

Climate, Environmental Policy, Forests, Biodiversity Newsletter



News on Climate, Environmental Policy, Forests, Biodiversity

A service of the GIZ Sectoral Department and GloBe

Dear readers,

As an eventful year draws to a close, we are fast approaching this year's climate negotiations at UNFCCC COP28 to be convened in Dubai, UAE, from 30 November to 12 December 2023.

So far, this year has been full of unpleasant records, from wildfires in Greece to Libyan floods and heat waves in North America, Europe and China. More than ever before, the effects of the climate crisis are widely felt with extreme weather events being observed everywhere around the globe. It is inevitable that enhanced collective efforts to take further both climate change mitigation and adaptation is urgently required.

The Global Stocktake assessing the world's collective progress in achieving the obligations under the Paris Agreement to be launched at this year's climate COP, will paint a gloomy picture: Current climate actions are not nearly enough to keep global warming below 1.5 °C and avoid the worst of impacts. The incoming Presidency, the UAE, calls for four paradigm shifts to be focused on at the upcoming COP, namely

- 1) energy transition and emission reduction,
- 2) transformation of climate finance,
- 3) integration of nature and people in climate action, and
- 4) making the COP more inclusive.

While foci and interpretations may differ, it yet underlines the insight that the transition to a climate-friendly, resilient world can only succeed if development, climate change mitigation and adaptation,

and biodiversity conservation is pursued in combination.

As development practitioners working on climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and natural resources management, as well as sustainable forests management, this is exactly where our full potential comes to play. This newsletter covers implementation results related to climate action from all over the world. From enhancing the resilience of rural communities to the impacts of climate change, fostering global efforts to making the NDCs more ambitious, to developing new approaches for climate finance in Rwanda – GIZ, together with its partners, provides the necessary expertise and capacities.

We hope that you enjoy browsing through this edition where you will find news and practical examples of GIZ projects worldwide involved in achieving the goals of the climate agenda.

As usual, the newsletter also covers implementation results in a wide variety of topics related to nature conservation, ecosystem restoration, climate, sustainable forest management and environmental policy.

Enjoy the read!

The editorial team

NEWS ON ...

... BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

... CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION

... SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

... OTHERS

Biodiversity and natural resource management

Malawi hosts inaugural Chiefs Forum on Restoration and Natural Resources Management



H.E Chakwera with the Paramount Chiefs and their signed Call to Action. Photo: © GIZ/Chimwemwe Topola

In Malawi, the integral role of traditional leaders in the conservation and restoration of natural resources is recognised due to their revered status in society and their authority in implementing regulations. The inaugural Chiefs Forum on Natural Resources Management, held in Lilongwe, saw the presence of Malawian Head of State, H.E. Chakwera alongside Paramount Chiefs, culminating in the signing of a Call to Action. This forum convened over 200 traditional leaders, along with national and subnational government officials from various regions of Malawi. The meeting was organised by

the IKI-funded AREECA project.

Further information:

» [Malawi hosts First-ever Chiefs Forum on Natural Resources Management | AFR100](#)

Contact:

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Protecting our coastal treasures for biodiversity along Kenya-Tanzania border: let's dive in



Protecting our coastal treasures for biodiversity along Kenya-Tanzania border: Let's dive in together!
Photo: © GIZ/Thorsten Huber

Kenya and Tanzania share a rich and distinct coastal biodiversity within the Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem area. This unique region holds coral reefs, mangrove forests and sea grass stocks crucial for coastal protection and refuge for endangered species. Supported by the BMUV-funded IKI project, efforts on Kwale, Kenya and Tanga, Tanzania focus on preserving these resources through a mechanism for effective transboundary and participatory management. The project is supporting the creation of a Transboundary Marine Conservation Area (TBCA) to enhance collaborative conservation in the region.

