



Subsidiary Body for Implementation**Forty-fourth session****Bonn, 16–26 May 2016**

Item 11(a) and (b) of the provisional agenda

Capacity-building in developing countries**Third comprehensive review of the implementation of the framework
for capacity-building under the Convention****Third comprehensive review of the implementation of the framework
for capacity-building under the Kyoto Protocol****Implementation of the framework for capacity-building in
developing countries****Synthesis report by the secretariat***Summary*

This report has been prepared to support the Subsidiary Body for Implementation in its annual monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with decisions 2/CP.7 and 29/CMP.1. The report draws on information synthesized from national communications, biennial update reports, biennial reports, the 2015 annual report of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the 2015 annual report of the Nairobi Framework Partnership. Information is presented according to the scope of needs and priority areas for capacity-building in developing countries outlined in decision 2/CP.7. This report may assist Parties in reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries and identifying ways to further enhance the delivery of capacity-building support to developing countries.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate and scope of the report

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decisions 2/CP.7 and 4/CP.12, requested the secretariat to produce annually a synthesis report on activities undertaken to implement the framework for capacity-building in developing countries (hereinafter referred to as the capacity-building framework).

2. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), by decisions 29/CMP.1 and 6/CMP.2, requested the secretariat to take into account, in its annual synthesis report, capacity-building activities relating to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in developing countries. The annual synthesis report is made available to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its sessions coinciding with the meetings of the Durban Forum on capacity-building.¹

3. This synthesis report summarizes available information on the extent of the implementation of the capacity-building framework. The information refers to activities reported in national reports submitted by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) and Parties included in Annex II to the Convention (Annex II Parties) and other Parties between January and December 2015.² The 2015 annual report of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) to the CMP³ and the draft 2015 annual report of the Nairobi Framework Partnership⁴ have also been considered in the summary of capacity-building activities undertaken under the Kyoto Protocol.⁵

4. The information is presented according to the scope of needs and priority areas for capacity-building in developing countries outlined in the capacity-building framework.⁶ It summarizes capacity-building activities undertaken by developing country Parties, needs, gaps and constraints that they have indicated and the support provided by developed country Parties. Examples have been drawn from the national reports for illustrative purposes, but they do not represent an exhaustive list of capacity-building efforts.

5. No submissions from Parties on the activities they have undertaken pursuant to decisions 2/CP.7 and 2/CP.10 were available as at 9 March 2016⁷ on the UNFCCC submissions portal.⁸ Such information could therefore not be synthesized in this report, but, if and when submitted, will be available on the submissions portal. Information submitted by United Nations organizations and other institutions on capacity-building activities undertaken in support of the implementation of the capacity-building framework is made available on the capacity-building portal.⁹

6. As further work may have been undertaken after the submission of the source documents, this report may not convey the complete picture. Moreover, information on certain areas may have not been available in the source documents.

¹ Decisions 2/CP.17, paragraph 144 and 1/CP.18, paragraph 78.

² Twelve national communications, 16 biennial update reports and 30 biennial reports.

³ FCCC/KP/CMP/2015/5.

⁴ The final report will be made available at <https://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

⁵ See section II, page 13.

⁶ Decision 2/CP.7, annex, paragraph 15.

⁷ Deadline contained in decision 14/CP.12, paragraph 11.

⁸ <<http://www.unfccc.int/5900>>.

⁹ <<http://unfccc.int/capacitybuilding/core/activities.html>>.

B. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

7. The SBI may wish to use the information contained in this report:
 - (a) To undertake the annual monitoring of the implementation of the capacity-building framework;
 - (b) To facilitate discussions at the 5th meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building, which will coincide with SBI 44;¹⁰
 - (c) To determine any further steps to support enhanced action on capacity-building.

C. Overview of information reported by Parties

8. Information on capacity-building reported and submitted by Parties during the period from January to December 2015 covers all of the priority areas identified in the capacity-building framework. Confirming the trend highlighted in the 2015 synthesis report,¹¹ enhanced reporting is noted in the areas of institutional capacity-building, enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment, national communications, national climate change programmes and greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories.

