

Paris Committee on Capacity-building

The 2nd Capacity-building Hub

Summary Report
Dec. 2019 | Madrid, Spain | COP25

**CAPACITY-
BUILDING
HUB**



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

The 2nd Capacity-building Hub Summary Report

Dec. 2019 | Madrid, Spain | COP25

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)
Bonn, February 2020



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

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List of abbreviations

BTR	Biennial Transparency Reports
CAEP	Climate Action Enhancement Package
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEEW	Council on Energy, Environment and Water
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CLGI	Climate Law and Governance Initiative
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network
DGM	Dedicated Grant Mechanism
DSA	Data supply agreements
ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GHGMI	Greenhouse Gas Management Institute
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GSP	Global Support Programme
ICAT	Initiative for Climate Action
ICCCAD	International Centre for Climate Change and Development
ICLEI	International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IGES	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPLC	Indigenous people and local communities
LEDSLAC	Low Emission Development Strategies Latin America and Caribbean
LTS	Long-term strategies
LUCCC	Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPG	Modality, Procedures, and Guidelines
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
NAP	National adaptation plans
NDC	Nationally determined contributions
NGO	Non-governmental organizations
PATPA	Partnership for Transparency in the Paris Agreement
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
PFAN	Private Financing Advisory Network
QA/QC	Quality assurance/ quality control
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNU-EHS	United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security
WECF	Women Engage for a Common Future
WIM Excom	Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

Executive Summary

Hosted by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building, and with the support of the UN Climate Change Secretariat, the 2nd Capacity-building Hub took place over the course of seven thematic days, on December 4-11 at COP25, in Madrid. This summary provides a brief overview on the following aspects of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub: event statistics, a focus on the thematic days, recurring topics during discussions, and feedback received from organizers and participants in their evaluation of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub.

Statistics

More than 1200 participants visited the Capacity-building Hub. The activities of the Hub were streamed online and, where possible, off-site audiences were able to interact with the speakers, mostly through the [PCCB Facebook](#) page.

Close to 140 activities were conducted through 55 sessions, organized by over 65 partners. The partners represent an incredible diversity of organizations, with larger proportions being international networks and coalitions [21%], academic and research institutions [19%], and UN agencies [16%].

The sessions were organized in different modalities. The majority were moderated panel discussions [38%], followed by address and keynote speeches [23%], roundtables and stand-up talks [each, 11%], workshops [6%], ceremonial events [6%], and consultations [5%].

Through these modalities, more than 260 experts from over 210 institutions shared their experiences, knowledge, and opinions. Each thematic day was led by one or two lead partners [10 in total] who ensured a coherent flow of discussion and activities.

Thematic days

The decision to organize the 2nd Capacity-building Hub through thematic days/blocks was taken during the 3rd PCCB meeting in June 2019. The Steering Committee of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub planned six thematic days and two half-day blocks, which are listed below together with their lead partners and the main focus:

- December 4, 2019: Capacity-building Day, [ICCCAD and LUCCC], highlighting key aspects of climate-related capacity-building
- December 5, 2019: Transparency Day, [UNDP], exchanging experiences on capacity-building efforts to support the operationalization of the enhanced transparency framework, as well as related capacity needs and gaps
- December 6, 2019: Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day, [IDRC and UNU-EHS], focusing on building capacity to bridge the gap between climate-related research and climate policy and action
- December 7, 2019: Local Governments and Cities Day, [UN-Habitat and ICLEI], showcasing capacity-building efforts to enable local-level climate actions
- December 9, 2019: Means of Implementation Day, [CTCN], highlighting opportunities for countries to build capacity for the implementation of NDCs and NAPs
- December 10, 2019: Raising Ambition Day, [UN Climate Change], providing food-for-thought on how to build capacity to bolster climate action in 2020 and beyond
- December 11, 2019: Loss and Damage block, [WIM Excom], discussing capacity-building needs and ongoing efforts on averting, minimizing, and addressing loss

and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries

- December 11, 2019: Capacity-building Marketplace, [UN Climate Change], presenting innovative approaches to capacity-building through stand-up talks.

Focus of discussions

Exploring the topic of climate-related capacity-building through various lenses, the outcomes of discussions in the 2nd Capacity-building Hub show considerable synergies and shared priorities across different sectors and actors. Comparing the highlights of discussions among different thematic days, the following list outlines a number of inter-related topics that had recurrently arose in the discussions during the Hub:

- Building climate capacities conducive to transformational changes
- Strengthening individual, institutional, and systemic capacities to accelerate collective climate actions
- Enabling network building and knowledge sharing among actors involved in capacity-building for climate action
- Applying innovative approaches to capacity-building for climate action
- Enhancing the impact of climate-related capacity-building through effective communications
- Higher capacities for navigating climate data and measuring impacts
- Mainstreaming gender issues, human rights, youth perspectives, and indigenous voices in capacity-building for climate change
- Enhancing coherence and coordination in capacity-building efforts within national and international climate agendas

Evaluation of the event

Feedback was sought from organizers and participants of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub via online post-event surveys as well as direct communications, online and on-site. A summary of outcomes from the post-event surveys is provided in Chapter 3. In brief,

participants and organizers felt positively about their participation in the Capacity-building Hub and were satisfied with its outcomes, with the following aspects highlighted by the survey respondents:

- The organization of Hub through thematic days was well received by both groups.
- The rich diversity of examples provided during the discussions -from different sectors and regions- was positively reflected on by the participants.
- Participants found the hub a suitable platform to expand their professional network.
- Organizers found the Capacity-building Hub a desirable platform to consult their ongoing works with their peers and receive feedbacks.

Both participants and organizers have provided valuable inputs for the improvement of the Hub in its future iterations. The PCCB and the UN Climate Change Capacity-building team will carefully consider all suggestions received, when planning the future Capacity-building Hub(s).

Introduction

At the first meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB), held in May 2017, Parties and non-Party stakeholders suggested the Committee provide a space for the participation of different actors in the capacity-building dialogue.

In the following year, at the 7th Durban Forum on Capacity-building, held in May 2018, Parties and non-Party stakeholders reiterated the need for more time and space for informal and formal discussions on capacity-building related matters, in order to exchange knowledge on case studies, success stories, lessons learned, and how to support capacity-building in developing countries.

Responding to these requests, the PCCB established the Capacity-building Hub at COP24 in Katowice as a space of representation and collaboration for a wide array of stakeholders active in capacity-building related activities. At the [1st Capacity-building Hub](#), over 130 experts from close to 90 institutions, networks, organizations, Parties, constituted bodies, and the UN Climate Change, took part in over 40 events and 190 activities on topics related to capacity-building for climate action.

Built upon the outcomes of the first Hub, the [2nd Capacity-building Hub](#) at COP25 succeeded in representing a rich diversity of voices, experiences, and topics relevant to the work of the PCCB on climate-related capacity-building. Over the course of seven thematic days, the PCCB hosted over 60 events with more than 260 experts and 210 institutions involved. The Capacity-building Hub was visited by over 1200 participants, onsite, and reached a wider audience, online.

The success and significance of the Capacity-building Hub were acknowledged by a wide array of actors during COP25, placing capacity-building in the spotlight of the conference. As the Parties agreed on the extension of the PCCB's work, they solidified the Hub as an integral part of the Committee's work plan for 2020-2024.

The Capacity-building Hub will continue to be an inclusive and engaging platform for capacity-building actors at the UN Climate Change Conferences of Parties. It brings together the knowledge and experience of experts at local and global levels, fosters the creation and dissemination of knowledge, and embodies the spirit of collaboration within the capacity-building community.

The present report provides an overview of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub, starting with the concept and organization of the Hub [Chapter 1], followed by outcomes of the thematic days during the COP25 [Chapter 2], lessons learned [Chapter 3], and the way forward.

Chapter1-Background, rationale, and the implementation of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub

This brief chapter portrays the context in which the concept of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub was designed and organized. The second section underlines how the Capacity-building Hub feeds into the work of the PCCB in pursuit of its mandate, as well as its strategic plan for stakeholder engagement, communications, and resource mobilization¹. After summarizing some highlights of the implementation process, the chapter is concluded with a summary of guiding principles in the planning and organization of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub.

¹ The document is accessible [here](#).

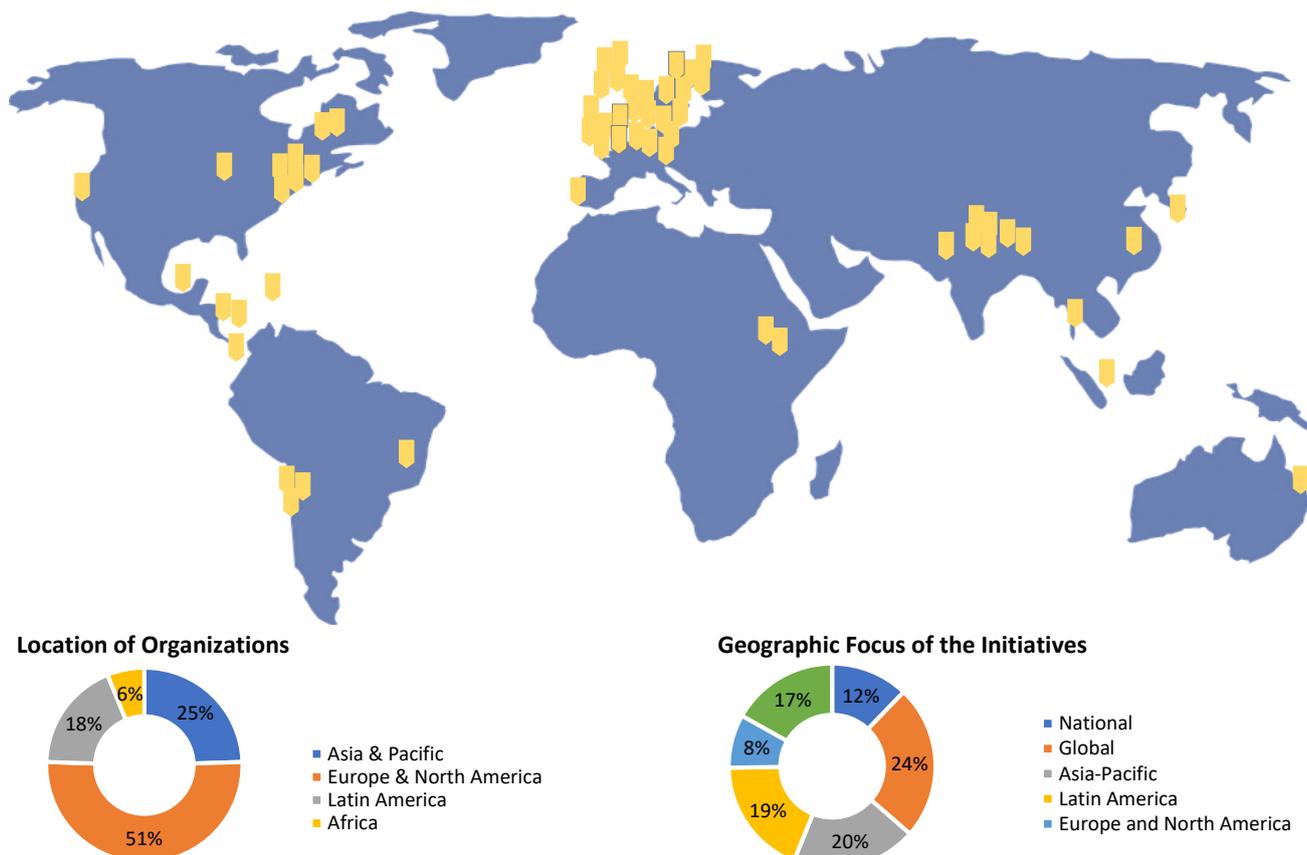
Context and concept of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub

The decision regarding the modalities and organization of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub was made at the 3rd PCCB meeting in June 2019². On June 20, 2019, the Committee discussed and endorsed³ a concept note which served as a guiding framework for the organization of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub at COP25. The PCCB agreed to:

- Organize the 2nd Capacity-building Hub through various thematic days/blocks, focused on capacity-building, knowledge-to-action, transparency, local governments and cities, and means of implementation
- Mainstream cross-cutting issues throughout the thematic days
- Consider organizing a marketplace during the Hub to foster networking among existing and potential PCCB Network partners
- Launch an open call for expressions of interest from Party and non-Party stakeholders to suggest sessions, topics, and potentially other thematic days.

Following this decision, a call for expressions of interest was launched on August 16, 2019 and over 73 proposals were received by the end of the submission period on September 22, 2019 [Figure1]. The submissions were carefully reviewed, assessed, and allocated to seven thematic days. The additional two days – (1) Raising Ambition Day, and (2) a two-block day on Loss and Damage and the Capacity-building Marketplace – were added to the Hub’s programme in line with the aforementioned decisions and submissions.