Further information:

» [Transboundary Marine Conservation Area \(TBCA\) between Kenya and Tanzania](#)

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Advancing with enhanced expertise and knowledge: Laos enters next stage of CliPAD/I-GFLL



FPIC and VFAG Workshop in Oudomxay. Photo: © GIZ/Yiaheu Touvang

The second phase of the Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation Project (CliPAD) project has been initiated in Laos with the objective of enhancing the resilience of rural communities to challenges posed by climate change. This initiative covers six provinces, including three additional ones. A workshop was recently organised to discuss the new Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and Village Forest and Agricultural Grants (VFAG) guidelines. Furthermore, a new team of trainers has been trained to carry forward their knowledge to their respective provinces and focus on designing village land use plans in a participatory manner with the local residents.

Further information:

» [I-GFLL projects documents and reports](#)

Contact:

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Knowledge about the environment is promoted in the rural municipalities of Bolivia



Participants of the environmental olympics of the Azero River basin.
Photo: © GIZ/Rene Zarate

Building solid knowledge in children and young people about environmental problems and their causes is very important for the consolidation of sustainable actions that lead to care and conservation of nature. With this in mind, PROCUENCA supported the '1st Environmental Knowledge Olympics of the Azero River Basin', whose objective was to evaluate the knowledge of school students about the importance of caring for the basins. More than 300 students and 78 teachers trained in the subject participated. For 2024, the second version of the Olympics is already planned. It will be carried out with departmental resources allocated in the Annual Operational Plan (POA).

Further information:

» [Material used for the Olympics](#)

Contact:



Responsible Land Policy (ProPFR) in Cameroon: a new country component under the global programme



First ProPFR workshop on challenges of securing land rights for local populations in Ntui, Cameroon.
Photo: © GIZ/ProPFR

The new project 'Responsible Land Policy' (ProPFR) in Cameroon (2023 to 2026) is already in full swing! Implemented in the country's Centre Region, ProPFR has organised three major activities till date:

- (1) a workshop where more than 80 participants from the intervention localities discussed on the challenges of securing land tenure,
- (2) an operational planning workshop with implementing partners to discuss and enrich the roadmap of project activities,
- (3) a sensitisation workshop on the role of women in land management and forest conservation in the run-up of this year's International Day of Rural Women.

Further information:

- » [Factsheet on responsible land policy in Cameroon](#)
- » [Land portal on responsible land policy in Cameroon](#)

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Creating conservation and sustainable use areas in Ecuador guarantees nature's rights

In the province of Santa Elena, with the support of the BioValor programme, Conservation and Sustainable Use Areas (SPACUS) were created to establish territorial spaces with an environmental management regime that guarantees the rights of nature, environmental principles, the protection of water sources and fragile ecosystems, the sustainable use of ecosystem and the reduction of deforestation of forest.

This system is currently comprised of 18 communities in the province who, through their leaders, are committed to forest conservation, and more communities will continue to join. For the operation of SPACUS, a management committee has been created.

Further information:

» [Project information](#)

Contact:

» [Carolina Delatorre](#)



Community member in a conservation area. Photo: © GIZ Rafael Jarrin



New marine IKI project: Save the Blue Five



A humpback whale in the Ecuadorian coast (*Megaptera novaengliae*). Photo: © GIZ/Mica Stacey

Save the Blue Five is a new marine flagship project funded by the IKI and implemented jointly by GIZ, the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, Conservation International and MarViva, targeting five species of outstanding importance for global biodiversity (whales, dolphins, sharks, sea turtles and manta rays) and covering an area of two billion hectares. Save the Blue Five strengthens regional efforts for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in the Southeast Pacific.

Further information:

» [Save the Blue Five: protecting marine biodiversity in the South-East Pacific](#)

Contact:

» [Jan Kleine](#)



An ecosystem-based approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation on South Africa's West Coast



Tylecodon paniculatus (left), *Chasmanthe floribunda* (centre) and *Asparagus capensis* (right) growing in a small depression on a granite outcrop in Swartland Granite Renosterveld. Photo: © Nicole Loebenberg, !Khwa ttu

Over the past decade, South Africa's West Coast has seen a rise in temperatures and a decline in rainfall, which is fostering the conditions for increased fire intensity and droughts. To enhance climate mitigation and adaptation, the IKI Small Grants project !Khwa ttu implemented a pilot study aimed at restoring natural ecosystems while also addressing biodiversity loss due to farming. The pilot is informed by indigenous, local and scientific knowledge. By sharing lessons learned and showcasing the benefits of biodiversity conservation, !Khwa ttu aims to promote conservation led development in the buffer zone of the West Coast National Park, an important area for biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation.

