

Chapter

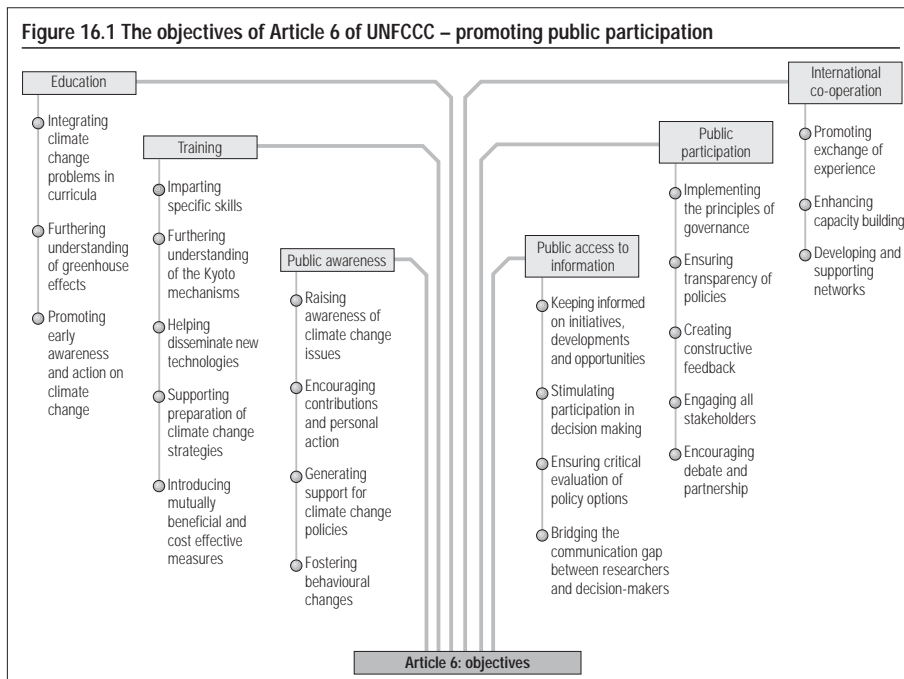
Promoting education, training and public awareness

Climate change will affect everyone on the planet, so it is vital that everyone is aware of the risks they face and of the role they can play in combating it. The Convention recognizes that the success of strategies to address climate change depends on fully involving individuals and communities, interest groups and stakeholders, including businesses and local policy makers. It therefore directly addresses education, training and public awareness, as well as access to information, public participation and international cooperation in these areas.

Section 16.A of this chapter deals with the provisions of the Convention; Section 16.B focuses on the New Delhi work programme, which was adopted in 2002 to implement the provisions.

16.A. Provisions of the Convention

Article 4.1(i) and Article 6 of the Convention address the issues of education, training and public awareness. Article 4.1(i) provides that all Parties “promote and cooperate in education, training and public awareness and encourage the widest participation ... including that of non-governmental organizations”. Article 6 further details this provision. Article 6(a) requires Parties to promote and facilitate at national and, as appropriate, regional and subregional levels:



- the development and implementation of educational and public awareness programmes on climate change and its effects;
- public access to information on climate change and its effects;
- public participation in addressing climate change and its effects and developing adequate responses; and
- training of scientific, technical and managerial personnel.

These activities are to be carried out in accordance with national laws and regulations, and to the extent that Parties are able.

Article 6(b) highlights the need for Parties to cooperate internationally in:

- developing and exchanging educational and public awareness material on climate change and its effects; and
- developing and implementing education and training programmes, including strengthening national institutions and seconding personnel to train experts in this field, particularly for developing countries.

Where appropriate, existing international bodies are to be used.

16.B. The New Delhi work programme

Article 6 was first placed on the agenda at SBSTA 8 in 1998. The same year COP 4 adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action in decision 1/CP.4. This decision asked the GEF to fund activities to implement Article 6. In 2002, after a series of side-events, workshops and negotiations, COP 8 adopted a five-year country-driven programme involving all stakeholders, named the *New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention* (decision 11/CP.8). Following COP 8, Article 6 was transferred from the SBSTA agenda to the SBI.

The programme encourages Parties to carry out activities in six categories, the so-called six pillars, which reflect the main elements of Article 6, namely:

Box 16.1: Education, training and public awareness in the Kyoto Protocol

Article 10(e) of the Kyoto Protocol builds on the Convention provisions, stating that:

"All Parties, taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances, without introducing any new commitments for Parties not included in Annex I, but reaffirming existing commitments under Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and continuing to advance the implementation of these commitments in order to achieve sustainable development, taking into account Article 4, paragraphs 3, 5 and 7, of the Convention, shall: Cooperate in and promote at the international level, and, where appropriate, using existing bodies, the development and implementation of education and training programmes, including the strengthening of national capacity-building, in particular human and institutional capacities and the exchange or secondment of personnel to train experts in this field, in particular for developing countries, and facilitate at the national level public awareness of, and public access to information on, climate change. Suitable modalities should be developed to implement these activities through the relevant bodies of the Convention, taking into account Article 6 of the Convention."

