

#### Regional Collaboration Centre – Bangkok Promoting Action Against Climate Change

### Greetings from RCC Bangkok!

It is a busy time for climate action around the world. We continue to be focused on bringing you a round up of all that is happening in the region and beyond as we head towards the key event on the climate action calendar later this year - COP 24, 2-4 December, in Katowice, Poland.

In this newsletter you will find details of new climate action commitments, innovative data gathering and presenting tools, recently launched reports, exciting calls for proposals, and many, many opportunities for you to take climate action.



And, in the middle of all this activity, RCC Bangkok turned three! We want to thank you for your support and partnership over the past three years and we look forward to being your partner in climate action for many years to come.

The RCC Bangkok Team

## **Committing to Climate Action**

## **Negotiations in the Lead Up to Poland**



Countries met in Bangkok in September of this year to work towards preparing the guidelines for implementing the Paris Agreement, which are to be presented at COP24 in Poland next month. While progress was made on most issues, it is certain that the international community needs to come together in the lead up to the Poland meeting to ensure tangible outcomes.

Read more about what was achieved in Bangkok and what remains to be done

Access conference documents here

# UN Climate Change and UN ESCAP Partner to Strengthen Climate Action in Asia-Pacific



Recognizing regional collaboration as a crucial component of meeting the climate challenge, UN Climate Change and UN ESCAP recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to actualize the commitments of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals on-the-ground.

This partnership will be instrumental in enhancing the scale of climate action in the region in an efficient, impactful, and collaborative manner. The MoU will be operationalized in part through RCC Bangkok.

Read more about the MoU and its expected outcomes here

Revamped UN Climate Action Portal to Capture and Drive Climate Action



UN Climate Change recently presented a revamped version of its Climate Action Portal, featuring the accelerated action underway by cities, regions, companies and investors to achieve the collective goals of the Paris Agreement.

The portal will serve the critical function of capturing the breadth and depth of climate action

being undertaken by non-Party stakeholders. This can encourage governments to raise ambition as they prepare for COP24 in Poland in December of this year and for the next round of climate action plans under the Paris Agreement in 2020.

### Check it out!

Want to know how you can get involved beyond the Climate Action Portal? Click here.

Source: UN Climate Change

## Join the Loss and Damage Roster of Experts



If you are working on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, including extreme weather events and slow onset climatic processes, you are invited!

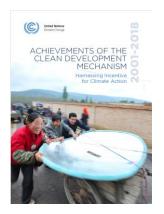
Join the roster of the Warsaw International Mechanism to learn about opportunities to volunteer your expertise in support of the Paris Agreement.

#### **Apply here**

Source: UN Climate Change

## What's New

100th CDM Executive Board Meeting and Launch of Report on CDM Achievements



The Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) held its milestone 100th meeting, 27-31 August 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand, and on the occasion launched a report on the achievements of the mechanism.

The <u>report</u> showcases CDM achievements in numbers and through reflections of prominent stakeholders from 2001 to 2018. The CDM, with over 8,100 projects and programmes registered, has reduced or avoided some 2 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent and spurred investment of USD 303.8 billion in climate and sustainable development projects.

Read about the Board's 100th meeting and access the CDM Achievements Report here.

Source: UN Climate Change

# Relaunch of UN Climate Change Online e-Commerce Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of CERs



UN Climate Change recently announced the relaunch of its Online Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs), where organizations, governments, businesses and citizens alike can purchase carbon offsets vetted under the Clean Development Mechanism to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions. Measure your emissions, reduce all you can, and compensate for the rest by supporting emission-reduction and sustainable development projects in developing countries.

The e-commerce platform has gained in simplicity, user friendliness and usability, and is accessible in English and French with a Spanish version to follow later in the year.

#### Check it out!

RCC Bangkok supports project owners to list their CERs on the platform. Get in touch with us if you would like to know **more**.

Source: Climate Neutral Now

**Recommendations of the Task Force on Displacement** 



Countries around the world are experiencing large-scale movements of people in relation to climate change.

Recognizing the urgent need to help countries avert, minimize, and address climate change-related displacement, the Paris Agreement created a task force to provide recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on how to best address displacement in an inclusive and integrated manner.

The task force's recommendations, along with a wide range of knowledge products, including mappings of

existing relevant policies and institutional frameworks, are now available online.