Further information:

» [!Khwa ttu – Conserving biological diversity](#)

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» [Phumeza Langa](#)



Edough mountains: centennial efforts culminate in official natural park status



Harmony of land and sea: The newly designated Edough Mountains Natural Park in Eastern Algeria. Photo: © GIZ

After more than a century of continuous efforts, the region of the Edough Mountains near the Eastern Algerian city of Annaba, was officially designated as a Natural Park on 17 September 2023. The designated area with exceptional biodiversity and habitats as well as cultural heritage sites encompasses both terrestrial and marine parts of the Edough Mountains. The Natural Park covers a total area of 406 km², with 49 km² being a marine protected area. Since 2016, GIZ has been working on this project in cooperation with the Algerian Ministry of the Environment and Renewable Energies.

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Euroclima and OCTA collaborate in the new version of the Berlin Film and Human Rights Festival



Photo: © Dovile Sermokas

Euroclima promoted the collaboration with the Berlin Human Rights Film Festival (HRFF) and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). On 13 and 14 October, workshops were organised by indigenous filmmakers; and on 18 October, a masterclass with Ailton Krenak, and a roundtable discussion on the potential of the bioeconomy in the Amazon region brought together participants from the public sector, Brazil's Ministry of Development, Industry and Trade and the European Union's Directorate General for Research and Innovation; experts and representatives of indigenous peoples.

Further information:

» [Positive future scenarios: bioeconomy and sustainable development in the Amazon region](#) (YouTube)

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Climate change adaptation and mitigation

Unlocking climate targets through NDC progress indicators



The Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA)'s recent publication 'Climate Action and Transparency under the Paris Agreement' captures the state of play on NDCs and transparency, exploring the most crucial provisions for updating NDCs, tracking their progress and the role of Long-Term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS). Moreover, the recently published paper 'NDC Progress Indicators: a guidance for practitioners' by PATPA aims to support the selection of NDC-related SMART indicators for the first round of Biennial Transparency Reports. These reports have to be submitted by all parties to the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), by December 2024 at the latest. PATPA has also updated a 'Good Practice Study on GHG-Inventories for the Waste Sector'.

Further information:

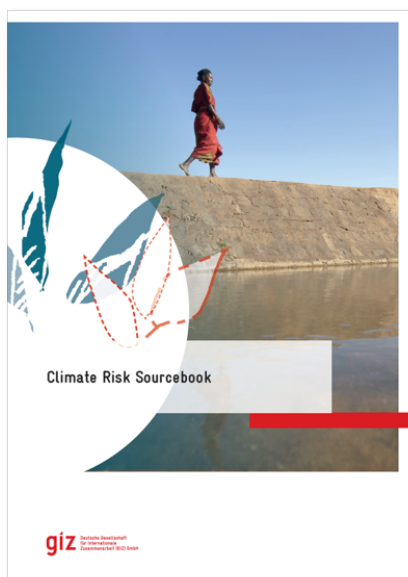
- » [NDC Progress Indicators: a guidance for practitioners](#)
- » [Link to the paper on our website: Climate Action and Transparency under the Paris Agreement](#)
- » [Updated: good practice study on GHG-Inventories for the Waste Sector](#)

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Climate risks: How can we face them? The new Climate Risk Sourcebook



Book cover: A woman walking on a dam next to a flooded area.
Photo: © GIZ/Ranak Martin

Planners and policymakers on different levels around the globe strive to tackle the question ‘How do we manage climate risks?’. To support decision-makers in finding solutions for this vital question the updated Climate Risk Sourcebook provides step-by-step guidance on how to analyse climate risks and how to develop adaptation options. Integrating the state-of-the-art scientific knowledge on climate risk assessments and following an inclusive and participative approach the sourcebook serves as a high-quality tool to conduct comprehensive climate risk assessments. All modules have been updated and new cross-cutting modules on communication and gender and vulnerable groups have been added.

