

Ways to further engage local communities in the UNFCCC process
In-session Workshop at the SBSTA 64

Concept Note

Date: 12 June 2026 | 13:00 -18:00

Format: In-Person (with Virtual Participation Option)

Interpretation: TBC

I. Background and mandate

COP 30 requested the secretariat to hold an in-session workshop at SBSTA 64, in line with paragraph 15 of decision 14/CP.29, and to prepare an informal workshop report thereon. The report will serve as an input to the 2027 review of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP).¹

In paragraph 15 of decision 14/CP.29, COP 29 encouraged Parties and relevant constituted bodies, in particular the FWG, and representatives of workstreams under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to consider ways to further engage local communities in the UNFCCC process. This in-session workshop takes place in the context of the evolving work of the LCIPP, including ongoing reflections related to the participation and representation of local communities in the LCIPP and its FWG. It provides an interactive space for Parties and UNFCCC constituted bodies and workstreams to share experiences, perspective and practical insights on how to further engage local communities in the UNFCCC process.

COP 29 also invited COP 30 Presidency to convene a thematic workshop and relevant dialogues in line with the activities included in the LCIPP workplan. Accordingly, this workshop will also draw, as appropriate, on the experiences and insights emerged from the relevant COP 30 Presidency events on ways to strengthen the engagement of local communities.

II. Objectives

As an informal exchange space to support reflections and shared understanding, this in-session workshop aims to:

- 1) Exchange experiences and practical insights related to the engagement of local communities in climate policies and actions at local, national and international levels.
- 2) Identify enabling factors and barriers related to the engagement of local communities in the UNFCCC process.
- 3) Take stock of existing pathways for engaging local communities across relevant constituted bodies and workstreams in the UNFCCC process.
- 4) Explore practical and inclusive approaches for further engaging local communities through the work of the LCIPP and its FWG.
- 5) Generate reflections and practical considerations to inform the 2027 review of the FWG.

III. Intended outcome and expected outputs

A. Intended outcomes

The workshop will contribute to:

- Improved understanding of the diverse lived experiences, knowledge systems, practices and climate responses of local communities.

¹ Decision 16/CP.30, paragraph 2

- Enhanced awareness of barriers, enabling factors and opportunities related to the engagement of local communities in the UNFCCC process.
- Increased exchange among Parties, constituted bodies, local communities and relevant stakeholders on experiences and practical considerations related to engagement approaches.
- Reflections to inform ongoing discussions related to the role of the LCIPP in facilitating the engagement of local communities under the UNFCCC process.

B. Expected outputs

The workshop will produce:

- Key reflections and practical considerations related to further engaging local communities in the UNFCCC process, including through the LCIPP and its FWG.
- An informal workshop report to inform the 2027 FWG review, pursuant to COP decision 16/CP.30.

C. Logistical information

The workshop will be held in-person during SBSTA 64 in Bonn, Germany, on 8th June 2026, with a virtual participation option to ensure accessibility for local community representatives who are unable to attend in-person.

Interpretation will be provided in the official UNFCCC languages that correspond to the actual language requirements of the workshop participants, subject to the availability resources.

The secretariat will make available the informal report synthesizing the outcomes of the COP 30 Presidency dialogues and thematic workshop, in advance of the in-session workshop, to serve as a background document and support informed and focused discussions.

D. Provisional agenda

Moderated by the UNFCCC secretariat

Time	Session	Details
13:00 –13:30	Opening Session	Welcome remarks ▪ Chair of Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice Context-setting presentation ▪ UNFCCC secretariat
13:30– 14:20	Local communities' experiences, knowledge systems and practices in climate action	Perspectives and lived realities of local communities in responding to climate change - Interventions by knowledge holders and practitioners from local communities - Interactive exchange Discussants - Local community representatives and networks
14:20 – 15:00	Strengthening engagement of local communities in the UNFCCC process	Scene-setting presentation by the secretariat on existing pathways and modalities for further engagement of local communities across constituted bodies and workstreams under the UNFCCC process. Discussants

		- Representatives of constituted bodies and work programmes
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee/Tea Break	
15:15 – 15:45	Reflections from COP 30 Presidency thematic workshop and relevant dialogues	Reflections from the COP 30 Presidency thematic workshop and relevant dialogues, highlighting lessons learned, recurring themes, and observations related to sustained engagement of local communities across the UNFCCC process. Discussants: - Party representative(s) - Relevant networks present at the workshop and dialogues referenced above
15:45 – 16:15	Role of the LCIPP in facilitating the engagement of local communities	Scene-setting presentation by FWG representative(s) Interactive exchange
16:15 – 17:00	Reflections and considerations for the 2027 FWG review	Key messages, practical considerations and recommendations - Key takeaways from the workshop on ways to enhance the further engagement of local communities in the UNFCCC process. - Interventions from local communities participating in person or joining virtually.
17:00 – 17:15	Closing	Closing remarks - Representative of the incoming COP 31 Presidency (TBC)