

Advisory Board to the CTCN
23rd meeting

19-24 April 2024
AB/2024/23/21

Revised Prioritization Criteria for the assessment of technical assistance requests submitted to the CTCN by developing countries

Background:

1. COP17 decided that CTCN will manage the process of receiving and responding to requests from developing country Parties and that the CTCN advisory board will provide guidance and approve the prioritization criteria for responding to requests from developing country Parties (CP.17/2, annex VII).
2. COP decision 2/CP17, Annex VII, para 9, stipulates that the Advisory Board of the CTCN will (a) **provide guidance on Prioritization criteria**, taking into account the strategic considerations and recommendations provided by the **Technology Executive Committee** in relation to decision **1/CP.16, paragraph 120**; (b) **approve Prioritization criteria** for responding to requests from developing country Parties.
3. Further, the COP decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 120, decides that priority areas that could be considered under the Convention may include:
 - (a) Development and enhancement of the endogenous capacities and technologies of developing country Parties, including cooperative research, development and demonstration programmes;
 - (b) Deployment and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and knowhow in developing country Parties;
 - (c) Increased public and private investment in technology development, deployment, diffusion and transfer;
 - (d) Deployment of soft and hard technologies for the implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions;
 - (e) Improved climate change observation systems and related information management;
 - (f) Strengthening of national systems of innovation and technology innovation centres;
 - (g) Development and implementation of national technology plans for mitigation and adaptation.

**Advisory Board to the CTCN
23rd meeting**

**19-24 April 2024
AB/2024/23/21**

4. The CTCN Advisory Board in its 2nd meeting (2013-2014) approved a list of prioritization criteria for responding to requests from developing country Parties¹, which were further discussed during subsequent Advisory Board meetings, recognizing that the criteria would need to be reviewed periodically to assess their appropriateness.
5. The CTCN Secretariat made a preliminary presentation on the revision of the criteria at the 21st meeting of the AB in March 2023 in Songdo. The AB created a Taskforce to work on the revision of the criteria. The consolidated revision was presented during the 22nd AB meeting in September 2023 in Bonn². The AB members requested further deliberation and revisions. Taking into account the discussions during the 22nd AB meeting, the CTCN Secretariat is proposing the revised criteria for consideration of the taskforce as detailed in the annex.

¹ <https://www.ctc-n.org/calendar/events/2nd-ctcn-advisory-board-meeting>

² [https://www.ctc-](https://www.ctc-n.org/sites/default/files/AB2023.22.23_Draft%20Revised_Eligibility_and_Prioritization_Criteria.pdf)

[n.org/sites/default/files/AB2023.22.23_Draft%20Revised_Eligibility_and_Prioritization_Criteria.pdf](https://www.ctc-n.org/sites/default/files/AB2023.22.23_Draft%20Revised_Eligibility_and_Prioritization_Criteria.pdf)

Annex: Prioritization Criteria

I. Preamble:

Considering the COP decision CP16/IV/B para 116, 123 on country-driven approach for technical assistance to the countries which was further reaffirmed by decision 2/CP17 V,

Considering the COP decision 25/CP.19; Annex 1, III, 4(a) and 4(b); 9/CP.28,

Considering the CMA decision 15/CMA.1 on Technology framework under Article 10, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement,

Considering the decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 62, 13/CP.21, 14/CP.22, 15/CP.22, 14/CP.24, 9/CP.26, 10/CP.28 on Linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism of the Convention,

Considering that any technical assistance request must align with all the following attributes.

1. The request has a clear and positive benefit to the requesting country in mitigating, or adapting to the negative effect of, climate change.
2. The request is in line with national strategies and plans.³
3. The request enhances endogenous capacities.⁴
4. Processes are placed in the requesting country to monitor and evaluate any support provided.⁵

Taking into account the CTCN's third Programme of Work (PoW) for the period 2023-2027, adopted by the CTCN AB in its 20th meeting for enhancing the transformative impact and scale of CTCN support by leveraging two established technology enablers – national systems of innovation and

³ Including inter alia National Development Plans, sectoral plans, Technology Needs Assessments, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions, National Adaptation Programmes of Action, National Adaptation Plans, National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions, etc.