9. National reports from non-Annex I Parties contain extensive information on actions planned and undertaken to create and/or strengthen institutions, to adopt and/or enhance regulatory systems and to build capacity at the individual level in each of the priority areas. Overall comprehensive information is also provided on specific capacity-building needs, gaps and constraints. Several least developed countries (LDCs) report the absence of dedicated institutions and the lack of an appropriate enabling environment, of trained and committed human capital, and of financial resources to address capacity-building needs, gaps and constraints.

10. Annex II Parties and other Parties reported on the provision of capacity-building support to all 15 priority areas through programmes and projects. Many Annex II Parties and other Parties underlined their approach to capacity-building support as conducted in partnerships, based on the principle of country ownership and respecting national priorities. Support initiatives by developed countries were also acknowledged in reports from non-Annex I Parties, particularly in the areas of national communications, GHG inventories, adaptation, mitigation, and research and systematic observation. Furthermore, Annex II Parties and other Parties underlined that, as capacity-building is an integral part of all projects they support, it was not possible to single out for reporting purposes the capacity-building support they provided. Hence, the information and data contained in the reports and the common tabular format tables (e.g. table 9, "Provision of capacity-building support") were only illustrative examples and are not to be considered as an exhaustive list of support provided.

11. A summary of capacity-building activities undertaken, of needs, gaps and constraints reported by non-Annex I Parties, and of support provided by Annex II Parties and other Parties is contained in the annex to this report, which provides a non-comprehensive visual overview of these elements.

¹⁰ In accordance with decision 14/CP.21, paragraph 9, and decision 9/CMP.11, paragraph 2.

¹¹ FCCC/SBI/2015/4.

D. Information on activities addressing the needs and priority areas identified in the capacity-building framework

12. Information contained in each of the priority areas below is presented in the following order, including relevant examples:

- (a) Capacity-building activities undertaken by non-Annex I Parties;
- (b) Needs, gaps and constraints indicated by non-Annex I Parties;
- (c) Support provided by Annex II Parties and other Parties.

1. Institutional capacity-building, including the strengthening or establishment, as appropriate, of national climate change secretariats or national focal points

13. Many non-Annex I Parties and other Parties have institutional arrangements in place to formulate and implement climate change activities. Several Parties reported on their decision to strengthen institutional arrangements through the establishment of government bodies, divisions or committees within existing bodies with specific roles, including the coordination of non-state stakeholder efforts involved in climate change activities and the development of sectoral climate change policies at national, state and local levels.

14. Many non-Annex I Parties presented a comprehensive list of gaps in this area related to institutional, systemic and individual capacities. At the institutional level, capacity gaps were noted in governmental bodies in terms of infrastructures and equipment, as well as of organizational structures, to deal with the multifaceted aspects of climate change policies. At the systemic level, some Parties reported that national institutions could not ensure the implementation of an appropriate legal and normative framework to address areas such as environmental protection, building construction and land-use planning, to name but a few, which play important roles in minimizing the threats of climate change. At the individual level, many Parties highlighted the need to organize targeted training for government officials in specific areas of climate change, addressed within and beyond national reports. Parties also highlighted the lack of interest and engagement of non-environmental institutions as a fundamental obstacle to the successful implementation of climate change initiatives.

15. Many Annex II Parties and other Parties have provided support to strengthen institutional capacity in developing countries, including in the form of training courses for staff working in governmental institutions. E-learning platforms have been successfully used for training purposes. The most frequently covered training topics include renewable energy, forestry, agriculture and disaster risk reduction. Some Parties mentioned their involvement in establishing or strengthening specialized training centres. Japan, for example, supported the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization in establishing the Climate Change International Technical and Training Center, which focuses on the development and implementation of training programmes matching the needs of Thailand and developing country members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

2. Enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment

16. Many non-Annex I Parties reported having adopted national development strategies and policies to scale up the implementation of climate change actions and to open the way to low-carbon economic growth. In some cases, the enforcement of environmental legislation at the municipal level has played an important role in raising awareness of the threats of climate change in local and grass-root communities. A few Parties have reported on their efforts to put in place systems for monitoring, reporting and verification. Ghana,

for example, is developing a national climate finance tool for tracking of climate-related financial flows provided by donors and of expenditures from the national government.

