

RCC Kampala is Celebrating 5 years!

The Regional Collaboration Center Kampala (RCC Kampala) is the second of five RCCs established globally by the UN Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC) together with 5 prominent partners. The RCCs' key benefits have been to increase participation of state and non-state actors in the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) and more recently to support the development and implementation of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions to climate action under the Paris Agreement, with focus on markets and mechanisms.

The RCC Kampala was established by a Memorandum of Understanding signed in February 2013 between the East African Development Bank (EADB) and the UNFCCC Secretariat and its Kyoto Protocol. The partnership is underpinned by shared objectives; EADB's main objective is to strengthen socio-economic development and regional integration of its member states and UNFCCC is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

It has been an exciting 5-year journey since inception! RCC Kampala has been engaging with almost all 25 Anglophone countries in Eastern and Southern Africa, organizing and participating in several capacity building activities and providing on-the-ground support for the development of low-carbon projects/programmes in these countries. One of the major achievements of RCC Kampala is the effort made to engage and support over 200 CDM projects and programmes by providing technical and procedural support to reduce hurdles along the project development path, thereby helping projects move smoothly from one stage to another. RCC Kampala has also supported the development of more than 20 standardized baselines in 17 countries, some of which have been identified by governments as important tools for Measurement, Reporting and Verification of their Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs).

Through active interactions with stakeholders in the field, RCC Kampala has developed meaningful collaborations with both state and non-state actors, to further enhance capacity of supported countries. Such connections and partnerships have been developed with agencies and organizations like GIZ Uganda (on behalf of BMU), UN agencies (UNDP, UNECA, UNEP), Swedish Energy Agency (SEA), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the World Bank, NDC-Partnership, African Development Bank (AfDB), Belgian Development Agency (Now termed Enabel), GFA Consulting group, Nordic Development Agency, Carbon Africa, Climate Focus, East African Community Secretariat, Universities and many others. Through these partnerships, RCC Kampala has leveraged financial and in-kind support to the tune of USD 200,000 annually. RCC Kampala now has an ambitious future ahead to catalyze local, national and regional climate action for effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).