

CDM-2017RCC-INFO01

Regular report

Regional Collaboration Centres

Version 01.0



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

1. Introduction

1. The Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) (hereinafter referred to as the Board), through the CDM Executive Board workplan 2017,¹ requested regular reports on progress made in specific areas.
2. This report covers the regional support for CDM project activities, programmes of activities (PoAs) and the development of standardized baselines (SBs) supported by the Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs). Furthermore, the report includes information on the promotion of the CDM, capacity-building and inter-agency partnerships by RCCs. The first RCC was established in Lomé, Togo, in 2013, followed by RCCs in Kampala, Uganda, St. George's, Grenada, Bogotá, Colombia, and Bangkok, Thailand. RCC Bogotá, which has been in operation since August 2013, was moved to Panama City, Panama, in March 2017. These RCCs focus on supporting the implementation of the CDM in their regions.
3. The current reporting period covers 1 January 2017 to 31 May 2017. For the support provided to projects and the development of SBs, cumulative figures covering the beginning of RCC operations until 31 May 2017 are also presented.

2. Regional support

2.1. Project support

4. From 1 January 2017 to 31 May 2017, RCCs provided direct technical support to 112 CDM project activities and PoAs, of which approximately 60 per cent were located in CDM underrepresented countries. The support resulted in eight CDM project activities and PoAs progressing at least one step in the CDM project cycle. In addition, RCCs responded to 148 queries in areas such as clarifications on the CDM requirements, the use of the CDM in climate finance and the CDM loan scheme.
5. From the beginning of their operations until 31 May 2017, RCCs provided direct support to 675 CDM project activities and PoAs, contributing to 198 activities moving forward in the CDM project cycle. In addition, through the provision of technical advice and capacity-building, 104 new CDM project activities and PoAs were identified and their notification of CDM prior consideration submitted.

2.2. Support in the development of standardized baselines

6. The RCCs have also provided direct technical assistance to designated national authorities (DNAs) for the development of SBs. From 1 January 2017 to 31 May 2017, the RCCs supported the development of 15 bottom-up SBs (7 were new and 8 were continuations from the previous year), of which approximately 75 per cent originated from the DNAs of underrepresented countries. As a result of support provided by RCCs in the previous years, the Board approved another four SBs, all of which originated from DNAs of CDM underrepresented countries. In addition, RCCs facilitated the commencement of work of the secretariat's Regulatory Development Unit on five new top-down SBs during the reporting period.

¹ <https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20170227105522978/info_note70.pdf>.

7. From the beginning of their operations until 31 May 2017, the development of a total of 94 SBs was directly supported, of which 34 were approved by the Board, and an additional 85 potential SBs were identified.

2.3. Promotion of the clean development mechanism and capacity-building

8. In order to promote the CDM and its association with regional priorities and developments and to build skills and knowledge on the CDM in key regional and national institutions, the RCCs supported, organized or co-organized a series of events. Events held within this reporting period include:

(a) Africa region:

- (i) Aviation Carbon Market Workshop, held in Nairobi, Kenya from 14 to 15 February 2017;
- (ii) Workshop on standardized baselines as a tool for measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), held in Freetown, Sierra Leone from 21 to 22 March 2017;
- (iii) 4th Annual Sustainable Energy for All Africa Workshop with a round-table session on bioenergy and clean cooking, held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire from 29 to 30 March 2017;
- (iv) Field mission on PoA 9977: West African Biodigester Programme of Activities, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 19 to 21 April 2017;
- (v) Field mission on PoA 5962: International Water Purification Programme, held in Kampala, Uganda from 24 to 25 May 2017;

(b) Asia-Pacific region:

- (i) Seminar on the carbon market, held in Bangkok, Thailand on 24 February 2017;
- (ii) Aviation Carbon Market Workshop, held in Singapore city, Singapore from 22 to 23 March 2017;
- (iii) 4th Australasian Emissions Reduction Summit promoting the CDM and RCC Bangkok, held in Melbourne, Australia from 1 to 4 May 2017;

(c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:

- (i) Aviation Carbon Market Workshop, held in Miami, the United States of America from 14 to 15 March 2017;
- (ii) CDM training for the private sector, held in Panama City, Panama on 3 May 2017;
- (iii) Workshops on the application of approved standardized baselines for the power sector in Grenada in nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) on efficient lighting, held in St. George's, Grenada from 17 to 18 January 2017 and on 24 May 2017.