17. Some non-Annex I Parties are still striving to overcome policy, legal and regulatory barriers. Some of the issues reported include the lack of political commitment, which slows down the adoption of guidelines to limit emissions from high-emitting sectors, or, in the worst cases, paves the way to tolerant, carbon-friendly legal frameworks. The Bahamas, for example, stressed this need, and provided in its report a cost estimation to develop climate-related regulation for extractive processing, energy industries, industrial operations and manufacturing.

18. In their reports, several Annex II Parties and other Parties acknowledged the importance of mobilizing private finance in contributing to effective climate actions. Capacity-building to help mitigate the risks of climate-related investment opportunities in developing countries is under way. The United States of America, for example, reported on a comprehensive climate finance-readiness support programme aimed at: (1) building the capacity of developing countries to develop ambitious and effective strategies for large-scale mitigation and adaptation linked to enhanced public- and private-sector financing, (2) removing barriers to increased private-sector involvement, (3) increasing the capacity of institutions to access and use climate finance and (4) increasing the capacity of staff to understand and address climate finance issues.

3. National communications

19. Many non-Annex I Parties reported having strengthened their institutional arrangements to meet enhanced and more-frequent reporting obligations. They have done this by establishing subcommittees and sectoral working groups responsible for specific chapters of national reports. The participation of government officials in various training activities, as well as in international forums and workshops to share country experiences, was among the initiatives undertaken to facilitate the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports. Cuba, for example, highlighted the importance of South–South cooperation with other Latin American and Caribbean countries to facilitate the process of preparation of national communications and project implementation. Many non-Annex I Parties acknowledged the capacity-building support provided by Annex II Parties and other Parties, specialized agencies of the United Nations, and the Global Environment Facility, in the preparation of national reports.

20. Nevertheless, the absence of a robust coordinating body at the institutional level, in addition to the lack of technical expertise to address different sections of national reports, were highlighted by some non-Annex I Parties as key constraints in the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports. In order to improve the quality of their national reports, some Parties emphasized the need to consider them as an ongoing activity and not a one-time project. Several non-Annex I Parties thus identified funding as key to strengthening institutional arrangements and organizing appropriate staff training.

21. Several Annex II Parties and other Parties reported on the technical support provided to their developing country partners to strengthen reporting on climate change. For example, Germany provided support to specific needs and priorities identified in consultation with four recipient countries, which were then addressed through tailored in-country capacity-building workshops and training. One of the objectives of the project was to facilitate peer-to-peer exchange by helping partner countries acquire an enhanced level of expertise in climate monitoring and reporting, which they could then share at international meetings.

4. National climate change programmes

22. Many non-Annex I Parties have adopted national climate change programmes to mainstream climate change in their national planning and development processes. Parties highlighted the importance of climate change strategies in improving their understanding of the cross-cutting aspects of climate change. In several instances, national strategies prepared the groundwork for the adoption of climate change action plans aimed at fostering low-carbon climate-resilient development. This is the case in Namibia, where a climate change strategy and action plan have been developed for the period 2013–2020, as a countermeasure to sector-specific policies adopted without taking into consideration climate change, which was not regarded as a serious threat at the time of their adoption. Several Parties have developed a national strategy, with policies and regulations in place to ensure that appropriate measures are taken, for each of the identified country priorities.

23. A few Parties are yet to develop fully fledged climate change programmes. For those Parties that have such programmes in place, the lack of financial resources is affecting their implementation. In a few cases, Parties highlighted national priorities, such as economic growth, conflicting with climate change issues, thus slowing down the process to develop a climate change strategy and/or plan.

24. An example of support provided in this priority area is the Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS) by the United States. EC-LEDS provides technical assistance to partner countries in developing and implementing low-emission development strategies and country-led national plans to promote sustainable development, while reducing GHG emissions.