Further information:

- » [Climate Risk Sourcebook – Adaptation Community](#)

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- » [Andre Nal](#)



Cool Trainings for cooling technicians – West and Central Africa

Refrigeration and air conditioning technicians can avoid or produce considerable emissions depending on the refrigerant they choose, the leakage rate and the energy efficiency of the appliances. The Ozone and Climate Friendly Cooling in West and Central Africa (ROCA) project therefore trains cooling technicians from Western and Central Africa in best practices and in the use of climate-friendly natural refrigerants. In August, 24 technicians from the informal sector were trained in Senegal. In September,



Senegal: the trainer Sokhna Fall explains the advantages of natural refrigerants to informal technicians. Photo: © GIZ/Kayfi

16 trainers attended a two-week training in Germany. In October, 11 trainers took part in a training in Cameroon.

Further information:

- » [Training for informal technicians in Senegal](#)
- » [Cool Training in Germany](#)
- » [Project description](#)

Contact:

- » [Nils Hansen](#)
- » [Kerstin Kress](#)



Cool Trainings for cooling technicians – Latin America and the Caribbean



Practicing the installation of a propane (R290) AC in Trinidad. Photo: © GIZ

Check out our latest Green Cooling video: refrigeration and air conditioning experts from Brazil and Germany explain why trainings on natural refrigerants are relevant. The interviews were conducted during a two-week Cool Training in Germany in June in the context of the Brazilian-German cooperation under the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol.

Furthermore, RAC technicians and trainers from the Caribbean participated in two Cool Trainings in Grenada and Trinidad this summer, organised by the global projects Cool Contributions fighting Climate Change II and Green Cooling Initiative III.

Further information:

- » [Video](#) (Youtube)
- » [Cool Training Grenada](#)
- » [Cool Training Trinidad](#)

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- » [Kerstin Kress](#)



Climate risk assessment to identify robust adaptation strategies in the Bolivian water sector



Climate risk assessment to identify robust adaptation strategies in the Bolivian water sector. Photo: © PROCUENCA GIZ Bolivia Archive. Santa Cruz, San Martin basin. Photographer Daniel Coimbra

Bolivia faces and will continue to face several challenges related to water and climate change, such as glacier retreat, severe droughts, and floods. In this context, the GIZ PROCUENCA programme and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Change Impact Research (PIK), present a climate risk study that aims to support the design of water policies and adaptation strategies through the provision of new evidence on climate change and future water availability in the Guadalquivir (Tarija) and Paraguá and San Martín (Santa Cruz) basins.

Further information:

» [Evaluación de riesgo climático para identificar estrategias robustas de adaptación en el sector del agua en Bolivia](#)

Contact:

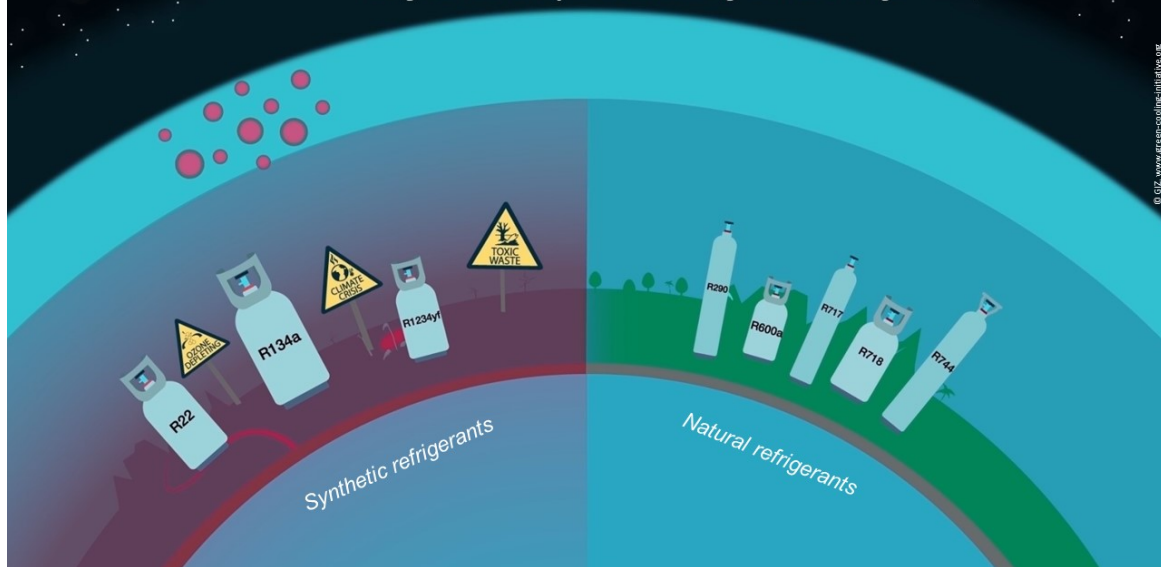
» [Andrea Salinas](#)
» [Genesis Nava](#)
» [Carlos Saavedra](#)