Figure 1-Geographical distribution of the submissions



The backbone of the Capacity-building Hub is formed of effective **partnerships**, **interdisciplinary** approaches to climate-related capacity-building, and **inclusiveness** in knowledge-sharing. In these respects, the organization and implementation of the Hub were

² The summary report of the meeting is accessible [online](#)

³ The background document and the concept note for the 2nd Capacity-building Hub are available [here](#).

guided by multiple consultations with partners. Through an open call for expressions of interest, applications from a diverse array of organizations have been received and collectively evaluated. In addition, different means of communication have been utilized to broaden the reach of the Hub.

Implementation of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub

The preparation and implementation of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub began in August 2019, and lasted until December 2019. Encompassing a series of interlinked steps, the 2nd Capacity-building Hub was a collective effort of over 65 organizing partners, including 10 lead partners. The remainder of this chapter highlights some of the actions undertaken for the successful implementation of this event.

Establishing an open process for expressions of interest

Aiming to represent a rich diversity of stakeholders, experiences, and topics relevant to the work of the PCCB on climate-related capacity-building, the Committee launched an open call for expressions of interest, which was followed by a two-step assessment process; (1) an initial screening and (2) a multi-criteria assessment. For the initial screening, the proposals were assessed against their ‘internal consistency’, ‘proven experiences on capacity-building’ and ‘strong linkages with the PCCB’s work’. The eligible proposals were then referred to the Steering Committee of each day – comprised of PCCB members, the UN Climate Change Capacity-building team, and lead partners for each thematic day.

At this stage, proposals were assessed against a number of criteria concerning innovation in proposed approaches and methodologies, institutional and sectoral balance, gender balance, coherence of message, and diversity. The proposals were ranked by multiple evaluators and the average of the scores was used as a proxy to identify qualified proposals.

Given the high number of quality proposals, the Steering Committees of thematic days suggested to merge proposals with similar objectives into integrated focus blocks. In consultation with selected organizations, the lead partner(s) finalized the agendas and the narratives of the thematic days.

Disseminating information and facilitating access to information

The information about the 2nd Capacity-building Hub was provided online and updated throughout the process. A dedicated webpage was created for each thematic day, where users could access the latest updates regarding the agenda, speakers, and schedule of the day.

Where needed, other online platforms including the [PCCB Facebook](#) page, and UN Climate Change digital accounts on Twitter, LinkedIn, and other platforms were utilized to boost the reach of the updates. For instance, the announcement of the open call for expressions of interest was promoted via various digital channels, with a reach of over 2 million users. During the COP, the hashtag #CB_Hub was used to highlight the activities of the Hub on Twitter.

In an attempt to broaden the reach of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub, activities were streamed online and, where possible, off-site audiences were able to interact with the speakers through online means, most commonly the [PCCB Facebook](#) page. In addition, a video summary of each thematic day was provided and shared on the webpage, shortly after the conclusion of the events.

Mainstreaming cross-cutting issues

As recommended to the PCCB, the Steering Committee of the Capacity-building Hub advised and guided all organizers to mainstream cross-cutting issues such as gender, youth, and indigenous people in their discussions. In addition, each thematic day had at least one session focused on the intersection of cross-cutting issues and the overall theme of the day, i.e. capacity-building knowledge to action, local governments and cities, means of implementation, and raising ambition.

Chapter 2- Findings from the thematic days

In this chapter, a summary report of the substantive discussions during the 2nd Capacity-building Hub is provided. The chapter is divided into eight sections, comprised of six thematic days and two focus blocks. Each section starts with a list of organizing partners and a numeric summary of the day/block, followed by more in-depth information on:

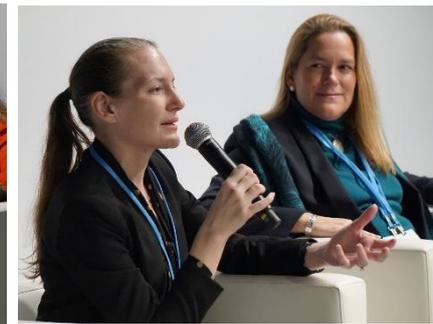
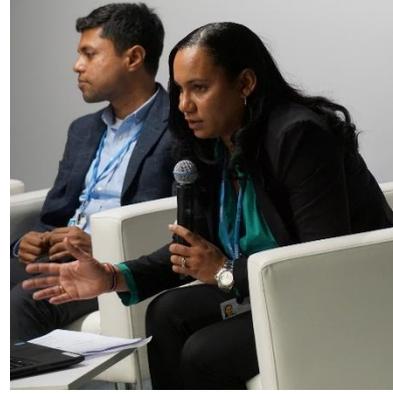
- The context and programme overview of the thematic day
- Highlights of discussions throughout the thematic day
- Concrete outcomes or next steps discussed during the thematic day
- A highlight of the thematic day

The last part of each section is dedicated to the “highlight of the day” which illustrates the most attended event of the thematic day, and provides more information regarding the content, modality, and the organizer(s) of the event.

The summaries of individual events are intentionally kept concise, in that the topics of discussion in different sessions of a thematic day stemmed from the overarching narrative of the day and are covered in the overall summary of the day. For more information, the PCCB is reachable via [email](#).

CAPACITY-BUILDING DAY

8:30-9:00	Opening of the Capacity-building Hub
9:00 – 9:50	Opening Session of the 3rd Capacity-building Day
10:00-11:20	PCCB Network consultation
11:30-13:00	Developing indicators for monitoring & evaluation of capacity-building initiatives
13:30-15:30	Connecting the dots – Join the interactive sprints on Digitalization & Blockchain, Climate Action and Education
15:45-17:15	Gender equality as a gateway for enhanced & inclusive climate action: a capacity-building perspective
17:30-18:30	Key legal developments in capacity-building arrangements under the Paris Agreement & Katowice Rulebook
18:45-19:45	Innovative Partnerships for Bridging Capacity Building Gaps: Lessons from Youth and Education Organizations
19:45-20:00	Daily wrap-up





CAPACITY-BUILDING DAY

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

Led by



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

Co-organized by



CLIMATE LEDGER
INITIATIVE



By numbers

6	15+	100+	34	22
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

Capacity-Building is crucial for developing countries, as a condition for implementing their NDCs under the Paris Agreement. The need to build capacity stands at the core of climate action. Articles 11, 12 and 13 of the Paris Agreement focus on a new paradigm of capacity-building in transitioning to a low-emission pathway and dealing with the impacts of climate change. According to the provisions of Article 11 of the Paris Agreement, it is important to build long-term, country-driven, and in-country capacity that responds to the needs and contexts of developing countries at the national, subnational, and local levels.

Forward-looking capacity-building programmes gravitate towards the medium/long-term and are demand-driven, to address the needs of recipients and foster their ownership of such programmes. The participation and constant interaction of all stakeholders – national and local government, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions, among others – ensures longevity in the impact of capacity-building efforts.

But are the needs of recipients addressed when capacity-building programmes are project-specific and output-driven? Programmes should be cross-cutting, gender-responsive, and occur through an iterative process of mutual learning. The Capacity-building Day in the 2nd Capacity-building Hub aimed to accelerate a shift from business-as-usual practices towards innovative, inclusive, and collective action in the face of climate change.

The day began with a brief overview of previous Capacity-building Days, followed by the 'PCCB Network' consultation attended by the Capacity-building Hub lead partners, co-organizers, and other interested capacity-building actors and stakeholders. The opening ceremony highlighted the importance of effective partnerships, coherent policies, and coordinated actions among actors involved in capacity-building for climate change. It was followed by focused discussions on 'monitoring and evaluation indicators', 'innovation and digitalization', 'local financing', and 'cross-cutting issues' in capacity-building initiatives. Other highlights of the day were insights on 'key legal developments in capacity-building arrangements under the Paris Agreement', , and 'the role of youth in capacity-building efforts' (see the [Agenda](#)).

Throughout this day-long event, experts from across sectors and regions shared and discussed their experiences and lessons learned in climate-related capacity-building. The day was enriched with constructive dialogues on various aspects of capacity-building, under and outside the Convention. It also served as a meeting point for various actors to exchange experiences, discuss potential partnerships, and expand their network of peers.

Highlights of discussions

Through different modalities, the Capacity-building Day provided a platform for stakeholders to share knowledge and exchange experiences on a variety of topics surrounding climate-related capacity-building. The following provides a glimpse into some highlights of the discussions:

- **Strengthening networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships for capacity-building**

The topic of **building alliances and fostering partnerships** among governments, academia, development agencies, international organizations, private sector, local communities, and policy makers was recurrently highlighted during different sessions of the Capacity-building Day. All sessions provided good practice, lessons learned, and recommendations regarding international partnerships and co-operation for capacity-building.

A consultation session on the PCCB Network, in particular, illustrated the importance of such networks in enhancing **coherence and coordination** in capacity-building efforts undertaken by different actors. Special attention was paid to the involvement of civil society organizations and the private sector in the development of climate policies, strategies, and initiatives during the day.

- **Harnessing online communication platforms and social media for education and capacity-building**

The use of communication platforms was highlighted by different experts as an effective tool to **broaden the reach of capacity-building activities**. Ranging from awareness-raising to educational activities, digital platforms can foster and scale up capacity-building efforts. Some examples of such activities provided by experts during the day were online training courses tailored to the needs of different audiences, inter-university collaboration platforms on climate research, international networks for capacity-building, and social media campaigns for climate action.

Another highlight of discussions on this topic emphasized the importance of **raising awareness on the effectiveness and benefits of such tools**, particularly among academic, professional, and policy-making circles.

- **Utilizing innovative technologies in boosting climate actions**

Built upon the outcomes of the Climate Ledger Initiative report on ‘Navigating Blockchain Technology for Climate Action’, the discussions in this session shed light on potential applications of such technology in building climate capacities and accelerating actions. Discussion highlights included utilizing blockchain technology in governing urban systems, evaluating the impact of policies and actions, and integrating the MRV systems.

- **The role of legal frameworks in enhancing climate-related capacity-building efforts**

In a session focused on legal aspects of capacity-building for addressing climate change, international law experts argued that there exists a need to **involve lawyers and legal professionals in the process of climate change negotiations**. This can be achieved through training more climate lawyers across the globe and mobilizing the existing knowledge through network building. The use of interactive modalities such as organizing competitions, meetups, and thematic days on the topic were highlighted as potential pathways for engaging more experts from the legal field in issues concerning climate change.

Also highlighted was the potential utilization of legal instruments such as tax laws in countries, as effective measures to boost the legal preparedness of countries in the face of climate change.

- **Mainstreaming cross-cutting issues in NDC enhancement processes**

The integration of **gender equality and women’s rights in national climate agendas, policies, and actions** was widely emphasized during the day, and examples of such efforts were presented from the Latin American context. In addition, the involvement of women organizations, youth, and indigenous groups through participatory processes in the planning and implementation of NDCs was pointed out as needed actions towards an inclusive, just, and responsive state of development.

- **Community-based capacity-building for climate action**

Bottom-up capacity-building and country-driven solutions were discussed as key factors in yielding lasting impacts at the local level, while responding to the **needs of the most vulnerable**. As opposed to fly-in fly-out capacity-building, community-based approaches effectively mobilize **local knowledge and expertise** in developing inclusive, effective, and climate-responsive solutions.

- **Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) indicators for capacity-building efforts**

A considerable portion of discussions during the day addressed the importance of **measuring the impact of capacity-building initiatives and activities**, as well as finding the **right metrics to monitor and evaluate the progress** made over time. It was widely agreed by different speakers that M&E for capacity-building activities should go beyond reporting numeric indicators such as number of people attended the training, and number of workshops held. Instead, the focus should be on the impact of such activities on individuals and communities. Suggestions among others were conducting interviews, circulating pre- and post-event surveys to measure the progress made, and tracking the longevity and impact of climate-responsive activities by individuals and communities over time.

- Active and continuous learning in building climate capacities

One of the highlights of discussions throughout the day was focused on a **dynamic approach to capacity-building**. Given different local circumstances, and in the face of a changing climate, it was argued that capacity-building entails a process of **learning by doing**. Therefore, capacity-building efforts are a work-in-progress and must constantly evolve to remain relevant to the existing and emerging needs and challenges of local contexts.

Experts in many sessions of the Capacity-building Day asserted that the **Capacity-building Hub itself provides a co-learning platform** to share ideas and work, receive feedback from peers, and **co-create solutions**. The consultation sessions on the PCCB Network and the UNU-EHS prototype of an online collaborative platform were examples of such efforts.

Outcomes and next steps

This section outlines a list of tools, methodologies, platforms, projects, and initiatives that were presented during different sessions of the Capacity-building Day. Where applicable, concrete recommendations and follow-up actions that arose during the discussions are listed. Further information and relevant documents to the individual events—including the concept note, presentations, and the name of speakers- are available on the web page of the [Capacity-building Day](#).

