



Regional Collaboration Centre – Dubai

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

The Regional Collaboration Centre Dubai is a collaboration between UN Climate Change and the World Green Economy Organization

Welcome to the RCC Dubai Newsletter

December 2019

Latest News

Regional Collaboration Centre launched in Dubai



(from left) Ovais Sarmad, H.E. Saeed Al Tayer and H.E. Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi

The Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC) in Dubai was launched on the margins of the World Green Economy Summit on the 20th of October 2019 in Dubai.

The centre, established as a collaboration between UN Climate Change and the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO), is dedicated to advancing the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. The centre is hosted by WGEO in Dubai.



About RCC Dubai

RCC Dubai was launched, with support from the Government of UAE, at the opening ceremony of the Global Ministerial Conference on Green Economy, convened by WGEO, by Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change, H.E. Saeed Al Tayer, Chairman of WGEO and H.E. Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister for Climate Change and Environment, UAE.

Read more [here](#).

For more information, visit the [RCC Dubai website](#).

A Message from the Directors

James Grabert
Director, Sustainable Development
Mechanisms programme
UN Climate Change



We are delighted to be establishing a new Regional Collaboration Centre in Dubai to serve countries in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia, in cooperation with the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO). RCC Dubai will help catalyse climate action in the MENA and South Asia regions, under the Paris Agreement and for sustainable development. And, in concert with the five other regional centres -- in Bangkok, Kampala, Lomé, St. George's-Grenada, and Panama -- RCC Dubai will build the vital connections between and across regions in support of collaborative climate action. We look forward to working closely with our partner WGEO to spur global climate action through the RCC system, within which WGEO through RCC Dubai is now a key partner.

Abdul Rahim Sultan
Director General, World Green
Economy Organization



We welcome the partnership between the UN Climate Change Secretariat and World Green Economy Organization for the establishment of RCC Dubai. This new Centre will be instrumental in connecting the regional response to climate change with the global agenda on climate action to promote green economy action for sustainable development. As countries move forward on this agenda, partnerships are emerging to generate new pathways for a more climate resilient economic development that will reduce exposure to climate risks. We look forward to working with UN Climate Change to capitalize on synergy identified in the work of our two organizations, specifically to facilitate through RCC Dubai the sharing and use of green growth models to increase climate action on the ground. And, it is with great enthusiasm that we anticipate the convening of the first ever MENA Climate Week in Dubai next year which will be a platform for engaging with key stakeholders in the region and will showcase the potential of cooperative action.

Highlights from RCC Dubai

Regional Collaboration Centre Dubai hosts fifth annual RCC Global Forum



Participants at RCC Global Forum

(Dubai, UAE, 20-21 October 2019) UN Climate Change Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC) partners and collaborating organizations met recently in Dubai at the latest edition of the annual RCC Global Forum, held on the margins of the World Green Economy Summit, to connect, share, and set strategies to help spur global climate action through the network of RCCs.

Read more [here](#).

Green economy solutions showcased at 2019 Global Ministerial Conference on Green Economy



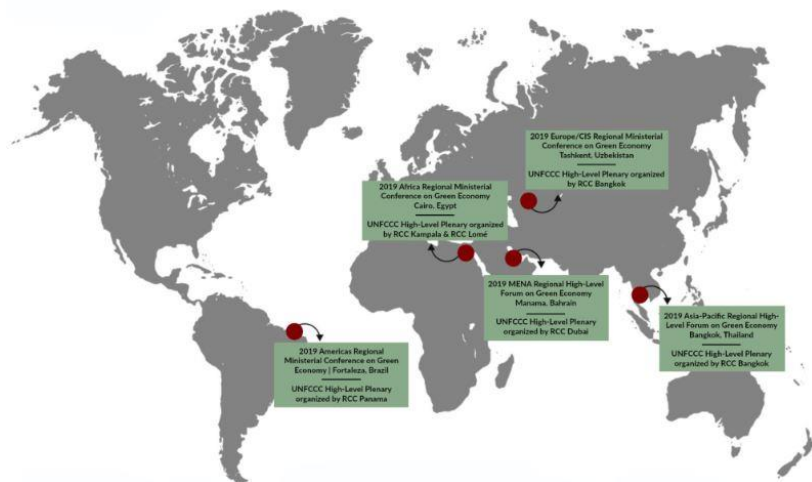
Source: [WGES 2019 Gallery](#)

(Dubai, UAE, 20-21 October 2019) The Global Ministerial Conference on Green Economy was organized by the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO), RCC Dubai host partner, to consolidate and further refine the outcomes of the five WGEO Regional Ministerial Conferences and High-level Forums held earlier this year. It was held in conjunction with the World Green Economy Summit.

The Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on Green Economy aimed to showcase and scale up the impact of the most successful evidence-based green economy solutions crafted and tested by countries in the various regions to address sustainable development challenges pertinent to the needs and aspirations of each respective region.

Read more about the Conference [here](#).

