Abscisic acid (ABA) is perceived by a family of intracellular PYR/PYL receptors that in their ABA-bound state bind and inhibit type 2C protein phosphatases (PP2Cs). PP2C inhibition in turn activates Snf1-related protein kinases (SnRK2s) to phosphorylate and activate downstream targets such as the ABF transcription factors to turn on stress protection and drought tolerance pathways. We have elucidated every single step of ABA perception and its core signaling pathway by a total of 14 high resolution structures. Here we report on the crystal structures of SnRK2 kinase in apo form and bound to PP2C, which represents the very first structure of a kinase-phosphatase complex and provides unexpected insights into the mechanisms of kinase inhibition.