World Ozone Day 2023: 'Montreal Protocol: fixing the ozone layer and reducing climate change'

World Ozone Day 2023

Fixing the ozone layer and reducing climate change



On 16 September, GIZ colleagues around the globe celebrated World Ozone Day.

Without Montreal Protocol, the world potentially would have heated up by 2,5 degrees due to diminished vegetation because of the ozone hole. Today, the ozone layer recovery is on track. The Kigali Amendment of the Montreal Protocol could prevent up to 0.5°C of additional global warming by 2100 by phasing down climate-damaging HFC gases. Increasing energy efficiency could double this figure. The GIZ programme Proklima has been promoting Green Cooling since 1995 in over 40 partner countries with more than 240 projects.

Further information:

» [Information on WOD by the Ozone Secretariat](#)

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Realising COP-pledges: supporting the implementation of Kazakhstan's Carbon-Neutrality Strategy

At COP27, Mr. Smailov, Prime Minister of Kazakhstan announced the first ever national Carbon-Neutrality Strategy (CNS). The strategy was passed in the beginning of 2023. In addition to the mitigation of impacts of climate change through dedicated action in the field of renewable energies (RE) and energy efficiency, the strategy promotes climate adaptation. Currently, the IKI-funded project Capacity development for climate policy in the countries of South-East and Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia, Phase III (CDCPIII) supports the implementation of the CNS in the private sector. To this end, it provides profound pathways for the decarbonisation of emission-intensive sectors e.g. steel production and the development of RE.

Further information:

» [Factsheet GIZ CNS Kazakhstan](#) (internal link, for GIZ staff only)

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Shaping the way for climate change mitigation and adaptation in livestock systems in East Africa



Adaptation pioneers Kidane and Wilita demonstrating their innovative feed supplements in Ethiopia.
Photo: © Apollo Habtamu ILRI

The Programme for Climate-Smart Livestock Systems (PCSL) recently published three project briefs to summarise the main findings of the project. They illustrate recommendations for climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas emission reduction measures in East Africa in extensive and mixed livestock systems, e.g. improved feeding and health management. A third project brief focuses on measuring greenhouse gas emissions and tracking adaptation to climate change in Africa's livestock sector.

The PCSL (2018 – 2022) was funded by BMZ and implemented by GIZ, together with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and the World Bank.

Further information:

- » [Programme for Climate-Smart Livestock Systems](#)
- » [Climate change adaptation and mitigation in **extensive** livestock systems in East Africa](#) (PDF)
- » [Climate change adaptation and mitigation in **mixed** livestock systems in East Africa](#) (PDF)
- » [Measuring greenhouse gas emissions and **tracking** adaptation to climate change in Africa's livestock sector](#) (PDF)

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Brazil launches Taxonomy Action Plan for public consultation

The Brazilian Ministry of Finance, with technical support of the project Green Finance Market Regulation and Green Bonds (FiBraS II), launched a preliminary Action Plan for a



© Brazilian Ministry of Finance

Brazilian Sustainability Taxonomy for consultation. The taxonomy seeks to establish a robust framework for classifying environmentally and socially sustainable economic and financial activities across eight sectors. It serves to orient private and public actors on the sustainability credentials of economic activities, balancing global standardisation and local contextualisation. The final Action Plan will be published at the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP28), the technical criteria at COP29 in 2024.

