fund-portfolio>.

<sup>34</sup> See <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-fragile-settings-and-conflict-affected-countries-lessons-learned-from-the-adaptation-funds-portfolio>.

<sup>35</sup> See <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/lessons-learned-the-role-of-national-financial-institutions-and-trust-funds-in-providing-climate-adaptation>.