

Regional Collaboration Center Dubai February 2021



Regional Collaboration Centre – Dubai

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

Welcome to the RCC Dubai February 2021 Newsletter

We are delighted to bring you the first RCC Dubai Newsletter of the new year!

Here you will find information on latest climate action updates from the region and from around the world.

We begin with words of optimism for the new year from the UNFCCC secretariat and the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) - the host partner of RCC Dubai. We additionally bring you the announcement of the Regional Climate Weeks 2021 and 2022. You will also find here a new report on NDCs in the region, learn about recent RCC Dubai events, a call for submissions of project proposals and an opportunity to share innovative climate action solutions.

Read on for more!

Your partner in climate action,
RCC Dubai



James Grabert

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Abdul Rahim Sultan

*Director General
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2020 was a year of great upheaval. The pandemic drastically changed the way we live our lives and engage with our environment. We saw humanity's potential for unity, innovation, kindness and solidarity in the face of an unprecedented challenge.

2021 is the year of building our world anew. With this new year we have a new opportunity to make a difference, to take action to put our economies and societies on the path towards sustainability, increased resilience and greater equity, in line with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

With that said, I wish you all a very happy new year and look forward to continuing to work with you to together seize this opportunity in the coming year and beyond.

As we step out from the old to the new, as we enter 2021, it is my pleasure, on behalf of WGEO, to wish all the readers a very happy, healthy and peaceful new year.

The year gone by presented the global community with a challenge unlike any other. However, we look to the future with optimism and with the conviction that the coming year will bring us closer to successfully addressing the dominant challenges of our time, of which climate change looms large.

Let us, together, make 2021 the year in which we strive to achieve the vision of a sustainable and inclusive planet.

We look forward to working with you to make this vision a reality.

Regional Climate Weeks to Drive Forward Climate Action in 2021 and 2022



The UN Climate Change Secretariat has announced the **Regional Climate Weeks in 2021 and 2022**, key meetings that will help build regional momentum for the annual UN Climate Change Conferences and drive forward regional implementation of the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

The Regional Climate Weeks will provide a platform for representatives of national and subnational governments, cities, the private sector, financial institutions and civil society to jointly discuss opportunities to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic by identifying opportunities to deploy ambitious measures to cut greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change.

“The coexistence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate emergency is a formidable challenge, but it is also a unique opportunity to shape the future... What we do or fail to do over the coming months will be decisive to our success in confronting that two-fold challenge”

UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa said on 19 January 2021 at the Ministerial Meeting of the International Renewable Energy Agency’s (IRENA) 11th Assembly.

Addressing Ministers, Ms. Espinosa underlined the importance of ensuring the success of the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference, COP26, in Glasgow in November, reiterating the major opportunity this year presents to tackle the climate crisis by means of a green economic recovery.

[Read more here](#)

Photo credit: Welcomia

Recent RCC Dubai Events

Second Webinar of the AGYLE Webinar Series discusses climate and health



15 December 2020 - The second webinar of the AGYLE webinar series was designed around the topic of ‘The impact of Climate on Health and the opportunity to create a healthier environment in a post-COVID-19 world’.

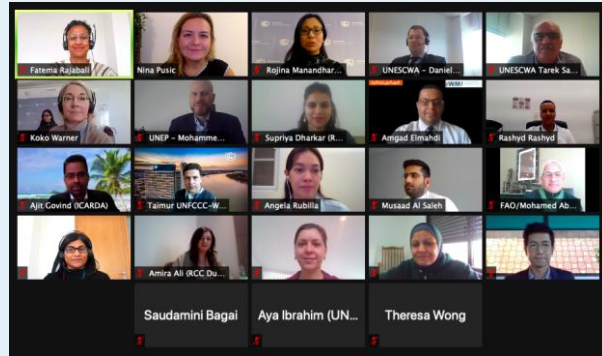
The webinar brought together leading health sector experts with youth representative from the region to discuss, deliberate and consider the linkages between climate and health in a post-COVID-19 world.

[More on the Second Webinar here](#)

[More on the First Webinar of the AGYLE Webinar Series here](#)

Bridging Adaptation Knowledge Gaps in Middle East and North Africa

8-10 December 2020 - The first virtual meeting series of the [Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative \(LAKI\)](#) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) was successfully convened recently and brought together adaptation action practitioners from the region to collaborate, connect and network in an effort to address knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action.



[More about LAKI here](#)

NAMA Facility Supports Ambitious NDCs and Covid-19 Recovery by Opening the Call for Submissions for Ambition Initiative



The NAMA Facility announced recently that its Ambition Initiative Call is officially open for NAMA Support Project (NSP) Outline submissions.

The Ambition Initiative targets an even higher level of ambition than in previous Calls of the NAMA Facility - it will support countries to implement their enhanced

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and build back greener as they recover from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Ambition Initiative closes at 3 pm CEST/GMT+2 on 31 May 2021.

[Please visit NAMA FACILITY website for more information on the Ambition Initiative](#)

Share Your Solutions — Make your contribution to the database of resources for achieving net zero!

NET ZERO AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Our platform brings together the best academic advice from different fields to inform and scale meaningful action to achieve Net Zero.

The UNFCCC secretariat, in collaboration with University of Oxford, is developing the **Net Zero Climate: an Aggregator of Tools & Solutions for Achieving Net Zero**. This global, independent, non-profit initiative aims to bring together resources from academics, policy-makers and businesses to inform, connect and scale solutions for achieving net-zero. It will provide a free, interactive, online library of the latest available tools, interventions, and best practices for achieving net zero.

Do you know of one? Share it with us by filling out the following form with any key resources, case studies, tools and reports that you are aware of, which may enable governments and businesses to set and achieve net zero targets.

[Fill the form here](#)

We encourage you to pass this form onto others using the above link to ensure a diverse and powerful free service to facilitate the post carbon transition.

Explore the RCC Dubai Website!

The RCC Dubai website is a great resource to:



- [Find out the ways in which you can contribute to climate action](#)
- [Learn more about RCC Dubai's work in the region](#)
- [Keep abreast of the upcoming events in the region, virtual and otherwise](#)
- [Discover a trove of information on climate action by accessing UN Climate Change portals](#)
- [Read interviews conducted with eminent personalities and climate change experts from the region and beyond](#)

- [Check out the past RCC Dubai newsletters](#)

...and a lot more!

[Visit our website](#)

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