

CDM-2018RCC-INFO02

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 2018,¹ requested regular reports on progress made in specific areas.
2. This report covers the regional support provided by Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs) for CDM project activities, programmes of activities (PoAs) and the development of standardized baselines (SBs). The report also includes information on the promotion of the CDM, capacity-building and inter-agency partnerships of 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 July 2018 to 31 December 2018. Cumulative figures covering the beginning of RCC operations until 31 December 2018 are also presented to reflect the support provided to CDM project activities, PoAs and the development of SBs.

2. Regional support

2.1. CDM project activity and PoA support

4. From 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018, RCCs provided direct technical support to 59 CDM project activities and PoAs, of which approximately 60 per cent were located in countries underrepresented in the CDM. The support resulted in six CDM project activities and PoAs progressing at least one step in the CDM project cycle. In addition, RCCs responded to 118 queries received from stakeholders, which were primarily related to (i) post-registration changes, including renewal of crediting period; (ii) request for clarification on CDM rules (e.g. prior consideration of the CDM, applicability of methodologies, monitoring requirements); (iii) share of proceeds; (iv) modalities of communication; (v) cancellation of certified emission reductions; and (vi) interest/participation in the CDM.
5. From the beginning of their operations until 31 December 2018, RCCs provided direct support to 1,016 CDM project activities and PoAs, contributing to 221 activities moving forward in the CDM project cycle. In addition, through the provision of technical advice and capacity-building, 106 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 July 2018 to 31 December 2018, the RCCs supported the development of 1 new bottom-up SB and continued to support the work on 34 bottom-up SBs, which were continuations from the previous reporting period (1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018). Of these, 77 per cent originated from DNAs of underrepresented countries. As a result of the support provided by RCCs in the previous years, the Board approved three SBs: (i) ASB0039-2018: Grid emission factor for

¹ The CDM Executive Board workplan 2018 is available at https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20180305112517412/info_note75.pdf.

Mongolia's national electricity grid (version 01.0); (ii) ASB0040-2018: Grid emission factor for the Southern African power pool (version 01.0) and (iii) ASB0041-2018: Fuel switch, technology switch and methane destruction in the charcoal sector of Rwanda (version 01.0); of which two originated from DNAs of countries underrepresented in the CDM.² In addition, RCCs continued to support the work on five top-down SBs during the reporting period (continuation from the previous reporting period).

7. From the beginning of the operations of the RCCs until 31 December 2018, the development of 136 SBs was directly supported, of which 41 were approved by the Board, and an additional 86 potential SBs were identified that may enter into the SB pipeline in future.

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

8. Events supported, organized or co-organized by RCCs in this reporting period to promote the CDM and to build CDM capacity in key regional and national institutions include:
 - (a) Africa region:
 - (i) National Training Workshop on Grid Emission Factor and Standardized Baseline Calculation for the Energy Sector, held in Monrovia, Liberia, from 9 to 10 July 2018;
 - (ii) Capacity-building for CDM Stakeholders on Renewal of Standardized Baselines, held in Praia, Cabo Verde, from 6 to 9 August 2018;
 - (b) Asia-Pacific region:
 - (i) Asia-Pacific Carbon Forum, held in Singapore City, Singapore, from 11 to 13 July 2018: (1) Plenary session entitled "Carbon Pricing in the Asia-Pacific"; (2) Workshop entitled "Carbon Revenues and the Future of Asian Markets";
 - (ii) Promotion of Use of Standardized Baselines at the biannual conference at the Climate Change International Technical and Training Center (Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization), held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 18 to 20 July 2018;
 - (iii) Promotion of the Voluntary Cancellation of Certified Emission Reductions at the fifth session of the Committee on Environment and Development, held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 21 to 23 November 2018;
 - (iv) Capacity-building for CDM Stakeholders from the Republic of Korea on Standardized Baselines, held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 11 December 2018;
 - (c) Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region:
 - (i) Latin American and Caribbean Carbon Forum, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 21 to 23 August 2018: (1) Workshop entitled "Innovation on climate in the transport sector in LAC"; (2) Side event entitled "Exploring a regional carbon market in LAC";

² The list of countries with 10 or fewer registered CDM projects as of 31 December 2010 is available at <https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard_base/cdmprojects.pdf>.

- (ii) Promotion of Use of Certified Emission Reductions in Domestic Policy, held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 12 to 13 November 2018;
- (iii) Promotion of the Voluntary Cancellation of Certified Emission Reductions, held in Santiago, Chile, from 20 to 23 November 2018.

9. In this reporting period, the RCCs published six newsletters on their individual websites:³ three for the Africa region, two for the Asia-Pacific region and one for the LAC region. These newsletters provide technical advice and information on relevant events, facilitate cooperation and promote opportunities for project funding. The RCCs have received positive feedback from the CDM stakeholders.

2.4. Inter-agency partnerships

10. Inter-agency partnerships forged and maintained in this reporting period to nurture the CDM and its tools include:

(a) Africa region:

- (i) RCC Lomé continued its partnerships with the Global Support Programme (GSP) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the West African South–South Network on measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and transparency to support countries in the Economic Community of West African States in establishing sound MRV systems by 2020;
- (ii) RCC Kampala continued its partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Uganda and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety to initiate discussion with countries in East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania) on the structure, operation and prospects of the East African Alliance on Carbon Markets and Climate Finance. Eastern African countries discussed carbon markets and carbon pricing from 30 October to 1 November 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya, in preparation for the Katowice Climate Change Conference;

(b) Asia-Pacific region:

- (i) RCC Bangkok engaged with the Thai Bond Market Association to increase awareness about sustainable green finance and green bond development in the region. This engagement is in support of Board's work on financing and use of the CDM by international finance institutions via green bonds;

(c) Latin America and the Caribbean region:

- (i) RCC Panama continued its partnerships with (1) the organizations relating to low-emission development strategies in the LAC region to promote the CDM by organizing webinars on blockchain technology and global climate action; and (2) the Inter-American Development Bank to support the development of a grid emission factor SB in Honduras;
- (ii) RCC St. George's continued its partnerships with (1) UNDP through its Japanese-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership for the development of

³ Accessible at <<https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres>>.

five top-down SBs; and (2) the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute and the GSP to establish the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub. A meeting with high-level government stakeholders from all the participating countries in the Caribbean is planned.

11. In this reporting period, a total of 15 RCC host partner staff members worked together with 6 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (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) West African Development Bank to UNFCCC is 5:2;
 - (ii) East African Development Bank to UNFCCC is 4:1;
 - (b) Asia-Pacific region:
 - (i) Institute for Global Environmental Strategies to UNFCCC is 3:1;
 - (c) LAC region:
 - (i) Development Bank of Latin America to UNFCCC is 1:1;
 - (ii) Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation to UNFCCC is 2:1.

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