

Colombia led the CDM in Latin America in 2019

Nearly two million CERs were issued, generating an income of more than USD 10 million for the projects



In 2019, the RCC Panama visited and provided technical assistance to a variety of organizations and CDM projects inter-alia: CDM Project 1942: “FEDEPALMA sectoral CDM umbrella project for methane capture, fossil fuel displacement and cogeneration of renewable energy”, CDM Project 9798 : Suba and Usaquen hydroelectric CDM umbrella project”, CDM Project 2554 : Dona Juana landfill gas-to-energy project. Technical support for these CDM projects was carried out thanks to the excellent collaboration and guidance of the specialists of the Regulatory Implementation (RIU) and Regulatory Development Units (RDU), CIACA, GCA|CNN and many other teams in the secretariat.

Colombia is committed to reducing its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and transitioning to a low-carbon economy. The country aims to achieve carbon neutrality in the second half of the century, taking into account a just transition of the labour force and gender equality. Colombia is also in a post-conflict period, which will open up new opportunities for low-carbon development.

The Clean Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol (CDM) continues to mobilize the private sector in Latin America. During 2019 in Colombia alone, more than two million CERs were successfully requested from sectors such as: transport, renewable energy, landfill and chemical industries. Furthermore, in 2019 one reforestation project has been registered.

From the 2,000,000 CERs, approximately 1,590,000 CERs were voluntarily cancelled to comply with the Colombia carbon tax, out of which 200,000 CERs were used for the World Bank Pilot Auction Facility and 500,000 CERs were committed to Nordic countries. The average price in 2019 was around USD 5/tCO₂e, which is more than ten times as high as the global market price for CERs and represented an income of more than USD 10 million for all these CDM projects.

Some facts about CDM projects in Colombia include:

- there is a total of 66 registered projects;
- the last project was registered in October 2019;
- at least 43 projects have already submitted a request for issuance; and
- another 7 are in the process to request issuance of CERs for the first time.

Since its establishment, RCC Panama has actively supported the Colombian DNA, Colombian CDM project participants and DOEs that have activities in Colombia by providing technical advice on the entire CDM project cycle and by facilitating communication with the respective SDM teams regarding tasks related to inter-alia registration, issuance, registry, Climate Neutral Now and accreditation as and when required.

Since the end of 2019, the centre has begun a new scope of collaboration with the recently established ASOCARBONO to facilitate the use of CDM CERs, promote the SD tool and Climate Neutral Now initiative.

This activation of CDM activities and regional efforts in 2019 is consistent with the mandates of the Executive Board and the CMP.

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