



Regional Collaboration Centre – St. George's
Promoting Action Against Climate Change

Regional Collaboration Centre St. George's

Welcome to our third newsletter of 2019!

Announcements

Virtual Island Summit



Island Innovation is hosting the first ever Virtual Island Summit from 6 to 11 October 2019. The event will take place entirely online and will cover topics including but not limited to sustainable development, geopolitics, cultural preservation, journalism and communications. The speakers and guests will hail from a wide range of island communities including the Caribbean, Pacific Islands, Indian Ocean and more. RCC St. George's is an organizing partner for this event. To read more about the summit and to register, click [here](http://www.islandinnovation.co/summit)

Global Water Partnership-Caribbean (GWP-C) Young Caribbean Water Entrepreneurs Shark Tank Competition

GWP-C is calling for proposals for their Young Caribbean Water Entrepreneurs Shark Tank Competition. Persons who are between the ages of **18 and 34** are being encouraged to pitch any **innovative water project ideas** they may have to improve water resource management in their community, country or the Caribbean region. Applicants can submit project ideas under one of five themes:

- Water and climate
- Water and health
- Water and agriculture
- Water and Energy
- Water and Tourism

Participants will receive the opportunity to pitch their idea directly to investors with the chance of receiving €4000 in funding to develop their project idea. Applicants must be a CARICOM national. The **deadline** for proposals is **15 October 2019**. For more information about the competition and requirements, click [here](#).

Highlights from Last Quarter

Latin America Climate Week Side Event



During the 2019 Latin America Climate Week held in Salvador Brazil, a side event, titled "Regional Approaches for transparency in the Caribbean" was held. This event was organized by RCC St. George's in collaboration with UNEP and CCMRVH. The senior director of UNFCCC, Martin Frick opened the side event by emphasizing how important MRV systems are for Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and how they

are needed for accessing finance, monitoring policy as well as other purposes. His presentation was followed by two presentations by the UNEP DTU Partnership and by Dr. Gladden, the chair of the steering committee of the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (CCMRVH). These presentations discussed the regional launch to support the countries with their MRV efforts. Ms. Annette Leo, of Saint Lucia, and Dr. Spencer Thomas, of Grenada, provided insight into their views on how regional approaches can benefit the Caribbean and how to further strengthen regional support between the countries.

NDC Dialogue 2019 LACCW

Latin America Climate week served as a platform to boost climate action in the region. The LACCW hosted 79 events over the five days. One of the events that was held was the Regional NDC Dialogue. The Regional NDC Dialogue was co-organized by the UNDP, UNFCCC (with the support of RCC St. George's and RCC Panama), and the Government of Brazil. The event provided an opportunity for policy and decision makers from different sectors to discuss the implementation of countries' climate commitments (NDCs).

The NDC Dialogue had the following objectives:

- To provide a platform for countries to learn how to enhance and improve their NDCs
- To identify challenges associated with implementing NDCs
- To provide a forum where peers can exchange experiences, best practices, and lessons learnt with implementing NDCs
- To exchange experiences on financial instruments and financial strategies to accelerate NDC implementation
- To identify opportunities that contribute to the achievement of NDC goals

To read more about what was discussed over the course of the five days at LACCW, click [here](#)

United Nations Summer Academy



The United Nations System Staff College held a five-day program in Bonn, Germany from 26 to 30 August 2019 with the aim of developing a deeper understanding of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. The program was attended by a range of stakeholders including university professors, students, government officials and representatives from the UNFCCC and the other RCCs which included two representatives from RCC St. George's. The program was organized as a mixture of presentations, panel discussions and app labs where participants could exchange questions, ideas and thoughts on how their respective countries or organizations could meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

SGU Presents Course on Climate and Health

St. George's University (SGU) is pleased to once again present as part of its One Health One Medicine Open Access course series, a course entitled: Climate and Health. This course on Climate and Health is being offered by the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine as it celebrates 20 years of public health education, research and service excellence. For this course, St. George's University is collaborating with its United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Regional Collaborating Center and the World Health Organization (WHO)/Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Collaborating Center both located on its campus in Grenada. Students in the 4 week course will interact with

SGU's faculty and UNFCCC staff as the topic of climate and health is explored with experts at varying levels of policy to practice towards understanding challenges and presenting solutions.