5. Greenhouse gas inventories, emission database management and systems for collecting, managing and utilizing activity data and emission factors

25. Many non-Annex I Parties reported on the development and strengthening of their institutional structures responsible for the preparation of a robust GHG inventory system. This process included the creation of a dedicated unit working on the national GHG inventory, the organization of training sessions, and a more collaborative and participatory approach to the preparation of the inventory, consisting of the joint involvement of ministries, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as a European Union candidate State and a contracting party to the European Energy Community, presented its particular efforts as a non-Annex I Party to report its GHG inventory through the common reporting format used within the European Union, and underlined its current endeavour in developing a measurement, reporting and verification system.

26. On the other hand, several non-Annex I Parties identified a vast number of capacity gaps and constraints that have a negative impact on the quality of GHG inventories, ranging from the absence of a national GHG inventory system, also due to the absence of regulations defining competences and responsibilities for this task, to insufficient technical expertise and equipment, incompatibility between the existing data and those required under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change methodologies absence of specific emission factors, high levels of uncertainty in the estimation of GHGs, insufficient technical equipment for data collection, inconsistency in data collected from different sources, unavailability of end-use consumption data, absence of statistics for certain sectors and the lack of permanent funding sources. Kenya highlighted, for instance, that there has been a “memory loss” and insufficient capacity developed within internal institutions, as the development of inventories has been conducted on an ad hoc basis with the use of consultants.

27. Annex II Parties and other Parties reported initiatives to build the capacity of developing country Parties to produce GHG inventories. Australia, for example, provided technical capacity to developing countries in Africa and South-Eastern Asia to develop sustainable national GHG inventory management systems, and Belgium undertook initiatives focused on building capacity for GHG inventories in francophone developing countries.

6. Vulnerability and adaptation assessment

28. Many non-Annex I Parties highlighted that the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action, which included participation in training workshops, contributed to building their capacity to identify key vulnerabilities and conduct impact assessments. The training included an introduction to methods, tools and data sources used to prepare vulnerability and adaptation assessments. The workshops also provided a forum to share knowledge, experiences and ways of overcoming barriers in conducting assessments.

29. Despite progress achieved through training sessions, some non-Annex I Parties underlined a shortage of scientific and technical staff with the ability to undertake vulnerability and adaptation assessments. Limited awareness of the importance of adaptation, as well as limited funding and inadequate cooperation among government agencies, added to their difficulties. In addition, many non-Annex I Parties expressed their concern about information gaps, generally caused by lack of research and by the absence of relevant data on areas such as the vulnerability of ecosystems and human health. Other examples of gaps included the low level of confidence in the models used. The Federated States of Micronesia, for example, identified a problem of inadequate internal cooperation where information collected at the state, non-governmental organization and community levels was not used in the development of government strategies, plans and projects.

30. With regard to support by Annex I Parties, New Zealand described its assistance to developing countries to prepare for natural disasters. New Zealand supported the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre to improve disaster risk reduction capacity in Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, the Philippines and Viet Nam by standardizing systems for sharing disaster risk assessment information and enhancing preparedness for the recovery phase of disasters.

7. Capacity-building for the implementation of adaptation measures

31. Several non-Annex I Parties emphasized that their participation in regional projects, funded through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, contributed to enhancing their adaptive capacity. The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change project, funded by the Global Environment Facility, with the United Nations Development Programme and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme as the implementing agency and partner, is an example of a project designed to promote climate change adaptation as a key prerequisite to sustainable development, particularly as it relates to coastal zone management. One of its objectives is to enhance the capacity of Pacific small island developing States to adapt to climate change in selected key development sectors of health and the environment, including climate-proofing infrastructure projects. Recognizing that indigenous knowledge is a powerful asset in developing countries, Nepal conducted studies on indigenous skills, with a view to integrating indigenous knowledge into its adaptation practices.

32. In this priority area, Parties identified needs at the institutional, systemic and individual levels. At the institutional level, ministries, research institutes and other involved institutions need to strengthen their technical capacity to plan and implement adaptation actions; at the systemic level, policy frameworks should be put into place within the various sectors involved in the implementation of adaptation action; and at the individual level,

training and education opportunities should be created to improve knowledge and skills on adaptation project design and implementation.

