

# Regional Collaboration Centre for Latin America

December 2020



Regional Collaboration Centre for  
Latin America (RCC Panama)

hosted by UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

## Seasons Greetings from RCC Panama



Dear RCC Friends,

Another year is almost complete. 2020 is a year none of us will ever forget mainly due to the pandemic. Despite these difficult days, 2020 was also a critical year for countries to fulfill their commitments under the Paris Agreement, including the submission of

enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs). These NDCs display the immense opportunity to broaden the mitigation actions with integration of vital crosscutting issues and paves the way for learning what is necessary to consider for a long-term approach of ensuring a climate-resilient development in Latin America.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration next year, for a greener and more sustainable world!

Your RCC Panama Team.

## 5 Years Anniversary of the Paris Agreement Festival 1.5



In December we have celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Paris Agreement. RCC Panama supported UNEP with a Regional virtual event on the topic.

Here is the recording of the event, don't miss out on the expertise of the indispensable regional voice discussing the role of *communication* to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreements, what actions are taken in terms of *public policies* to ensure compliance, tools accessible for the *civil society* to affect the fulfillment of the Agreement and the involvement of the *private sector and banks* in the pursuit of

## Global Climate Action Awards 2020

This month we have had the opportunity to celebrate the winners of the United Nations Global Climate Action Award 2020. The award showcase some of the most practical and replicable examples of what people across the globe are doing to address climate change. The climate solutions fall within the Award's three focus areas: Women for Results, Climate Neutral Now and financing for Climate Friendly Investment.



Two of the 13 winners are based in Latin America and RCC Panama got the opportunity to interview the winners which we are happy to share with our readers.



### Women for Results Category: Bioplanet Programme, Brazil

To read more about the solution by the Brazilian company and institute Bioplanet Programme, which has found a solution to reusing residual kitchen fats to produce biodiesel while also supporting local communities - find the [interview with the founder and president of Biotechnos Márcia Werle here](#).



### Financing for Climate Friendly Investment: Payment for Environmental services program, Costa Rica

To read more about the solution by Costa Rica's Payments for Environmental Services Program (PES), which is a financial mechanism that promotes forest ecosystem conservation and combats land degradation – the first scheme of its type in the country and the region - find the [interview with the Executive Director, Jorge Mario Rodríguez Zúñiga here](#).

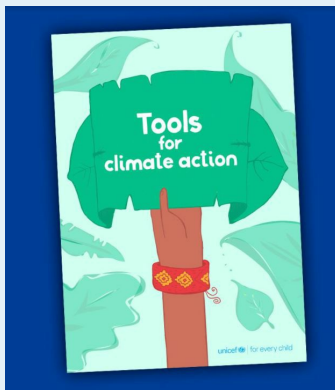
## Launch of the Andean Health and Climate Change Plan 2020 - 2025

(November 30, 2020) – Recently [The Andean Health and Climate Change Plan 2020-2025](#) was launched establishing the necessary actions to increase the resilience of the Andean countries to climate variability and change, protect the health of their population, and lead the region towards a sustainable future. The Plan is in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement, to increase the capacity of countries to face the effects of climate change with a low level of greenhouse gas emissions and a climate resilient trajectory.



Read full article about the launch [here \(in Spanish\)](#)

# UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Presents Toolkit for Young Climate Activists



(December 2, 2020) – Youth play an important leadership role in climate action, their voices are being heard more and more and they are demanding full participation in the different spaces for climate action. For the actions of young people to have a greater impact, their commitment and initiative must be accompanied by qualified information and development of skills. For this reason, UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean, together with a group of more than 45 activists from 11 countries in the region, have worked to develop [tools for climate action](#), presented in a webinar in December.

Read full article about the launch [here \(in Spanish\)](#).

## Advancing the Energy Transition in Latin America and the Caribbean through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

### Welcoming Remarks

**Francesco La Camera**  
Director-General  
**IRENA**

**H.E. Fiona Clouder**  
Ambassador for Latin America  
& Caribbean  
**UK COP26**

**James Grabert**  
Director, Mitigation  
Division  
**UNFCCC**

(9 and 10 December 2020) – RCC St. George's and RCC Panama, in collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) hosted a two-day webinar, entitled: 'Advancing the Energy Transition in Latin America and the Caribbean through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)'. The event was presented as a forum for regional discussion on raising the ambition of the national climate pledges in the lead up to COP 26, through enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and exploring the key role this plays in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries' energy transitions and economic recoveries from COVID-19.