Re-Launch of NAZCA as the Global Climate Action Portal

On 17 September 2019, the Global Climate Action Portal, previously known as NAZCA (the Non-State Action Zone for Climate Change) was launched. The portal, which was initially launched in 2014, was created with the realization that the best way to address climate change involves ambitious action by all sectors of society, both public and private.

The portal is important for showcasing climate commitments that are taking place across the world and across all sectors and through its celebration of climate action progress, it encourages ambition and engagement from a variety of actors and stakeholders ahead of the UN Climate Action Summit, the UN Climate Change Conference and more.

Read more about the Global Climate Action portal [here](#) and see the portal [here](#).

GIZ Publishes Guidance Note on NDCs and the Enhanced Transparency Framework

GIZ has announced their newest publication titled *"Next steps under the Paris Agreement and the Katowice Climate Package: Guidance for policy makers on Nationally Determined Contributions and the Enhanced Transparency Framework."* This guidance note outlines what countries need to do under the Paris Agreement to achieve their climate goals (Nationally Determined Contributions or NDCs). This guidance note is specifically aimed at government officials who are interested in how the Paris Agreement is related to policies in their country. The entire guidance note can be found [here](#).

Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership Review

Although there are a few months of project implementation left, the Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) is already achieving and surpassing anticipated results. The project was launched in 2016 and helped to support the development of two policy documents, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) in five and seven beneficiary countries respectively.

The project also implemented over 35 projects that focused on water resources management, climate-smart agriculture, climate-resilient infrastructure and renewable energy and energy efficiency. As a result of these projects, 3000 persons had improved access to water, over 40 hectares of farmland have adaptive and improved grazing techniques and 100,000 persons have benefited from improved climate-resilient irrigation systems.

One of the key results of this project was related to partnership development and behavioral impact. Over 3500 persons were reached through campaigns

targeted to them on climate change. J-CCCP also transferred knowledge to 1200 youth and transferred agricultural knowledge to about 150 agricultural practitioners.

As the J-CCCP comes to a close, over 200,000 persons are expected to benefit directly or indirectly from the project activities.

Read more about it [here](#).

Training Sessions

Climakers Regional Workshop in Saint Kitts and Nevis

St Kitts and Nevis - Farmers from the Caribbean region met from 14 to 16 August 2019 to discuss challenges, share best practices and explore opportunities and networking to approach the issue of climate change as it relates to the agricultural sector. The workshop's purpose was to familiarize farmers from the region with the Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda (The Climakers). This agenda is "an initiative of the World Farmers Organisation (WFO) "to enhance the position of farmers in the global political discussion on climate change." Topics of discussion at the workshop included water resource management, soil conservation, relevant technology transfer, appropriate policies for agriculture improvement, risk management and networking amongst the Caribbean Region. To read more about the workshop and The Climakers click [here](#).

Mobilizing Indigenous and Local Knowledge and Solutions: Addressing Climate Impacts and Vulnerabilities

Georgetown, Guyana - On 5 September 2019, a regional workshop, sponsored by UNESCO, was held bringing together indigenous and local experts along with meteorological and climate experts with the purpose of discussing how knowledge from indigenous and local groups can contribute to resilience and be mobilized for climate change adaptation. The Caribbean and other Small Island Developing States (SIDS) across the world are experiencing the effects of climate change including extreme weather events, rising sea levels, coastal erosion and more. At this workshop, important information on the knowledge of local and indigenous communities were collected and shared with the Government of Guyana to help further understand how they can contribute to the development of policies and other actions to build resilience in the region. Although climate change is a global problem, adaptation and the building of resilience must be done locally. Read more about this [here](#).

Climate Neutral Now

In 2015, the UN Climate Change launched Climate Neutral Now as a way of targeting individuals at all levels of society and encouraging them to take climate action to move towards creating a climate neutral world. The premise of the initiative is that we all can play a role in transitioning to a low-carbon planet by measuring, reducing and compensating for greenhouse gas emissions as a company, organization, government, or individual citizens. Benefits for joining Climate Neutral Now include:

**CLIMATE
NEUTRAL**
**MEASURE
REDUCE
OFFSET NOW**

- Raising the profile of your organization through action in collaboration with the UN Climate Change Secretariat.
- Contributing to achieving additional greenhouse gas emission reductions through projects in developing countries.
- Helping to raise awareness about the importance of accelerated climate action.
- Helping to bring sustainable development benefits to communities in developing countries, such as improved air and water quality, improved income, reduced energy consumption, and others.

To find out more information about the initiative and to join, click [here](#).

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