33. Activities that provided support to sustainable agriculture, water resource management and disaster risk management were among the most frequently reported initiatives by Annex II Parties and other Parties under this priority area. A project supported by Germany in Indonesia, Mexico, the Philippines and Tunisia promoted the effective management of climate-relevant data and the establishment of a network to facilitate South–South exchange among stakeholders, who could take appropriate and effective decisions on adaptation practices in the long term.

8. Assessment for the implementation of mitigation options

34. Many non-Annex I Parties provided information on measures undertaken to strengthen their national enabling environment to design and implement mitigation policies. Some Parties highlighted their efforts towards the development of nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), including the implementation of pilot projects and the organization of workshops and consultative meetings relevant to the NAMA process.

35. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia reported on having developed a range of tools to address the gender dimension in the design of its mitigation policies at the national and local levels. For example, female farmers will be trained in GHG reduction practices such as organic agriculture and sustainable soil management, in consideration of their substantial roles in family farms.

36. General constraints mentioned in the reports by non-Annex I Parties in this area include the scarcity of financial resources and the lack of awareness of policymakers. More targeted and specific needs were also reported, such as: enhancement of knowledge and skills required to carry out intended climate change mitigation measures; the involvement of donors in the development and implementation of NAMAs, including through the support of the financial mechanism of the Convention; the need to develop and apply emission projection and economic development models including climate change considerations; the adoption of specific legislation guiding mitigation action; the development of economy-wide and per-sector mitigation targets; and the introduction of best available technologies for mitigation measures.

37. While several Annex II Parties and other Parties mentioned, in their reports, the provision of technical support for the preparation of NAMAs, Belgium, France and Germany were among the developed countries who reported on the support provided for the preparation of intended nationally determined contributions.

9. Research and systematic observation, including meteorological, hydrological and climatological services

38. Many non-Annex I Parties have created institutions responsible for meteorological, hydrological and climatological services. Several Parties noted that their participation in international cooperation initiatives has led to enhanced data quality of meteorological and climatological services. For example, the Armenian state-authorized Hydrometeorological and Monitoring Service recently purchased and installed new devices and equipment within the framework of international cooperation.

39. The capacity gap frequently raised by non-Annex I Parties was the inadequate number of scientific, technical and professional staff to conduct research and systematic observation, and the need to enhance training in specialized areas such as statistics, computer programming and modelling. Weak knowledge-management procedures, insufficient coordination among institutions, lean budgets, and insufficient equipment and

infrastructure are among the additional factors that have restricted the abilities of Parties to make progress in this area.

40. Among the European countries that provided capacity-building support to meteorological services, Spain had an active role through the Conference of Ibero-American Directors on National Hydrological and Meteorological Services, which is a platform aimed at maintaining a continued dialogue among countries on climate, meteorology and hydrology to improve the understanding of priorities, challenges and experiences of the Ibero-American region. The National Hydrological and Meteorological Services meet formally on an annual basis and promote several regional capacity-building workshops and regional studies.

10. Development and transfer of technology

41. Some non-Annex I Parties provided information on the institutional arrangements in place for the acquisition, promotion and development of clean technologies at the national level. The usefulness of undertaking technology needs assessments to prioritize technologies was noted by some non-Annex I Parties. In this context, Thailand described the mechanisms that it has put in place to promote renewable energy technologies, including a feed-in tariff, tax incentives, and access to investment grants and venture capital.

42. The need to create an enabling environment for technology transfer was highlighted by several non-Annex I Parties, including through: the establishment of national institutions to oversee the development of technologies; the creation of databases of environmentally sound technologies; and access to financial resources to purchase intellectual property rights.

43. The majority of the support initiatives reported by Annex II Parties and other Parties was associated with the deployment of energy-related technologies. For example, Italy's Mediterranean Development of Support schemes for Solar Initiatives and Renewable Energy aims to spread solar energy across the Mediterranean area through innovative financial schemes and market stimulation tools. Among the specific activities under the project are: the elaboration of recommendations and action plans for improving legislative and regulatory frameworks; capacity-building for solar energy technicians and professionals to ensure the quality of components and installations; and training sessions for policymakers.

