

Regional Collaboration Centre for Latin America

April 2021



Regional Collaboration Centre for
Latin America (RCC Panama)

hosted by UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Dear RCC Stakeholder,

We warmly welcome you to our April newsletter. In this month we are pleased to share the launch of the Reduce your Footprint program in Panama, RCC Panama has been supporting the government of Panama with this program through the The Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action (CiACA) Initiative. Also, this edition offers the opportunity to learn more about the national submissions and processes of the UNFCCC through the Biennial Update Report (BUR) recently submitted by Panama, which includes national greenhouse gas inventories and mitigation actions, needs and support received.

Lastly, the preparations of the Regional Climate Week are intensifying to next month take pulse of the climate action in the region, explore climate challenges and opportunities, and showcase ambitious solutions. Read on to discover funding opportunities by our partners, recent interesting events and other highlights.

Wish you all a happy Earth Day!

The RCC Panama Team

News from the region

Panama is launching a new national carbon footprint program



The Ministry of Environment of Panama launched this week the very first national voluntary program for carbon and water footprint management. This program establishes a standardized process to identify, calculate, report and verify the carbon and water footprint within the public, private and civil society organizations. The launch is part of the country's work to comply with their climate commitments presented to the

UNFCCC in their NDC in December 2020 and a step further on their position as according to their recently submitted BUR to be a carbon negative country. [Watch the event on demand](#), where you can learn about the process for organizations and companies to become part of the program!

All lights on E-mobility when Latin America advance towards frontrunner position

Can Latin America become role models of how the transition can occur from fossil fuel-powered busses to battery-powered vehicles? The **World Bank** recently [published an article](#) on a new study "[Leading a Clean Urban Recovery with Electric Buses – Innovative Business Models Show Promise in Latin America](#)" where the countries Chile and Colombia are highlighted by their progress in creating the shift necessary, and discusses the innovative public-private partnership (PPPs) as a factor to enhance the transition. ([léalo en español](#))



Transportation and its decarbonization was also the topic discussed at the [First International Forum of electric mobility](#) organized by **The Latin-American Energy Organization (OLADE)** and the **Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay** taking place last month. The event was recorded and can be watched on demand in either [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

One prerequisite for the mentioned transition towards a zero-emission transportation is the deployment of charging infrastructure. This topic was adequately addressed this month by our partner the **United Nation Environmental Program (UNEP)**, as a [session on their webinar series MOVE](#), a knowledge platform promoting the transition to electric mobility in Latin America and the Caribbean. The series, aiming to promote the exchange of experiences and best practices between experts, public officials and private sector in the region, discussed on the 13th of April the CHAdEMO technology, by its development of charging networks for e-mobility. The session can be watched on demand in [English](#). The next upcoming event for the MOVE platform is on **electric mobility in Brazil** on April 27th, find the link at the "Mark your calendar" at the bottom.

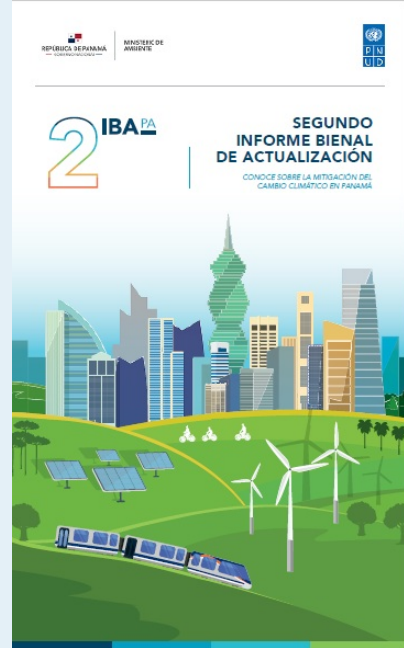
Panama presents second Biennial Update Report on climate change mitigation

In the end of March the **Ministry of Environment of Panama** presented their second **Biennial Update Report (BUR)**, carried out by the Ministry supported by the **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)**. The BUR covers the status of the institutional structure and national development of climate change policies and

actions, as well as the inventories of the national emissions. The sectors including land use, energy, agriculture and waste were highlighted in the report as well as during the publication event whereof energy is the highest contribution of total emissions in the country.

