

Regional Collaboration Centre Bangkok

December 2021



IGES

Regional Collaboration Centre – Bangkok

Promoting Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific

Welcome readers to the final edition of the Year 2021!

The overarching aim of the recent COP26 climate summit in Glasgow was to mobilize stronger and more ambitious climate action from governments to keep the 1.5°C Paris Agreement goal within reach. RCC Bangkok supports climate action in 40 countries from Asia and the Pacific region. 24 of these countries have submitted an updated NDC either in 2020 or 2021; 4 countries have submitted their second NDC; 10 countries had submitted their NDCs in 2016 and 2017 and are yet to update their submissions.

Some encouraging news from the region include:

Vietnam and Indonesia – major regional producers of coal – are among 40 countries to have committed to ending all investment in new coal power generation domestically and internationally. 18 countries, including New Zealand committed to stop public financing for fossil fuel projects abroad by the end of 2022, and redirect their spending into clean energy instead. China, Japan and South Korea have committed to stop overseas funding for coal, the pledge made by all G20 nations.

The Asia Pacific region decarbonized at a rate of 0.9% in 2020, which is lower than the 2.9% in 2019. As long as fossil fuels make up a significant portion of the region's energy mix, decarbonization will be slow. To put itself on the current 1.5°C trajectory, the region needs to significantly increase its efforts to decarbonize - will require a fundamental shift in energy systems away from fossil fuel dependent energy sources. With [12 countries](#) from RCC Bangkok region having submitted their low emission development strategy so far, decarbonizing this part of the world will need concerted efforts.

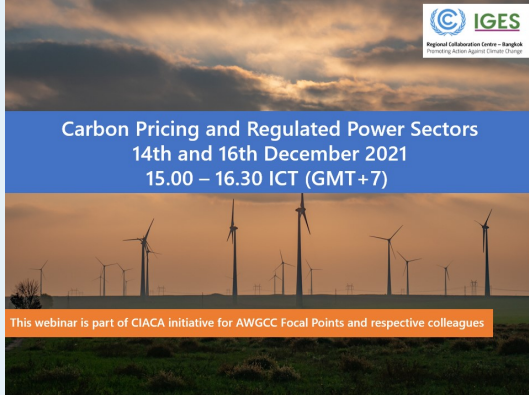
The list of concluded events, upcoming events, the opportunities to engage and resources that are included in this edition are representation of joint efforts that RCC Bangkok is putting together, along with their host organization IGES and in collaboration with NDC Partnership to support climate action in Asia and the Pacific.

Your partner in climate action,
RCC Bangkok Team

REPORTS FROM CONCLUDED EVENTS

First sector-specific Webinar on "Carbon Pricing and Regulated Power Sectors" in ASEAN

As part of capacity building under the workplan of RCC Bangkok with the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change ([AWGCC](#)), two webinars were organized on 14 and 16 December 2021. These aim at



providing policymakers and regulators in ASEAN member countries with knowledge and experience relating to the design of carbon pricing instruments, in particular emissions trading schemes, for the power sector.

The webinars were targeted to participation for policymakers and regulators by invitation through the AWGCC focal points. You can find out more about the events [here](#)

RCC Bangkok at Climate Action Leaders Forum on 17 December 2021



On 17 December, the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization ([TGO](#)) organized the second session of the Climate Action Leaders Forum, focusing on "Global Trends on Paris Agreement and Carbon Neutrality" and invited the UNFCCC/IGES RCC Bangkok to speak on the outcome of COP26 and what is needed to implement NDCs, LT-LEDS, and follow up on the

recent carbon neutrality pledges by countries, with a focus on market mechanism, carbon pricing and private sector engagement.

Brown Bag Session on Youth Empowerment in Climate Action Successfully Concluded



Recently concluded COP26 is regarded as the most inclusive COP which engaged young people across the world through COY16 and youth day during the conference. Some of the key documents such as [Global Youth Statement](#) was launched during the event. Within this context SIDA, UNDP, RCC Bangkok and partners convened a brownbag session to listen to the voices of youth in-terms of their experience through the climate action journeys and COP26 and share updates on the Youth Empowerment in Climate Action Platform ([YECAP](#)) platform and their latest initiative, [Stockholm-50](#).

You can find the recording of the session [here](#) or on UNDP Asia-Pacific official Facebook page [here](#).

4th Informal Forum of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) Concluded on 8 December 2021



UN Climate Change's Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) organized its fourth *informal forum* on 8 December 2021, which was attended by more than 100 experts. The forum provided a platform for relevant stakeholders to informally reflect and exchange views around the experiences on some of the key issues, such as domestic political buy-in, capacity-building and access to finance, which are critical to sustaining national efforts to enhance reporting under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The discussions will feed

into the development of CGE's work programme for 2022 – 2026.

You can access event recordings [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENT

MENA Climate Week 2022 Set for February in Dubai

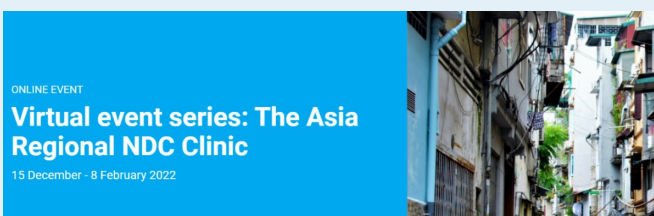


The first-ever Middle East and North Africa Climate Week (MENACW 2022) is slated to be held in-person from 28 February to 3 March in Dubai. This marks the first of the Regional Climate Weeks in 2022, which convene stakeholders in key regions throughout the year and advance implementation of *the Glasgow Climate Pact* and the Paris Agreement.