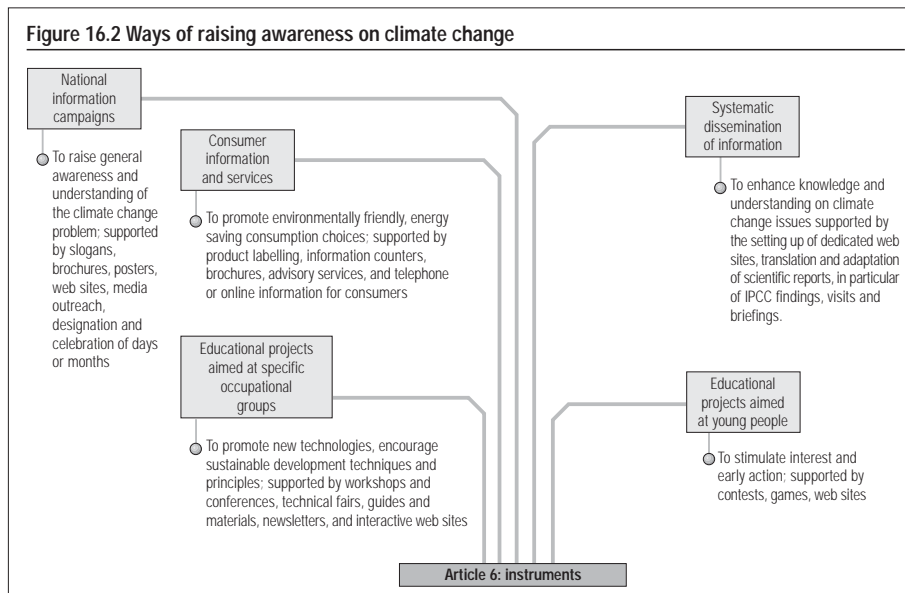
- international cooperation;
- education;
- training;
- public awareness;
- public participation; and
- public access to information.

In general, the programme calls upon the Parties to:

- improve education and training programmes that focus on climate;
- increase the availability and flow of information on climate change;
- improve understanding of climate change issues and participation in addressing them;
- promote partnerships and networking activities; and
- foster regional and international cooperation in implementing Article 6.

These activities are to be guided by:

- a country-driven, phased approach, integrated into existing climate change programmes and strategies;
- cost-effective operation;
- the promotion of partnerships, networks and synergies, in particular synergies between conventions;
- an interdisciplinary, holistic and systematic approach; and
- the principles of sustainable development.



The programme recognizes the importance of partnerships and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in supporting work nationally and internationally and encourages a programmatic response by these organizations.

The programme further provides a list of activities that could be carried out by Parties nationally. They include:

- developing institutional and technical capacities to identify gaps and needs in implementing Article 6;
- designating and supporting a national focal point for Article 6 activities;
- preparing assessments of needs specific to national circumstances in implementing Article 6;
- developing a directory of organizations and individuals relevant to Article 6 activities;
- developing criteria for identifying and disseminating information on good practices;
- using curricula and teacher training to integrate climate change issues into all educational levels and across disciplines;
- disseminating key information and documents on climate change more widely;
- seeking contributions and public participation from all stakeholders and encouraging their participation in the negotiation process;
- informing the public about the causes of climate change and sources of GHG emissions, as well as about actions to address them; and
- sharing the findings of national communications, national action plans or domestic programmes on climate change with the general public and all stakeholders.

COP 8 equally addressed financial and technical support. Decision 11/CP.8 called on the GEF to support implementation of the programme in non-Annex I Parties (see chapter 13). Parties were also encouraged to make use of bilateral and multilateral sources of funding. In addition, decision 11/CP.8 asked Parties to report in their national communications, where possible, and elsewhere, on their achievements, lessons learned, experiences and remaining gaps and barriers observed. It also called on the secretariat to work on an information clearing house and to facilitate coordinated contributions to the work programme by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Following COP 8, the secretariat developed the outline plan of an information clearing house, to facilitate exchange and cooperation between Parties, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations working on Article 6 issues¹⁸⁹. A small-scale model of the clearing house was presented to SBI 20 in June 2004. The SBI asked the secretariat to continue its work, taking into account further guidance from Parties. The secretariat subsequently presented a feasibility study for further

