



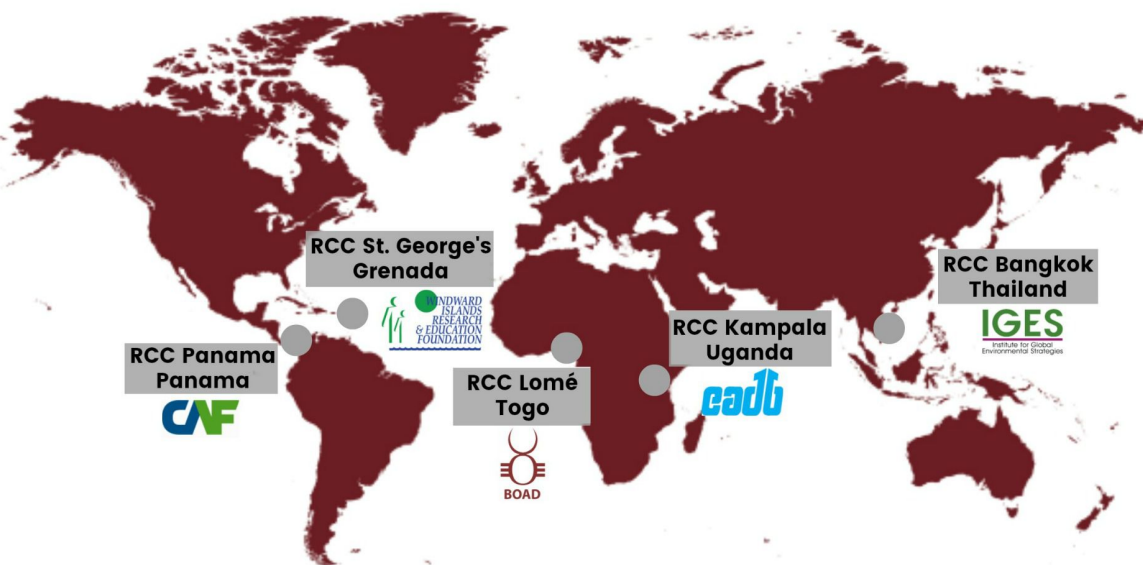
United Nations
Climate Change

Regional Collaboration Centres 2018 HIGHLIGHTS



BACKGROUND

The UN Climate Change secretariat engages in mutually beneficial collaborative partnerships with Parties and non-Party stakeholders. [Regional Collaboration Centres \(RCCs\)](#) operate in collaboration with regional partners to support national climate action.



5 Regional Collaboration Centres

Since inception in 2013, RCCs have been working to improve the regional distribution of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects. After the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, the scope of their work has expanded to include support to developing countries in its implementation. RCC support includes capacity-building, technical assistance, strategic networking, and sourcing of know-how and resources to drive sustainable development.

WORKPLAN

The RCC workplan comprises five goals, outcomes and key performance indicators that provide guidance to all the RCCs in defining the specific regionally-based activities. The 2018 workplan is in line with the RCC vision:

“ To be the regional presence of the UNFCCC secretariat, which catalyzes and supports local and regional actions across the climate secretariat’s substantive areas of work, using a network of global reach to forge and maintain effective partnerships, which ensure that the UNFCCC process is aligned with the needs of those engaged in accelerating action to address climate change.

5 Goals

Manage RCCs in an effective and efficient manner

Ensure efficient and effective support to the implementation of the Marrakech Partnership of Global Climate Action


Ensure effective support to CDM stakeholders with a focus on underrepresented countries


Engage, when possible in collaboration with programmes at the secretariat, in activities directly supporting the intergovernmental process (pre-2020 and the implementation of the Paris Agreement)


Support efforts to substantially scale up green finance and investment in contributing towards pre-2020 climate action and achievement of the objectives of the Paris Agreement


KEY RESULTS


Benefits RCCs Bring to the Region


 Generate local technical capacity on the CDM, market mechanisms and cooperative approaches


 Promote new partnerships to make climate action more efficient by ensuring synergies while avoiding duplication of efforts on the ground


 Act as logistic hubs for organizing regional events enabling cost-saving and improved outreach to local stakeholders

 Leverage communication and outreach through direct and targeted interaction with stakeholders

 Promote finance for climate through the organization of trainings, the dissemination of information, as well as match-making between funding organizations and stakeholders involved in activities supported by finance for climate

 Present in the region to gather intelligence and identify gaps and barriers for effective implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

 Support national climate action with additional funds regularly received from donors and other UN organizations, which has been perceived by Parties to be important and value added

 Bring several types of expertise in one 'plug-and-play' mode (quick settling in and use of already existing infrastructure and networks)

Partnerships

The delivery of the workplans by RCCs has often taken place through joint implementation with other institutions including UN organizations. RCCs have been particularly successful in mobilizing resources, both from international donors and regional entities.

