



Regional Collaboration Centre – Dubai

Promoting Climate Action in the
Middle East, North Africa and South Asia

The Regional Collaboration Centre Dubai is a collaboration between UN Climate Change and the World Green Economy Organization

Welcome to the RCC Dubai Newsletter April 2020

RCC Dubai wishes you and your families a blessed and joyful month. Ramadan Mubarak.

RCC Dubai was launched on the 20th of October 2019 in Dubai at the margins of the World Green Economy Summit.

Find out more about how the work of the RCC Dubai is contributing to enhancing climate action in the region along with recent news and events from around the world in this edition of RCC Dubai's newsletter.

Read on for more...

[Newsletter Highlights](#)

- [Exclusive Interview with the Minister of Climate Change and Environment, UAE](#)
- [Updates on COP26 and other Global Meetings](#)
- [RCC Dubai Project Updates](#)
- [Contribute to Climate Action](#)
- [Read and Learn while you #StayHome](#)

An Exclusive Interview with the Minister

The Minister of Climate Change and Environment, UAE on Regional Collaboration and the Role of RCC Dubai

[H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi](#), the Minister of Climate Change and Environment of the UAE, shares about the important role that regional collaboration can play in enhancing momentum and how RCC Dubai will be instrumental in achieving the climate action objectives of the region.

How can regional collaboration support the climate action objectives of the region?

Collective climate action is the only path to achieving our



H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi
Minister of Climate Change and
Environment, UAE

climate objectives. Through informing and catalyzing the response to climate change, regional collaboration plays a key role in expediting and scaling up climate action in the region to ensure we have the momentum to succeed. As the countries of the region are similarly affected by climate change, they are working on unifying their approaches to climate action and moving towards integrated environmental governance. Climate change knows no borders, and neither should we.

What do you see as the role and value addition of RCC Dubai for the region?

RCC Dubai brings a host of value-added benefits. Most importantly, it ensures that all countries in the region are on the same page in terms of climate change to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs, and brings climate finance to our green entrepreneurs.

Realizing that climate action is a collective responsibility, the Center is instrumental in creating productive synergies between stakeholders, as well as building their capacities to expedite all-inclusive climate action. We applaud the role of RCC Dubai and will continue to support its mission.

How will the various projects that RCC Dubai is undertaking promote and propagate momentum towards climate action in the region?

RCC Dubai's projects engage stakeholders from governments, the private sector, and civil society from across the region in collaborating on swift, bold actions aimed at addressing the climate challenge. They offer opportunities to forge partnerships that advance adaptation strategies and channel resources to boost the adaptive capacity. Another important aspect is that initiatives launched by the Center significantly contribute to filling the knowledge gaps for the stakeholders, allowing them to step up their involvement.

Conference of Parties

SB52 Rescheduled for October 2020

The COP Bureau has decided to postpone the UN Climate Change meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB52) until October 4-12, 2020, at the World Conference Centre in Bonn, Germany. Pre-session meetings will take place from September 28 to October 3, 2020.

Read more [here](#).

COP26 Postponed



The COP26 UN climate change conference set to take place in Glasgow in November has been postponed due to COVID-19. This decision has been taken by the COP Bureau of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with the UK and its Italian partners. Dates for a rescheduled conference in 2021, hosted in Glasgow by the UK in

partnership with Italy, will be set out in due course following further discussion with parties.

Read more [here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

All Regional Climate Weeks in 2020 are Postponed



Host Governments are in the process of confirming their commitment to host the events in 2021. The organizing partners will discuss a possible schedule of Regional Climate Week meetings for 2021 over the coming days, keeping in mind uncertainties around the precise timing of COP26 in 2021. Virtual solutions to fulfill some of the objectives of the Regional Climate Weeks are also being explored.

More information [here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

The 26th session of the Conference of Parties (COP26)



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
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UK 2020**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

--> [COP 26 President appointed](#)

--> [Know more about the new High-level Champion](#)

--> [Summit for Global Sport Leaders to Build Ambition Ahead of COP26](#)

--> [COP 26 Private Finance Agenda Launched](#)

Statement by the Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change, Patricia Espinosa, on the Outcome of COP25



Source: UN Climate Change

COP 25 Decision on Global Climate Action



One of the outcomes of COP 25 in the "Chile Madrid Time for Action" decision includes Parties formally expressing their support for the High-Level Champions, the Marrakech Partnership and the role of non-Party stakeholders (cities, subnational regions, business, investors and civil society) in climate action.