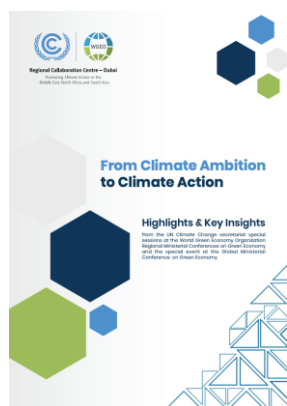
Raising Climate Ambition and Climate Finance at WGEO Regional Ministerial Conferences on Green Economy



A special high-level plenary session on raising ambition and climate finance was organized, through the UN Climate Change Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs), at the five World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) Regional Ministerial Conferences and High-level Forums in Thailand, Brazil, Egypt, Bahrain and Uzbekistan, which acted as a platform for the RCCs to showcase their work in the regions and to facilitate the potential for concrete action on green economy.

The sessions also served to leverage and promote UN Climate Change's regional presence through its six RCCs, and were made possible through extensive multi-stakeholder engagement by RCC Dubai, whose host partner is WGEO.

The sessions brought together climate action practitioners and experts from the regions who articulated and investigated opportunities, dependencies and synergies between increasing climate ambition, acting on climate change and moving towards a green economy.



At the culmination of the regional sessions a special event was convened during the Global Ministerial Conference on Green Economy in Dubai to present the regional needs and opportunities and to discuss potential actionable outcomes on the way forward in providing financial support to developing countries for their priority mitigation and adaptation needs.

The outcomes and recommendations from the regional conferences and the special event have been compiled in a synthesis report.

Read the report [here](#).

2019 World Green Economy Summit



Source: [WGES 2019 Gallery](#)

(Dubai, UAE, 20 - 21 October 2019) The World Green Economy Summit (WGES) is one of the leading global forums on the green economy. It brings together experts in critical sectors from around the world to directly focus on advancing the global green economy and sustainability agenda and achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Organized by the Dubai Electricity & Water Authority and the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO), the Summit is held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in cooperation with Dubai Supreme Council of Energy and the Water, Energy, Environment Technology Exhibition (WETEX).

RCC Dubai was launched on the margins of 2019 World Green Economy Summit.

Further information can be found at the [website](#).

Mobilization and Access to Climate Finance in the Arab Region



Participants at the workshop

(Cairo, Egypt, 6-7 November 2019) As encapsulated in the Paris Agreement, there is an urgent need to enhance the provision of finance, technology and capacity-building and to ensure predictability and alignment of finance for nationally defined climate and sustainable development goals.

In this context, an inception workshop was organized in Cairo to begin preparations to design a Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy and exchange information on climate finance needs at the regional and country level.

The Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy aims to address some of the key obstacles identified by the region by unlocking access barriers and diversifying the sources, channels and instruments of climate finance to pursue sustainable development and the goals of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

The workshop was organized under the auspices of the Needs-based Climate Finance Project (NBF Project) of UN Climate Change in collaboration with the League of Arab States (LAS) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) and with support from the Regional Collaboration Centre - Dubai.

Access the programme and presentations of the workshop [here](#).

RCC Dubai Project Updates

Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy



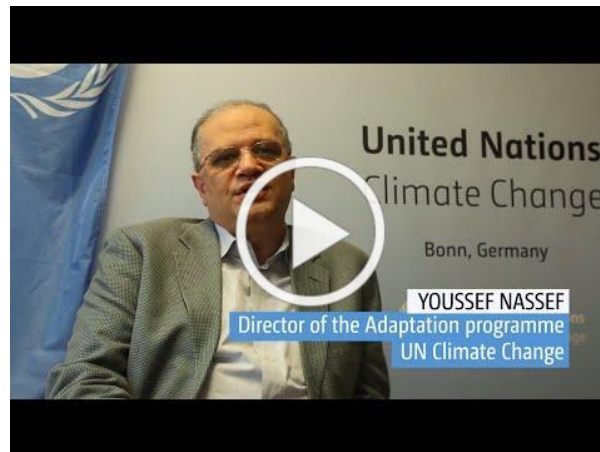
Overview of the Needs-based Finance Project

Yolando Velasco, Manager, Climate Finance, Finance, Technology and Capacity-building, UN Climate Change, speaks about the Needs-based Finance (NBF) project and the Arab Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy.

The NBF project aims to assist the region in assessing its climate-finance-related needs and barriers, leading to the development of a comprehensive climate finance strategy for the region in consultation with national entities and regional bodies. UN Climate Change, in collaboration with the secretariats of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA), is assisting LAS member countries in developing a Climate Finance Mobilization and Access Strategy to guide the mobilization of resources to support the priority climate actions in the region.

For more information about the NBF project, please contact Yolando Velasco (YVelasco@unfccc.int).

Implementing Actions to Close Adaptation Knowledge Gaps in the MENA



Overview of the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI)

Youssef Nassef, Director of the Adaptation programme at UN Climate Change speaks about the barriers knowledge gaps pose to successful adaptation action, the efforts of the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) in overcoming these barriers and the work of RCC Dubai in supporting the LAKI.