'PCCB Network consultation' session:

Publication A summary report of the PCCB Network Consultation at COP25, (developed by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building)

Next step The launch of the open call for expressions of interest to join the PCCB Network in 2020 (overseen by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building)

'Developing indicators for monitoring & evaluation of capacity-building initiatives'

session:

Tool Capacity Assessment Tool for Climate Action Transparency (CAT4CAT), (developed by ICCCAD) is a structured tool designed to help set a standardized baseline of the needs of organizations. The assessment covers four domains of 'Goals and Strategies', 'Systems and Infrastructure', 'Human Resources', 'Organizational Assets'.

Next step 6th Annual [Gobeshona conference](#) in January 2020 in Dhaka Bangladesh, (organized by ICCCAD) focused on 'Research on Climate Change into Action'

'Connecting the dots – Join the interactive sprints on digitalization & blockchain, climate action and education' session:

Publication [Navigating Blockchain and Climate Action](#), 2019 Report (developed by the Climate Ledger Initiative)

Next step 'University for Climate Action': A prototype of an online collaborative platform aimed to serve a community of practice for universities, (currently in development by UNU-EHS)

'Creating climate law capacity for compliance - advancing legal and governance capacity-building to support Paris Agreement implementation' session:

Training Climate Law and Governance Specialization Course, (developed by CLGI) aimed at integrating climate change as a fundamental element in existing legal and governance structures.

Next step An online petition to gather lawyers globally to provide pro bono support for climate change negotiations, particularly on the topic of Loss and Damage.

'Innovative partnerships for bridging capacity-building gaps: lessons from youth and education organizations' session:

Next step A training workshop for youth and educators on Biodiversity and Climate Change (organized by the National University of Singapore) Geography Symposium 2020

The participants were actively involved in providing concrete comments and sharing their experiences during the discussions. Suggestions for next steps included providing a **training course on the history of capacity-building under the Convention**, and organizing a **Youth Capacity-building Hub** in the future.

Highlight of the day

More on 'PCCB Network'

In the spirit of partnership, the PCCB seeks to engage organizations at local, national, regional, and global levels in the PCCB Network. In line with the PCCB's mandate, the PCCB Network aims at facilitating access to information and knowledge on climate action, across sectors, regions, and governance levels.

The Network will enable the PCCB to proactively advise on current and emerging capacity-building needs, under and outside the Convention, including on gaps and needs pertaining to NDCs, and long-term strategies (LTS).

This approach will also enable the PCCB to provide lessons learned into the broader policy coherence work under the sustainable development goals (SDG), boosting the efficiency of capacity-building efforts in a holistic way, across economic, social, and environmental policy arenas.



The goal of the PCCB Network is to foster synergies in capacity-building efforts for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The work of the PCCB Network covers activities under and outside the Convention, and is aligned with the policy coherence objectives of the SDGs and the capacity needs inherent in designing ambitious NDCs.

Effective partnership, active participation, impact-oriented activities, and step-wise approaches are defining elements of the PCCB Network, solidifying its relevance to the current and emerging capacity-building gaps and needs of countries and other actors.

TRANSPARENCY DAY



8:30-8:45	Opening of the Transparency Day
8:45-10:00	Ready for the BTR? Implications of the Katowice Rulebook for the developing countries: challenges and opportunities
10:15-11:30	Capacity-building assessment, indicators, and framework to for improved accountability
11:45-13:00	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)
13:30-14:45	Institutional arrangements & engagement of stakeholders
15:00-16:15	Data: empowering leaders to make ambitious decisions on climate action
16:30-17:45	Peer- to- peer learning to enhance capacity building efforts on transparency
18:00-20:00	2nd Pilot Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) informal forum on Institutionalizing Data Management System
20:00	Reception of the Transparency Day



TRANSPARENCY DAY

Thursday, December 5, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

Led by



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

Co-organized by



Partnership on Transparency
in the Paris Agreement



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Consultative
Group of Experts
(CGE)

By numbers

7	25+	200+	47	44
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

Established by the Paris Agreement, the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) requires Parties to report regularly on their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and on progress in achieving the mitigation and adaptation actions, as described in their NDCs. Such a strengthened framework would enhance existing transparency arrangements under the Convention, and would be instrumental in increasing mutual trust and confidence and promoting the effective implementation of NDCs, generating high quality climate data and tracking progress of climate actions.

The Transparency Day covered 21 presentations with panel or roundtable discussions and was closed by a forum coordinated by the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE). The key focus for the Transparency Day discussion (see the [Agenda](#)) was based on the needs identified by the participating organizations and country representatives. These needs were the development of transparency frameworks for climate vulnerabilities and risks, climate trends, GHG inventories and projections, and tracking the progress of climate actions.

To set the stage for further exchange and discussions, the day commenced with a presentation on two items: first, the main elements of the enhanced transparency framework; and second, a detailed description of the new requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement set in the Katowice Agreement on 'the modality, procedures, and guidelines (MPG) for the transparency framework for action and support'. The MPGs provided detailed requirements for the content of the required transparency reports to the UNFCCC. They also set the scene for domestic MRV systems, designed to produce such reports and to inform national decision makers on progress.

Countries face similar challenges in building their transparency frameworks, with the need to engage stakeholders in sustainable activities to gather, analyze and report information related to climate action. These frameworks are needed to support national decision makers in implementing action and to meet the requirements of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Common features of the needed frameworks included:

- The establishment and maintenance of **institutional arrangements** (including laws, agreements, contracts) to ensure a regular and reliable flow of data, the availability of expertise, tools, and systems for management and reporting, and the active integration of gender
- The identification of reliable **datasets**, through institutional arrangements that track progress and clarify ambition
- Recruitment, training, and support of **experts** with knowledge of sectoral trends, projections, and mitigation/ adaptation solutions, to collate and review the datasets and produce reports
- The creation of **systems and tools** to support experts with regular and continuously improved gathering of data, analysis, quality management, and reporting
- The establishment of **engagement and communication** activities for experts and decision-makers, which highlight and add value to the information gathered from the transparency system

Highlights of discussions

Organizations and country representatives participated in the Transparency Day discussed difficulties faced but also opportunities and lessons learned. The main topics of the discussions were as follows:

- **GHG Inventory Improvements:**

The participants recognized the central role of a well-functioning, transparent, and detailed GHG inventory. The MPGs brought emphasis to this through the specification of a transparent National Inventory Report, the use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, a focus on key category and uncertainty analysis, QA/QC, timeseries consistency, and use of common tabular formats. The following key areas of GHG inventory improvement were discussed:

- The increased use of Tier 2 and 3 data to ensure the integration of country specific elements for sectors of importance to allow more detailed consideration of mitigation impacts, and projections

- Development of consistent timeseries and QA/QC activities, including a bilateral review and participation in an international review
- Incorporation of sub-national datasets, e.g. cities, large industrial sources (including those in emissions trading systems)
- Future use of 2019 IPCC guidance – although the Katowice guidelines state that the 2006 guideline shall be used

- **Indicators:**

The use of indicators to monitor and evaluate climate impacts, GHG trends, and the impacts of action, are required for tracking the NDC (Article 4) and the adaptation actions (Article 7). As referenced extensively in the MPGs, such indicators can cover a wide range of variables – vulnerability, loss and damage, adaptation action, GHG trends and projections, mitigation action progress, and impacts of action – depending on countries’ action focus, as well as extend to wider impacts on the economy, gender, health, and ecosystems among others. Whenever possible, the use of common indicators would benefit comparability and consistency when assessing collective progress.

There was considerable discussion of the type/level of indicator to be used. It was suggested that it would be helpful if there was a core set of mandatory indicators (under Paris Agreement reporting) to help track and compare collective progress for key themes (energy, infrastructure, forests, water, health). Also considered important was the allowance for Parties to develop additional indicators as appropriate.

The MPGs extend the requirements for reporting on NDC targets and cooperative approaches for meeting them as well as the identification and preparation of qualitative and quantitative indicators to track progress. Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR) (first reporting in 2024) will need to include an assessment of whether the Party has achieved its target under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (NDC). This will include a transparent description of the Parties accounting approach.

- **Establishing functional MRV systems:**

Participants shared experiences on the difficulties encountered in their countries **to get support and ownership for the MRV systems**. This was evident for even the best-understood component, the GHG Inventory and UNFCCC reporting. A common misunderstanding is that the ministry designated for reporting is the one to take full responsibility for the task. As a result, the reporting ministry often faces a lack of interest and commitment from other ministries when they are to provide their sectoral data.

It was suggested that domestic MRV systems need technical ‘champions’ who understand and own the process, engage with data providers, and develop the required relationships and datasets for the MRV system, on an incremental basis. This champion need not be a ministry person but should act on behalf of and with the full support of the relevant ministry. The champions should identify and develop long-term national expertise and data flows to serve the ministry in its domestic MRV system development.

Discussions also identified a need to move away from the concept that this domestic MRV system is purely for international reporting. Instead, the MRV system should be conceptualized as one designed to inform decision-makers and the national public, with the capacity to produce regular reports for use at the international level. **The domestic MRV system should be recognized as a sustained evidence-base that can provide value to a country’s own government.**

- **Reliable data flows:**

The effectiveness of using Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) or data supply agreements (DSA)s between ministries to facilitate the collection of the information for the domestic MRV system and for UNFCCC reporting was discussed.

Generally, it was felt that MoUs were not always effective and/or not needed as there seemed to be a different interpretation of their purpose, scope and role, and on how formal they needed to be. Participants found that countries' current activities to collect data relied mostly on individual relationships. These were relationships between staff within the different ministries and those compiling the data for the MRV system outputs. Agreed commitments and formal MoUs should be supported by legislative requirements. For example, in Armenia, climate-related laws and other agreements could underpin formal MoUs and the sustainable supply of data.

- **Communications and stakeholder engagement:**

The importance of broader communication activities such as reports/brochures/videos for wider audiences was discussed. It was agreed that these improve the general level of understanding and raise the importance of climate action and the data needed to track it. For example, **GHG inventories could be used to improve engagement on mitigation action by highlighting key national activities and their associated trends.** This would help to engage sectoral experts and decision-makers toward focused action and build interest in the process from other stakeholders. More of this activity is needed, early-on, in the development of the MRV systems to engage data providers, to find and inspire experts and to secure resources for the development of sustained MRV systems.

Participants noted that there is a need for better engagement from ministries and agencies that manage climate policies and climate data. Improved mandates are needed to engage and train experts for long-term involvement in the systems, as well as to guarantee the flow of information. Participants discussed the role of UNDP and other agencies with technical competencies. Such agencies could support the short-term capacity needs for populating and maintaining the MRV systems, while those countries develop capacity and become accustomed to the true value of such systems.

- **Training and Recruitment of experts:**

The need for continuous capacity-building is imperative. This entails (1) the provision of adequate training to stakeholders to enhance understanding of their roles and responsibilities in the process and (2) to facilitate their provision of the required input data, and use of the established system.

It was noted that working closely with appropriate research and university technical teams could develop the required expertise; balancing an educational/research mentality with a business approach for the compilation and reporting of data. There was also an interesting discussion about establishing masters' degree courses in climate change and whether these may help to support data-gathering and use, as well as developing the capacity of the country to implement effective climate action.

- **Peer to peer learning**

Peer learning and knowledge sharing can enhance the impact of multi-country climate transparency support initiatives. The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency and the Initiative for Climate Action, both seek peer exchange programmes and knowledge sharing to engage countries in the use of a common framework. As well, a list of examples at the regional level of peer-to-peer collaboration were presented; LEDSLAC's Monitoring and Evaluation Community of Practice, PATPA (cluster workshops, focusing on peer learning), and the UNDP/ UNEP GSP network approach. **Participants noted that sharing knowledge by region or language has many advantages as it helps countries to share experiences, common**

challenges, and resources. The interest was clear to keep working on regional cooperation and peer learning, for example, through south-south exchange.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluation can deliver on transparency and capacity-building. It was discussed that **monitoring, evaluation & impact assessment should be a larger part of international capacity-building efforts.** To ensure increased understanding on how and what is monitored, it would be useful to define common capacity-building typologies and indicators. These indicators are useful for measuring countries' capacities –not only for developing countries but also for donors. During the day, various methodologies and research studies for measuring countries' capacities were presented.

Outcomes and next steps

This section outlines a list of tools, methodologies, platforms, projects, or initiatives, presented during different sessions of the Transparency Day. Where applicable, summaries of concrete recommendations and follow-up actions that arose during the discussions, are provided. Further information and relevant documents of the individual events –including the concept note, presentations, and the names of speakers- are available on the webpage of the [Transparency Day](#).