Many believe that this decision is a result of the high-impact action that has been mobilized in the pre-2020 period by coalitions, initiatives and stakeholders and a recognition of the importance of collective action and building on what has been already achieved to enhance ambition, support Parties and scale up implementation.

Read the decision [here](#).

Source: UN Climate Change

RCC Dubai at COP25

RCC Dubai participated in COP25 to amplify climate action from the region.
Read on for more...

Launch of MENA Climate Week 2020



At COP25, it was announced that the first ever MENA Climate Week will take place in 2020 in Dubai.

This announcement was made to global media at a high-level press conference. H.E. Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, UAE and H.E. Saeed Al

Tayer, Chairman, WGEO joined the press conference to announce that MENA Climate Week will be hosted in Dubai.

Climate Finance Strategies for NDC implementation

The UN Climate Change secretariat and RCC Dubai host partner WGEO organized a joint High-level Ministerial Forum on climate finance strategies for NDC implementation at COP25.

The High-level Forum was composed of a ministerial panel with the objectives of highlighting regional and national strategies to mobilize and access climate finance to meet the priorities of developing countries and bringing clarity on how to deliver the NDCs and long-term strategies of developing countries.



More on the event [here](#).

More on the Needs-based Finance (NBF) initiative of the UN Climate Change secretariat [here](#).

RCC Dubai Project Related Updates

Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy

Technical Workshop on Climate Finance for Finance Experts in the Arab region



Technical Workshop on Climate Finance for Finance Experts in the Arab region | 12-13 February 2020 | Cairo, Egypt

As a follow up to the [inception workshop](#) (in November 2019) that kicked off the development of the Arab States Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy, a technical workshop was recently organized in Cairo, Egypt on 12-13 February 2020. This workshop served as an opportunity for experts from the Ministries of Finance from Arab countries to enhance their understanding of climate change issues and the context to which the region is engaged in climate finance.

In particular, the workshop: 1) provided an overview of the state of climate change and climate finance in the Arab region, 2) helped exchange information on climate finance flows and needs at the regional and international States level, and 3) identified opportunities in assessing and addressing the needs of Arab States.

Read more about the workshop [here](#)

Check out the [Needs-based Finance \(NBF\) Project Brochure](#) detailing the latest updates from the project

[Listen](#) to Yolando Velasco (Manager, Climate Finance, UNFCCC), speak about the NBF project and the Arab States Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy.

Developing and Endorsing the Strategy



Following the Inception Workshop (November 2019) and a Technical Workshop for Finance Experts (February 2020), the draft Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy will be developed. The strategy is informed by the outcomes of the two workshops and based on technical assessments of finance flows in the region and finance, technology and capacity-building needs and priorities of Arab States as communicated by the countries.

A Forum is planned to convene climate change focal points, climate finance experts and broader stakeholders to review and finalize the draft Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy and to develop an implementation plan. The Forum will be composed of two parts: a technical segment and a high-level ministerial segment.

Follow the project page [here](#) for more details.

Implementing Actions to Close Adaptation Knowledge Gaps in MENA



RCC Dubai is collaborating with the [Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative \(LAKI\)](#) to address knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action in subregions, categorized by common geographical characteristics and shared climatic conditions.

Building on the previous workshops in the [Gulf Cooperation](#)

[Council](#) and [North African](#) subregions to identify and prioritize adaptation knowledge gaps to be closed, the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) has kickstarted a second phase of engagement by conducting a stocktake exercise of ongoing adaptation activities in the subregions.

If you are working in the Gulf Cooperation Council and North African subregions and would like to engage in this initiative, contact nwp@unfccc.int.

Read more [here](#)

[Watch](#) Dr. Youssef Nassef (Director, Adaptation programme, UNFCCC) talk about the barriers knowledge gaps pose to successful adaptation action, the efforts of the LAKI in overcoming these barriers and the work of RCC Dubai in supporting the LAKI.

Upcoming Technical Expert Meeting to Strengthen Adaptation Efforts

RCC Dubai and NWP will convene a technical expert meeting with partners later this year to co-design actions and explore cross-collaborations among institutions, in response to closing priority adaptation knowledge gaps in the [Gulf Cooperation Council](#) and [North Africa](#) subregions.

The meeting will result in a road map of collaborative activities in response to the targeted knowledge users. It will also help determine what additional expertise or capacity building is required to support activities, catalyse new collaborations and strengthen existing partnerships that support the closing of the priority knowledge gaps.

Follow the [LAKI website](#) for updates on the workshop

Global Climate Action in MENA and South Asia

Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)



The Doha work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment invites Parties to designate and provide support, including technical and financial support, and access to information and materials to a national focal point for ACE activities and assign specific responsibilities (15/CP.18, Annex, paragraph 22 (a)).