Further information:

- » [Action Plan for public consultation](#)
- » [Consultation Platform Participa+Brasil](#)

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- » [Fernanda Feil](#)



Ukraine – Climate negotiations in war times

Despite the ongoing war, the Ukrainian Climate Office (UCO) strives to become a vital centre for climate action. As part of the EU/IKI project Capacities for Climate Action, implemented by GIZ, UCO finances the Ukrainian pavilion at the International Art Exhibition for the second time and provides training in the run-up to the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28). Officially opened on 20 October 2023, by EU Commissioner Sinkevičius, BMUV Minister Lemke, EU Ambassador Mathernova, and Ukrainian Minister Strilets, UCO aims to be a hub for climate education, policy advocacy, and innovation in Ukraine.



Ukrainian Climate office opening by EU Commissioner, German Federal Minister (BMUV) and Minister of Ukraine (MEPR). Photo: © GIZ/The Gate Agency

Further information:

- » [GIZ Ukraine – EU and German Government support Ukrainian](#) (Facebook)

Contact:

- » [Julia Jesson](#)



New e-learning course on human mobility in the context of climate change



Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change

How does climate change influence patterns of human mobility? How is this influencing gender and how does this connect to conflict dynamics? A new, freely available e-learning course, jointly developed by GIZ and the United Nations University, will provide learners with a profound understanding of Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change. In roughly eight hours, the course covers different types of climate-related (im-)mobility, like migration, displacement, planned relocation and trapped populations, and their implications regarding policy responses and impacts on affected people.

Further information:

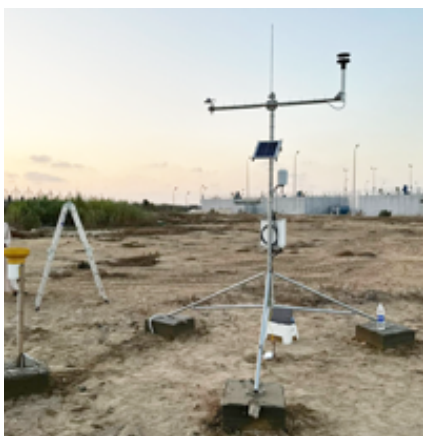
» [Access the course free of charge on the learning platform atingi](#)

Contact:

» [Jasmin Remlinger](#)



Enhancing climate-resilience of Egyptian water and wastewater operators on the Mediterranean coast



Weather station installed in Alexandria's wastewater company to improve data availability and quality on weather events. Photo: © Nile Delta Water Management Programme NDWM

Due to climate change and as a coastal city on the Egyptian Mediterranean coast, Alexandria faces increasing risks of storms and floodings, with severe repercussions for the wastewater system. Together with the Nile Delta Water Management Programme (NDWM), Alexandria's wastewater company has increased its climate change resilience through the following measures: installing weather stations that collect and store weather data; introducing an early warning system that forecasts storm events with high precision and certainty and establishing a Crisis Management Unit. In addition, NDWM has carried out capacity building on stormwater management in urban areas for personnel from ten water and wastewater companies.

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Peruvian indigenous peoples in the face of climate change

The IV National Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Platform to address Climate Change gathered 250 contributions from the 82 indigenous leaders who met to enrich Peru's position at the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP28). The contributions provide input for the formulation of the Climate Change Financing Strategy, and advocate for the active participation of women, men, youth and indigenous wise elders in both the dissemination of climate action and the promotion of effective measures for the protection of forests. Additionally, the participants were trained by the Ministry of the Environment on financing and climate negotiations.

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From Canopy to community: launching an initiative on forest landscape restoration, livelihood enhancement, and climate action in India



Mr. Bhupender Yadav, Hon. Minister of MoEFCC and Ms. Steffi Lemke, Federal Minister (BMUV), unveil the RECAP4NDC logo after the launch event.