11. Improved decision-making, including assistance for participation in international negotiations

44. Very few Parties explicitly referred to activities undertaken for improved decision-making, as this was generally an integral part of capacity-building activities in other priority areas. While some non-Annex I Parties reported on various learning and training opportunities for policymakers, others identified the scarcity of, or gaps in, such opportunities as barriers to the effective implementation of climate change policies.

45. In general, Annex II Parties and other Parties acknowledged that, often, the most important contribution donors can make is to support developing countries in taking ownership of their climate change agenda. Australia highlighted its approach to administering bilateral climate support through partnership agreements in order to ensure that investments are owned by the recipient governments.

46. Several Annex II Parties and other Parties included information in their reports on the provision of support for developing country participation in international negotiations. For example, the Climate and Development Knowledge Network conducted training courses for hundreds of developing country negotiators to strengthen their familiarity with

the UNFCCC process. Under another initiative, support has been allocated to assist the participation of female delegates in climate negotiations. In addition, Finland has been funding an international course on environmental law and diplomacy, which aims to transfer past experiences in the field of international environmental law to the current and future negotiators of multilateral environmental agreements, including the UNFCCC.

12. Clean development mechanism

47. Several non-Annex I Parties mentioned, in their national reports, capacity-building activities undertaken at the institutional, systemic and individual levels related to the CDM. The information refers to the creation and strengthening of institutional arrangements responsible for the implementation of CDM projects, the establishment of designated national authorities, and the adoption of strategies and regulatory frameworks, including arrangements with international counterparts to carry out CDM projects. Togo, for example, highlighted having benefited from the capacity-building programme of the World Bank Institute for CDM project proponents. In Argentina, a committee was established to perform a technical analysis and evaluation of projects intended to contribute to sustainable development. This committee, strengthened over the years, ended up focusing on methodological issues to reduce GHG emissions, thus enabling the calculation of the carbon dioxide emission factor of the Argentina Electric Power Network, which is indispensable for CDM projects and for other activities in the energy sector.

48. Annex II Parties and other Parties referred to a few projects aimed at strengthening technical capacity in developing countries for CDM project formulation. Belgium, for example, conducted a project in Uganda with the aim to create awareness of investment opportunities under the CDM among governmental institutions and project developers, including project-financing institutions.

13. Needs arising from the implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention

49. Several LDCs reported on their active participation in international cooperation initiatives. LDCs have benefited from South–South cooperation in the form of workshops and training courses. Some LDCs reported having institutional and regulatory frameworks in place to enable the implementation of climate change related activities at the national or local levels. Togo, in its report, provided various examples of good practices and lessons learned which were derived from the preparation of its third national communication.

50. Many LDCs included in their national reports a thorough description of needs, gaps and constraints at the institutional, systemic and individual levels in all priority areas listed in the capacity-building framework, and highlighted severe financial constraints preventing them from addressing such needs. One constraint reported by the Central Africa Republic is the political and military situation that has negatively affected climate change planning and implementation.

51. Recognizing that LDCs are the world's most climate-vulnerable countries, several Annex II Parties and other Parties underlined in their national reports their commitment to providing capacity-building support to this group of countries. One of the major initiatives in this area includes the Global Climate Change Alliance established by the European Union, which focuses on providing adaptation support to LDCs and small island developing States. The Alliance supports 51 programmes, with a budget of more than EUR 300 million.

14. Education, training and public awareness

52. Many non-Annex I Parties have invested great efforts in enhancing education, training and public awareness, in line with the pronounced trend towards an increased amount of information in their national reports on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention. An example of a formal education programme is the review of lower secondary level curricula across various subjects conducted in Nepal to analyse the extent to which climate change knowledge is provided; this resulted in a recommendation report on the potential inclusion of climate change issues in key subjects. Nepal also conducted a workshop to integrate climate change concepts into existing curricula. Furthermore, the Pacific Islands Climate Education Partnership supports students in the Federated States of Micronesia to advance their understanding of climate change by drawing extensively from current United States initiatives in climate change education, set in the context of the Pacific Islands.