RCC Dubai is working with the ACE team at UNFCCC to follow up with UNFCCC focal points in the region to nominate ACE focal points. To explore the current ACE focal points, upcoming events and understand how UNFCCC National Focal Points can nominate ACE Focal points click [here](#)

In addition, visit the website links below for further and useful information on a variety of issues including:

- [Negotiations](#) on Action for Climate Empowerment
- [Dialogues](#) on Action for Climate Empowerment
- [Education and Training](#), [Public Participation](#) and [Youth Engagement](#)

A **short guide** titled **How to integrate 'Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)' into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** is being finalized by UNESCO and UN Climate Change, in collaboration with the United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness. This guide aims to provide countries with advice on how to enhance ambition and address the six elements of ACE - Education, Training, Public Awareness, Public Access to Information, Public Participation and International Cooperation in their respective NDCs.

Look out for the guide coming soon on the [website](#)!

Contribute to Climate Action

Apply Now for the UN Global Climate Action Award!



Organizations, cities, businesses, universities, governments, and others taking bold leadership on climate change can nominate their work for a UN Global Climate Action Award.

The award, the focus of United Nations Climate Change's Momentum for Change initiative, recognizes the world's most innovative, scalable and replicable examples of action to tackle climate change.

Applications for the 2020 UN Global Climate Action Award are being accepted from now **until 11 May 2020**.

[Click here to apply!](#)

Climate Neutral Now Initiative Looks to the Future - Join Us!



[Climate Neutral Now](#) welcomed over 40 partners and signatories from different economic sectors from across Europe, USA, and Asia in an event which took place in the Real Betis Balompié Stadium (Benito Villamarín) in Seville, Spain, on 10 February 2020.

Participants presented their work on emission reduction and discussed how to shape the vision towards a climate-neutral economy through this initiative. We hope that participants will inspire even more organizations to join the initiative and help the world to reach climate neutrality.

More [here](#).

Learn more about Climate Neutral Now [here](#).

Want to take the Climate Neutral Now Pledge? [Find out how](#).

Join the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building Network



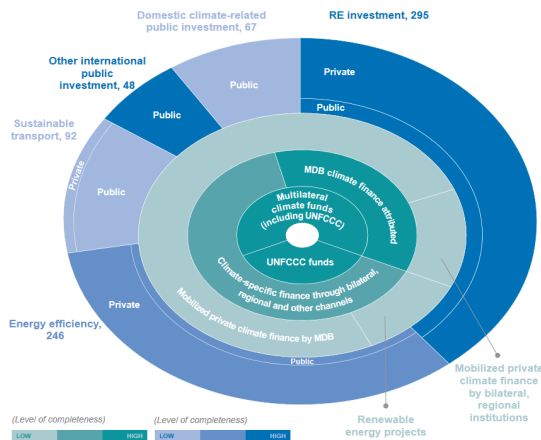
The Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB), established under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, has a mandate to foster collaboration among climate-related capacity-building stakeholders at all levels, and to strengthen networks and partnerships, boost synergies and

promote the sharing of knowledge and experiences.

The PCCB Network is open to all public and private entities and initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels who believe in the power of collective action!

If you are a member of an entity or initiative involved in climate-related capacity-building, this voluntary Network is an ideal platform to join other actors across sectors and regions, exchange knowledge and experiences, and boost the impact of your climate actions.

Calls for Contributions on Climate Finance in the Arab States



The Standing Committee on Finance ([SCF](#)) has launched calls for contributions and case studies in order to prepare two key technical reports related to climate finance:

1) [Determining the needs of developing countries related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement](#)

The first of its kind, the report will include available information and data on needs by type, theme and sector, across regions, including on the needs of Arab States. The call, including more details on the information and data that the SCF is looking for can be found [here](#).

2) [Biennial Assessment and Overview](#)

of Climate Finance Flows

The report will inform the 4th High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance to be held at COP 26 and also the Global Stocktake, designed to assess the adequacy of climate action by the international community at periodic intervals. The call, including more details on the information and data that the SCF is looking for can be found [here](#).

More information on the SCF and its areas of work can be found [here](#). More information on climate finance, including programme and project-level data channeled through the [Green Climate Fund \(GCF\)](#), the [Global Environment Facility \(GEF\)](#) and the [Adaptation Fund](#) can be found on the respective sections of the Climate Finance data portal.

Online Questionnaire on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)



By its decision 4/CP.21, the COP requested the SBI to assess progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs at its forty-eighth session (April-May 2018), with a view to making recommendations thereon to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate. By the same decision, the COP invited Parties to provide information to inform the assessment by the SBI, guided by an online questionnaire.

