

Informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG)

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Summary report of the sixth meeting

(held on 11 December 2023, 12:30-14:00 GST/UTC +4)

I. Background

ICG establishment and objective

In line with the workplan of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) for 2021-2024¹, the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG) was established in early 2021.

The ICG currently meets twice per year in a hybrid format on the margins of existing sessions. Information on the agendas and outcomes of all meetings is available on the dedicated ICG website.²

The purpose of the ICG is to create a conducive space for representatives of constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to coordinate climate change-related capacity-building plans and activities, and allow for better sharing of information, coherence, and identification of opportunities.³

ICG membership

The ICG currently (as at December 2023) comprises 27 members from 16 constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant UNFCCC processes.⁴

Sixth ICG meeting

The sixth ICG meeting (ICG 6) was held on Tuesday, 11 December 2023, 12:30–14:00 GST/UTC+4, in conjunction with COP 28 in Dubai, UAE. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid manner with virtual participants connected through MS Teams. The agenda of the meeting can be found in the annex to this document. ICG 6 was moderated by Roberta Ianna, PCCB co-chair and lead of PCCB working group 1 on coherence and coordination of capacity-building.

Anticipated participants were the members of the ICG, including members of PCCB working group 1 and nominated representatives of the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) process, Adaptation Committee (AC), Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) secretariat, Consultative

¹ Available here: <https://unfccc.int/documents/267207>.

² See <https://unfccc.int/PCCB-ICG>.

³ FCCC/SBI/2020/13 Annex II

⁴ For the membership list refer to: <https://unfccc.int/PCCB-ICG>.

Group of Experts (CGE), Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM ExCom), Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP), Global Environment Facility (GEF) secretariat, Green Climate Fund (GCF) secretariat, Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures (KCI), Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), Lima Work Programme on Gender, Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation to climate change (NWP), Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), and Technology Executive Committee (TEC). The final list of participants of ICG 6 is contained in the annex of this report.

To aid members in preparing for the meeting, the PCCB updated the forward-looking overview of capacity-building activities⁵ undertaken by constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant processes represented in the ICG. ICG members actively contributed to the updating of this document, which is available on the ICG webpage.

II. Meeting Summary

Update on the evaluation of the ICG

Following welcoming remarks and words of gratitude shared by Roberta Ianna addressed to all ICG members for contributing to the six ICG capacity-building resource e-booklets that were launched at COP 28⁶, the ICG members turned to agenda item 2, which focused on an update concerning the evaluation of progress of the ICG, undertaken intersessionally by the PCCB.

Ms. Ianna recalled that at PCCB 7 in June 2023, the PCCB agreed on the scope, sources and timeline for an evaluation of progress of the ICG, scheduled to take place in 2023 in accordance with the workplan of the PCCB.⁷ She noted that the evaluation of progress has been a proactive effort by the PCCB and not mandated by the COP or CMA. The PCCB decided to undertake this effort to assess whether the work of the ICG is on track, adds value to its members and contributes to the mandate of the PCCB to enhance coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

The evaluation exercise started in August and was completed ahead of COP 28 with the preparation of an evaluation report that will be shared with ICG members immediately after ICG 6. In light of a relatively low response rate to the evaluation survey targeting ICG members, the survey will be reopened until 31 January 2024 to seek additional views and perspectives from ICG members. Ms. Ianna concluded her update by noting that a session at ICG 7 in June 2024 will be dedicated to discuss the findings of the evaluation report, as well

⁵ Available at:

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Forward%20looking%20overview_Nov%202023.pdf

⁶ Available at: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/pccb-informal-coordination-group/capacity-building-resource-e-booklets->

⁷ See PCCB/2023/10, paras. 20-22.

as of the additional responses to the evaluation survey. This discussion at ICG 7 will be instrumental in informing the future direction and work of the ICG.