53. In terms of informal education, examples of activities undertaken include: organizing forums and exhibitions; creating radio and television shows; conducting surveys to gather information on the public perception of climate change; organizing vocational training programmes; and disseminating climate change documents such as national adaptation programmes of action in national languages. A few non-Annex I Parties mentioned the development of comprehensive strategies for education and public awareness. In addition, the critical role of non-governmental organizations in supporting activities in this area was highlighted, including their role in organizing campaigns and training seminars and in developing teaching aids.

54. Some Parties stressed the need to periodically assess the impact and effectiveness of current education, training and public awareness programmes. Lack of prioritization of climate change at the national level and scarcity of funding were identified as factors that affect the efficacy of any programme. The lack of learning and training programmes for staff was also identified as a major gap. The Bahamas noted that, as many of the government institutions are understaffed, and individuals are often responsible for multiple tasks, managers are reluctant to allow staff to participate in training courses.

55. With regard to capacity-building assistance for education, Annex II Parties and other Parties reported mainly on the provision of support at the university level. Slovakia, for example, allocated governmental scholarships to Ethiopian students in environment-related courses, and Latvia engaged in training programmes of university students and staff at a university in Uzbekistan on sustainable environmental engineering. For a wider audience, support was provided to public awareness campaigns, such as those on energy saving and disaster risk reduction. A few Parties mentioned initiatives targeting the media, which has an important role to play in cultivating public understanding of climate change issues.

15. Information and networking, including the establishment of databases

56. With growing public access to the Internet, online information portals on climate change were the most frequently reported tool used by non-Annex I Parties to facilitate knowledge-sharing and networking. Ghana, for example, reported the enhancement of access to climate change information through multiple data hubs and portals covering various areas such as energy, forestry, adaptation, biomass and agriculture. The establishment of information-sharing centres in addition to cooperative networks at the international level was also among the efforts identified in this area.

57. Parties emphasized the need for adequate financial resources for research and training in order to build capacity in relation to the technical and legislative aspects of information collection, monitoring and sharing.

58. Annex II Parties and other Parties reported on the use of a regional networking approach to facilitate the exchange of knowledge among climate change focal points and to strengthen the potential of developing countries to respond to the challenges posed by climate change. The establishment of such regional networks was mentioned, for example, in relation to South-Eastern Asia, Asia-Pacific and South-Eastern Europe.

II. Capacity-building activities under the Kyoto Protocol

59. The CDM Executive Board, in its role as the regulatory body of the CDM, continued in 2015 to undertake measures and initiatives to promote and enhance the regional and subregional distribution of CDM project activities.¹²

60. The Nairobi Framework Partnership was initiated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in 2006, with the goal of helping developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, to improve their level of participation in the CDM. In 2015, Nairobi Framework partners carried out a number of capacity-building activities, in person through workshops and events, as well as virtually through webinars and e-courses. Project development support was led by the CDM Regional Collaboration Centres, established by the UNFCCC secretariat, with an important contribution from partners in each region, including the Asian Development Bank, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and the United Nations Development Programme. Programmes of activities and standardized baselines were the preferred areas for support.

61. Under the Nairobi Framework Partnership, capacity-building purely in relation to the CDM has declined in recent years. An increasing interest has been observed in the wider understanding of the different market mechanisms and options for tackling climate change. This is leading Nairobi Framework partners to find innovative ways to link the CDM to new frameworks and instruments that deal with climate change. They are therefore exploring ways to ensure that all efforts and institutional knowledge on building effective mechanisms and approaches, including the CDM, are used in a synergized and integrated way.

¹² More information on the activities undertaken by the CDM Executive Board is contained in document FCCC/SBI/2016/3.

