

CDM-2016RCC-INFO01

Regular report

Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs)

Version 01.0



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1. Introduction

1. The Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) (hereinafter referred to as the Board) requested, through its 2016 Work Plan, regular reports to provide information on the progress of work made in specific areas.
2. This report covers the area of regional support for CDM project activities and programme of activities (PoAs) that is delivered through the regional collaboration centres (RCCs). The first RCC was established in Lomé, Togo, in 2013, followed by RCCs in Kampala, Uganda; St. George's, Grenada; Bogota, Colombia, and the latest was established in Bangkok, Thailand in 2015.
3. These RCCs focus on supporting the implementation of the CDM in their regions and this report includes information on the support provided to the CDM project activities, PoAs and standardized baselines (SBs) in the respective RCC regions. Furthermore, the report includes information on promotion of the CDM, capacity-building and inter-agency partnerships.
4. The current reporting period covers the period from 1 January 2016 to 31 May 2016. For project support and standardized baseline support, cumulative figures, since the beginning of RCC operations until 31 May 2016, are also presented.

2. Regional support

2.1. Project support

5. From the beginning of their operations until 31 May 2016, the RCCs provided direct support to 463 CDM project activities and PoAs, contributing to 157 activities¹ moving forward in the CDM project cycle. In addition, through the provision of technical advice and capacity building, 85 new CDM project activities and PoAs were identified and their CDM prior notification submitted.
6. The support resulted in 40 CDM project activities and PoAs² progressing at least one step in the CDM project cycle, 11 new CDM project activities and PoAs being added to the CDM pipeline, and 65 CDM project activities and PoAs receiving clarifications on CDM requirements. In total, the RCCs have supported 116 CDM project activities and PoAs during the reporting period.

2.2. Standardized baseline support

7. The RCCs have also provided direct technical assistance to designated national authorities (DNAs) for the development of SBs. From the beginning of their operations until 31 May 2016, a total of 67 SBs were directly supported, of which 19 were approved by the Board, and an additional 60 potential SBs were identified.

¹ In some cases, the figure refers to the same CDM project activity or PoA moved forward more than one step in the CDM project cycle.

² *Ibid.*

8. The RCCs provided support to the development of 30 SBs (12 were new and 18 were continuations from previous year), all of which originated from the DNAs of underrepresented countries. In addition, the Board approved another six SBs for which support was provided in the previous years, all of which originated from the DNAs of the underrepresented countries.

2.3. Promotion of CDM and capacity-building

9. In order to further promote CDM and associate it with regional priorities and developments, and to build skills and knowledge regarding CDM in regional and national key institutions, the RCCs organized or co-organized a series of events. Events held within this reporting period include:

(a) Africa region:

- (i) Regional Expert Meetings on Renewable Energy and Climate Change for West and Central Africa was held in Senegal from 29 February to 1 March 2016 and in Gabon from 31 May to 1 June 2016;
- (ii) Regional Conference on Sustainable Cities, Energy and Climate was held in Cameroon from 2 to 4 May 2016;
- (iii) Practitioners' Workshop on Clean Cook Stoves was held in Ethiopia from 5 to 7 April 2016;
- (iv) Workshop on Developing CDM Project Activities and Standardized Baselines in Rwanda was held in Rwanda from 26 to 27 April 2016.

(b) Asia-Pacific region:

- (i) Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on Integrating Market Mechanisms to the Implementation of INDCs was held in Thailand on 15 February 2016;
- (ii) Third Climate Change International Technical and Training Center (CITC) Regional Conference on Climate Change and Sustainable Development: "How to Accelerate Climate Actions in Asia through Capacity Building and Climate Finance" was held in Thailand from 30 March to 1 April 2016. Alongside the main event, RCC Bangkok hosted a CDM marketplace which provided the CDM project participants in the region and the representatives of the Norwegian Carbon Credit Procurement Program with a common platform for trading certified emission reductions.
- (iii) Third CDM Dialogue Forum was held in Sri Lanka from 30 to 31 May 2016 to support the CDM participants in Sri Lanka.

(c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:

- (i) Grid Emission Factor Standardized Baseline workshop was held in Honduras from 26 to 30 April 2016.