'Ready for the BTR? Implications of the Katowice Rulebook for the developing countries: challenges and opportunities' session:

Tool [BTR Process Guidance Tool](#) (developed by GIZ and FAO) aims to support countries in handling their BTR according to ETF guidelines in (latest 2024). It incorporates the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines for the Transparency Framework and produces a roadmap

'Capacity-building assessment, indicators, and framework to for improved accountability' session:

Methodology An example in building an indicator database of GHG inventory capacity (developed by GHGMI and IGES: Methodology used for measuring GHG capacity based on a country's context, institutional structure, technical skills and knowledge, and applied capacity in climate change reporting

Tool [Capacity-building Assessment Matrix](#) (developed by CEEW): Excel based tool to analyze the institutional knowledge and procedural capacity of developing countries for climate reporting

'Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)' session:

Platform [CBIT platform](#) (led by UNEP-DTU Partnership and UNDP) brought together practitioners from countries and implementing and executing agencies in order to enable coordination, identify gaps and needs in national transparency systems, and share lessons learned through regional and global meetings

'Data: empowering leaders to make ambitious decisions on climate action' session:

Platform [Aid Atlas](#) (developed by SEI): an interactive platform which helps state and non-state actors to explore the flows of international development finance

The participants were actively involved in providing concrete comments and sharing their experiences during the discussions. Suggestions for next steps included the further exchange of experiences and knowledge produced and developing capacity-building indicators on the core aspects of NDCs.

Highlight of the day

More on 'Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)':

The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) is a one-off opportunity to support the development of transparency frameworks and domestic MRV systems. Supported by Global Environment Facility (GEF), CBIT can aid the establishment of new institutional arrangements, and adapt existing organizational structures, relationships, and mandates. This can lead to the formation of a functioning sustainable "system" to gather, compile, check, report, and reuse climate-action related data in countries.

CBIT will enable the capacity-building of relevant groups to assume long-term ownership of the technical (data collection, compilation, reporting) and non-technical (stakeholder engagement, resource mobilization, management and coordination) aspects of the MRV system. It will also provide the opportunity to develop country-specific guidance and tools that will improve stakeholder engagement, support data flows, contribute to continuous improvement and long-term system sustainability, and produce valued input into national decision-making processes.



Main topics covered in this session were:

- Institutional arrangements
- Improvement of the GHG inventories
- Estimations and GHG's scenarios and projections estimated
- Knowledge management, and
- Support to the tracking of the NDCs

The CBIT platform brings together practitioners from countries and implementing and executing agencies in order to enable coordination, identify gaps and needs in national transparency systems, and share lessons learned through regional and global meeting.

CAPACITY-BUILDING KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION DAY



8:45-9:00	Opening of the Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day
9:00-11:00	Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days: key messages & next steps
11:15-12:15	Showcasing research-based collaboration & capacity-building design for climate action
12:45-13:45	Local and Indigenous Knowledge to Climate Action
14:00-16:00	Mobilizing research institutions & universities for climate action
16:15-17:15	Capacity-building & private sector: working together for climate action!
17:30-19:00	Capacity-building Knowledge to Action: Lessons learned from practice
19:00-19:15	Daily wrap-up





CAPACITY-BUILDING KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION DAY

Friday, December 6, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

Led by



Co-organized by



By numbers

6	19+	150+	38	32
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

The Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days are designed to bridge capacity-building gaps in the production and translation of relevant knowledge into climate action at the national and sub-national levels. The Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day at the 2nd Capacity-building Hub is the latest in an event series that the PCCB initiated during the Regional Climate Weeks under the same title.

Through the exchange of **context-driven experiences and knowledge, the Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days** strengthen the engagement of universities and research institutions in building capacity for the preparation and implementation national adaptation plans (NAP) and NDCs. **Diversity, participation, and partnership** are guiding forces in the conduct of these days.

The purpose of the Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day in the 2nd Capacity-building Hub was to showcase ongoing collaborations between academic institutions and other relevant stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of NAPs and NDCs, particularly policy-makers. The day began with an overview and summary of the outcomes of the first two [Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days](#) organized as part of the 2019 Latin America and Caribbean and the Asia-Pacific Climate Weeks (see the [Agenda](#)).

This was followed by sessions on research-based collaborations for capacity-building, translation of indigenous knowledge to action, mobilizing research institutions for climate-related capacity-building, involvement of the private sector in capacity-building for climate action, and examples of capacity-building efforts for bridging the gap between knowledge and action in the context of climate change.

Highlights of discussions

The Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day featured a series of sessions, packed with engaging presentations, panels, and questions and answers (Q&A) discussions. Maintaining a focus on the practical implementation of generated knowledge through capacity-building, some highlights of the discussions throughout the day were:

- **Interdisciplinary approaches and innovative methodologies to the co-production of knowledge**

Transdisciplinary participatory research for capacity-building was highlighted as key in creating policy-relevant knowledge and **pushing forward the boundaries of conventional research practices**. ‘Debate’ was discussed as an example of innovative research; the knowledge generated in debate can never emerge from silo-thinking, and the outcomes of debates can feed policy-making processes.

- **The importance of network building and knowledge-sharing in building and strengthening climate capacities of different actors**

Many of the speakers at the Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day represented networks of universities and research institutions. In addition to sharing examples of their collaborative works, they asserted that **exchanging knowledge and experiences** with their peers have greatly impacted the scope and scale of their work.

In addition to academic networks, examples of networks of local communities and indigenous groups were presented. Speakers emphasized how network building and knowledge-sharing among local communities and indigenous groups have strengthened their capacities in adapting to climate change, and collectively responding to current and emerging issues.

- **The importance of communication in strengthening the science-policy interface and engaging the general public**

Different speakers highlighted the importance of **audience-targeted communication** of scientific results in order to boost the application of climate knowledge into policy-making processes, as well as local-level actions. On the other hand, it was emphasized that research communities should consider the interests and **needs of other climate-related capacity-building stakeholders**, particularly local communities and decision makers, when formulating

their research. A dynamic flow of communication among different actors would boost the impact of capacity-building efforts and help retain existing capacities.

In addition, it was emphasized that the **implications of climate research** should be seen in a holistic manner, **engaging different groups** of society, such as school-age students, families, senior citizens, community leaders, NGOs, corporate CEOs, policy-makers, and practitioners. The importance of audience-tailored communication was highlighted as a key success factor to reach the intended audience and enable effective changes.

- **The significance of engaging research in climate policy-making**

During different sessions and backed up by a variety of examples, it was emphasized that national universities and research institutions can be empowered to **contribute to the formulation and implementation of national development and climate agendas**, e.g. NAPs, NDCs, by providing policy-relevant knowledge.

It was further discussed that universities and research institutions should not only act as producers of policy relevant knowledge, but also and primarily as mediators of science-policy exchanges. This would facilitate a participatory and inclusive process of knowledge co-production, particularly in relation to indigenous groups, NGOs, and local communities.

- **Multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaborations**

Among other highlights of the discussions, was the importance of engaging the **public and private sectors** in the **process of knowledge production and application**. Researchers from different regions stressed the importance of such dialogues, to ensure that national and local research capacities are being efficiently and effectively utilized. Private-public partnerships (PPP)s were highlighted as promising modalities to mobilize resources for policy-relevant and practical climate research.

- **Mainstreaming indigenous groups' capacities in climate knowledge and action**

Indigenous knowledge was highlighted as an indispensable part of the knowledge needed to tackle climate change, next to traditional forms, from the natural and social sciences. Moreover, speakers during the day emphasized the significant contributions to climate actions on the ground by indigenous people and local communities (IPLC). Examples were provided to show how these groups can play **leadership roles in areas such as governance and implementation of climate finance**.

Outcomes and next steps

This section outlines a list of tools, methodologies, platforms, projects, or initiatives that have been presented during different sessions of the Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day. Where applicable, concrete recommendations and follow-up actions that arose during the discussions, are provided. Further information and relevant documents to the individual events –including the concept note, presentations, and the name of speakers- are available on the webpage of the [Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day](#).

'Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days: key messages & next steps' session:

Publication Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days summary report, (prepared by the UN Climate Change Secretariat)

Next step [Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day](#) in the Africa Climate Week, March 2020 (co-organized by PCCB)

'Showcasing research-based collaboration & capacity-building design for climate action' session:

Platform Observatory on Climate Change and Resilience, (developed by Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC))

'Local and indigenous knowledge to climate action' session:

Publication [Dedicated Grant Mechanism \(DGM\) for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities annual report](#), 2019, (developed by DGM International)

'Mobilizing research institutions & universities for climate action' session:

Platform 'University for Climate Action': A prototype of an online collaborative platform aimed to serve a community of practice for universities, (currently in development by UNU-EHS)

In addition to the aforementioned platforms, the discussions in the Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day showcased examples of harnessing different knowledge systems (formal and informal) in addressing climate emergencies, knowledge-exchange networks and modalities among research institutions, as well as existing and potential contributions of research communities to the design and implementation of climate agendas at national and sub-national levels.

Highlight of the day

More on 'Local and Indigenous Knowledge to Climate Action'

The Local and Indigenous Knowledge to Climate Action panel brought together indigenous people and local community leaders and representatives, faith-based organization representatives, and human rights leaders to showcase their contribution in fulfilling the Paris Agreement and their capacity needs to strengthen their roles in national and international climate processes through the tools, results, and lessons learned.



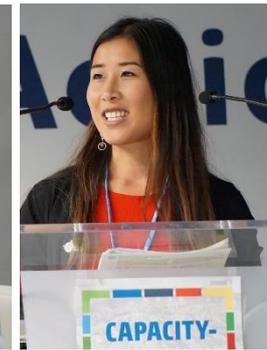
#TiempoDeA
#TimeForAct

As an initiative designed by and for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, the DGM places technical and financial resources directly in the hands of those that know how to manage, protect, and preserve forests best.

This year, DGM reached over 400 subprojects targeting community priorities in 6 countries and more than 200,000 beneficiaries.

-DGM annual report, 2019

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CITIES DAY



8:45-9:00	Opening of the Local Governments and Cities Day
9:00-10:00	High-level opening session
10:00-11:30	City-level capacity-building for resilience
12:00-13:00	City-level capacity-building for climate action
13:15-14:45	Young women as climate changemakers
15:00-16:00	City-level capacity-building cooperation
16:15-18:00	Empowering individuals & organizations for climate change
18:15-19:15	Youth capacity-building in urban contexts
19:30-20:00	Daily wrap-up



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CITIES DAY

Saturday, December 7, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

Led by



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

Co-organized by



By numbers

7	21+	200+	40	29
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

The theme of COP25 was ‘Time for action’, reflecting the significant advance made by countries – to reach a global agreement on climate change, to define key rules and procedures of implementation, and to make commitments under the agreement.

In a world where more than 55% of the global population already live in cities, commitments to achieve resilience and sustainable development, to adapt to climate change are crucially dependent on how we plan, build and manage urban areas. Human settlements are the meeting points of a wide array of issues related to, and impacted by climate change. Food security, health, population displacement and human mobility, critical infrastructure, and disaster risk preparedness are among other aspects of our settlements that are facing drastic challenges in a changing climate.

With adequate institutional, technical, and financial capacities, cities can adopt measures that respond to climate challenges. Though such actions develop on a local scale, they can have a significant cumulative impact regionally and globally. In this context, it is important to ensure coordinated action and cooperation among actors.

Under the overarching notion of **'enabling local action'**, different experts from across regions and sectors shared examples of capacity-building activities undertaken at the sub-national, local, and city levels. They highlighted the importance of cities in leading the process of transformation and adaptation to climate change, with an emphasis on the role of individuals and communities.

Through different modalities, the Local Government and Cities Day was designed to strengthen the capacities of individuals, institutions, and cities to take action in addressing climate change (see the [Agenda](#)). Starting with an inspiring panel discussion on the 'role of capacity-building in climate-responsive urban transformation', various sessions touched on the topic of capacity-building for 'urban resilience' and 'climate action, in small- medium-size cities in Latin America', 'Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate', 'youth voices as climate change makers', and 'international cooperation for city-level climate-related capacity-building'.

Highlights of discussions

The discussions at the Local Governments and Cities Day recurrently referred to a statement made by UN Climate Change Executive Secretary, Patricia Espinosa, that "cities are where the climate battle will be won or lost". Considering this key role for cities in leading the efforts towards addressing climate change issues, a diversity of topics was discussed and a plethora of ideas and experiences of climate-related capacity-building in local governments and cities were exchanged. Some highlights of the discussions are as follows:

- **Empowering bottom-up action and local-level actors**

In line with the focus of the day on 'enabling local actions', multiple speakers highlighted the benefits of community-level capacity-building **in yielding lasting impacts and developing climate-resilient solutions**. Special attention was paid to the positive impact of bottom-up action and context-driven climate solutions in enabling a 'just transition', 'fostering nature-based solutions', 'reaching the most-vulnerable groups', 'responding to local realities', 'empowering local actors' and 'boosting the adaptive capacities of communities in the face of a changing climate'.

Speakers of the day stressed that empowering local-level actors should be accompanied by the decentralization of power, resources, and knowledge, thereby enabling a just transition towards a more sustainable state of development.

In addition, the importance of small-scale solutions was emphasized as incremental steps in enabling a transformation towards climate resilient settlements. It was discussed that such actions are complementary to larger-scale interventions, such as investment in climate-resilient and green infrastructures.

- **Fostering vertical and horizontal integration of development frameworks and climate targets**

It was acknowledged that effective solutions are those that are interrelated and provide synergistic **responses** to climate commitments and emergencies at national and sub-national levels. Therefore, capacity-building efforts should focus on such interlinkages, e.g. those among different SDGs, and foster context-driven responses to different local realities.