⁴ Endogenous capacities include the capacities to (i) Assess climate-related technology needs from the individual to the national level, (ii) Identify appropriate technologies to assist in meeting identified needs, and (iii) Transfer technologies to local needs and conditions.

⁵ The NDE ensures to work with the CTCN to monitor the support provided by indicating this in the Request.

digitalization – alongside five pivotal system transformation areas – the water-energy-food nexus, buildings and infrastructure, sustainable mobility, energy, and business and industry and the COP decision 9/CP.28 on Enhancing climate technology development and transfer through the Technology Mechanism.

Taking into account the CTCN's current Gender Policy and Action Plan to support the implementation of the PoW in a manner to ensure that requests for technical assistance consistently advance gender equality, youth empowerment and the positive impact on the development of livelihoods for Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Taking into account the outcomes of Technology development and transfer of the Global Stocktake Report, CMA/2023/L/17, para 101 to 110, and according to Decision 25/CP.19, "*Prioritization criteria*" refers to the criteria used to prioritize the requests from NDEs.

1. The Criteria should be used by project proponents and NDEs to enhance the quality of requests put forward. They seek to foster transparency in funding technical assistance requests and streamline the assessment process. The criteria are considered in the broader context of the CTCN's overarching approach to the implementation of its mandate, availability of resources and specific donor requirements, etc.
2. Before applying the criteria, the CTCN Secretariat would ensure that the submitted request for technical assistance does not duplicate the work conducted in the country under any other programme. Additionally, it would check for components that promote the use of specific or proprietary hardware or software tools, as well as elements that could be deemed as use of the CTCN resources as supplementary funding for large-scale hardware installation.

II. Prioritization Criteria

The Prioritization Criteria serve to provide guidance to the CTCN Secretariat to determine which technical assistance requests submitted by National Designated Entities (NDEs) to the CTCN shall be prioritized. To facilitate this decision-making process, a *Yes/No/ Not Clear* logic is employed.

To prioritize a technical assistance request, it **must meet two compulsory criteria (#1 and #2)**. Additionally, it must comply with four out of the remaining six criteria.

Prioritization criteria	Yes	No	Not clear
1. The request is aligned to the CTCN's existing Programme of Work. ⁶			
2. The request is aligned to the key themes of the Technology Framework of the Paris Agreement. ⁷			
3. The request is submitted by LDCs or SIDS or by a country that has not received CTCN technical assistance in the last 5 years, taking into account regional balance.			
4. The request contributes to the CTCN's portfolio balance between mitigation and adaptation.			
5. The request has the potential to contribute to systems transformations (nationally, regionally, and/or internationally).			
6. The request is part of multi-country approach to allow regional bundling of requests to promote collaboration among stakeholders, including between countries (South-South, bilateral, or multilateral cooperation). ⁸			

⁶ This includes alignment with the existing five system transformation areas: water-energy-food nexus, buildings and infrastructure, sustainable mobility, energy systems, and business and industry, along with the two enablers: national systems of innovation and digitalization.

⁷ This refers to the Article 10, paragraph 4 of the Paris Agreement.

⁸ The request shall serve as a proactive driver for fostering collaboration among an array of stakeholders, creating a dynamic environment of partnership and shared purpose. Notably, it shall encourage sustainable interactions of North-South, South-South and triangular partnerships.

**Advisory Board to the CTCN
23rd meeting**

**19-24 April 2024
AB/2024/23/21**

<p>7. The request, developed in consultation with or with the engagement of various national climate-related focal points, enables leveraging public and/or private financing or is developed in consultation with research or private sector.⁹</p>			
<p>8. The request promotes gender equality and / or the empowerment of youth, Indigenous Peoples, or local communities.¹⁰</p>			

⁹ The priority shall be given to the requests that demonstrate a collaborative and consultative approach and are developed in close coordination and thorough deliberation with the diverse spectrum of national climate-related focal points (Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund, Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Partnership, Loss and Damage, National Disaster Management Agencies, etc.).

¹⁰ Under the Paris Agreement, acknowledging and taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity.