

Regional Collaboration Centre Bangkok

March 2021



Welcome to the end of the first quarter of 2021!

Starting on an encouraging note, we would like to share that building on the outcomes from the Regional Virtual Roundtable as part of the 2021 Climate Weeks organized in early March, RCC Bangkok enhanced network-building with regional stakeholders and participated in several events at the national and regional levels. Notably, RCC Bangkok, RCC Dubai and NDC-Partnership joined hands for the organization of a 3-day workshop. We are delighted to share that this workshop provided an avenue to countries to share lessons learned during the 2020 NDC update process, increase clarity of updated and new NDCs, and to come up with recommendations for NDC implementation and the future NDC update process for Asia, the Middle East and North Africa region.

As we continue to support Parties, we are happy to share some good news from the region: Vanuatu submitted updated NDC in March; Republic of Korea submitted its Long-Term Low GHG Emission Development Strategy with carbon neutrality by 2050 goal; and, Australia committed, in their NDC, to submit a Long-Term Strategy by COP26.

Additionally, you will also find here, among other news, information on an opportunity to get involved in a Hack for Climate Finance; learn about upcoming events of the Partnership for Market Readiness; a policy brief on co-benefits of integrated clean air, climate and health policies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic as a follow up on our co-organized workshop on older people and climate action.

Read on for more!

Your partner in climate action,
RCC Bangkok

REPORTS FROM CONCLUDED EVENTS

Virtual Roundtables Kick Off 2021 Climate Week



The roundtables to kick off the 2021 *Regional Climate Weeks*, were organized by UN

Climate Change, in collaboration with the Regional Climate Week's core partners UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank, as well as with regional partners and the respective regional host governments (the Dominican Republic, Japan and Uganda) and supported by the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centers.

Regional stakeholders framed their discussions on how to recover better from the COVID-19 pandemic and how to scale up and speed up climate action capitalizing on the efforts already ongoing in the regions. Common calls made in all the regions related to:

- The importance of efficiently engaging all actors in climate action, particularly youth and women;
- The imperative of citizen- and community-led efforts to change behaviors, which is essential for more sustainable production and consumption patterns;
- The importance of nature-based solutions and of “bringing Earth back into the equation.”

Find out more about the Virtual Roundtables [here](#)

In light of COVID-19, the Regional Climate Weeks in 2021 are planned to take place virtually throughout the year and to be divided into three different segments. The next segment, **Virtual Thematic Sessions, will take place on 6-9 July 2021 for the Asia-Pacific region.** More information can be found [here](#)

Virtual Workshop for the countries in Asia, the Middle East and North Africa share good practices in NDC Updates and Implementation



Over 120 participants, including country representatives from the Ministries, development partners and finance institutions from the region participated at the 3-day workshop on **“Good Practices in NDC Update and Implementation: Challenges and Lessons Learned from Asia, the Middle East and North Africa”** to share challenges and good practices in NDC implementation, and identify areas of collaboration between countries and development partners and/or finance institutions as needed in order to start concrete steps towards implementation of NDCs.

The event was jointly organized by the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centers in Bangkok, Dubai and the NDC-Partnership in collaboration with 12 development partners and development finance institutions in the region.

More information on this event can be found [here](#)

Regional Dialogue on Carbon Pricing (REdiCAP) in Central Asia Successfully Concluded



On 25-26 February 2021, the Regional Dialogue on Carbon Pricing (REdiCAP) in Central Asia was organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat, RCC Bangkok, ESCAP, UNEP, ADB and UNDP. Representatives from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan came together for two days of dialogue to discuss the challenges and opportunities relating to carbon pricing in their countries and how regional collaboration can support their climate mitigation efforts. As an outcome of the dialogues, a report and roadmap for advancing carbon pricing in Central Asia is being drafted.

More information on this event [here](#)

Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

The 8th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development took place on 23-26 March 2021 under the theme: “Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in Asia and the Pacific”. The Forum provided a regional perspective on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by identifying regional trends and consolidating and sharing best practices and lessons learned.

UN Climate Change Secretariat, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), and RCC Bangkok have joined hands with development partners around the region to organize *side events* to share good practices, identify new and emerging issues, and spread greater awareness of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

Roundtable on SDG13 on Climate Action



This Roundtable provided an opportunity for representatives from governments,

Company Action on Climate: Driving Decarbonization through Target Setting



This side event was co-organized by RCC Bangkok and the UNFCCC secretariat

civil society, academia, and private sector to review the progress of climate action in the Asia-Pacific region and associated challenges and to discuss priorities for action, based on draft the SDG13 Profile prepared in advance of the APFSD.

The Roundtable was structured to present the findings and analysis of the SDG13 profile, followed by interventions from several key stakeholder representatives, breakout sessions and plenary discussion.

Find the materials from this event [here](#)

through the Climate Neutral Now initiative, along with ESCAP, ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN), CDP, SBTi, the Global Compact Networks in Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines.

The main objective was to showcase the benefits of how climate targets, disclosure and reporting can help companies drive progress on emissions reductions and facilitate sustainable investments.

Find the materials from this event [here](#)

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Call for Applications: SEED Hack for Climate Finance Extends Deadline to 19 April 2021



The **SEED Hack for Climate Finance** offers individuals and teams the opportunity to translate innovative ideas into viable climate finance solutions for challenges in the fields of conservation, clean energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture. Through a rapid, tailored and hands-on support and advisory process climate finance solution developers will gain a thorough understanding and develop a financing solution (hack) to deliver tailored financing to climate change-related projects and SMEs.

Find out more about this opportunity [here](#)

For questions and inquiries, please contact lab-thailand@seed.uno

Institutional Arrangements Toolbox: Guide to Strengthening National Institutional Arrangements for Transparency of Climate Action and Support



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Transparency of action and support is critical to achieving the objectives of the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Well-functioning institutional arrangement is key to transition to the enhanced transparency framework by 2024. In that context, the toolbox on *institutional arrangements*, developed by the *Consultative Group of Experts (CGE)*, is a

one-stop shop that offers a technical handbook (available in all UN languages), video interviews and case stories presenting experiences of developing countries in improving and sustaining national MRV process, and a list of relevant technical resources.

The CGE will continue to update the toolbox, please complete this short [survey](#) to identify and respond to evolving needs of developing countries

Those interested in sharing country experience and lessons learned, please contact tisu@unfccc.int

[NEW RESOURCES AND MATERIALS](#)

[Greater Climate Ambition Urged as Initial NDC Synthesis Report is Published](#)



[Download the Report Here](#)

The UNFCCC secretariat has recently published the Initial NDC Synthesis Report, showing nations must redouble efforts and submit stronger, more ambitious national climate action plans in 2021 if they're to achieve the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global temperature rise by 2°C—ideally 1.5°C—by the end of the century.

The initial version synthesizes information from 48 new or updated NDCs, representing 75 Parties, submitted by 31 December 2020 in accordance with decision 1/CP.21. These 75 Parties represent about 40% of Parties to the Paris Agreement and account for about 30% global GHG emissions.

The UN Climate Change secretariat is now calling for submission of NDC by 30 July 2021 for reflection in the next version of the synthesis document, which would be prepared in advance of the pre-COP meeting scheduled for 30 September – 2 October 2021

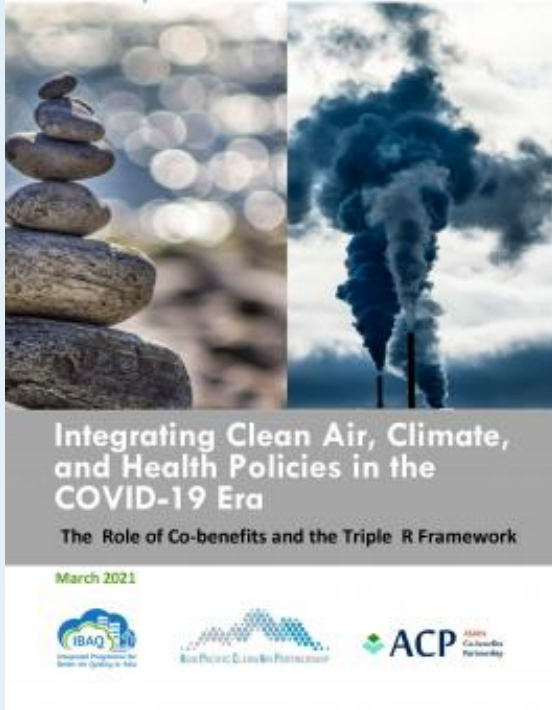
More about the NDC Synthesis Report [here](#)

[Integrating Clean Air, Climate, and Health Policies in the COVID-19 Era: The Role of Co-benefits and the Triple R Framework](#)

[Download the Report Here](#)

This brief outlines how the 'Triple R framework'—Response, Recovery and Redesign—can help align different government agency and other stakeholder interests behind the kind of integrated clean air, climate, and health policies that can deliver co-benefits.

The framework calls for bringing together 1) immediate responses; 2) broader recovery



policies backed by stimulus funding, and 3) forward-looking redesigns of infrastructures and institutions. Regional and international organizations could help policymakers achieve co-benefits by demonstrating the application of the 'Triple R framework' in diverse contexts.

Briefing Paper on Older People and Climate Change

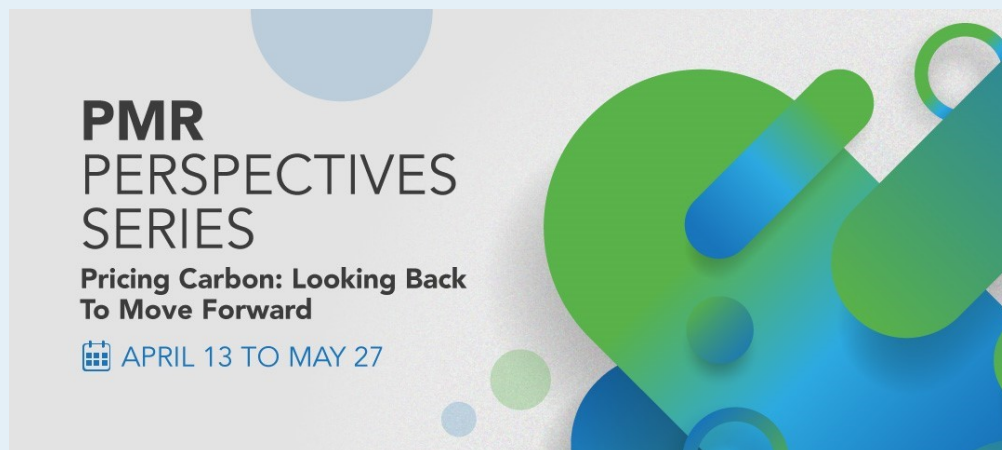


Following the virtual event, Intergenerational action on climate change: Unleashing the power of older people, co-organized by UN Climate Change secretariat and RCC Bangkok on 4 February 2021, *HelpAge International* has released a briefing paper, titled "Older People and Climate Action" to highlight the importance of inclusive society in combatting climate change.

You can find the report, as well as resources and materials from the workshop [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENT

PMR Perspectives Series Pricing Carbon: Looking Back to Move Forward



The *Partnership for Market Readiness* (PMR) has brought together more than 30 countries whose actions are critical to global climate mitigation efforts. The PMR has supported countries as they embarked on the journey of assessing, designing and deploying carbon pricing and other innovative policy instruments to scale up domestic greenhouse gas mitigation, while providing a platform for countries to work together to shape the future of mitigation action.

You can find the schedule of this webinar and other useful information [here](#)

**Find out more about our work to promote climate action
in Asia-Pacific on our *NEW* RCC Bangkok Webpage**

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