Integrating policy frameworks and planning systems at national, sub-national, and local levels was discussed as a key step for enhancing the climate capacities of communities and nations in achieving their SDGs and fulfilling NDCs.

- **Mainstreaming youth and indigenous voices in climate capacity-building**

The importance of **youth involvement** in the fight against climate change was greatly highlighted and showcased by different examples during the day. They included climate actions, both at the **societal and political levels**. The youth speakers emphasized the necessity of involving youth and indigenous voices in policy-making processes at local, national and international levels.

- **Capacity-building through network building and multi-stakeholder engagement**

The importance of multi-stakeholder engagement in building and strengthening climate capacities of local governments and cities arose in all sessions. Speakers acknowledged that without the participation of individuals, local communities, enterprises, organizations, governments, networks, academic institutions, and the private sector, cities and states will not be able to provide adequate responses to the climate emergency. Network building and partnerships for climate action were highlighted and examples of such efforts were provided by a variety of actors during the discussions.

- **Education and exchange of knowledge at the heart of climate-related capacity-building**

Peer-to-peer learning among local governments and the exchange of lessons learned were discussed as important measures in building the capacities of local governments and cities in the face of climate change. In addition, the role of educational programmes targeted at different audiences was highlighted as an important element in climate-related capacity-building.

- **Building higher capacity in collecting and interpreting data at different levels**

The topic of climate data was widely discussed throughout the day. Speakers shed light on the existing data gaps, particularly the lack of **comparable data**, as well as data from informal sectors and settlements. Fragmentation of databases among sectors and at national and sub-national levels, lack of technical capacities for the interpretation of data at the local level, and inadequate predictive climate data were identified as some of the most pressing challenges that human settlements are facing in this regard.

Examples of success stories in **utilizing climate data for fostering actions on the ground** were provided by different experts. Customizing climate data for different users, developing easy-to-understand interfaces, and training local actors – academics, practitioners, decision-makers, NGOs, and private sector – to work with data systems, were among the highlights of the discussions.

In addition, the need for **establishing integrated MRV systems** for tracking climate actions undertaken by non-state actors, including cities, local governments, and businesses, was highlighted as key to accelerate climate actions, and enhance the contribution of local governments and cities in the implementation of NDCs.

- **Taking a long-term and holistic view towards resilience**

Speakers in different sessions stressed that the long-term impacts and the **sustainability of solutions** should be at the core of any climate policy and action. They asserted that effective solutions are inclusive, participatory, and interdisciplinary. Capacity-building efforts in cities should recognize the need for interdisciplinary knowledge and cross-sector action in order to make effective changes and yield lasting impacts.

- **Strengthening and building capacities for climate leadership**

The importance of **leadership at different levels in a climate-responsive transition** was highlighted by different experts. The role of the UN in setting international climate-responsive norms, the importance of national and local strategies towards climate-resilient development, the influence of CEOs' ambitious visions on the direction of their companies, and the significant role of youth leadership in accelerating climate actions on the ground as well as in political forums, were among other examples raised during the discussions in Local Governments and Cities Day.

As emphasized by different speakers, such forward-looking leaderships should be nourished by further capacity-building for leaders. The climate leaders in turn can build capacities of others, by exchanging knowledge and sharing examples of their success stories. Emphasized in particular, was the importance of simplified messaging to communicate climate strategies of leaders in ways that resonate with their audience; community members, students, workers, or constituents.

- **Mobilizing actors and building capacities of individuals through advocacy and communication**

Speakers from different backgrounds acknowledged the importance of communications in building climate capacities, engaging broader groups of actors, and boosting the impact of actions on the ground. Creating easy-to-understand and inclusive narratives, broadening the reach of climate activism by the use of social media, and strengthening the impact of climate advocacy through storytelling were among other highlights of discussions on this topic.

Outcomes and next steps

This section outlines a list of tools, methodologies, platforms, projects, or initiatives that have been presented during different sessions of the Local Governments and Cities Day. Where applicable, concrete recommendations and follow-up actions that arose during the discussions are listed. Further information and relevant documents to the individual events—including the concept note, presentations, and the name of speakers- are available on the webpage of the [Local Governments and Cities Day](#).

'High-level opening session':

Next Step [The 2020 World Urban Forum](#), Abu Dhabi (organized by UN-Habitat)

'City-level capacity-building for resilience' session:

Initiative [One Planet City Challenge\(OPCC\)](#), (led by WWF), a **friendly competition** to mobilize cities to deliver on the Paris Agreement

Next step [BLOXHUB summer school in Urban Resilience](#), open to practitioners, (co-organized by University of Southern Denmark)

Next step [SDU Summer School in Urban Resilience](#), for undergrad and graduate students, (co-organized by University of Southern Denmark)

'City-level capacity-building for climate action' session:

Next step The Second International Conference on "Water, Megacities and Global Change" ([EauMega 2020](#)), (co-organized by UNESCO)

'Empowering individuals & organizations for climate change' session:

Tool Using an online platforms -[MENTI](#)- in a pre-training capacity assessment of participants' knowledge and priorities in order to best respond to their needs in organizing activities and information (showcased by UN-Habitat)

Methodology Climate adaptation measures in Cities in Peru (developed by Cities for Life Forum)

Highlight of the day

More on 'Young women as climate changemakers' panel:

Leading up to the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, the decade was dubbed the “Turnaround Decade” and the youth environmental activists of the time, the “Turnaround Generation”. Severn Suzuki, a 12 year-old environmental activist, gave a speech to the gathered world leaders which went viral in a pre-Internet world. “The Girl that Silenced the World for Five Minutes” stated, “Coming up here today, I have no hidden agenda. I am fighting for my future...what you do makes me cry at night. You grown-ups say you love us. But I challenge you, please, make your actions reflect your words.”

Now 30 years later we see that much of the promise of that decade has been lost, a new young woman has come forward. Greta Thunberg’s words reflect the frustration of the three decades of people who spent their lives trying to transform our society to one that is sustainable. It is no longer the “Turnaround Decade”. We have now been told that we no longer have 10 years, but only at maximum 8 years to turn this all around.

Moderated by Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat, this panel was composed of five young women and one young male climate activist, from Mexico, Norway, Uganda, USA, and Kenya. The panelists reflected on the leadership role they have played in the climate movement, and discussed their proudest moments of activism. The young climate activists also discussed strategies that can be employed by individuals, cities, and local governments, to support the many millions that are impacted by the effects of climate change.



“I am most proud of bringing the indigenous voice to these talks. Indigenous philosophy says that we have to take care of the earth, because the earth takes care of us.”

Xiye Bastida - Young Climate Activist

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION DAY



9:00-9:15	Opening of the Means of Implementation Day
9:15-10:45	Roundtable on coherence & coordination
11:00-12:30	Integrating climate risk in national processes: Capacity-building, finance & budgeting perspective
13:00-14:30	Strengthening climate finance: Preparing successful GCF water projects and the AF and GCF community of practice for Direct Access Entities (CPDAE)
14:45-16:15	Gender-Just Climate Solutions Awards
16:30-17:30	Endogenous or Indigenous? Building countries capacities to develop climate technologies; A dialogue to promote shared understanding of endogenous capacities and technologies
17:45-19:15	Building countries capacity on circular economy as a medium to tackle climate change: initiatives in Latin America & the Caribbean and international best practices
19:30-20:30	Climate legislation and governance for enhanced climate ambition: Lessons learnt from the UK, Vietnam, Colombia and Mexico



MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION DAY

Monday, December 9, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

Led by



United Nations Climate Change
Paris Committee on Capacity-building

Co-organized by



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



GLOBAL
RESILIENCE
PARTNERSHIP



GLOBAL
COMMISSION ON
ADAPTATION



Global Water
Partnership



ADAPTATION FUND



WEFC

TEC



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

By numbers

7	28+	300+	58	47
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

The Means of Implementation Day highlighted opportunities for countries to build capacity to implement their NDCs and NAPs. Successfully implementing climate change plans requires a wide range of capacities: developing projects, creating supportive legislation, accessing finance, and utilizing the right technologies. The Means of Implementation Day presented seven events spanning these essential aspects of climate action implementation (see the [Agenda](#)).

The morning kicked off with a roundtable organized by the PCCB on how coherence and coordination contribute to improved implementation. This was followed by a new initiative that aimed to strengthen the integration of climate risks into government planning, budgetary, and policy functions. It included specific steps that governments should take to ensure the well-being and safety of their citizens.

Following the lunch break, presenters delved into capacity-building for project development and accessing finance, followed by a ceremonial event, celebrating the contribution of Gender Just Climate Solutions Award winners.

Next, the two arms of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism shared how countries can access capacity-building and technical assistance on a broad range of adaptation and mitigation technology sectors. The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) addressed support for endogenous technologies and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) shared a new circular economy initiative in Latin America. The day concluded with a discussion of the challenges and opportunities for capacity-building, on implementation, monitoring, and reporting, as well as climate legislation and governance.

Highlights of discussions

With the active participation of constituted bodies established under the UNFCCC, the day provided a platform for a wide range of stakeholders to discuss topics of interest related to the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Through different modalities, experts from across regions shared their experiences, lessons learned, as well as their capacity-building needs and priorities, towards 2020 and beyond. Some highlights of the discussions were:

- **Innovative approaches and transformative changes in capacity-building for climate action**

It was widely agreed that the business-as-usual scenarios, policies, and actions are not adequately responsive to the growing climate emergency. Experts from different backgrounds acknowledged the need for transformative changes and identified capacity-building as a critical element of such a transition. They discussed multiple examples of innovative actions, including ‘utilizing different modalities and platforms to engage stakeholders’, ‘making business cases for climate actions’, and ‘approaching the circular economy as a medium to tackle climate change’.

- **Empowering countries to take ownership of their climate action**

The topic of countries’ ownership was highlighted in different sessions, shedding light on the importance of nationally-driven processes for assessing the financial and technological needs of countries, as well as formulating context-driven, participatory, equitable, and endogenous responses. While governments play a key role in enabling such processes, empowering non-state actors through capacity-building is critical to carry out such exercises.

It was discussed that national universities can be the main actors in brokering policy-relevant knowledge and building capacities of national governments with adequate means and tools to identify countries’ gaps and needs. Through networks of universities such as Least Developed Countries Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC), governments are also able to draw from lessons learned in other regions and develop context-driven solutions in response to their own national realities.

- **Coherence and coordination in climate-related capacity-building activities**

Acknowledged by the representatives of various constituted bodies, promoting collaboration, partnerships, and complementarities in the work of actors under and outside the Convention, is key to boosting the effectiveness of capacity-building efforts. Speakers highlighted some of their ongoing projects and indicated further possibilities to work with other bodies, particularly the PCCB. The Capacity-building Portal, Capacity-building Hub, and the PCCB Network were acknowledged as leveraging platforms for enhancing coherence and coordination in capacity-building efforts of different actors.

- **Enhancing the delivery of readiness and capacity-building support to countries**

Focused on climate-related finance and technology readiness, country representatives highlighted the fact that many countries struggle with inadequate capacities to navigate the access modalities to climate finance, or to develop technical proposals and projects that meet the requirements of climate funds. Experience-sharing among countries, utilizing the knowledge acquired by communities of practice, providing technical assistance to developing countries, and building capacities of national experts to navigate such processes, were among the highlights of discussions on this topic.

- **The importance of sharing experiences and peer-to-peer learning in the implementation of Paris Agreement**

South-South, South-North, and triangular cooperation, as well as network building were recurrently highlighted during the conversations at the Means of Implementation Day. The sessions were enriched by a diversity of examples of capacity-building efforts through such modalities. It was emphasized that knowledge-sharing among countries helps to scale-up effective climate solutions.

Speakers and experts from different backgrounds also illustrated the importance of interdisciplinary and cross-sector knowledge-sharing in order to foster greater coherence and coordination in climate-related capacity-building efforts.

Outcomes and next steps

This section outlines a list of tools, methodologies, platforms, projects, or initiatives that have been presented during different sessions of the Means of Implementation Day. Where applicable, concrete recommendations and follow-up actions that arose during the discussions are provided. Further information and relevant documents to the individual events – including the concept note, presentations, and the name of speakers – are available on the webpage of the [Means of Implementation Day](#).

