



Regional Collaboration Centre – St. George's  
Promoting Action Against Climate Change

## *Regional Collaboration Centre St. George's*

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2018

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### Latest News

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### Momentum for Change Awards 2018



The [United Nations Climate Change secretariat](#) opened the call for applications for the [2018 Momentum for Change Awards](#) today to showcase action and ambition as national

governments work toward implementing the Paris Agreement, the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Organizations, cities, industries, governments and other key players** that are taking the lead on tackling climate change can nominate their game-changing projects for a United Nations award.

Selected initiatives, called 'Lighthouse Activities,' shine a light on innovative, scalable and replicable examples of what people are doing to address climate change, in the hope of inspiring others to act. The winning activities will be recognized and celebrated during a series of special events to showcase global climate action in December at the UN Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland (COP 24).

The 2018 Momentum for Change Lighthouse Activities will recognize climate action that is already achieving real results in four categories:

1. [Women for Results](#): recognizing the critical leadership and participation of women in addressing climate change, implemented in collaboration with Masdar's WiSER initiative.
2. [Financing for Climate Friendly Investment](#): recognizing successful financial innovations for adaptation and climate mitigation, implemented in partnership with the World Economic Forum Global Project on Climate Change.
3. [Planetary Health](#): recognizing novel solutions that balance the need for both human health and a healthy planet, implemented with support by The Rockefeller Foundation.
4. [Climate Neutral Now](#): recognizing efforts by individuals, companies and governments that are achieving real results in transitioning to climate neutrality, implemented with the secretariat's Climate Neutral Now initiative.

**Applications for the 2018 Momentum for Change Awards are being accepted from 22 February to 30 April 2018 at: <https://momentum.unfccc.int/>**

For more information please contact: [Sarah Marchildon](#), ***Momentum for Change Team Lead***

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## Talanoa Dialogue



The [Paris Agreement](#) provides for progress assessments ("stocktakes") every five years in order to ensure that Parties (UNFCCC term for countries) turn commitment into action and that they continue to regularly increase their ambition. The first full global stocktake will occur in 2023 in order to prepare for a new round of climate commitments, known as [Nationally Determined Contributions](#) (NDCs), by 2025. However, Parties felt it was important to initiate this cycle prior to the agreement's anticipated entry into force in 2020, and so a process called the [Talanoa Dialogue](#) (initially called a facilitative dialogue) was established for 2018 to serve as an initial stocktaking exercise.

The Dialogue is a mandated process requested by Parties to take stock of collective efforts to reduce emissions in line with the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement and to prepare updated or new NDCs by 2020. **Ultimately, the goal is to help Parties achieve maximum ambition in implementing and improving their NDCs.** The Talanoa Dialogue was launched at COP23 in Bonn.

[An online platform](#) where both parties and stakeholders can submit input to the Talanoa Dialogue is available since January 2018. Through this platform, part of an initial "preparatory" phase, the global community can begin a conversation on what governments should consider during the "political" phase at COP 24 in Poland, where ministers will engage in high-level roundtables, and the Presidents of COP 23 and 24, will summarize key messages.

Parties, stakeholders and expert institutions are invited to prepare analytical and policy relevant inputs that respond to at least one of the three central questions:

- Where are we?
- Where do we want to go?
- How do we get there?

Inputs submitted by parties and stakeholders to the online platforms by April 2 may be considered in discussions during the spring climate conference (April/May), and those submitted by October 29 may be considered in discussions taking place at COP 24 (December 3-14)

[Read more](#)

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## CDM Board elects Chair, Vice-Chair for 2018 period



**Bonn, Germany, (27 February 2018)** - At the start of its first meeting of 2018, the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism elected Arthur Rolle (right) of the Bahamas as its Chair and Piotr Dombrowicki of Poland as Vice-Chair.

Mr. Rolle, who joined the Board in 2015, is a Consultant at the Caribbean Civil Group. Mr. Dombrowicki, who joined the Board in 2015, is a climate policy expert in the National Centre for Emissions Management, Institute of Environmental Protection-National Research Institute, Poland.