Read more details about this event [here](#)



# Third Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) Regional Ministerial for Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Region

(15 October 2020) – ISA has planned a dedicated Regional Ministerial for Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region to discuss on the broad facets of policy innovation and available instruments. The session provided a platform for all stakeholders to discuss and contemplate on mechanisms for incubating innovation in policy decision making along with established examples which may be replicated for the LAC region. The session also looked to discuss on key issues for bridging the gap between technology advancements and policy progress. Read more details about this event [here](#).



## Energy Hub for Latin America and the Caribbean



The Energy Hub will contribute to the creation of knowledge that will make it possible to face the energy challenges of the region and thus improve the quality of life of its inhabitants. The HUB, led by the IDB, is built with the collaboration of its partners, academia and the public and private sector.

More information about this initiative [here](#)

## The CDM Executive Board concluded its 108th meeting

(UN Climate Change News, 16 December 2020) – The [Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism \(CDM\)](#) concluded its 108th meeting.

The full text of the 108th CDM Executive Board meeting decisions is [available online](#).



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

(12 December 2020) – The NAMA Facility announced today that its Ambition Initiative Call is officially open for NAMA Support Project (NSP) Outline submissions. The UK and German government, alongside the Children's Investment Fund

On behalf of



Foundation (CIFF), intend to commit EUR 174 million to the Ambition Initiative.

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.

To support applicants during the Ambition Initiative, the TSU provides all the necessary [application materials](#) on this website, including an updated General Information Document, accessible [here](#).

Three webinars will be held to introduce applicants to the Ambition Initiative and support them throughout the NSP Outline development process. The first webinar will be held on 3 February 2021. For specific inquiries pertaining to the Ambition Initiative, please consult the policy on clarification responses [here](#).

The Ambition Initiative closes at 3 pm CEST/GMT+2 on 31 May 2021. By this time, all NSP Outlines and related application materials must be delivered to the TSU of the NAMA Facility via the following email address: [contact\(at\)nama-facility.org](mailto:contact(at)nama-facility.org).

Please visit [NAMA FACILITY website](#)

## Communication of Long-Term Strategies

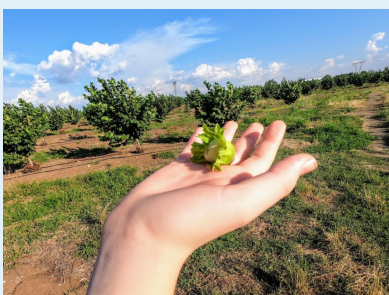
In accordance with Article 4, paragraph 19, of the Paris Agreement, all Parties should strive to formulate and communicate **long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies** (LT-LEDS), mindful of Article 2 taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.



Parties who wish to communicate their long-term strategy to the secretariat are invited to send their submissions to [LT-LEDS@unfccc.int](mailto:LT-LEDS@unfccc.int).

[Explore the communicated LT-LEDS here](#)

## Share Your Solutions — Contribute to Building a Database of Resources for Climate Action!



The University of Oxford is developing an Aggregator of Tools & Solutions for Achieving Net Zero. This global, independent, non-profit initiative is **developed in partnership with the UNFCCC secretariat**, global research institutions and environmental non-profits. *Net Zero Climate* will provide a free, interactive, online library of the latest available tools, interventions, and best practices for achieving net zero.

Send your proposals for resources to be included [here](#).

For any inquiries, please contact [Kaya Axelsson@ouce.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Kaya.Axelsson@ouce.ox.ac.uk)

## Save the Date — Climate Adaptation Summit 2021

The Climate Adaptation Summit (CAS) 2021 is an online global conference to accelerate, innovate and scale up the world's efforts in adapting to the inevitable effects of climate change. Bringing together a range of participants, CAS 2021 responds to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres's call for "more concrete plans, more ambition from more countries and more businesses" to make the world more climate resilient.



You are most welcome to contribute your own digital content or event for inclusion as a virtual 'Side Event' in the online program. You can submit your side event ideas and content [here](#) using this [contribution form](#), no later than **Monday 11 January 2021**.

The conference will take place on **Monday 25 January and Tuesday 26 January 2021**. You can check out the preliminary program [here](#)

## RCC Panama New Website



We are happy to announce that the website of RCC Panama has received an updated look, with more information about the Centre and our work, updated articles and other resources to access. [We invite you to browse and have a read.](#)

If you have any comments on additional information that you would find interesting to read about on our webpage, please send us an [email](#) and share!

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