

# Regional Collaboration Centre for Latin America

January 2021



Regional Collaboration Centre for  
Latin America (RCC Panama)

hosted by UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Dear RCC Stakeholder,

We welcome you to our first newsletter of 2021! It contains a widespread coverage of updates of climate topics and recent inspiring efforts in the region, something that will interest every reader. Begin with words from the COP26 regional ambassador about the role of finance and enhanced NDCs in Latin America, and continue to learn about the launch of the UNEP Adaptation Gap Report, calls for funding of climate innovations and great achievements in Peru to decrease their emissions - both in tourism and by footprint calculation of public and private organizations. Finally, don't miss out on the upcoming events at the bottom of the page.

The RCC Panama Team

## An Exclusive Interview with the UK government's COP26 Regional Ambassador to Latin America and the Caribbean



**H.E. Fiona Clouder**, the UK Government's COP26 Regional Ambassador to Latin America and the Caribbean, sat down with RCC Panama to discuss how the UK Government are working with the objectives of the COP26 its preparations for creating focus on finance and how to support and lead for enhanced NDCs.

**RCC Panama: Could you tell us about your role as the UK's COP26 Envoy to Latin America?**

As Regional Ambassador for Latin America and the Caribbean, I liaise with governments, business and wider society across Latin America and the Caribbean to help build relations, collaboration and understanding on all issues in relation to COP26. The UK is co-hosting

COP26, in partnership with Italy, in November 2021. To promote COP26 objectives, I work in close partnership with the network of UK Embassies, as well as with the UN High Level Champions, UNFCCC Regional Centres and other regional organizations. In taking forward the COP26 negotiations in line with the Paris Agreement (PA), we want to encourage all countries to come forward with ambitious 2030 climate plans (NDCs) and long-term strategies to reach zero carbon emissions as soon as possible. Also to help societies and economies adapt to climate change, particularly the most vulnerable. The UK Presidency is running several campaigns, engaging with a wide variety of stakeholders including businesses, individuals, indigenous groups and young people. There are 5 key themes to encourage ambition and action. These are Adaptation and Resilience, the Energy Transition, Clean Transport, Nature Based Solutions and Finance.

***Together with H.E. Fiona Clouder we also conversed about what changes are necessary within climate finance and how UK is supporting that, as well as the role of NDCs and UK's own commitments. The full interview is available [here](#).***

## Regional Climate News

### Adaptation Gap Report 2020

As temperatures rise and climate change impacts intensify, nations must urgently step up action to adapt to the new climate reality or face serious costs, damages and losses, a new UN Environment Programme (UNEP) report finds. The UNEP [Adaptation Gap Report 2020](#) finds that while nations have advanced in planning, huge gaps remain in finance for developing countries and bringing adaptation projects to the stage where they bring real protection against climate impacts such as droughts, floods and sea-level rise.

The report also places a special focus on nature-based solutions as low-cost options that reduce climate risks, restore and protect biodiversity and bring benefits for communities and economies.

Find out more and access the full report [here](#)

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### Race to Resilience at the Climate Adaptation Summit



The [Race to Resilience](#) campaign of the [High-Level Champions](#) will be formally introduced at the [Climate Adaptation Summit on 25-26 January](#). It is a sibling to the [Race to Zero](#) and aims to catalyze action from non-Party actors to make 4 billion people from vulnerable communities more resilient by 2030. The Summit will also launch the new Adaptation Action Coalition, by the UK with the Netherlands, Egypt, Bangladesh, Malawi, St Lucia and the UN and a new Adaptation Action Agenda to adapt and build climate resilience by 2030.

Read about it [here](#)

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### Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA): Second round of applications soon open



Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) works in conjunction with UNEP as an executing entity in the AFCIA. The next call for applications opens in February 2021 and closes at end of April. Countries interested in participating can approach CTCN for further information and guidance. The eligible countries in Latin America for this call are: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay y Venezuela. Find out more [here](#).

Additionally, CTCN brings support to the implementation of NDCs, National Climate Change Policies, Plans and Strategies and is receiving applications for technical assistance in climate change mitigation and adaptation permanently. [Learn more about CTCN](#).

## Global Essay Competition: Health & Land



### DEADLINE EXTENDED

Due to popular demand, we are extending our deadline for the essay competition - you now have more time to submit your essay, But why wait? Start your essay submission today!

NEW DEADLINE: 05 February

visit: <https://bit.ly/EssayOnLand>

## Machu Picchu: the first carbon neutral wonder of the world

One of the New Seven Wonders of the world, the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (in Peru), has committed to achieving net zero emissions in accordance with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. A strategic alliance of local and national stakeholders announced their climate commitment to become the first international tourism destination to obtain a carbon neutral certification. The World Tourism Organization has described the process and actions taken to reach their goal, of protecting one of the most fragile and threatened ecosystems on the planet.



Read about it [here](#).

**More than 300 organizations are part of the Peru Carbon Footprint platform by the Ministry of environment**





One year after its launch the Ministry of Environment of Peru celebrated the first anniversary of the Peru Carbon Footprint with support of the NDC Support Program and UNDP, by hosting a virtual event earlier in January. The event recognized the organizations that have decided to commit to climate action in the country and commit to the fulfillment of Peru's goal of reducing 40% of GHG emissions by 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Watch the broadcast [here](#)

## Mark Your Calendars

### XXII Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean

On February 1- 2 ministers will address the pressing environmental issues of the region, opportunities for green recovery, and urgent actions for nature in the next decade to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Organized by Barbados, the current president of the forum, and the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, and will be open for the public to learn more from the environmental authorities in the region.

[Join the Forum](#)

### The NAMA Facility invites you to its webinar series: "Introduction to The Ambition Initiative"

To support applicants during the process of NAMA Support Project outline development, the Technical Support Unit (TSU) will hold a series of webinars. The first webinar **"Introduction to the Ambition Initiative"** will be held on **3 February at 2:00 – 3:00 pm CEST**.

[Join the Webinar](#)

**The Ambition Initiative of NAMA Facility** was launched on 15 December 2020 and will be open until 31 May, 15:00 pm (CEST/GMT+2). By this time, all [NAMA Support Project \(NSP\) Outlines](#) and related application materials must be delivered to the Technical

Support Unit (TSU) of the NAMA Facility via [email](#).

The application documents are available [here](#) and the updated General Information Document can be found [here](#)

You can see the full timeline of the Ambition Initiative [here](#).

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## Climate Adaptation Summit 2021

The Climate Adaptation Summit (CAS) 2021 is an online global conference to accelerate, innovate and scale up the world's efforts in adapting to the inevitable effects of climate change. Bringing together a range of participants, CAS 2021 responds to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres's call for "more concrete plans, more ambition from more countries and more businesses" to make the world more climate resilient. The conference took place between Monday 25 January and Tuesday 26 January 2021 (Webcast available).



[More about the Summit here](#)

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