The LAKI addresses knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action in developing country regions. The LAKI is a collaborative effort between UN Climate Change and the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment).

As next steps, UN Climate Change is conducting a stocktake of current activities being undertaken to close knowledge gaps in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and will conduct a workshop with partners in the first quarter of 2020 to define and create a plan to implement specific outputs and activities which will contribute to closing the identified knowledge gaps in the region.

If you have any questions or would like to engage in this initiative, contact Rojina Manandhar (RManandhar@unfccc.int) and Fatema Rajabali (FRajabali@unfccc.int).

Call to Designate Focal Points for Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)



The Doha work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment invites Parties to designate and provide support, including technical and financial support, and access to information and materials to a national focal point for ACE activities and assign specific responsibilities (15/CP.18, Annex, paragraph 22 (a)).

To explore the current ACE focal points and understand how UNFCCC National Focal Points can nominate ACE Focal points click [here](#).

Spotlight on Climate Action

COP 25 being held in Madrid on 2-13 December 2019



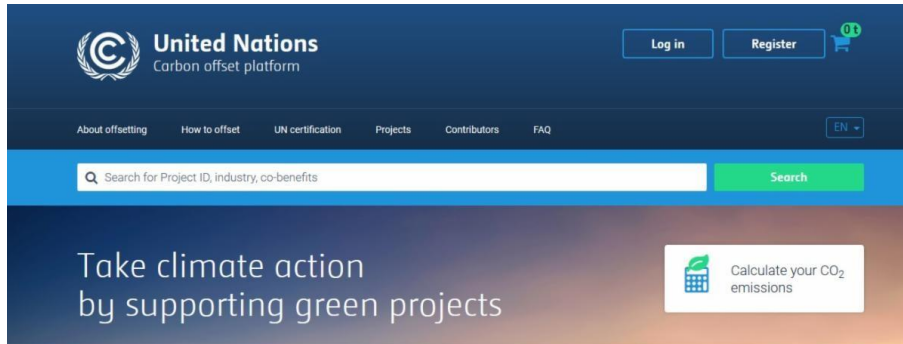
COP25 is taking place from 2 to 13 December 2019 at Feria de Madrid ([IFEMA](#)), Avda. del Partenón, 5 28042 Madrid, Spain.

The conference takes place under the Presidency of the Government of Chile and will be held with logistical support from the Government of Spain. The President-designate for the conference is Ms. Carolina Schmidt, Minister of Environment of Chile.

Read more [here](#).

Source: UN Climate Change

Climate Neutral Now initiative reaches 200-participant milestone



In September 2019, the Climate Neutral Now initiative of UN Climate Change passed the 200 participants mark. These companies and organizations are implementing concrete actions to address their climate footprint and accelerate the transition to a climate-neutral society, by measuring their emissions, acting to reduce them, and compensating for the emissions that they could not avoid by supporting green projects in developing countries.

The Climate Neutral Now initiative applauds these pledges and invites all interested organizations wanting to accelerate their climate action to contact UN Climate Change at ClimateNeutralNow@unfccc.int.

Find out more about this milestone [here](#).

Join [Climate Neutral Now!](#)

Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2019 is here!



UN Climate Change has released the [Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2019](#).

The Yearbook shines a light on current climate action and lays down pathways to climate neutrality by mid-century required to meet the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement. The report was created in collaboration with experts and civil society groups.

The 2019 Yearbook and the Pathway documents are tools for all those looking for ways to incentivise climate-friendly action and draw economies and people towards ambitious climate action.

[Read more here!](#)

Opportunities

The World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) is presently recruiting for two positions to support the work of the RCC Dubai.

For more information, please visit their website [here](#).

Regional Collaboration Centres



The Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs) support national climate action through capacity-building, technical assistance and strategic networking - sourcing know-how and resources to drive clean development. They were established to spread the benefits of the Clean Development Mechanism, which spurs investment in sustainable development by rewarding projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Since the adoption of the Paris Climate Change Agreement in December 2015, the RCCs have had the broader task of supporting implementation of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans and Global Climate Action under that agreement.

Check out more information and recent activities on the [website](#) and the [brochure](#).

About the RCC Dubai Partner Organizations

United Nations Climate Change

The climate change secretariat was established in 1992 when countries adopted the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With the subsequent adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and the Paris Agreement in 2015, Parties to these three agreements have progressively reaffirmed the secretariat's role as the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to climate change. Since 1995, the secretariat has been located in Bonn, Germany.

[Visit the website](#)

Follow UN Climate Change on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)

World Green Economy Organization

The World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) emerged in response to the priorities and concerns identified at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 as an organization intended to support emerging global actions towards the green, low-carbon, climate-resilient development model.

WGEO seeks to promote the widespread acceptance and increased importance of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, by linking financing, technology, capacity-building and all other elements to enable the environment for green economies.

[Visit the website](#)

Follow WGEO on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)

We look forward to hearing from you!



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