‘Roundtable on coherence & coordination’ session:

Publication Technical paper (developed by PCCB) on [‘Analysis of coherence and coordination gaps and needs related to capacity-building activities under the Convention’](#)

‘Integrating climate risk in national processes: Capacity-building, finance & budgeting perspective’ session:

Initiative Mainstreaming Climate Risk Management into Government Decision Making, (under development by the UK Government, the Global Resilience Partnership and the Global Commission on Adaptation)

‘Strengthening climate finance: Preparing successful GCF water projects and the AF and GCF community of practice for Direct Access Entities’ session:

Initiative Official launch of the Community of Practice for Direct Access Entities (CPDAE)

‘Gender-Just Climate Solutions Awards’ session:

Publication [Gender Just Climate Solutions 2019](#), (developed by Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) and Women and Gender Constituency)

Next step Mentoring programme to scale-up actions and share experiences of previous award winners

‘Climate legislation and governance for enhanced climate ambition: Lessons learnt from the UK, Vietnam, Colombia and Mexico’ session:

Tool 2050 Calculator, (developed by the UK Government) supporting and informing policy making for the planning and implementation of NDCs

Highlight of the day

More on the 5th 'Gender-Just Climate Solutions Awards'

According to Gender Just Climate Solutions 2019 report, “women are still underrepresented in consultation and decision bodies at all levels, especially local and indigenous women, who are the bearers of ancestral knowledge that can contribute to appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies.” Launched by the Women and Gender Constituency in 2015, the Gender Just Climate Solutions Award honours the fundamental contribution of women in the fight against climate chaos and demonstrates the necessity to integrate gender equality in all climate policies.

The awards highlight ‘technical’, ‘non-technical’ and ‘transformational’ solutions that can bring about the type of ambition we need in climate action. It will inspire politicians and financiers to develop more effective and more inclusive climate strategies. The award winning projects in each of the three categories were:

In the Transformational Solutions category:

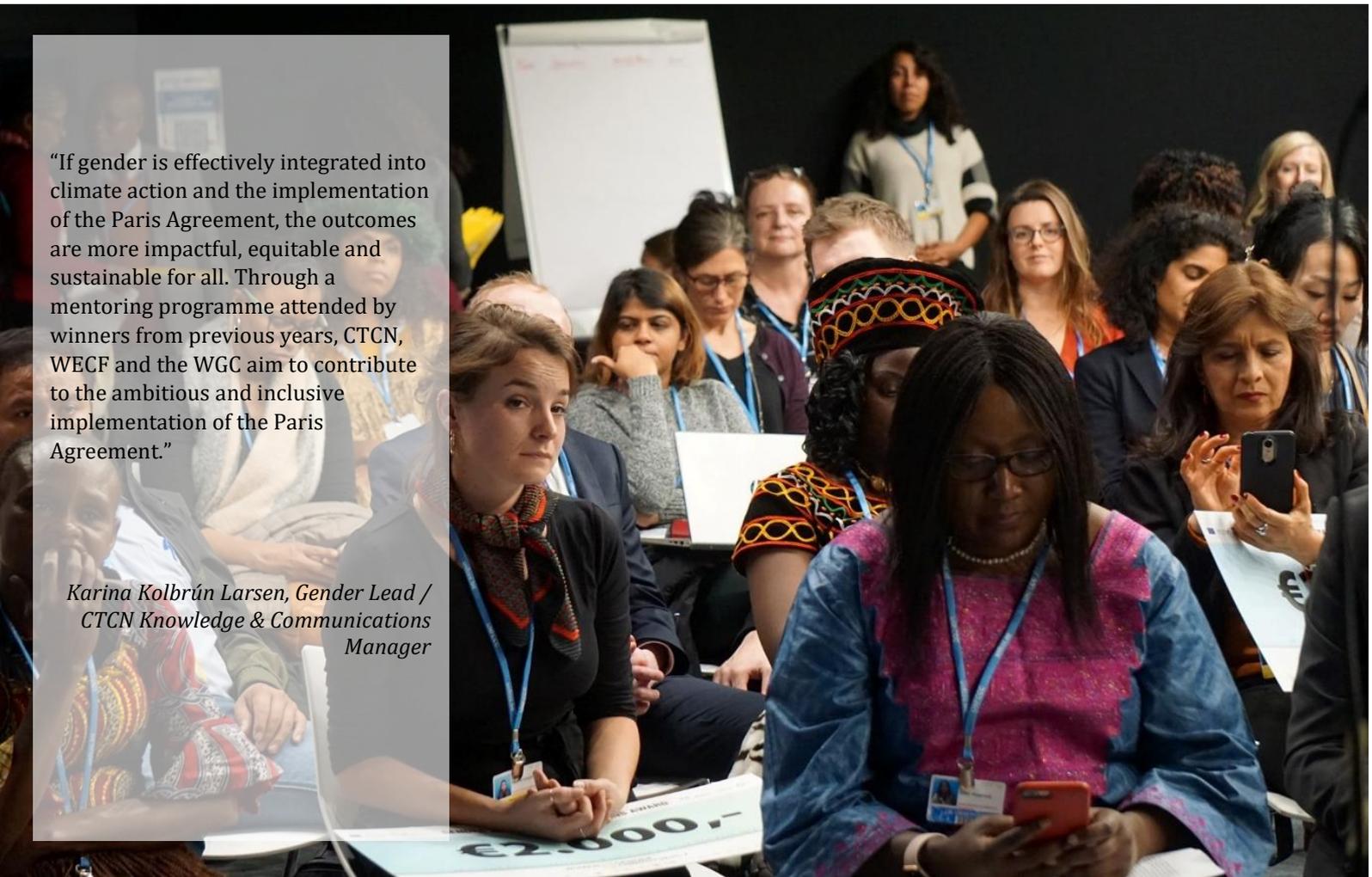
- ‘CAMEROON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT WATCH: engaging local and ethnic women in sustainable forest management, from Cameroon,

In the Non-technical Solutions category:

- ‘ENDA COLOMBIA’: a gender-responsive urban policy addressing the challenges of solid waste management in the poor suburbs of Bogota, from Columbia

In the Technical Solutions category:

- ‘UNIVERS-SEL’: Mangrove-preserving salt and rice production, from Guinea-Bissau and France



“If gender is effectively integrated into climate action and the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the outcomes are more impactful, equitable and sustainable for all. Through a mentoring programme attended by winners from previous years, CTCN, WECF and the WGC aim to contribute to the ambitious and inclusive implementation of the Paris Agreement.”

*Karina Kolbrún Larsen, Gender Lead /
CTCN Knowledge & Communications
Manager*

RAISING AMBITION DAY



8:45-9:00	Opening of the Raising Ambition Day
9:00-10:00	High-level session on raising ambition for climate action – the importance of capacity-building
10:15-11:45	Facilitating the involvement of the Latin American private sector into countries' NDC and SDG commitments
12:45-14:15	From words to climate action: climate projects in Latin America with innovative capacity-building solutions to promote gender equality, women's empowerment
14:30-15:30	Role of the Private Financing Advisory Network in building capacity of climate finance stakeholders to unlock frontier markets
15:45-17:15	Climate Action Enhancement Package: Raising ambition for NDCs
17:30-18:30	Raising ambition for climate action – the importance of capacity-building
18:30-19:00	Daily wrap-up



RAISING AMBITION DAY

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

Led by



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Co-organized by



By numbers

6	15+	120+	35	25
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

In light of the [IPCC report on emission scenarios](#), UN Climate Change has made it clear that the 1.5 degree scenario cannot be achieved without 'raising ambition' at multiple levels of governance. The Year 2020 marks a historical milestone for the implementation of climate pledges under the Paris Agreement, as well as actions aimed at achieving sustainable development goals, set by Agenda 2030. In the decade ahead of us, business as usual is not an option.

The impacts of climate change transcend borders and sectors and will affect millions of lives for years to come. Building consensus on climate action as an umbrella strategy, encompassing a wide array of actions towards a more-sustainable state of development is what Raising Ambition Day aimed to emphasize. This day also brought together representatives of international partnerships and networks, materializing the notion of collective action for higher ambitions.

The Raising Ambition Day was designed to foster dialogues on greater climate ambition and synergistic actions for the implementation of NDCs and SDGs through partnership, consensus building, and coordination at strategic and operational levels, from international to local communities.

Experts from a variety of sectors and institutions including governments, UN agencies, international coalitions and networks, and the private sector were asked to share examples of their actions, as well as pathways foreseen for higher ambitions. The [agenda](#) of the day accommodated panel discussions on the importance of capacity-building for 'raising ambition, 'engagement of private sector' and 'promoting gender equality' in climate actions.

Highlights of discussions

In addition to providing practical examples and success stories from across the sectors and regions, the discussions throughout the Raising Ambition Day highlighted the following issues:

- **Strengthening climate capacities through network building and multi-stakeholder partnerships at different levels**

Emphasizing the importance of collective action in the face of climate change, speakers in multiple sessions argued that network building is key to utilize existing knowledge and resources held by various actors at different levels. Establishing a network of entrepreneurs, local experts, and investors by the Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN) was discussed as an example of such efforts.

Special attention was paid to the importance of private-sector involvement in accelerating climate actions.

- **Capacity-building for transformative changes**

Different speakers highlighted various aspects of transformative changes, most namely through (1) deploying a holistic view to capacity-building, addressing individual, institutional, and systemic levels, (2) targeting education – not only towards raising awareness, but in the direction of behavioural and transformative change, (3) revolutionizing the understanding, planning, and financing of climate change adaptation, and (4) harnessing endogenous technologies in accelerating climate actions.

- **Incentivizing and empowering national and sub-national actors for higher ambition and enhanced climate action**

Formulating and promoting targeted incentives for different stakeholders was discussed as a needed policy for accelerating, mainstreaming, and up-scaling climate actions. Creating business incentives for the engagement of the private sector, and empowering community-level voices in the decision-making processes were discussed as examples of such policies.

- **Integrated reporting and long-term planning**

Measuring the impact of capacity-building activities was highlighted during different discussions during the Raising Ambition Day. Different speakers argued that integrated reporting systems and long-term planning could pave the way for more synergies in actions and yield lasting impacts on the ground.

- **Capacity-building for the implementation of NDCs**

One highlight of the discussions was the interlinkages of the NDCs to sectoral, national, and international development agendas. Building on this, broadening the scope of the NDCs over longer time spans and fostering multi-stakeholder consultations in the process of planning and implementation NDCs were emphasized as critical next steps.

Special attention was paid to the engagement and empowerment of local actors to take part in climate action. Focused on the effectiveness of context-driven climate solutions, investing in adaptation at local levels and mobilizing local knowledge and expertise in the formulation and implementation of NDCs, were among other recommendations for building the capacity of local actors in the combat against climate change.

- **Knowledge-sharing at the core of capacity-building**

Recurrently brought up in different sessions, exchanging knowledge, disseminating information, and sharing lessons learned from capacity-building efforts across sectors and regions were emphasized as effective means of capacity-building. Presented by different experts during the day, such practices would facilitate the access to information for different actors, contribute to the development of constructive dialogues among them, and provide guidance for effective actions.

- **Mainstreaming gender considerations and indigenous knowledge in climate actions**

During various sessions, speakers pointed out the existence of a gap between gender-responsive policies and their implementation on the ground. Taking into account the different realities prevailing in different regions, learning from past experiences, collecting gender-disaggregated data, and measuring the impacts of actions on the ground, were highlighted as steps towards bridging this gap.

Another aspect, raised in the discussions, was the importance of mainstreaming gender considerations, indigenous knowledge, and the involvement of youth in the formulation and implementation of the enhanced NDCs.

- **The role of education in climate-related capacity-building**

Backed up by examples of climate-related capacity-building training programmes, education was highlighted as a multiplier for promoting climate-responsive behavioural changes at different levels. Experts from UNESCO discussed how a holistic approach to education could raise awareness and foster climate-responsive actions, not only among the students, but in broader circles of teachers, parents, families, community leaders, and all the other actors at the local level.

- **Coherence and coordination in capacity-building efforts**

The importance of coherent policies and coordinated actions between constituted bodies under the Convention, as well as other actors involved in climate-related capacity-building were recurrently emphasized. It was firmly agreed by different actors that coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities is key to boost synergistic climate actions and avoid duplication of work and ineffective use of resources. Along the same lines, fostering coherent policies and synergistic actions for capacity-building within and among international frameworks such as the SDGs, The Paris Agreement, and CEDAW, were highlighted.

Outcomes and next steps

This section outlines a list of tools, methodologies, platforms, projects, or initiatives that have been presented during different sessions of the Raising Ambition Day. Where applicable, concrete recommendations and follow-up actions that arose during the discussions, are summarized. Further

information and relevant documents to the individual events—including the concept note, presentations, and the name of speakers- are available on the webpage of the [Raising Ambition Day](#).

‘Facilitating the involvement of the Latin American private sector into countries’ NDC and SDG commitments’ session:

Methodology [The ICAT Series of Assessment Guides](#), (developed by ICAT) assessing the transformational impact of climate actions at national level, with examples from Costa Rica, Mexico, Uganda and Tonga

‘From words to climate action: climate projects in Latin America with innovative capacity-building solutions to promote gender equality, women’s empowerment’ session:

Publication UN LAC inter-agency publication, (developed by UNDP, UN Women, UNEP) on gender-responsive environmental initiatives, to be launched next year

‘Climate Action Enhancement Package: Raising ambition for NDCs’ session:

Next step Third round of submissions to the [Climate Action Enhancement Package \(CAEP\)](#)

Highlight of the day

More on ‘NDC Partnership Climate Action Enhancement Package’:

The Climate Action Enhancement Package is a new offering of the NDC Partnership designed to deliver targeted, fast-track support to countries to enhance the quality, increase the ambition, and implement NDCs. Under the Paris Agreement, countries revise their NDCs every five years to cut GHG emissions to limit global temperature rise and implement solutions to adapt to the effects of climate change. The updating of NDCs presents countries with significant opportunities to align their climate and development agendas to promote sustainable growth, but also presents challenges in reinventing policies and operations and mobilizing enough investment.