The BUR also states that until 2025 the country will execute initiatives such as inclusion of private sector and plans ahead which evolves around a national climate change policy to 2050, low carbon economic and social development strategy by 2050 and national action plan 2050. Measures presented to address the main polluting sectors include working with electric mobility strategies and promoting renewable energy, as well as introducing circular economy strategies.

Furthermore, the importance of conservation and sustainable management of forests was highlighted as According to their report the forest reserves in Panama, constituting 65% of national territory, are able to mitigate all production and anthropogenic activities carried out in the region.



Find the full report [here](#)

Learn more about carbon markets with the IETA - ASOCARBONO - USAID - MADS webinar series

MERCADOS DE CARBONO 2021
para la acción y la ambición climática en América Latina

Impactos y beneficios
de los mercados de carbono en los NDC y los ODS

Viernes 30 de Abril
9:00-11:00 (Bogotá)
10:00-12:00 (EDT)

Puede registrarse aquí:
bit.ly/WebinarMercadosdeCarbono

Speakers:
Mariano Morazzo
Jefe de Cambio Climático y Energías Renovables, ENEL
Claudia Shaeffer
Directora Global de Energía y Clima, DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY
Michel Korchinsky
Director, WILDLIFE WORKS CARBON

Evento con traducción en Inglés/Español/Portugués

Logos: USAID, IETA, asocarbono, El ambiente es de todos

The aim of these 4 webinars is to position carbon markets as important and strategic policy instruments to help achieve LAC's NDCs and enhance regional climate ambition, while delivering significant socio-economic co-benefits.

The first webinar is scheduled for **April 30th** followed by June 23rd, August 18th and September 29th.

The series precede the first LAC Climate Summit to be held in Cartagena from October 6th to 8th. They aim for it to be a privilege space for the Public and Private sectors to engage before COP26.

Register for the first webinar [here](#).

New UNFCCC Blog to Highlight Climate Action



UN Climate Change has launched a new and [exciting blog](#), which will highlight climate action being taken around the world. 1.5 Degrees: A Climate Action Blog, will showcase the work undertaken by the UN Climate Change secretariat and its stakeholders, ultimately aiming to inspire greater climate action.

To support the implementation of the [Paris Agreement](#), the blog will feature stories from actors ranging from football teams and fashion brands to young people, NGOs and cities taking climate action.

“The ongoing story of climate change cannot be told by numbers, statistics and science alone,” said UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa. “At its heart, climate change is about *people*; about how communities, families, and lives have been impacted by it, and the resilience, strength and solutions many have built to address it. This blog provides a meeting point; a forum where we will explore this complex and fascinating mix of stories with the ultimate purpose of inspiring compassion, sharing experiences, motivating change and driving the transformative climate action we must see on a global scale.”

[Welcome to 1.5 Degrees!](#)

Léalo en español

Regional youth voices on climate change on Earth hour

In our last newsletter we reported on the SDG Global Festival of Action where Iluzka Bustamante and Ana Him, both members of the Youth and Climate Change Organization, Panama, participated on sharing their experiences of how innovation can create societal solutions for sustainable development. They were later interviewed in a podcast to celebrate Earth hour. Watch the episode in Spanish:



[APAGÓN MUNDIAL 2021 / La hora del planeta / Jóvenes por el cambio climático - YouTube](#)

Opportunities to get involved!

Apply Now for the 2021 UN Global Climate Action Awards!



United Nations Climate Change
Global Climate Action Awards

Global Climate Action Awards

APPLY NOW

momentum.unfccc.int

We are halfway through the call for applications for the **2021 UN Global Climate Action Awards**. If you haven't done so already, be sure to [submit your climate action project](#) for a chance to have it showcased at the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland. *We want to hear from you!*

We are looking to recognize and celebrate concrete action on climate change by organizations, cities, businesses, schools, governments and other key players. To learn more and apply, please visit <https://momentum.unfccc.int>

Read about it [here](#)

Léalo en español

Funding opportunities for adaptation practitioners

Are you an adaptation practitioners? Don't miss out the following two funding opportunities shared by the Global Adaptation Network (GAN).