Regional collaboration emerged as a catalyst for global climate action last year, with recognition of the Regional Climate Weeks in the Glasgow Pact text. MENACW 2022 will bring together leaders from across the region to explore resilience against climate risks, the transition to a low-emission economy and collaboration to solve pressing challenges. It is one of the first opportunities to accelerate implementation of COP26 outcomes.

For more information, please visit [here](#). Registration will be opened soon, so stay tuned.

Virtual Event Series: The Asia Regional NDC Clinic



[Register Here](#)

RCC Bangkok works closely with NDC-Partnership and UNEP in Asia and the Pacific. UNEP and the UNEP-DTU Partnership, supported by Germany and in contribution to the NDC Partnership is organizing the Asia Regional NDC Clinic. It is a 4-part virtual event series designed as a platform to present common challenges faced by Asian countries when implementing NDC actions at the sector level.

Taking place between December 2021 and February 2022, each session will be a 2-hour virtual event open to participation from all stakeholder groups, in particular sector level regulators, policy makers, financial institutions and private sector who are searching for effective policy metrics and business models for mitigation and adaptation purpose

Find out more about this virtual event series [here](#)

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

COP26 Launched a Decade of Action for Climate Empowerment



At UN Climate Change conference COP26, governments adopted the new **10-year Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)**, which provides a robust framework for countries and all stakeholders to drive changes in action, attitudes

and behaviors needed for the transition to a low-emission, climate-resilient and just society. Activities under the Glasgow work programme are focused on four priority areas - policy coherence, coordinated action, tools and support, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting - that aim to address gaps and challenges in implementing the six elements of ACE and to create opportunities to accelerate implementation.

For more information, access the newsroom article [here](#)

NDC Partnership Highlights New Opportunities on Greening Central Banks and Pacific NDC Hub



NDC Partnership Readiness Support for Greening Central Banks Initiative

As guardians of financial stability, central banks' actions to make the economy resilient to climate shocks should be in line with science as well as with countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies (LTS). Central banks can send consistent and persistent market signals regarding climate change's risks and



We Are Hiring: Country Engagement Specialist at the Regional Pacific NDC Hub

The NDC Partnership Pacific Country Engagement Specialist will support the coordination of NDC Partnership and [Pacific NDC Hub](#) activities and the coordination of country focal points, Partnership members, development partners and other stakeholders in the region.

The Specialist will help in raising the

take the necessary corrective steps to recalibrate the financial system. The Partnership has officially launched the Readiness Support for Greening Central Banks at COP26 to work with the central banks, ministries of finance, and ministries of environment through a tri-lateral partnership, in providing technical assistance to green the financial system.

Read more [here](#)

awareness and profile of NDC Partnership activities; and will support in global and regional events, including organization of trainings and other capacity development activities. The post is based in Suva, Fiji.

The deadline for application is **Monday, 3 January 2022**

You can find out more about this opportunity by access [here](#)

NEW RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2021 Shows Ever-Growing Momentum for Global Climate Action



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Underlined by the data sources such as the [Global Climate Action Portal](#), momentum among non-Party stakeholders' global climate action continues to grow. This surge is captured in the recently published **Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2021**, which showcases the work carried out under the [Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action](#) and the [High-Level Champions](#) since the last publication, identifies the sectors that need acceleration and took stock of this progress during the [events](#) at COP 26. It also sets out the future vision and 5-year plan of an [improved Marrakech Partnership for enhancing ambition](#) that was welcomed by Parties at COP 26 through the [Glasgow Climate Pact](#).

Read more [here](#)

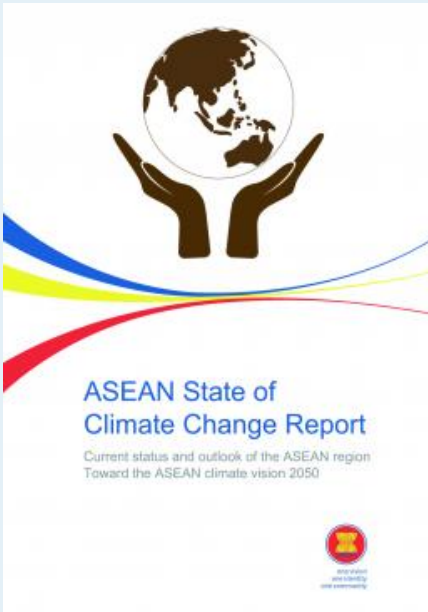
New Discussion Paper on Elements Related to Carbon Credit Credibility

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), the host organization of RCC Bangkok, has just published a new discussion paper on carbon credit credibility. The objective of this paper is to explain elements that are related to credit credibility and high-quality carbon credits to buyers (private companies) who are considering the use of offset credits. These elements could serve as a general guidance and should be considered when buyers are purchasing offset credits from voluntary carbon markets. The paper also highlights the risks related to each element that would undermine the quality of carbon credits. Read more [here](#)

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Transitions Toward a Resilient and Net-zero ASEAN Community: Insights from the ASEAN State of Climate Change Report



The ASEAN Secretariat initiated and coordinated the ASEAN State of Climate Change Report (ASCCR), together with IGES and with support from the Government of Japan through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund ([JAIF](#)). The report is the first of its kind to provide a clear picture of the current situation in both mitigation and adaptation to climate change in ASEAN countries based on scientific knowledge, setting out a concrete roadmap for 2030 and 2050. A video overview is now available. [here](#)

RCC Bangkok works with ASEAN Member States through the ASEAN Working Group of Climate Change (AWGCC)

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The RCC Bangkok website is a great resource to find out the ways in which you can contribute to climate action. You can also learn

more about our work in the region and keep abreast of the upcoming events, both virtual and otherwise.

[Visit Our Website Here](#)

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