BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CAPACITY-BUILDING GLOSSARY OF TERMS

RESOURCE: https://www.cbd.int/cb/forums/strategic-framework/final-report-study.pdf
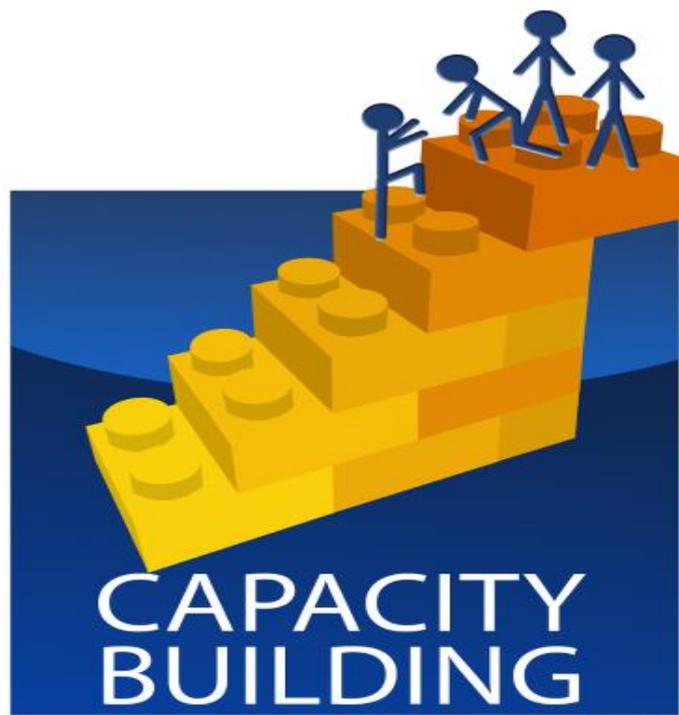
Capacity development: is understood as the process whereby people, organisations and society as a whole unleash, strengthen, create, adapt, and maintain capacity over time, in order to achieve development results.

Capacity: is considered as the ability of people, organisations and society as a whole to manage their affairs successfully.

Capacity-building approaches: refers to the way in which capacity-building interventions are planned in order to achieve a desired outcome. Each of the different approaches entails a series of assumptions and provides the direction for the capacity-building intervention.

Capacity-building intervention: is interpreted as "a deliberate involvement in a process or system intended to influence events and/or consequences. The term may refer to single activities, but often refers to sets of activities organised within a project, programme, or instrument". Different capacity-building interventions use various approaches and modalities.

Capacity-building modalities: are the delivery methods used to achieve certain

capacity-building goals. Selection of modalities is informed by the specific approach in which these are embedded, as well as by issues such as the type of need(s) being addressed and the target audience.

Capacities for engagement: capacities to engage proactively and constructively with a wide range of stakeholders to tackle biodiversity loss.

Examples include capacity to engage and consult with multiple stakeholders, including the private sector, IPLCs and youth, to establish science-policy platforms. Additionally, networking with stakeholders to negotiate and influence policymaking processes, to increase public awareness, communication and dissemination of information, and to develop specific programs targeted at increasing private sector awareness and securing corporate investments in biodiversity. Also, the need to enhance the capacities of IPLCs for addressing the needs of IPLC as a cross-cutting issue relevant to activities of the Convention and its Protocols at national and subnational levels (e.g. to implement the Nagoya Protocol (including with respect to the negotiation of mutually agreed terms).

Capacities to generate, access and use information and knowledge: capacities to understand, acquire, use and communicate pertinent information and knowledge.

Examples include the need to generate and enhance the knowledge base and technologies relating to better understanding of biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss. For example, capacities to carry out biodiversity and ecosystem assessments, and natural capital assessments, building taxonomic knowledge, more effective use of mapping and spatial analysis in biodiversity planning, and the ability to more effectively use remote sensing. Moreover, there is a need to promote, increase the accessibility and mainstream traditional and indigenous knowledge amongst sectors, institutions and professionals. Fundamental to all of this are the skills necessary to develop and implement effective policies relating to the sharing and use of data, information and knowledge, including indigenous and local knowledge.

Capacities for policy and legislation development: capacities to plan and develop effective policy, legislation, related strategies and plans based on informed decision-making processes.

Examples include the capacity to formulate and revise legislation, policies, strategies and programmes, and to find ways to more effectively mainstream biodiversity into other sectors.

Capacities for management and implementation: capacities to enact and enforce policies and/or regulations, and plan and execute relevant actions and solutions.

Examples include the capacity to coordinate with others, strengthen partnerships, improve institutional inter-sectoral cooperation and coordination at the operational level, including for cross-boundary management of biodiversity assets, and strengthen the capacity to enforce laws, regulation and policies.

Capacities to monitor and evaluate: capacities to effectively monitor and

evaluate achievements against expected results, and to provide feedback for learning and adaptive management, suggesting adjustments to the course of action as needed.

Examples include the capacity to develop and use indicators, to assess effectiveness of policies and regulations, to measure their impact, and to improve reporting. Capacity-building for monitoring and evaluation was one of the most common areas in which countries identified needs and gaps. For example, the need for adequate infrastructure and trained staff to produce baseline data needed for assessing policies, as well as monitoring and evaluation capacities relating to a range of specific thematic areas.

Evaluation: is an assessment at a point in time, often after the fact, that determines the worth, value, or quality of an activity, project, programme, or policy. Monitoring and evaluation depends upon good planning to elaborate capacity-building goals and the means to achieve them.

Functional capacities: management capacities needed to formulate, implement and review policies, strategies, programmes and projects. Functional capacities are broad, all – purpose skills, including management capacities needed to formulate, implement and review policies, strategies, programmes and projects. Functional capacities are cross-cutting and go beyond specific thematic areas, and as such are equally relevant to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.

Hard capacities: tangible and visible, including organisational structures, systems, policies and procedures.

Indicator: a measure or metric based on verifiable data that conveys information about more than itself. A measure is a value that is quantified against a standard point in time. A metric is a set of measurements or data collected and used to underpin each indicator.

Individual capacity: refers to the skills, experience and knowledge that are vested in people (UNDP, 2009).

Monitoring: involves continuous, systematic observation and checking on activities and their results while work is still in progress.

Organisational capacity: comprises the internal policies, arrangements, procedures and frameworks that allow an organisation to operate and deliver on its mandate, and that enable the coming together of individual capacities to work together and achieve goals (UNDP, 2009).

Soft capacities: intangible and invisible, social and relational, including leadership, values, behaviours, commitment and accountability.

South-South cooperation: process whereby two or more developing countries

pursue their individual and/or shared national capacity development objectives through exchanges of knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how, and through regional and interregional collective actions, including partnerships involving governments, regional organisations, civil society, academia and the private sector, for their mutual benefit within and across regions.

Systemic capacity: describes the broader system within which individuals and organisations function and that facilitates or hampers their existence and performance (UNDP, 2009).

Technical capacities: capacities associated with particular areas of expertise and practice in specific sectors or themes, such as biodiversity, biodiversity mainstreaming, ecosystem services, climate change, access and benefit sharing, biosafety, taxonomy, spatial analysis, remote sensing (adapted from UNDP, 2009).

Technical and scientific cooperation: a process whereby two or more countries pursue their individual or collective goals through cooperative exchanges of scientific knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how.

Triangular cooperation: it involves Southern-driven partnerships between two or more developing countries supported by a developed country(ies)/or multilateral organisation(s) to implement development cooperation programmes and projects.