10. Ten missions were carried out by the RCCs within this reporting period to support the DNAs and project participants from their respective regions: six in the Africa region; four in the Asia-Pacific region; and one in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.

11. Within this reporting period, the RCCs published three newsletters (Africa region: three) and five articles (Africa region: two; Asia-Pacific region: two; Latin America and the Caribbean region: one).

2.4. Inter-agency partnerships

12. Inter-agency partnerships forged and maintained within this reporting period include:

(a) Africa region:

- (i) RCC Lomé forged new partnerships with the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP's) Global Support Programme (GSP) and the Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement Durable (IFDD) for capacity-building activities on CDM project development and standardized baseline development. RCC Lomé's existing partnerships are with Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement (BOAD), UNDP's Millennium Development Goals (UNDP MDG), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN HABITAT), the Government of Norway, African Biofuel and Renewable Energy Company (ABREC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), which leveraged funds from these partners to cover local costs for organizing CDM capacity-building activities and for RCC staff member participation.
- (ii) RCC Kampala forged new partnerships with IRENA and the DNA of Rwanda, sharing expenses related to organizing CDM workshops in the region. RCC Kampala's existing partnerships are with the World Bank for pilot action facility (PAF), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Uganda, to organize capacity-building events for the DNAs and other stakeholders, the Government of Norway to follow-up on project selection from their last call, and Carbon Africa to organize training for Rwandan stakeholders on the CDM and its application within the wider mitigation framework.
- (iii) In the context of the Nairobi Framework Partnership (NFP), RCC Lomé and RCC Kampala supported the development of regional capacity-building activities and initiatives aiming to enhance regional distribution of the CDM. Such activities included: support for the development and/or update of regional and/or domestic SBs in the African region; private sector engagement in implementing mitigation actions, including through the CDM; and installation of solar lamps in Africa, as a CDM project activity or PoA.

(b) Asia-Pacific region:

- (i) Resources were mobilized under the Asia Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) Partnership and partnership with the DNA of Sri Lanka. The partners covered the expenses for event organization, providing RCC Bangkok session slots and booth space for the promotion of the CDM. In exchange, RCC Bangkok covered its staff members' mission costs to participate in the events as key resource persons promoting the CDM in the

- region, and providing direct support to CDM stakeholders invited by the partners.
- (ii) RCC Bangkok co-organized the “Third CITC Regional Conference on Climate Change and Sustainable Development”, for which CITC and RCC Bangkok shared costs. During the event, RCC Bangkok organized a CDM marketplace in partnership with the Norwegian Carbon Credit Procurement and CITC.
- (c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:
- (i) RCC Bogotá built new partnerships with Energising Development (EnDev) and International Hydro Association (IHA) in Norway, providing support for reporting emission reductions/sustainable development from energy projects in rural areas, using approved CDM methodologies/tools, and rendering CDM expertise in IHA-organized capacity-building events, respectively. Under the existing partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the expenses for a workshop and assessment fee for a standardized baseline in Honduras were borne by IDB.
 - (ii) RCC St. George’s built a new partnership with UNDP Barbados, which received funding from the Japanese-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) to provide government officials of six Caribbean countries with training in the use of the CDM as a measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) tool, and to strengthen linkages between PoAs and nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the region.
 - (iii) In the context of the NFP, RCC Bogota and RCC St. George’s supported the development of new initiatives with a focus on the CDM: promoting sustainable development in the power sector of small island developing states (SIDS) by implementing CDM project activities or PoAs; and developing legal and regulatory frameworks to drive effective private sector engagement in the wider mitigation actions, including engagement in the CDM.
13. Within this reporting period, a total of 12.5 RCC host-partner staff members worked together with six UNFCCC staff members in the RCCs. The staffing ratio of RCC host partners to UNFCCC in the RCCs is as follows:
- (a) Africa region:
 - (i) Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement (BOAD) to UNFCCC is 4:1;
 - (ii) East African Development Bank (EADB) to UNFCCC is 3:1.
 - (b) Asia-Pacific region:
 - (i) Institute for Global Environment Strategies (IGES) to UNFCCC is 2:2.
 - (c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:
 - (i) Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina (CAF) to UNFCCC is 2:1;

- (ii) Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation (WINDREF) to UNFCCC is 1.5:1.

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