[Check out this questionnaire](#) designed to capture information from the Parties on the progress made in the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Parties are free to fill the form more than once to include new information as necessary.

Reminder notice: Deadline for Renewal of Project Crediting Period

The CDM Executive Board at its 100th meeting decided (EB 100 meeting report, paragraph 32) to revise the process for renewal of crediting period, introducing a deadline for the submission of a request for renewal of crediting period (i.e. one year after the expiry of the crediting period). Missing the deadline would make the requesting for renewal not possible.

Version 02.0 of the "CDM project cycle procedure for project activities" and the "CDM project cycle procedure for programme of activities" incorporating this revision entered into force on 1 January 2019 (the documents are available [here](#)).

With regard to the project activities and component project activities (CPAs) under programmes

of activities with renewable crediting period that expired before or on 30 September 2019 (i.e. "overdue cases"), in accordance with the Board's decision at EB 105, the deadline for the submission of renewal requests is set as 30 September 2020. For CPAs, please note that crediting period may only be renewed if the relevant programme of activities period has been renewed.

See also the announcement on the CDM website [here](#).

In case of any questions, kindly contact RCC Dubai at RCCDubai@unfccc.int.

Source: UN Climate Change

What's New

Collaborative Instrument for Ambitious Climate Action (CI-ACA)



The [Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action \(CI-ACA\)](#) initiative was launched in 2016 as an immediate response to member states needs to strengthen their capacities to consider the adoption of economic collaborative instruments and increase their ambition to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement through their NDCs.

In Pakistan, the CI-ACA project successfully supported the initiative of the Ministry of Climate Change which culminated with the establishment of a national committee mandated to evaluate the options for carbon pricing and joining existing carbon markets.

Read more about the work of CI-ACA in the region [here](#).

The work of CI-ACA in Pakistan was featured in a recent ICAP report, find it here: [Emission Trading Worldwide: Status Report 2020](#)

For more information about the CI-ACA project, take a look at the [brochure](#).

CDM Passes New Milestones in Cooperative Action on Climate Change



The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) recently passed two exciting milestones - its millionth voluntary cancellation of certified emission reductions (CERs) on the UN carbon offset platform

All background documents, a summary of outcomes, and links to the meeting recordings are available [here](#).

Least Developed Country Expert Group - Meetings

37th Meeting of the LEG | Antananarivo, Madagascar | 6-8 February, 2020

At the meeting, the Group developed its work programme for 2020. The meeting included discussions with representatives of the Green Climate Fund, relevant organizations, regional centres and networks on ongoing collaboration to support the least developed countries on adaptation and the implementation of the least developed countries work programme. Read more [here](#).

Stocktaking Meeting of the LEG | Antananarivo, Madagascar | 10-12 February, 2020



The report of the stocktaking meeting contains a summary of achievements, good practices and lessons learned from the work of the LEG in 2016-2020, as identified at the stocktaking meeting. It also contains a summary of opportunities, challenges, gaps and needs related to the work of the LEG and the support provided to the least developed countries. Read the report [here](#).

Consultative Group of Experts formulates its Vision, Mission and Strategic objectives



The Consultative Group of Experts (CGE), an expert group under the Convention and the Paris Agreement mandated to provide technical support and advice to developing countries on MRV and transparency, met in Bonn from 18 to 19 February 2020.

With a view to ensuring that its annual work plan aligns with its mandate and objectives, and responds to the evolution of the existing measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) arrangements under the Convention and the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) under

the Paris Agreement as well as needs identified by developing country Parties in the lead up to 2026, the expert group formulated a Vision, Mission statement and Strategic objectives.

Find out more about the CGE [here](#).

Source: UN Climate Change

Read and Learn while you #StayHome

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change as a Development Agenda

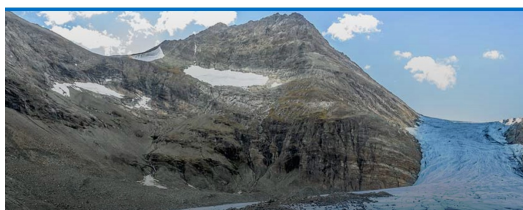


As we actively fight a global health emergency, we cannot underestimate the ongoing impacts of Climate Change.

Registration is now open for the joint UN Climate Change - UNSSC second edition of The Paris Agreement on Climate Change as a Development Agenda online course. This year it will be offered **free-of-charge**, starting **June 2020**. This course offers a holistic and integrated approach to climate change and demonstrates the interlinkages and interdependencies between sustainable development and climate change to make informed policy choices towards low-carbon and climate-resilient sustainable development.