Photo: © German General Consulate Chennai

In a momentous event along the sidelines of the G20 Summit in India (9 to 10 September 2023), a new IKI Indo-German cooperation project titled Restore, Conserve and Protect Forest and Tree Cover for NDC Implementation in India (RECAP4NDC) was launched. The event saw the presence of distinguished and esteemed officials including Ms. Steffi Lemke, Federal Minister of BMUV and other high-level officials from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India. This project focuses not only on restoring degraded and deforested landscapes but also on enhancing livelihoods of farmers and forest-dependent communities in India.

Further information:

» [Project information: Promoting forest landscape restoration, climate action and human well-being](#)

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Support the energy community's path towards mid-century climate neutrality

The Energy Community (EnC) brings together the European Union and its neighbours to create a regional energy market on the basis of the rules and principles of the EU energy market. The Energy Community region is heavily reliant on coal-generated power. Despite this challenging point of departure, EnC Contracting Parties (CPs) expressed

willingness to work together towards climate neutrality by 2050. As an intermediate milestone, they agreed to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by 60.9 percent compared to 1990 levels until 2030. To achieve these targets, CPs started to establish a comprehensive climate and energy framework, thereby contributing to achieving the obligations under the Paris Agreement.



Map of the Energy Community region.
© Energy Community Secretariat (click to enlarge)

Further information:

» [EnC Secretariat-GIZ MoU \(2019\) strengthens cooperation on supporting the region in energy and climate planning \(PDF\)](#)

» [Technical Working Group on Energy and Climate - Energy Community Homepage](#)

» [Regional GIZ programme 'Capacity Development for Climate Policy in South-eastern, Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia, Phase III \(CDCPIII\)'](#)

Contact:

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First ever regional climate change adaptation strategy for Central Asia in the making



Photo: © GIZ Green Central Asia project / Kamalova

Five Central Asian countries supported by 'Green Central Asia' (AA) and 'Integrated Land Use Management in Central Asia' (BMZ), have finalised their first-ever regional strategy on climate change adaptation. The strategy outlines a mechanism for overcoming the negative impacts of climate change and implementing adaptation measures in the region and will be presented at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai. Defined priority areas are water, energy, disaster risk reduction, ecosystems and biodiversity, health as well as agriculture and land use. It provides for the development of regularly updated Action Plans that clarify adaptation actions.

Further information:

» [Green Central Asia](#)

» [Green Central Asia on Facebook](#)

Contact:



Peruvian-German Climate Alliance: towards sustainable transport



From Peru, the Ministries of Environment, Transport and Foreign Affairs; from Germany, the BMZ and a transport expert. Photo: © GIZ/Miguel-Peter Schmitter

A year has passed since Peru and Germany, committed to fight against climate change, joined together in a Climate Alliance. A central component of this Alliance is to promote a broad dialogue on climate action at all levels. Thus, the first High Level Political Dialogue was held, with the participation of authorities from both countries. The discussion focused on urban transport, a major greenhouse gas emitter, and the importance that German cooperation continues to support this sector in Peru towards sustainability. This pivotal political event marked the initial phase in establishing a technical dialogue between the two countries.

Further information:

- » [Press release: German-Peruvian climate dialogue: Transport must become cleaner](#) (in German)
- » [Press release: Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Milestone in environmental cooperation between Peru and Germany formalised](#) (in Spanish)

Contact:

- » [Jill Velezmoro](#)



The power of multistakeholder collaboration: the Global NDC Conference 2023 in Berlin



Participants strengthened their capacity and networked around NDC processes.
Photo: © Global NDC Conference 2023, Jan Rottler

Since 2017, the Global NDC Conference has become a much-acclaimed forum of the international climate community for sharing experiences, good practices, and innovative ideas on how to make Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) more ambitious and scaled-up. From 31 May to 2 June 2023, the conference brought together nearly 350 practitioners and policymakers from over 50 countries to reaffirm commitments to global climate action. In a collective learning experience, participants discussed and shared their insights on aligning policies, mobilising finance, and raising ambition.