Mr. Rolle and Mr. Dombrowicki will serve until the first meeting of the Executive Board in 2019.

[Read more](#)



## Dialogue on Disaster Risk Reduction.

**Panama City, Panama (22-23 February 2018)** - Parliamentarians from the **Americas** and the **Caribbean** met in Panama City to discuss disaster risk reduction in the hemisphere. The dialogue was organized by [ParlAmericas](#) and [the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction](#). **RCC St. George's**, with the support of the NDC Partnership, gave a presentation about the links

between the disaster risk reduction agenda and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and the ways in which parliamentarians can accelerate NDC implementation. Participants provided information on relevant legislation that currently exists or is being drafted in their respective countries to support dialogue between parliamentarians, experts, and civil society representatives on the fundamental role of parliaments in the implementation of disaster risk reduction action plans.

[More information](#)

[ParlAmericas 2018 events](#)

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## Online Informative Session - Talanoa Dialogue.



**(14 March 2017)** The informative session of the [Talanoa Dialogue](#) was organized by the [LEDsLAC platform](#) with the support of [RCC St. George's](#), to invite national authorities and non state actors, including businesses, investors, cities, regions and civil society, to send inputs to the Talanoa Dialogue to support Climate action under the [Paris Agreement](#) around three central questions: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there? With the aim of providing ideas, recommendations and information that can help bring climate action to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Presentation is available [here](#)

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## Conference "The Green Connection and the new challenges of the maritime industry"

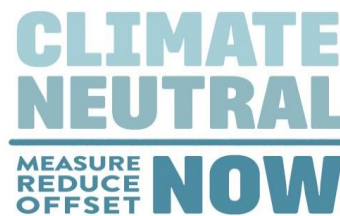
**Panama City, Panama (14 March 2018)** - PANAMA CANAL - The Vice Presidency of Planning and Commercial Development and the Vice Presidency of Environment, Water and Energy of the Panama Canal Authority organized the

conference "The Green Connection and the new challenges of the maritime industry", where Alexis Rodriguez, Environmental Protection specialist of Environmental Division of the Panama Canal Authority, explained that the Green Connection program promotes the reduction of emissions of gases that cause greenhouse effect, through the recognition of ships that meet the highest standards of environmental performance, also reported on relevant climate change issues that are discussed from the International Maritime Organization. The event had as a special guest "Dr. Aykut Ölçer" of the World Maritime University (Sweden), who spoke about the importance of implementing efficiency measures in the maritime sector to achieve the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the agreements climate change international, in addition, he exposed about the technologies and fuels that will help the maritime sector to be more efficient both environmentally and economically. The RCC St. George's will be collaborating with the Panama Canal in different initiatives during the coming months.

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## The Climate Neutral Now initiative

In December 2015, the world came together to sign the Paris Agreement, a global climate change agreement that laid the groundwork for a low-carbon future. In order to make that future a reality, companies, governments and individuals must work together toward climate neutrality. As outlined in the Paris Agreement, all of us have a role to play in rapidly moving the planet toward a pathway that keeps global temperature.



For organizations, addressing climate change makes simple economic sense. Whether threatened by supply chain disruption, extreme weather events or rising resource costs, forward-thinking businesses already support bold climate action. They are already unlocking growth, creating jobs and innovating to meet societal and economic needs.

The United Nations Climate Change secretariat invites organizations to take the Climate Neutral Now Pledge. The pledge represents a growing movement of companies and

governments taking the lead on reducing emissions and accelerating the global journey to a climate-neutral future.

Organizations that take the pledge commit to:

1. Measure and report their greenhouse gas emissions for an agreed-upon period of time.
2. Reduce their greenhouse gas emissions as much as possible
3. Offset remaining emissions with UN Certified Emission Reductions.

See the list of all the [companies](#) and [organizations](#) that have already submitted their pledges under [Climate Neutral Now initiative](#).

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UNFCCC - RCC St. George's, Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine,  
St. George's University School of Medicine, St. George's, P.O. Box 7 Grenada

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