Fostering holistic approaches to building capacity for engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Agenda item 3 was led by Natasha Museba (FWG Party member from UN Regional Group: Africa) and Grace Balwag (FWG IP member from UN indigenous sociocultural region: Asia).

Ms Balwag started with a short introduction of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP), its mandate and its three functions, including one on capacity-building for engagement.

Natasha Banda then presented the recommendations that were provided to Parties by the FWG under the initial two-year workplan (2020-2021) of the LCIPP, namely:

- Consideration of Indigenous Rights and Practices: Assessing how activities and decisions may impact the rights, knowledge systems, and ways of life of Indigenous Peoples, and the interests of local communities.
- Ongoing Participation and Accessibility: Ensuring consistent participation, including translation and interpretation services.
- Engagement with LCIPP Work: Strengthening activities that build capacity for respectful engagement with Indigenous knowledge systems.
- Increased Participation Time: Allocating more time for Indigenous Peoples' representation during UNFCCC sessions.

She then continued in presenting the recommendation provided to Convention bodies and Parties:

- Human Rights and Free, Prior, Informed Consent: Respecting and promoting obligations regarding human rights, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, and upholding principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent when engaging with traditional knowledge.

This was followed by an interactive segment, using Mentimeter, where ICG members were asked to respond to the following three questions:

1. Engagement with LCIPP: How is your constituted body currently engaging with work under the LCIPP, particularly in building capacity for respectful and ethical engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities?
2. Engagement with IPs and LCs: How is your body meaningfully engaging with Indigenous Peoples and local communities in your work?
3. Future Engagement Plans: How do you envision engaging with the knowledge and values of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in your future activities?

Following a short discussion of the responses provided by ICG members to the Mentimeter poll, Roberta Ianna guided participants into the next agenda item.

Coordination efforts in the ICG

Under agenda item 4, ICG members had a coordination-focused discussion on the basis of the forward-looking overview of capacity-building-related activities of bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG.

Various capacity-building-related activities or plans that were regarded as directly relevant or of key interest to other ICG members were highlighted during the discussion, including:

- Activities of the WIM Excom, such as, for example:
 - Development of technical guides under the workplan of the WIM Excom, including sections on long-term risk assessments, as well as activities to promote and disseminate these guides and to facilitate capacity-building and training as regards their application
 - Compiling information, identifying gaps and preparing guides, tools and methodologies for assessing needs related to avoiding, minimizing and addressing loss and damage
 - Developing tools for integrating information on avoiding, minimizing and addressing loss and damage and to mainstream them in national planning and policy making processes
- Activities of the TEC, including for example:
 - A compilation of good practices and lessons learned from setting up and implementing National Systems of Innovation, which included a summary for policymakers, and six country case studies, document has been translated into Arabic, French and Spanish (*ICG members are invited to share recommendations with their stakeholders*)
 - A global online survey on needs for climate technology research, development, and demonstration – future work of the TEC will focus on energy storages and it looks forward to engaging with PCCB and other partners in this direction (*ICG members are invited to contact the TEC, if they have experts/groups of experts in their networks who can add value to this future work*)
 - On water-energy-food systems, a knowledge product which can serve as a capacity-building resource for Parties will be developed by TEC and FAO (*ICG members are invited to consider contributing to this knowledge product, as well as to share the final document with stakeholders and country focal points*).
- Activities of the CTCN, including for example work on national systems of innovation and digitalization. The CTCN Advisory Board representative referred to one of the recommendations in the Global Stocktake to take forward indigenous technologies, noting that the CTCN would like to see more requests on this topic being made through its national designated entities for upscaling and refining these technologies.