#T

The CAEP aims to catalyze transformational change towards resilient, sustainable, and low-emission development, supporting the objectives of the Paris Agreement for member countries of the NDC Partnership.

-NDC Partnership



LOSS AND DAMAGE BLOCK

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

By numbers

2	8+	35+	4	4
Sessions	Activities	Participants	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

Led by the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM Excom) for Loss and Damage, the Block was conducted in eight segments: two presentations – providing an overview of the work of WIM Excom and the PCCB on the topic of loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, one panel discussion – on the work of International Federation of Red Cross on the issue of loss and damage, followed by an interactive capacity-building workshop, organized by the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre.

The workshop was focused on ‘humour’ as an unconventional approach to engage people and organizations in difficult conversations surrounding the issue of loss and damage. Over the course of this workshop, the participants were engaged in a set of innovative communication activities that can support the work of UNFCCC stakeholders on the topic. The following elements were the focus of discussions in each segment:

- Easy-to-learn activities that combine serious work with engaging, fun interactions
- Basics of how humour works, from neuroscience to evolutionary psychology, with insights for COP-like processes
- In-depth training on how to harness the power of humour, especially cartoons, to enable difficult conversations
- Case studies from previous work by the World Bank, GIZ, Red Cross and other entities
- Potential applications for loss and damage

In addition to a summary of the activities of their organization in addressing the issue of loss and damage, the speakers highlighted the importance of ‘enhancing knowledge and understanding of climate risk management at multiple levels’, ‘strengthening dialogue, coherence and coordination among actors’, and ‘applying integrated risk management approaches to the actions on the ground’.

Highlights of discussions

Enriched by a diversity of perspectives, the discussions in this half-day event shed light on capacity-building as an integral element of climate actions in addressing the issue of loss and damage. Some of the priorities that recurrently came up during the discussions are as follows:

- Innovative communications

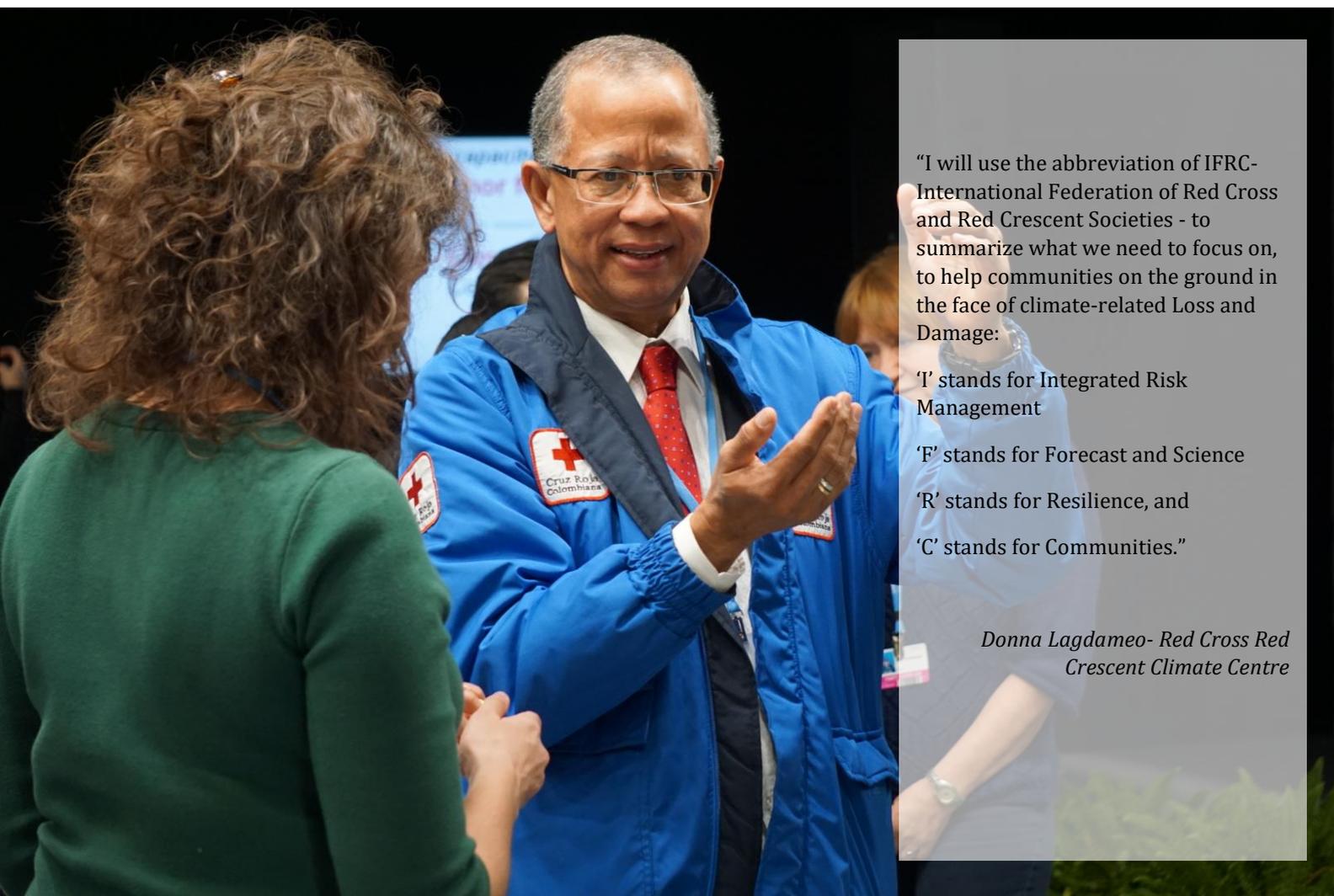
Effective communication was emphasized as key for raising awareness, exchanging knowledge, and building/retaining **participatory and adaptive capacities** of individuals, organizations, and communities in tackling the issue of climate-related Loss and Damage. Some of the innovative means of communications that have been discussed, included using **art forms** and **cultural connotation** for awareness raising and education on the topic, deploying **interactive modalities of dialogues** and knowledge sharing, and harnessing unconventional media such as **humor** to facilitate thought processes and encourage actions by different actors.

- Participatory, bottom-up, community-level actions

Special emphasis was placed on the importance of fostering **participatory processes** of decision-making, **integrative** approaches to **climate risk management**, **bottom-up risk mapping**, and **community-level** planning for preparedness and resilience.

- Coherence and coordination

Supporting coherent policies and coordinated actions was highlighted as a top priority in boosting the impact of climate-related international bodies, including the PCCB and the WIM Excom. Representatives of both bodies stressed the significance of continued collaborations and coordinated actions to avoid duplication of work and enhance the effectiveness of actions.



"I will use the abbreviation of IFRC- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - to summarize what we need to focus on, to help communities on the ground in the face of climate-related Loss and Damage:

'I' stands for Integrated Risk Management

'F' stands for Forecast and Science

'R' stands for Resilience, and

'C' stands for Communities."

Donna Lagdameo- Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre



MARKETPLACE; CAPACITY-BUILDING TALKS

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

[Event's webpage](#)

By numbers

8	50+	1000+	20	17
Sessions	Participants on-site	Viewers online	Experts	Institutions

Context and programme overview

In an effort to encourage innovative ideas for the exchange of knowledge in the capacity-building community, the Steering Committee of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub decided to conclude the Hub with a half-day Capacity-building Marketplace, dedicated to stand-up talks on a variety of issues relevant to climate-related capacity-building (see the [Agenda](#)). In addition to the [Skype live broadcast](#), the Capacity-building Marketplace was streamed online on the [PCCB Facebook page](#) and engaged close to 1000 viewers off-site.

Highlights of discussions

A roundtable on transparency and ambitious climate action by the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) was followed by seven capacity-building stand-up talks. The speakers shared their works, experiences, ideas, and stories on building and retaining greater climate capacities at different levels of governance and institutional touchpoints. In their own words, the speakers highlighted their focus for 2020 and beyond:

"Supporting states and regions to measure their emissions accelerates climate action".

The Climate Group-Jebi Rahman and Milimer Morgado

Strengthening links between science and government for the development of public policies for climate change adaptation in threatened territories."

LatinoAdapta- Mariana Nicolletti

"Tackling the complex problem of climate change: a plea for a deep re-thinking of the methods we use to make sense of it."

The New Humanism Project-Gaston Meskens

“Building capacity and building peace: conflict management as a Key Human Dimension.”

Mediators without Borders- Gregg Walker and Joseph Siegel

“To fight climate change in the 21st century, let us ensure that we are equipped with a modern tax system adapted to the realities of this century.”

TaxCOOP-Louise Otis and Brigitte Alepin

“Symbiosis between mining, energy, and infrastructure sectors is critical, and we know how to do it: secondary [minerals]-first strategy!”

Warsaw University-Tomasz Szczygielski

Spanning a range of topics -‘transparency at region/state level’, ‘science-policy dialogues’, ‘technological transformations’, ‘methodological innovations’, ‘human dimensions and social capital’, ‘tax tools’ , and ‘circular economy’- the capacity-building marketplace touched upon different aspects of capacity-building for climate action. These stand-up talks provided a concise recap of the discussions during the 2nd Capacity-building Hub, over the course of seven days. Organized for the first time, Capacity-building Talks are proved to be effective ways to disseminate knowledge, share experiences, and encourage multi-disciplinary dialogues among different actors.



Jebi Rahman



Milimer Morgado



Mariana Nicoletti



Mario Cerutti



Gaston Meskens



Joseph Siegel



Gregg Walker



Brigitte Alepin



Louise Otis



Tomasz Szczygielski

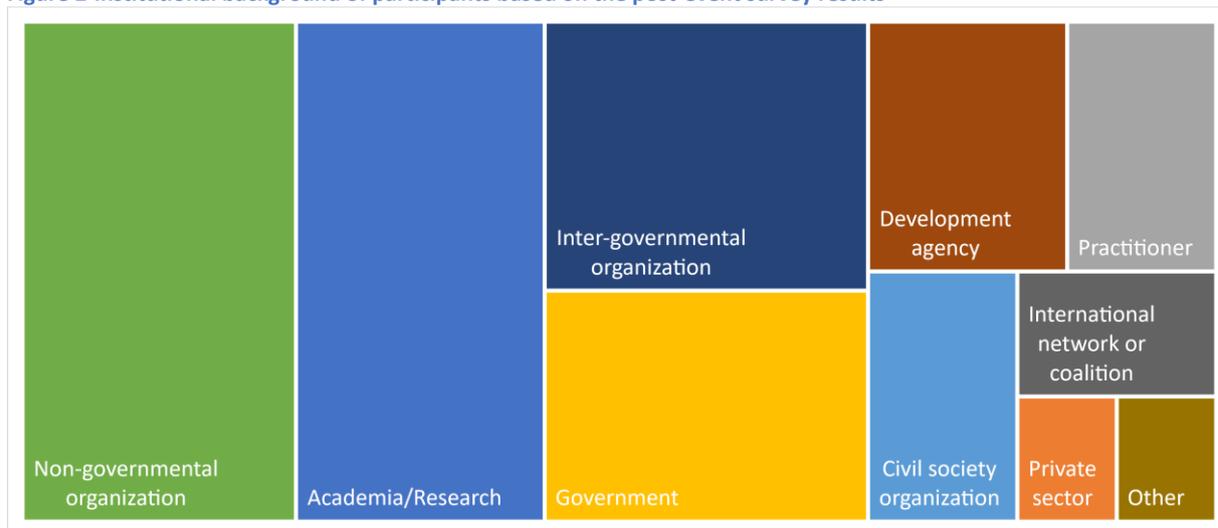
Chapter3-The 2nd Capacity-building Hub ‘in a nutshell’

This chapter takes a step back and captures a holistic view of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub. It begins with a fact sheet of activities and actors, followed by a comparative analysis of the thematic days. The last segment of the chapter provides a summary of the feedback received online via post-event surveys for participants and organizers.