Annex

Summary of main information reported by Parties

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Activities undertaken by non-Annex I Parties</i>	<i>Needs, gaps and constraints identified by non-Annex I Parties</i>	<i>Support provided by Annex II Parties and other Parties</i>
Institutional capacity-building	Institutional arrangements already in place Strengthening of institutional arrangements through establishment of government bodies or committees with coordinating roles	Limited human and financial resources Lack of learning and training programmes Need for improved cooperation between ministries Lack of interest in climate change by non-environmental institutions	Organization of training courses, including through e-learning Establishment or strengthening of training centres
Enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment	Adoption of national development strategies and regulatory frameworks	Lack of regulatory frameworks that enable addressing climate change issues	Enhancement of private-sector involvement by supporting the mitigation of climate-related investment risks
National communications	Enhancement of institutional arrangements Participation in trainings, forums and workshops by government officials Capacity-building through support by Annex I Parties	Absence of robust coordinating body Lack of technical expertise Need for funding	Provision of technical support for preparation of national reports
National climate change programmes	Adoption of broader climate change strategies in combination with a more detailed action plan	Few have not developed programmes on climate change Lack of financial resources as a barrier against implementation of programmes	Provision of technical assistance in developing low-emissions development strategies
Greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories	Expansion of institutional structures Organization of training sessions	Absence of a national GHG inventory system Need to build internal capacity through wider stakeholder involvement Insufficient technical equipment Unavailability of data and statistics	Development of initiatives to build capacity of developing countries to produce inventories

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Activities undertaken by non-Annex I Parties</i>	<i>Needs, gaps and constraints identified by non-Annex I Parties</i>	<i>Support provided by Annex II Parties and other Parties</i>
		Lack of permanent funding sources	
Vulnerability and adaptation assessment	Organization of training workshops	Shortage of scientific and technical staff Limited awareness Limited funding Inadequate cooperation among agencies Information gaps	Provision of assistance for developing countries in preparation for natural disasters
Implementation of adaptation measures	Participation in regional projects	Need for training opportunities Need for awareness-raising initiatives Need for funding	Support of sustainable agriculture, water resource management and disaster risk management
Implementation of mitigation options	Institutional arrangements already in place Implementation of pilot projects and organization of workshops/meetings for the nationally appropriate mitigation action (NAMA) process	Scarcity of financial resources Lack of knowledge of policymakers Targeted and specific needs (i.e. introduction of best available technologies, adoption of specific legislation)	Provision of technical support for preparation of NAMAs and intended nationally determined contributions
Research and systematic observation	Institutional arrangements already in place Participation in international cooperation initiatives	Lack of human resources Weak knowledge of management procedures Insufficient coordination among institutions Lean budget Insufficient equipment and infrastructure	Provision of workshops and regional studies for meteorology capacity-building
Development and transfer of technology	Institutional arrangements already in place Provision of technology needs assessment	Need to create an enabling environment through establishment of national institutions with oversight role, creation of databases, access to financial resources	Development of initiatives related to the deployment of energy-related technologies
Improved decision-making	Organization of various learning and training opportunities for policymakers	Lack of learning and training opportunities for policymakers	Helping developing countries to take ownership of their climate change

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Activities undertaken by non-Annex I Parties</i>	<i>Needs, gaps and constraints identified by non-Annex I Parties</i>	<i>Support provided by Annex II Parties and other Parties</i>
			agendas
			Provision of support for developing country participation in international negotiations
Clean development mechanism (CDM)	Establishment of national designated authorities and adopted regulatory frameworks		Strengthening of technical capacity for CDM project formulation
Needs arising from the implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention	Participation of least developed countries (LDCs) in international cooperation initiatives Some LDCs have institutional and regulatory frameworks in place to implement climate change activities	Financial constraints to address capacity-building related issues	Underlining of commitment to provide support to LDCs
Education, training and public awareness	Provision of activities to integrate climate change in formal education programmes Provision of various activities outside formal education (i.e. forums, exhibits, radio and television shows) Development of comprehensive strategies in education and public awareness Supporting non-governmental organizations in playing critical roles	Need to assess the impact and effectiveness Lack of prioritization of climate change Scarcity of funding	Development of university education Improvement of public awareness campaigns
Information and networking	Creation of online information portals Establishment of information-sharing centres and cooperative international networks	Need for adequate financial resources for research and training	Establishment of regional networks to facilitate knowledge exchange