#### **Learn more**

Source: UN Climate Change

## Highlights from Bangkok

## **RCC Bangkok Presents at Carbon Pricing Workshop**

Technical Training on Carbon Pricing | Bangkok, Thailand | 25-26 September, 2018

The Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO), in collaboration with the World Bank, recently organized a technical training on carbon pricing for key Thai ministries, and in this context requested RCC Bangkok to present on the key design considerations of the European Union Emissions Trading System.

Our carbon pricing expert, Mr. Joao Aleluia, gave a presentation on the topic that generated a lot of interest and discussion among the participants.



You can find the presentation here

RCC Bangkok is currently supporting UNFCCC's Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action (CI-ACA) project in the region

## RCC Bangkok Collaborates with Thai BMA

Engagement with Thai Bond Market Association | Bangkok, Thailand | Ongoing



RCC Bangkok is engaging with the Thai Bond Market Association (TBMA) to increase awareness about sustainable green finance and green bond development in the region.

This engagement was facilitated in part through the <u>Green Investment Catalyst Process</u> initiated by the UNFCCC.

At a TBMA Sustainability Finance Conference on 16 October in Bangkok, our Senior Climate Finance Advisor, Mr. Yossef Zahar, presented on the status of sustainable finance initiatives and green bond market trends. The conference was organized with a view towards preparing the Thai market for issuance of, and investment in, green bonds and was attended by over 100 capital markets participants including Thai corporate issuers, underwriters, investors, and regulators.

You can find Mr. Zahar's presentation here.

## **Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance**

18th Meeting of the SCF | Bangkok, Thailand | 10-12 September, 2018



The Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) is tasked with assisting the Conference of the Parties (COP) in matters relating to the Financial Mechanism of the Convention.

The SCF held its 18<sup>th</sup> meeting back-toback with the Bangkok Climate Change Conference to advance on its areas of work, particularly as its technical outputs and policy recommendations will serve as

crucial inputs to the climate finance discussions at COP 24 in Katowice.

Key outcomes of the meeting can be found here.

And, for more information and background documents on the SCF meeting in Bonn held on 29-31 October, click **here**.

# Follow the complete RCC Bangkok activities on our website by clicking here

## Finance for Climate Action

# IRENA/ADFD Funding Opportunity for Renewable Energy Projects



The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) have collaborated on a joint Project Facility to support replicable, scalable and potentially transformative renewable energy projects in developing countries.

The 7<sup>th</sup> funding cycle will open in mid-November 2018, but you can start working on your applications now!

#### More details here

Source: IRENA

## Funding opportunity from the Global Climate Partnership Fund



The Global Climate Partnership Fund (GCPF) is an innovative public-private partnership which uses public funding to leverage private capital in order to mitigate climate change.

GCPF targets its investments at developing and emerging economies with high greenhouse gas emissions and significant potential to improve energy efficiency. Targeted technology and sector focus include renewable energy (wind, hydro, solar, and biomass) and energy efficiency.

Their funding is now open with a global geographical focus including Asia.

For more information and how to apply kindly visit the GCPF website here

Source: Global Climate Partnership Fund Website

## Signing off

### **Nobel for Nordhaus and Romer**

Humans are capable of amazing accomplishments if we set our minds to it



The 2018 Nobel Prize for economics will be shared between **William D. Nordhaus** and **Paul Romer** for their work on explaining how the market economy interacts with nature and technology.

In the mid-1990s, Nordhaus became the first person to create an integrated assessment model, i.e. a quantitative model that describes the global interplay between the economy and the climate. Nordhaus'

model is now widely spread and is used to simulate how the economy and the climate coevolve. It is used to examine the consequences of climate policy interventions, for example carbon taxes.

Finally, we leave you with Paul Romer's words on the subject of climate change:

"Once we start to try to reduce carbon emissions, we'll be surprised that it wasn't as hard as we anticipated [...] Humans are capable of amazing accomplishments if we set our minds to it."

#### Read more here

Source: The Nobel Committee

Illustration: ©Johan Jarnestad/The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences



The Climate Neutral Now initiative of the UNFCCC secretariat continues to expand its actions in the Asia-Pacific region. Here are some highlights:

Climate neutral online shopping? Yes, it's possible.

We are exploring collaborations with organizations in the region to promote climate neutral products and services. Interested? **Contact us**.

A climate initiative for the **fashion industry** with support from key stakeholders in the sector is expected to be launched at COP24. We will bring you more information on the announcement in December!

A list of **international organizations** from the region that are making commitments to achieve climate neutral operations will officially be announced at COP 24 in December.

Do your part for Climate Action! Visit Climate Neutral Now!

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