¹⁸⁹ See FCCC/SBI/2003/4 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbi/04.pdf>>, and FCCC/SBI/2003/INF.16 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbi/inf16.pdf>>.

development of the clearing house based on a two-phase implementation process¹⁹⁰. SBI 23, in 2005, welcomed the launch of the prototype, **CC:iNet**¹⁹¹. It was designed to help governments, organizations and individuals gain rapid and easy access to ideas, strategies, contacts, experts and materials that could be used to motivate and empower people to take effective action on climate change. The prototype phase is to continue for two years, during which the database will continue to be populated with information restricted to education and public awareness. At the end of this phase there will be an evaluation before the development of a full-scale clearing house. The full-scale clearing house will place new emphasis on the remaining four elements of Article 6 (training, access to information, public participation and international cooperation) and will target a broader audience. SBI 23 called for views from Parties on advancing work on the clearing house to make it fully functional, multilingual and user-friendly, for consideration at SBI 25.

The secretariat has prepared a report specifically on activities undertaken by Annex I Parties to implement Article 6, based on their third national communications¹⁹². SBI 18 solicited views from both Annex I and non-Annex I Parties on possible ways of improving reporting on Article 6 activities in their national communications¹⁹³. Furthermore, a series of regional workshops on Article 6 issues was held. A European workshop took place in May 2003¹⁹⁴, an African workshop in January 2004¹⁹⁵, a workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean region in March–April 2005¹⁹⁶, and a workshop for Asia-Pacific in September 2005¹⁹⁷.

COP 10 (2004) carried out an intermediate review of progress in implementing the New Delhi work programme, based on a report prepared by the secretariat¹⁹⁸. In decision 7/CP.10, COP 10 recognized that:

- some Parties had gained experience in planning and implementing Article 6 activities, assessing their specific needs and identifying major obstacles, and many had already learned from their national experiences;
- in some developing country Parties, awareness by the public of climate change and its effects was very low, and much work needed to be done to ameliorate the situation;

¹⁹⁰ FCCC/SBI/2004/14 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2004/sbi/14.pdf>>.

¹⁹¹ <http://unfccc.int/cc_inet/items/3514.php>.

¹⁹² FCCC/SBI/2003/7/Add.4 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbi/07a04.pdf>>.

¹⁹³ See FCCC/SBI/2003/17 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbi/17.pdf>> and FCCC/SBI/2003/MISC.11 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbi/misc11.pdf>>.

¹⁹⁴ FCCC/SBI/2003/10 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbi/10.pdf>> For more information on the workshop see <http://unfccc.int/meetings/workshops/other_meetings/items/1090.php>.

¹⁹⁵ FCCC/SBI/2004/7 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2004/sbi/07.pdf>> For more information on the workshop see <http://unfccc.int/meetings/workshops/other_meetings/items/1004.php>.

¹⁹⁶ FCCC/SBI/2005/14 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/eng/14.pdf>> For more information on the workshops see <http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/items/3364.php>.

¹⁹⁷ FCCC/SBI/2005/21 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/eng/21.pdf>> For more information on the workshops see <http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/items/3501.php>.

¹⁹⁸ FCCC/SBI/2004/15 <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2004/sbi/15.pdf>>.

- some intergovernmental, non-governmental and community-based organizations, as well as the private and public sectors, were working actively to raise awareness and increase understanding of the causes and effects of climate change, and actions to adapt to it and to mitigate it; and
- it was essential to share experiences and lessons learned, identify specific opportunities for international and regional cooperation, and build partnerships with all sectors of the economy.

COP 10, reaffirming that regional, subregional and national workshops were valuable forums for sharing experiences, invited Parties and international organizations to support them, and to assist the development and implementation of the information network clearing house. It concluded that the New Delhi work programme had proven to be an adequate framework for country-driven action and decided that the programme should continue to guide Parties in implementing Article 6 of the Convention. A full review of the implementation of the programme is scheduled for 2007. SBI 23 welcomed the progress made in countries where workshops had been held in implementing education and outreach activities, and noted their desire to develop regional strategies for the six pillars of Article 6. The SBI also called for an additional workshop that would address the particular needs of SIDS to be held before SBI 25 in November 2006. The secretariat was asked to prepare a synthesis report providing further insights into the results of the workshops for consideration at SBI 25. Noting that five countries had so far established Article 6 focal points, the SBI urged Parties that had not done so to appoint them and give them the means to promote activities relating to Article 6.

Relevant COP decisions:

- Decision 1/CP.4: The Buenos Aires Plan of Action
- Decision 11/CP.8: New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention
Annex: New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention
- Decision 7/CP.10: Status of, and ways to enhance, implementation of the New Delhi work programme of Article 6 of the Convention