Notable partnerships:



2018 Achievements

Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV)

Work started to establish the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub. A meeting with high-level government stakeholders from all the participating countries in the Caribbean is planned. The work is ongoing on the framework of the MRV West African network, which has the objective of supporting countries of the Economic Community of West African States in establishing sound MRV systems by 2020. Under the [Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action \(CI-ACA\)](#)¹ initiative a scoping study started on needs for enhancing and harmonizing MRV towards a potential regional carbon market for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations countries.

Implementation of NDCs

The regional NDC Coordinators are hosted and supported by RCCs. Partnership plans for NDC implementation is finalized for Honduras, and in progress for Colombia, St. Lucia, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Work just started for Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and Uruguay.

Capacity-building

RCCs continued to provide capacity-building support to a wide range of stakeholders, including designated national authorities (DNAs), to promote the use of the CDM as a tool for MRV of emission reductions, as well as to monitor sustainable development co-benefits of CDM project activities and programmes of activities (PoAs). Until October, RCCs co-organized **25** capacity-building events for CDM stakeholders in the form of trainings, workshops and webinars and provided technical support to **159** CDM project activities/programmes of activities and **23** new standardized baselines.

Finance for Climate

RCCs are working with governments, financiers, project owners and financial institutions to support finance for climate. The Green Investment Catalyst (GIC)² is a key tool for this activity. A green finance framework was established in Zimbabwe with the aim to encourage sustainable financial products such as green sustainable bonds and loans. This framework acts as an investment promotion instrument to implement the NDCs.

Regional Climate Weeks

Regional Climate Weeks in 2018 have been showcasing groundbreaking actions that are underway across the globe to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to build resilience to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. To support these events in Nairobi, Singapore and Montevideo, RCCs engaged with national and regional stakeholders, generating a number of outcomes, including inputs related to Talanoa dialogue, climate change technology, climate finance, transparency, implementation of NDC and sustainable development goals and post-2020 climate action. It is expected that these regional climate weeks will help pave the way for many more engagements at next year's Regional Climate Weeks.

¹ CI-ACA initiative assists Parties in the development of carbon pricing approaches for implementing their NDCs under the Paris Agreement.

² GICs aim to support the development of a pool of bankable green (including CDM) projects, funds, facilities, green banks or investment frameworks in a specific country/region. The objective is to build platforms to help countries to access public and private sector finance, while strengthening countries' green growth policies, implementation of NDCs, low emission development strategies, as well as leveraging structures that can grow domestic green capital markets.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Monitoring and evaluation of RCC activities are carried out at different levels and using different means. The steering committee for each RCC conducts regular assessments against the pre-defined objectives and takes necessary actions to continuously improve the performance and operation of the centre, while addressing any constraints, challenges and gaps. These improvements are generally reflected in the updated versions of the RCC workplans.

At the secretariat, regular monitoring and evaluation activities are undertaken using a framework that is designed to ensure that structures, functions, and capabilities at the RCCs are continuously assessed to meet the needs and fulfil the objectives of the Partner organizations, the secretariat and the stakeholders. The monitoring and evaluation framework looks into the following five specific areas:

- 1 **Progress on implementation of the workplan**
- 2 **Ensuring that resources are efficiently utilized at RCCs**
- 3 **Identifying any human resource and administrative issues that require corrective measures**
- 4 **Identifying and analyzing barriers hindering the work of RCCs**
- 5 **Ensuring that arrangements with partner organizations are in place and in accordance with memoranda of understanding**

RCC performance is reported [biannually](#) to the CDM Executive Board and [annually](#) to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. RCCs publish newsletters regularly on individual RCC [websites](#) to keep regional stakeholders informed of the latest RCC activities.

RCCs on the Ground

RCC	Partner	Start	Contact
RCC Lomé Togo	West African Development Bank	January 2013	RCCLome@unfccc.int
RCC Kampala Uganda	East African Development Bank	May 2013	RCCKampala@unfccc.int
RCC St. George's Grenada	Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation	July 2013	RCCStgeorges@unfccc.int
RCC Bangkok Thailand	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	September 2015	RCCBangkok@unfccc.int
RCC Panama³ Panama	Development Bank of Latin America	March 2017	RCCPanama@unfccc.int

³ Formerly RCC Bogotá, which was established in August 2015.