Please register [here](#)

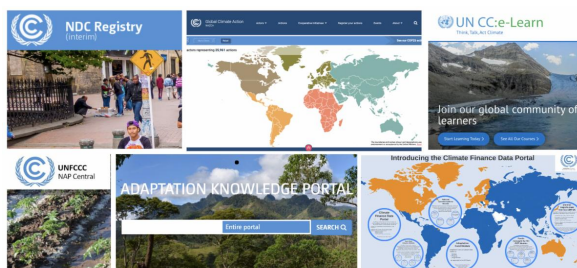
Join the Global Community of Learners Join UN CC:Learn



Access the single largest dedicated learning platform on climate change with a specific focus on developing country needs through UN CC:Learn. Benefit from strategic advice and quality learning resources geared towards helping understand, adapt, and build resilience to climate change.

Start your learning journey [here](#).

Climate Knowledge at your Fingertips



Discover a trove of information on climate action by accessing the UN Climate Change portals.

The RCC Dubai website has compiled several UN Climate Change knowledge portals in one convenient location.

Check it out [here](#).

Integrating Gender Responsiveness in the NAPs

The UNFCCC Least Developed Country Expert Group with the Adaptation Committee and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network have developed a toolkit for a gender-responsiveness process to formulate and implement NAPs.



Toolkit for a Gender-Responsive Process to Formulate and Implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

Supplement to the UNFCCC Technical Guidelines for the NAP Process

focus is on providing gender-responsiveness approach throughout the different stages of the NAP process.

Access the toolkit [here](#).

25 Years of Adaptation Under the UNFCCC



During COP 25, the [Adaptation Committee](#) launched its 2019 flagship report on **25 Years of Adaptation Under the UNFCCC**.

The report offers an overview of how adaptation has been addressed through the UNFCCC process since the Convention entered into force 25 years ago.

Read the report [here](#).

The Open NAP Initiative



The Open NAP initiative is an open-ended collaboration, led by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), designed to mobilize the widest inputs from all interested and available actors and stakeholders to support the LDCs and other interested developing countries, in the development of their NAP.

Read the [policy brief](#) to know more about the initiative, how countries can participate and how interested organizations and experts can participate

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ADAPTATION FINANCE BULLETIN

UNFCCC Adaptation Committee

Earlier this year, the Adaptation Committee published the fifth issue of its Adaptation Finance Bulletin. This issue includes adaptation finance quick facts, updates from COP 25, links to resources to learn more about adaptation finance and how to access it, the latest developments on adaptation finance from the UNFCCC constituted bodies, and more.

Read the bulletin [here](#).

The Heat is On: Taking Stock of Global Climate Ambition



The UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Climate Change have put together the 2019 Global Outlook Report on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), which demonstrates country commitments to combating climate change and progress on climate action.

It is the most detailed review yet of the momentum since the Paris Agreement and demonstrates that the majority of countries are committed to combating climate change and making progress, even in challenging development contexts.

Read the report and download it [here](#).

Regional Collaboration Centres



The Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs) support national climate action through capacity-building, technical assistance and strategic networking - sourcing know-how and resources to drive clean development. They were established to spread the benefits of the Clean Development Mechanism, which spurs investment in sustainable development by rewarding projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Since the adoption of the Paris Climate Change Agreement in December 2015, the RCCs have had the broader task of supporting implementation of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans and Global Climate Action under that agreement.

Find out more information on the RCCs and their recent activities on the [website](#) and the [brochure](#).

About the RCC Dubai Partner Organizations

United Nations Climate Change

The climate change secretariat was established in 1992 when countries adopted the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With the subsequent adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and the Paris Agreement in 2015, Parties to these three agreements have

World Green Economy Organization

The World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) emerged in response to the priorities and concerns identified at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 as an organization intended to support emerging global actions towards the green, low-carbon, climate-

progressively reaffirmed the secretariat's role as the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to climate change. Since 1995, the secretariat has been located in Bonn, Germany.

[Visit the website](#)

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resilient development model. WGEO seeks to promote the widespread acceptance and increased importance of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, by linking financing, technology, capacity-building and all other elements to enable the environment for green economies.

[Visit the website](#)

Follow WGEO on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)

We look forward to hearing from you!



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Regional Collaboration Centre - Dubai

World Green Economy Organization
DIFC, Index Tower Level 10, Office 1005
PO Box 115577, Dubai UAE
Tel: +971 4 388 7878
Email: rccdubai@unfccc.int

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