9. Eight missions were carried out by the RCCs within this reporting period to support the DNAs and project participants from their respective regions: two in the African region, three in the Asia-Pacific region and three in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.
10. Within this reporting period, the RCCs published six newsletters: four for the Africa region, one for the Asia-Pacific region and one for the Latin America and the Caribbean region.

2.4. Inter-agency partnerships

11. Inter-agency partnerships forged and maintained within this reporting period to nurture the CDM include:
 - (a) Africa region:
 - (i) RCC Lomé continued its existing partnerships with the Global Support Programme (GSP) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Economic Community of West African States Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and the Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable for capacity- building activities on CDM project development and the development of SBs. RCC Lomé established a new partnership with the West African Development Bank (BOAD) and the African Development Bank to organize a West African climate finance workshop;
 - (ii) RCC Kampala continued its existing partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Uganda, under which a staff member from GIZ was seconded to RCC Kampala to support CDM-related work, including providing support to DNAs in preparing SB proposals and to CDM project activities and PoAs in the region;
 - (iii) In the context of the Nairobi Framework Partnership (NFP), RCC Lomé helped establish a new partnership between the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol and the Government of Benin to host the 2017 edition of the Africa Carbon Forum in Benin;
 - (b) Asia-Pacific region:
 - (i) RCC Bangkok established new partnerships with (1) GIZ to carry out road-testing for the air-conditioner component of the draft new methodological tool: "TOOL00XX: Determination of standardized baselines for energy efficient refrigerators and air conditioners"; (2) UNDP for Mongolia's grid emission factor SB; and (3) the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for a joint project entitled "Innovative Climate Finance Mechanisms for Financial Institutions in the Asia-Pacific Region", including aspects of how the CDM can facilitate such work. RCC Bangkok is also exploring opportunities for other partnerships to organize DNA training workshops and develop SBs;
 - (c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:
 - (i) RCC Bogota established a new partnership with the Low Emission Development Strategies Latin America and the Caribbean organizations to support the Expert Workshop on the Analysis of Co-benefits as a basis for the Integration of Mitigation and Adaptation Agenda with a presentation on

the use of the sustainable development tool (SD-Tool) and its benefits under the CDM;

- (ii) RCC St. George's established a new partnership with the International Emissions Trading Association, the Carbon Markets and Investors Association, the Inter-American Development Bank, Climate Finance Solutions and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre for the development of a Caribbean dialogue on market instruments. RCC St. George's continued its existing partnerships with the UNDP through its Japanese-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) for the development of five top-down SBs; the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute and the GSP to establish a Caribbean MRV Hub; the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) to support the Government of Saint Lucia in the development of bankable renewable energy and energy-efficient project activities that apply CDM approaches; and the United Nations Environment Programme–Technical University of Denmark Partnership (UNEP DTU Partnership) and OLADE to develop the MRV component for a NAMA in the building sector of Grenada that applies CDM approaches.

12. Within this reporting period, a total of 19 RCC host partner staff members worked together with 8 UNFCCC staff members in the RCCs. The staffing ratio of RCC host partner staff to UNFCCC staff in the RCCs is as follows:

- (a) Africa region:
 - (i) BOAD to UNFCCC is 7:2;
 - (ii) East African Development Bank to UNFCCC is 5:2;
- (b) Asia-Pacific region:
 - (i) Institute for Global Environment Strategies to UNFCCC is 2:2;
- (c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:
 - (i) Development Bank of Latin America to UNFCCC is 3:1;
 - (ii) Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation to UNFCCC is 2:1.

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