Numbers and actors

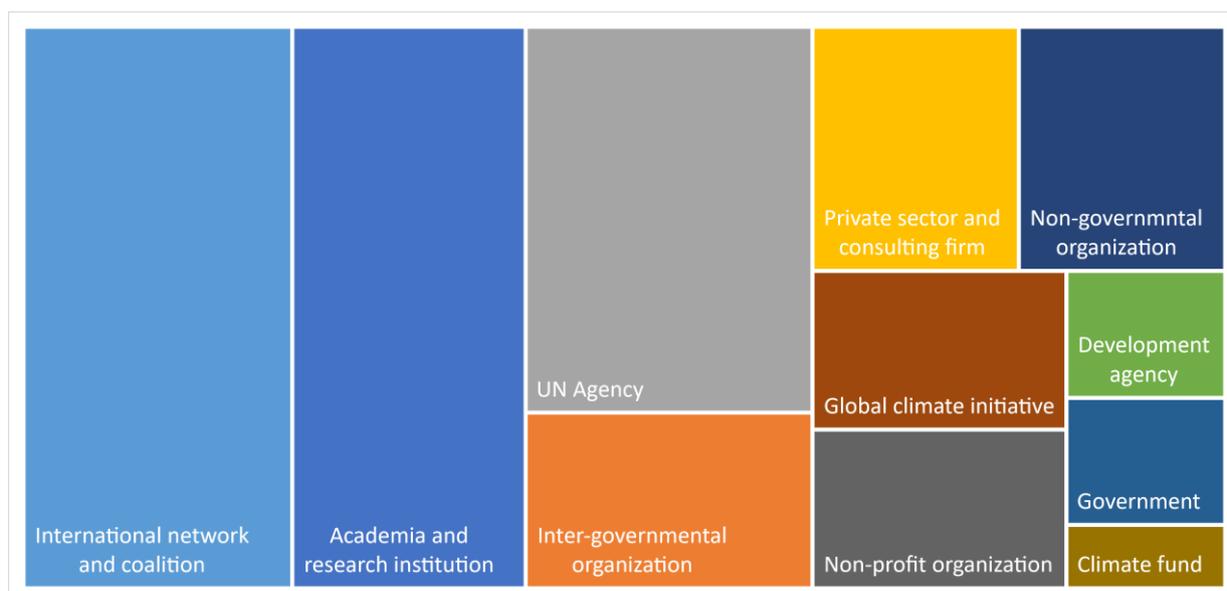
Over the course of seven thematic days, more than 1200 participants visited the Capacity-building Hub. The activities of the Hub were streamed online and, where possible, off-site audiences were able to interact with the speakers through online means of communication, most commonly the [PCCB Facebook](#) page. The outcomes of a post-event survey indicate a great diversity of participants in the 2nd Capacity-building Hub [Figure 2], with a higher share from ‘academia’ and ‘NGOs’.

Figure 2-Institutional background of participants based on the post-event survey results



Sixty-seven partners, including ten lead organizations, were mobilized to plan, organize, and support the implementation of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub. Accepted through an open call for expressions of interest, the partner organizations represented a diversity of institutions [Figure 3], with a greater share of ‘international networks and coalitions’ [22%], ‘academia and research institutions’ [19%], and UN agencies [16%].

Figure 3-Institutional background of organizing partners



Overall, close to 140 activities were conducted through 55 sessions. The sessions were organized in different modalities with majority being moderated panel discussions [38%], followed by

addresses and keynote speeches [23%] and roundtables and stand-up talks [each 11%]. Other modalities of the sessions were workshops [6%], ceremonial events [6%], and consultations [5%]. Through these modalities, more than 260 experts from over 210 institutions shared their experiences, knowledge, and opinions. A cross section of the Capacity-building Hub substantive discussions

Touching upon a diversity of topics, the discussions in the 2nd Capacity-building Hub showed an impressive level of alignment and convergence in their focus and approach. Although centered on different themes, a shared vision of priorities could be traced throughout the seven days of exchanges among different actors in the capacity-building community. This section illuminates the eight recurring topics that arose during the discussions of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub.

Building climate capacities conducive to transformational changes

The need for deploying transformative climate actions in materializing higher ambitions was recurrently discussed during multiple thematic days of the Hub. Experts from different sectors shed light on various aspects of transformational changes through the lenses of:

- **Education;** the role of education was emphasized as an enabler for behavioural change, a multiplier for building and strengthening climate capacities of different demographic groups, and a vehicle for breaking cycles of climate-blind habits at different levels.
- **Governance and legal frameworks;** the significance of legal frameworks in mobilizing actors and mainstreaming climate actions across different sectors at the national and international levels, was stressed. It was highlighted that innovation in developing policy tools, regulations, and legal measures, would enable transformational changes at a sizable scale.
- **Community-based approaches;** mobilizing local knowledge and expertise through capacity-building can help local communities to develop context-driven solutions and take ownership of climate actions. It also allows for inclusive participation of local actors and increases the adaptive capacities of communities against the adverse impacts of climate change.
- **Leadership;** it was stressed that capacity-building for climate change should mobilize leaders at different levels – from local communities to businesses, organizations, and governments –to become advocates for climate actions in their groups.

Strengthening individual, institutional, and systemic capacities to accelerate collective climate actions

Taking a holistic approach to capacity-building was emphasized as a key factor in enabling collective, effective, and accelerated climate actions at international, national, and sub-national levels. A holistic approach to capacity-building entails building and retaining climate capacities at the individual, institutional, and systemic levels, involving multiple actors and sectors. Such an approach would enable a well-functioning governance system which is conducive to building trust and encouraging collaboration among different actors. Some of the suggestions in this regard were discussed by different experts, as listed below:

- Formulating and promoting buy-in incentives, such as business incentives, decision-making power, to engage and mobilize different stakeholders in climate action, particularly actors from the private sector, community leaders, and minority groups
- Harnessing legal tools and policy frameworks to encourage PPPs for climate action
- Enhancing transparency, accountability, and participatory approaches in capacity-building efforts

Enabling network building and knowledge sharing among actors involved in capacity-building for climate action

Many discussions throughout the 2nd Capacity-building Hub revolved around the importance of connecting various actors involved in climate-related capacity-building, through regional and thematic network building, strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships, and encouraging international cooperation and knowledge exchange through such platforms. Special attention was paid to the potential role that such networks can play in the formulation, enhancement, and implementation of NDCs and NAPs.

The positive impact of sharing success stories of climate actions as well as lessons learned across sectors and regions, was also acknowledged by a diverse array of actors throughout the 2nd Capacity-building Hub. Suggestions, among others, focused on:

- **Peer-to-peer learning** through national, regional, and international networks of academics, practitioners, government representatives, and private-sector actors
- Harnessing **online platforms** and digital technologies to exchange knowledge, provide training, foster interdisciplinary dialogues, and strengthen networks of actors
- Enhancing the science-policy interface at the national level through effective participation of universities and research institutions in policy-making processes

Taking innovative approaches to capacity-building for climate change

Discussions at the Capacity-building Hub emphasized the importance of innovation in formulating and exercising climate-related capacity-building. Different suggestions shed light on examples of innovation in:

- **Communications;** taking innovative approaches to communications was highlighted as key in boosting the effectiveness of capacity-building efforts. Storytelling, humor, art forms, games, and social media, were among other examples discussed in this regard.
- **Use of technologies;** harnessing existing and emerging technologies can provide feasible solutions, disseminate knowledge, and facilitate the process of climate-related capacity-building for individuals, communities, and organizations. E-learning and knowledge-exchange platforms, use of blockchain technology in climate reporting and tracking, and interactive climate databases were among other examples of such efforts that were shared and discussed.
- **Conducting research and training;** different sessions in the Capacity-building Hub illuminated the importance of departing from conventional research and pedagogical methods and embracing unconventional sources of knowledge, forms of knowledge production, and methods of knowledge transfer.

Enhancing the impact of climate-related capacity-building through effective communication

Different thematic days communicated the need for effective communication among different actors, within and outside the capacity-building community. This is key to enhance the effectiveness of capacity-building efforts, broaden the reach of impact, and foster the synergies of work among different actors. Some of the highlights of the discussions on this topic were:

- Utilizing **digital tools, online platforms, and social media** for raising awareness, sharing knowledge, and accelerating climate actions
- Giving a **popular face to climate-related capacity-building**, e.g. through the mobilization of local and regional champions, media influencers or celebrities

- Engaging **unconventional actors**, such as museums, public libraries, schools, and community centers, in broadening the reach of capacity-building efforts

Higher capacities for navigating climate data and measuring impacts

Whether through the lenses of MRV systems, predictive data, or impact evaluation, the topic of climate data was raised, debated, and highlighted over many sessions of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub. The underpinning focus of discussions signified the need for:

- Availability and comparability of policy-relevant data across sector and regions
- Technical capacity to interpret data and inform policies
- Integrated MRV systems at national, sub-national, and sectoral levels
- Measuring the impact and effectiveness of capacity-building efforts

Mainstreaming gender issues, human rights, youth perspectives, and indigenous voices, in capacity-building for climate change

Gender-responsiveness, just transition, and inclusiveness in climate action, were among top focuses throughout the Hub. Showcasing a diverse range of experiences and actions undertaken in these areas by stakeholders across multiple sectors and regions, the discussions in the Capacity-building Hub demonstrated a number of issues to advance such efforts towards 2020, and beyond:

- The involvement of youth and indigenous groups entails institutional capacity-building in the legal framework of policy-making at national and international levels
- Gender-responsiveness capacity-building efforts must be translated into actions when implemented on the ground, building and strengthening the capacities of different groups in a just and inclusive manner
- Building and strengthening the climate capacities of indigenous groups and local communities should go beyond making their voices heard in the decision-making processes. It should facilitate their access to climate finance and mainstream their involvement in the implementation of local climate actions.

Enhancing coherence and coordination in capacity-building efforts within national and international climate agendas

The importance of coherence and coordination in climate-related capacity-building efforts under and outside the Convention were recurrently emphasized throughout different thematic days, and by different actors. The topic was addressed through different lenses, focused on different aspects of climate agendas:

- From a **legal** perspective, a **climate-responsive paradigm-shift in public policy** and economic **regulation** was described as key for the strategic and operational alignment of sectors and actors at the national level.
- From a **socio-political** perspective, consensus-building among different groups of actors and stakeholders was emphasized to foster a shared vision and effect coordinated actions at different levels.
- From a **governance** position, establishing a common policy framework at national, sub-national, and local levels, together with enforced checks and balances, was highlighted as a crucial step towards coherence and coordination in capacity-building related policies and actions. Mainstreaming capacity-building efforts into the planning and implementation of NDCs and developing relevant indicators to measure the effectiveness of such actions were among other highlights of the discussions.

- From an **international cooperation** standpoint, fostering a shared vision with clear roadmaps for action at different levels, were discussed as a critical elements in fostering coherent and coordinated climate actions across sectors, regions, and nations. Building on interlinkages and synergies among different international frameworks, i.e the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, was particularly highlighted.

Feedback and evaluations

The Capacity-building Hub is a continuous process of co-learning, and an evolving platform for the exchange and co-creation of knowledge. It is established to provide a platform for the exchange of knowledge, innovative collaborations, and forward-looking dialogues within the capacity-building community. The PCCB recognizes the importance of active learning and continuous refinement in the development of the Capacity-building Hub.

By enabling feedback-seeking mechanisms, the PCCB aims to ensure that the Hub is a fit-for-purpose platform that serves the mandate of the PCCB, while staying relevant and responsive to the needs of the capacity-building community. In this regard, feedback is sought from organizers and participants of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub, via online post-event surveys as well as direct communications, online and on-site.

Participants' feedback

- Based on the outcome of submissions through the online post-event survey, close to 80% of participants evaluates the event as 'excellent' and 'very good'.
- Over 96% of respondents find the information provided of complete relevance and usefulness for their work. The same portion of respondents feel confident in their ability to transfer the lessons learned/methods/tools from the event into their context/sector.
- Close to 80% of the respondents agree that the arrangement of the event allowed for smooth interaction among participants and speakers. The same percentage evaluate the content provided and the performance of the speakers as 'excellent' or 'very good'.

Organizers' feedback

- Submissions from the organizers echo the positive feedback received from the participants. Close to 80% of the respondents evaluate the event as 'excellent' or 'very good', and all respondents are eager to collaborate with other organizing partners of their thematic day in the future.
- Over 70% of the respondents are 'perfectly' or 'largely' satisfied with the modalities and agenda of their thematic day, and 100% find the hub as a suitable platform to expand their professional network.

The PCCB will continue to seek feedback, analyze, and reflect on the outcomes of the 2nd Capacity-building Hub. Suggestions and inputs are welcome from all members of the capacity-building community, worldwide.

The way forward

The success and significance of the Capacity-building Hub were acknowledged by a wide array of actors during COP25, placing capacity-building in the spotlight of the conference. As the Parties agreed on the extension of the PCCB's workover the coming years, they solidified the Hub as an integral part of the Committee's workplan for 2020-2025.

The Capacity-building Hub will continue to be an inclusive and engaging platform for capacity-building actors at the UN Climate Change Conferences.

As a meet-up for capacity-building stakeholders from different institutional and geographical backgrounds, the Capacity-building Hub fosters the creation and dissemination of knowledge, and embodies the spirit of collaboration within the capacity-building community.

The PCCB will discuss the modalities of the 3rd Capacity-building Hub at the 4th meeting of the Committee in June 2020, taking into account the lessons learned, as well as feedback and recommendations received, from partners and participants of this Hub.

Further updates regarding the 3rd Capacity-building Hub will be subsequently available [online](#). Suggestions and initiatives from all interested organizations and actors are welcome. The PCCB can be contacted at this [email](#).



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