- Activities of the AC, such as:
 - A policy brief on progress, good practices and lessons learned on prioritizing and incorporating gender responsiveness in adaptation action
 - An interactive country profiles portal showcasing the state of adaptation in each country (currently available in preview)
 - A dialogue on addressing developing countries' capacity gaps in the area of adaptation funding in first quarter 2024
- Activities of the KCI, including for example:
 - A study on just transition strategies
 - A paper on new mitigation technologies, including carbon capture, utilization and storage, hydrogen and AI
 - An assessment paper on the role of the private sector in addressing just transition concerns
- Activities under the Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan, such as:
 - Awareness-raising of the support available to developing country Parties for reporting on the implementation of the gender action plan.
 - Providing tools or capacity-building to ensure new members of constituted bodies are introduced to the importance of gender-responsiveness in the context of their work
 - Strengthening capacity-building efforts for governments and other stakeholders in mainstreaming gender in climate change policies
 - Supporting National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points through providing capacity-building, tools and resources, sharing experience and best practices, workshops, knowledge exchange, peer-to-peer learning, mentoring and coaching
 - Enhancing capacity-building for governments and other relevant stakeholders to collect, analyze and apply sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis in the context of climate change, where applicable.
- Activities of the CGE, including for example:
 - A technical paper on needs, constraints and lessons learned on capacity-building from developing countries, covering mitigation, adaptation, technology and capacity-building
 - Regional workshops in 2023 on adaptation reporting and support needed and received on adaptation
 - Regional webinars on mitigation and reporting on Article. 6 of the Paris Agreement
 - CGE Informal Forum on capacity-building in February 2024 (*Representatives of constituted bodies are invited to join this forum*).
- Activities under the ACE process, such as:
 - COP 28 ACE event discussing on how the ACE toolbox can be used to support just transition

- Academy for National ACE Focal Points at the ACE Hub
- Activities supported under the Youth4Capacity initiative
- Set of 16 training modules on UNFCCC topics published ahead of COP 28

Looking ahead, the ACE representative suggested to organize poster sessions at a future ICG meeting to facilitate interactive discussions on upcoming activities with a view to closing concrete coordination gaps across bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG.

- Input from the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) was received in writing after conclusion of the meeting for inclusion in this report and propose activities such as:
 - Supporting developing countries, including LDCs and SIDS, in building their technical know-how: that can stimulate action to fill important knowledge gaps in countries and subregions as well as for countries to access finance.
 - One of the priority thematic areas in 2024 will be mountains.
 - Empowering youth and joining hands with PCCB, in our ongoing initiative UN-Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme, where the focus is to empower youth, in particular graduate students in universities, including from developing countries, by providing them opportunities to work with partners as solution-providers through concrete projects and initiatives to address specific knowledge challenges for end-users in countries.

Other matters

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not discussed.

Closing

Roberta Ianna closed the meeting by thanking the participants for their attendance and noting that the ICG 6 summary report will be shared with ICG members in due course for their review.

The seventh meeting of the ICG is planned to be held in a hybrid format on the margins of the Bonn Climate Change Conference in June 2024. Further information will be shared with ICG members in due course.

Annex: Agenda and List of Participants of the sixth ICG meeting

Agenda

1. Welcome remarks.
2. Update on the evaluation of the ICG.
3. Fostering holistic approaches to building capacity for engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
4. Informal coordination based on the forward-overlooking overview of activities.
5. Other matters.
6. Closure of the meeting.

List of Participants

Name	Body/entity/process
Grace Balwag	FWG
Wiebke Bender	Lima Work Programme on Gender
Eldana Djumaliewa	GCF secretariat
Rajiv Garv	CTCN secretariat
Peter Govindasamy	KCI
Roberta Ianna	PCCB
Jerome Ilagan	WIM Excom
Omedi Moses Jura	CTCN Advisory Board
Donna Lagdameo	NWP
Sergio La Motta	TEC
Patricia Marcos Huidobro	GEF secretariat
Rita Mishaan	AC
Rosa Morales	AC
Natasha Museba	FWG
Victoria Novikova	CGE
Dorji Tshewang	GEF secretariat
Maria Laura Vinuela	ACE
Capacity-building Team	UNFCCC