April 30th: [The new Global EbA Fund](#)

Led by IUCN and UNEP, the brand new IKI Global EbA Fund is prioritizing innovative initiatives that overcome barriers to ecosystem-based adaptation by providing seed capital for catalytic approaches. Launched on March 25th, the rolling Call for Proposals is now open, and you can apply at the link above.



**Adaptation
needs funding.**

Launch of first
Call for Proposals:
www.GlobalEbAFund.org



The first call for proposals is open until April 30 and a second call will open until August 30. Applications received after the cut-off dates will be considered for the next round.

Find more information at: [About](#) (to learn more about the Fund), [What We Fund](#), [How To Apply](#) (including Application Documents), [FAQs](#), and other pages on this website so that they can familiarize yourself with the eligibility and other criteria. Any further question or information can be reached at Contact.EbAFund@iucn.org

April 30th: [The Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator \(AFCIA\)](#)

The Adaptation Fund launched a new USD \$10 million pilot small grants programme, [AFCIA](#), to foster innovation in adaptation in developing countries at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Madrid. In this context, UNEP and the Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN) are providing USD 5 million worth of technical assistance to foster innovation for adaptation in developing countries (up to USD 250,000 for each successful application). To learn more about this new initiative, please see this [announcement](#).

The second call for proposals is now open until April 30. Visit this page to learn more about

[how to apply and the eligibility criteria](#) where a FAQ also is available there.



News on UNFCCC initiative Climate Neutral Now

Good news! [Climate Neutral Now](#) is evolving! To encourage an even more ambitious response and to acknowledge who is already leading the way to climate neutrality, we are implementing different levels of recognition within the 3 steps method (Measure, Reduce, and Contribute). Achieving Gold level in all steps means that you have achieved climate neutrality.

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Measure	Self-declared GHG inventory	Third-party verified GHG inventory, with incomplete scope 3	Third-party verified GHG inventory, including full scope 3
Reduce	Target established, with incomplete or no reduction plan	Net Zero by 2050 or earlier & reduction plan with intermediate targets	As Silver, with at least 5% reduction year-on-year
Contribute	Partial contribution	Full contribution with partial scope 3	Full scope 3, full contribution

Please note that a participant can achieve different levels in each step

CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW



In order to transparently recognize your actions, we have developed a badge to indicate the levels achieved by the participant in the reporting year for each step. This badge will be tailored to your organization and delivered to you together with the new Climate Neutral Now logo, as shown in this example.

Please access Climate Neutral Now guidelines [here](#) for more information.

Mark your calendars

[Panama Reduce Your Footprint launch](#), April 22nd

[Movilidad eléctrica en el Brasil - UNEP MOVE](#), April 27th

[IETA - ASOCARBONO - USAID - MADS webinar series](#), April 30th

[Save the date - CTCN Regional Forum Latin America](#), May 12th

Visit our website

STAY CONNECTED

IN ENGLISH



EN ESPAÑOL



This newsletter may contain advice, opinions and statements of various information providers. The United Nations and the UNFCCC do not represent or endorse the accuracy or reliability of any advice, opinion, statement or other information provided by any information provider or other person or entity. Reliance upon any such advice, opinion, statement, or other information shall also be at the reader's own risk. This newsletter may contain links and references to third-party web sites. The linked sites are not under the control of the United Nations or the UNFCCC, and the United Nations and UNFCCC are not responsible for the content of any linked site or any link contained in a linked site. The links are provided only as a convenience, and the inclusion of a link or reference does not imply the endorsement of the linked site by the United Nations or the UNFCCC. Nothing herein shall constitute or be considered to be a limitation upon or a waiver of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations or the UNFCCC, which are specifically reserved.

UN Climate Change | Regional Collaboration Centre | Panama |
rccpanama@unfccc.int | unfccc.int