

SIDE EVENT PROGRAMME

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS INTO CLIMATE ACTION

**Room Pieniny, COP 24, Katowice
7 December 2018, 13:15-14:45**

Created in 2015, the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) aims to address current and emerging gaps and needs in implementing capacity-building in developing countries and to further enhance capacity-building efforts. The PCCB has, inter alia, been mandated by the COP, in managing and overseeing the capacity-building workplan 2016-2020,¹ to take into consideration cross-cutting issues, such as gender responsiveness, human rights and indigenous peoples' knowledge.² To implement this mandate, it has established a dedicated working group.³

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is mandated to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and in [international human rights laws and treaties](#). OHCHR is guided in its work by the mandate provided by the General Assembly in resolution [48/141](#), the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent human rights instruments, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document. OHCHR's mandate includes preventing human rights violations, securing respect for all human rights, promoting international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations, including at the UNFCCC, and strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights.

The Mary Robison Foundation – Climate Justice is a centre for thought leadership, education and advocacy on the struggle to secure global justice for those people vulnerable to the impacts of climate change who are usually forgotten – the poor, the disempowered and the marginalised across the world. It is a platform for solidarity, partnership and shared engagement for all who care about global justice, whether as individuals and communities suffering injustice or as advocates for fairness in resource-rich societies. The Foundation provides a space for facilitating action on climate justice to empower the poorest people and countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable and people-centred development.

Objective:

Human rights and climate change are linked in three key ways:

- i) Climate change has implications for the effective enjoyment of the full range of human rights, particularly for people living in situations of increased vulnerability;
- ii) A failure to integrate human rights into climate action can undermine people's rights; and
- iii) The integration of human rights into climate change policies can improve effectiveness and result in benefits for people and the planet.

The side event, co-organized by the PCCB, OHCHR and MRFCJ, aims to shed light on the importance of building capacity of countries to integrate human rights into climate action, including in the process of developing and implementing nationally determined contributions (NDCs). It will focus on exploring existing capacity gaps and needs, as well as showcasing success stories, good practices and lessons learned. The event will also attempt to

¹ 1/CP.21, paragraph 73.

² 16/CP.22, paragraph 4(a).

³ <https://unfccc.int/node/66790>.

draw linkages to ongoing work under the Gender Action Plan, Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, and Action for Climate Empowerment.

The side event will highlight and discuss concrete capacity-building examples and tools in an interactive format and participants are invited to actively share their experiences in building capacity for integration of human rights in NDCs and other climate actions.

The target audience for the side event are Party and Non-Party stakeholders, including UNFCCC negotiators, government officials, representatives of non-government and intergovernmental organizations, academia and research institutions, and the private sector.

The event will be broadcast live and can be followed at the following link: <https://unfccc-cop24.streamworld.de/live>

Programme

- 13:15-13:25 **Opening**
- Jeniffer Hanna, PCCB and Benjamin Schachter, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR
- 13:25-13:35 **Rights for Action - Putting people at the centre of climate action**
- Tara Shine, Special Adviser, MRFCJ
- 13:35-14:10 **Panel discussion on capacity building needs and gaps for integrating human rights in climate action – challenges and good practices**
- Ambassador Luis Alfonso De Alba, UN SG Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Summit
 - Verona Collantes, Intergovernmental Specialist, UN Women
 - Michael Windfuhr, Deputy Director, German Institute for Human Rights
 - Agnes Leina, Executive Director, Illaramatak Community Concerns, Kenya
 - Sebastien Duyck, Senior Attorney, Center for International Environmental Law
- Moderated by PCCB and OHCHR*
- 14:10-14:40 **Q&A discussion**
- 14:40-14:45 **Wrap-up and closing**
- Jeniffer Hanna, PCCB and Benjamin Schachter, OHCHR