

# Locally Developed Solutions: Climate proofing our Future from the Ground Up

Myron Mendes, National Facilitator, INECC

In a world facing the escalating threat of climate change, the need for collective action has never been more pressing. While national commitments like Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) shape global efforts, the transformative power of Locally Developed Choices (LDCs) is equally crucial. INECC recognizes the pivotal significance of LDCs, which empower communities through climate education, finance, and policy.

## **The Significance of Locally Developed Choices (LDCs)**

LDCs embody a bottom-up approach, empowering communities to implement solutions tailored to their unique needs. Beyond national targets, LDCs foster ownership and engagement, leveraging local knowledge for culturally sensitive, socially relevant, and innovative solutions.

## **Harnessing Local Innovation and People-Centric Solutions for a Climate Just Future**

Harnessing local innovation is key. LDCs provide a platform for communities to adapt to climate change, ensuring action is grounded in local realities. This approach addresses climate justice, focusing on building resilience and enhancing adaptive capacities for marginalized communities. This focus on equity ensures that no one is left behind in the face of climate change, creating a more just and inclusive future for all.

## **The Vital Role of Green Start-ups and Small Green Businesses in Sustainable Solutions**

Green start-ups and small green businesses play a vital role in sustainable solutions. Beyond entrepreneurship, they contribute to mitigation, adaptation, and disaster response. Their innovative approaches have the potential to create green jobs and facilitate a socially just transition.

## **Integrating LDCs into NDCs: A Pathway to Enhanced Climate Action**

Integrating LDCs into NDCs bridges the gap between national commitments and local realities, fostering a harmonious relationship between national and local efforts. This alignment maximizes the impact of climate action, creating a truly sustainable future.

## **Nurturing Climate-Resilient Communities: A Dynamic Nexus of Education, Finance, and Policy**



INECC's experience over time has successfully peeled back the layers of Locally Developed Choices, revealing them as a dynamic force in the realm of sustainable development and climate action. LDCs operate as a bottom-up mechanism, empowering communities to contribute actively to climate resilience and adaptation, and prepare them for future climate risks.

The success of LDCs rely on communities that are well-informed and empowered, possessing the knowledge and skills to address local climate challenges. Climate education is essential for fostering a sense of ownership among community members, enabling informed decisions and active shaping of their climate future.

Additionally, the indispensable role of climate finance in amplifying the impact of LDCs cannot be overstated, emphasizing the significance of financial resources to initiate and scale up sustainable climate actions tailored to unique community needs. Access to climate finance is crucial for unlocking the potential of LDCs, transforming them into a powerful force for sustainable development and climate action.

Furthermore, recognizing the vital role of conducive climate policy in creating an environment for successful LDC implementation is imperative. Policies at various levels must align with and support locally developed choices to maximize effectiveness. A conducive climate policy provides the necessary framework and support for LDCs to thrive and contribute significantly to a sustainable future.

The integration of climate education, climate finance, and conducive climate policy as catalysts for LDCs has emerged as a robust strategy for climate proofing our future. .