

Project ACCIÓN Clima II

Supporting the national strategy on climate change and carbon neutrality in Costa Rica as a model for low-carbon development

The ACCIÓN Clima II project aims to support the Costa Rican government in the development of necessary capacities and tools for a climate governance structure, in order to achieve the country's international climate goals and National Determined Contributions (NDCs), as well as – in the long term – support the country's decarbonization. Based on the achievements of the previous project ACCIÓN Clima I, the focus of this second phase lies on providing an improved structure for the national climate regime (governance), developing a national monitoring system and climate finance mechanisms, as well as exchanging experiences at a national and international level, and involvement of the municipal level.

The key players

The ACCIÓN Clima II project is funded by the International Climate Initiative (ICI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Costa Rica. Its local counterpart is the Ministry of Environment and Energy's (MINAE) Climate Change Directorate (DCC). The DCC coordinates the implementation of the National Strategy on Climate Change (referred to by its Spanish acronym ENCC) seeking for carbon neutrality and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) that are currently being executed in the country.

Our approach

The project supports Costa Rica in achieving its ambitious climate protection objectives as a model for low-carbon development for neighboring countries in the region, and in contributing to

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the international climate targets. The ACCIÓN Clima II project also supports the creation and follow-up of mitigation measures, for example in the transport, agriculture and solid waste sectors until 2019, which result in direct carbon emission reductions. The project focuses on four main areas:

Climate governance

By improving the framework conditions for low-carbon development at a national and subnational level, mitigation capacities as well as institutional and human capacities necessary for the design, implementation and monitoring of climate change programs will increase.

Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system

A National System for Climate Metrics (SINAMECC) will serve as a dashboard for the range of climate indicators, information, and data. Different responsible institutions will collect, process and contribute data to this system. This way, climate objectives can be monitored, allowing to observe the efficiency and success of implementing climate actions in a transparent way.



Left to right:

Traffic in San José, Costa Rica and recycling of plastic bottles.

Following page, left to right:

Waste separation and use of public transport in Costa Rica.



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Financing Mechanisms

The MINAE in cooperation with ACCIÓN Clima II will develop information and tools for the mobilization of climate financing, as well as methods and practices for the monitoring of their volume, origin and use. Climate forums in order to exchange experiences concerning Costa Rica's efforts to implement its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) will be anchored at a national and local level, and the country's experiences in low-carbon development ("Climate Laboratory") communicated regionally and internationally. Cooperation with municipalities will be an important part of this component.

Target groups

The project is directed at the entire Costa Rican population, public institutions, private and public companies, as well as their respective employees in Costa Rica and other countries in the region. The intermediaries are MINAE's directors and professionals, as well as those of other relevant ministries, public institutions, municipalities, companies, organizations, organized civil society and regional institutions.

Expected impacts

Central to the ACCIÓN Clima II project is supporting Costa Rica in implementing its ambitious climate goals as a model for neighboring countries in the region and other potential low-emission countries. In addition, the results of the project contribute directly to international climate negotiations.

Impact is expected mainly through the enhancement of mitigation capacities. This is achieved for example through the development of framework conditions for the implementation of

NDCs and low-carbon development (decarbonization), focused in particular on the development of capacities in institutions and in human resources for the design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of climate programs and activities.

Improving institutional management structures will result in making adequate and politically feasible decisions on the implementation of climate protection measures that support the achievement of Costa Rica's climate objectives.

The measures and pilot projects developed in Costa Rica already attract attention around the globe and will continue to do so with the progress of the project. The dissemination of experiences will serve to motivate political decision-makers in other countries to pursue low-carbon development.

Through activities whose implementation is directly supported by the ACCIÓN Clima II project – for example in the sectors agriculture, industry, transport and waste management – direct mitigation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will be achieved. The measurement and quantification of the reductions will be monitored during the course of the project and beyond by the National System for Climate Metrics (SINAMECC).

In collaboration with key actors of the private sector, new markets and employment prospects will be created. The resulting development potentials are relevant benefits for an ecologically and socially sustainable development.

And finally, the cooperation with municipalities will promote vertical exchange between state-level programs at the national level and local experiences, resulting in a more effective consideration of the respective concerns and needs of stakeholders.

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