



Regional Collaboration Centre – Bangkok
Promoting Action Against Climate Change

Greetings from RCC Bangkok!

We are delighted to bring you our latest newsletter to give you a roundup of a productive year of climate action and to start the New Year with renewed vigor and commitment!

In this edition, you will be able to read about the first Asia-Pacific Climate Week in addition to highlights from the last few months. Plus, don't miss the call for applications from IRENA as they open a new round of funding.



We look forward to engaging with you in the New Year to support translation of the Paris commitment into real and transformative action on the ground.

Happy reading and a very happy beginning of the New Year from all of us here at RCC Bangkok!

Committing to Climate Action

Asia-Pacific Climate Week Calls for Scaling-Up Climate Action

13-15 December 2017 | Bangkok, Thailand



Public-sector officials from more than 30 countries in Asia-Pacific joined private sector leaders to identify ways to scale up climate action and find innovative financing solutions for the transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient economies.

Asia-Pacific Climate Week culminated in a Regional Action Agenda which aims to strengthen regional cooperation among state and non-state stakeholders to

further support ambition prior to 2020.

[Read more about Asia-Pacific Climate Week here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

COP23: Climate Conference Launch-Pad for Higher Ambition



The UN Climate Change Conference, COP 23, presided over by the Government of Fiji with support by Germany, was held in November 2017 in Bonn.

The conference showed that support for the Paris Agreement is strong, as is the commitment

to urgent global climate action. A number of crucial outcomes emerged from COP23, including progress on the Paris Agreement rule book.

[Read more about COP23 outcomes here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

What's New

Improved Sustainable Development Co-Benefits Tool Live



The Sustainable Development Co-Benefits Tool (SD-Tool) allows project participants (PPs) to create and make public detailed reports describing the sustainable development co-benefits of their Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects.

The reports are submitted to the UN Climate Change secretariat and published online to demonstrate the added value of CDM projects, for example the benefits

they bring to communities.

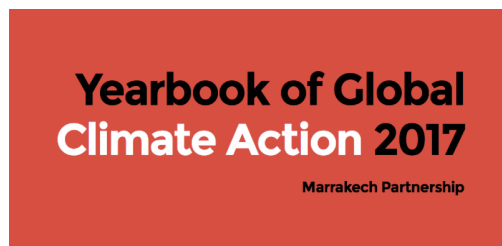
The updated SD-Tool offers substantial improvements:

- **Forms usability and user experience:** the navigation experience and usability have been increased through a new graphical interface with automatic rules, color codes and menus that improve the browsing experience
- **Communication between PPs and the SD-Tool team:** a workflow communication system has been created that allows better interaction between users and the SD-Tool team.

[Try it here!](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

2017 Yearbook of Global Climate Action



The first Yearbook for Global Climate Action was launched at COP23.

The Yearbook captures the climate actions of businesses, investors, cities, regions and civil society, demonstrating that non-Party stakeholders are steadily progressing to achieve the central goal of the Paris Agreement - to keep

global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

[Access the Yearbook here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

China to Launch World's Largest Emissions Trading System



China has detailed plans for the world's largest emissions trading system covering more than 1,700 power companies and 3 billion tonnes in total greenhouse gas emissions.

The national emissions trading system was recently approved by China's State Council. Pilot schemes have been set up in seven provinces and cities in China. The first was set up in 2013.

[Read more about this announcement here](#)

Highlights from RCC Bangkok

Pakistan Explores Carbon Pricing

First National Consultation on Carbon Pricing | Islamabad, Pakistan | 21 December, 2017



The Ministry of Climate Change of Pakistan, in collaboration with RCC Bangkok and the CI-ACA initiative, brought together key national stakeholders from the public and private sectors to gather their opinions on a potential carbon pricing approach for the country and the challenges and opportunities they foresee in planning for and implementing such an instrument.

Based upon the feedback received from stakeholders during the national consultation the Ministry of Climate Change intends to launch an in-depth technical study on a possible carbon pricing instrument for Pakistan.

[Read more here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

Gender Mainstreaming Crucial to Adaptation Projects

Training Programme on Mainstreaming Gender Considerations in Climate Change Adaptation Projects | Bangkok, Thailand | 4-8 December, 2017

UN Climate Change supported the Asian Institute of Technology in a recent training on mainstreaming gender considerations in climate change adaptation projects.

UN Climate Change shared information on the Lima work programme on gender and the gender action plan, and on strengthening gender considerations in the process of formulating and implementing National Adaptation Plans.



[Find the presentations here](#)

Source: RCC Bangkok

ASEAN Countries Join Forces for Climate Action

Understanding Carbon Pricing | Singapore | 16-17 October, 2017



Global experts on carbon pricing instruments shared information and exchanged views with representatives from ASEAN countries to give a better understanding of market-based instruments to support the efforts of these countries to meet their emission reduction targets in a cost-effective manner.

The countries agreed to explore the possibility of developing a harmonized regional approach to measuring, reporting and verifying greenhouse gas emissions.

[Read more here](#)

Source: RCC Bangkok

Finance

HSBC Launches USD 1 Billion Bond in Support of UN's Sustainable Development Goals



HSBC has launched the world's first bond in direct support of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The USD 1 billion funds raised through the bond will be directed at supporting projects that offer broad social, economic and environmental benefits as aligned to seven selected SDG targets, including increasing the share of renewables in the global energy mix.

The bank says this is the first time that a private sector entity has issued a benchmark-size bond of this type.

[Read more here](#)

Source: UN Climate Change

ADFD, IRENA Open New Round of Funding for Renewable Energy Projects, Invite Applications

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) have collaborated on a joint Project Facility to support replicable, scalable and potentially transformative renewable energy projects in developing countries.



The funding cycle is open until 15 February 2018.

[Apply here.](#)

Source: IRENA

Report: Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform and the Just Transition - Integrating approaches for complementary outcomes

Don't miss this timely report on fossil fuel subsidy reform.

[Read the report here.](#)

Source: IISD



An Interview with Patricia Espinosa

"COP24 will be Paris 2.0"

We sign off with this video of UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa in conversation with Politico's Ryan Heath on the global climate challenge and her outreach to

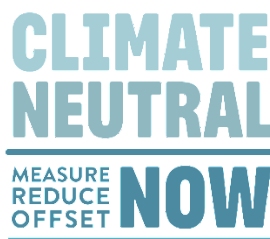
cities, local governments, businesses, researchers and other stakeholders to help achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.

An inspiring welcome to a new year of climate action!



Click image to watch video

[Read more and watch the full interview here](#)



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We look forward to hearing from you!
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