Further information:

- » [Global NDC Conference 2023](#) (in German)
- » [Conference's key messages and final report](#)
- » [Check out the conference's news and stories](#)

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GIZ Rwanda supports improved framework conditions for climate and green finance in Rwanda



Photo: © Ministry of Environment, Rwanda

The Government of Rwanda will showcase two major achievements at COP28: The National Taxonomy and its new programmatic approach to climate finance. Both milestones were reached with support from GIZ Rwanda to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, the Rwanda Green Fund and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: The 'Macroeconomic and Investment Policies' project supported the development of the Taxonomy, while the 'Capacity Development for the Implementation of Rwanda's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)' project advises on programmatic climate investment planning within the Rwandan Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance.

Further information:

- » [Factsheet Support for Macroeconomic and Investment Policies in Rwanda](#)
- » [Project information: Developing skills and capacities to promote the implementation of Rwanda's Nationally Determined Contribution](#)

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Inauguration of the specialised course on 'Climate action and the reference framework of national commitments to climate goals in the agricultural sector' for public officials of the Ministry of Rural Development and Land of Bolivia

Euroclima, with the support of GIZ, provides technical assistance to the Bolivian Ministry of Rural Development and Land (MDRyT) aimed at strengthening agricultural risk management and adaptation to climate change. The specialized course 'Climate Action and the Reference Framework of National Commitments for Climate Goals in the Agricultural Sector' was inaugurated on October 10, 2023. The purpose is to provide conceptual tools, climate change public policies, process frameworks, techniques and appropriate financing to reduce the vulnerability of Bolivia's agrifood systems to climate change.

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IUCN Climate Crisis Commission: membership recruitment now open

The IUCN Climate Crisis Commission (CCC) has launched its membership recruitment process. The commission plans to consolidate IUCN's climate-related policy, connect with existing efforts, build new partnerships, and leverage IUCN's convening power. Through its priorities and activities, the CCC aims to contribute to the IUCN programme 2021 – 2024, giving new impetus to meeting the challenges of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees. To apply, interested individuals can learn more about becoming an IUCN Commission member and complete their profile and application [here](#).

Further information:

- » [Becoming an IUCN Commission member](#)

» [Complete their profile and application](#)

To learn more about the Climate Crisis Commission, get acquainted with the following documents:

» [CCC's workplan for 2022 – 2025](#)

» [CCC's terms of reference](#)

» [CCC's membership guide](#)

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Sustainable forest management

Promoting gender equality for sustainable forestry development



The ten women featured in the exhibition 'Forestry through Women's Eyes' were recognised for their inspiring contributions. © GIZ/Viettravel

From 5 to 6 October 2023, in Binh Dinh, Vietnam, 160 participants of the national forum on 'Promoting Gender Equality for Sustainable Forestry Development' joined their voices in recognising and empowering women as key actors in forestry sustainable development. The Forum served as a platform for stakeholders from various sectors, including government agencies, NGOs, academia, and the private sector, to collaborate and develop strategies and generate actionable solutions on women empowerment and gender equality that could be implemented at both policy and operational levels.

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New project fosters legality and sustainability in the timber trade between China and the Congo basin



On the Congo River. Photo: © GIZ/Andreas Kalk

The new BMZ-funded project Tropical Timber Trade Facility (TTT) works against illegal timber trade in the Congo Basin. Up to 80 percent of the timber commercially logged in the region is sold to China. TTT helps bringing together the forest-rich member states of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) and Chinese partners such as the National Forestry and Grassland Administration. The partners want to agree on regulatory instruments and create incentives for legal and sustainable timber trade. TTT also supports already established legality certification schemes. In addition, the project involves potential buyers of timber and timber products in Europe in North America.

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Restoration Academy alumni at the Global Landscapes Forum in Nairobi



Eight organisations from Central America and East Africa that participated in the Restoration Academy presented their activities and best practices at the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) in Nairobi, Kenya in mid-October 2023. The focus was on opportunities and challenges for smallholder tree nurseries, and the importance of biological corridors for large-scale landscape restoration. The Restoration Academy is a GIZ workshop series that aims to connect local and national organisations with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021 to 2030) and strengthen the global #GenerationRestoration movement.

Restoration Academy alumni presented their organisations and work at the Global Landscapes Forum in Nairobi.

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Further information:

» [Visit the digital exhibition booth of the Restoration Academy: Restoration Academy](#)

Watch the recorded sessions:

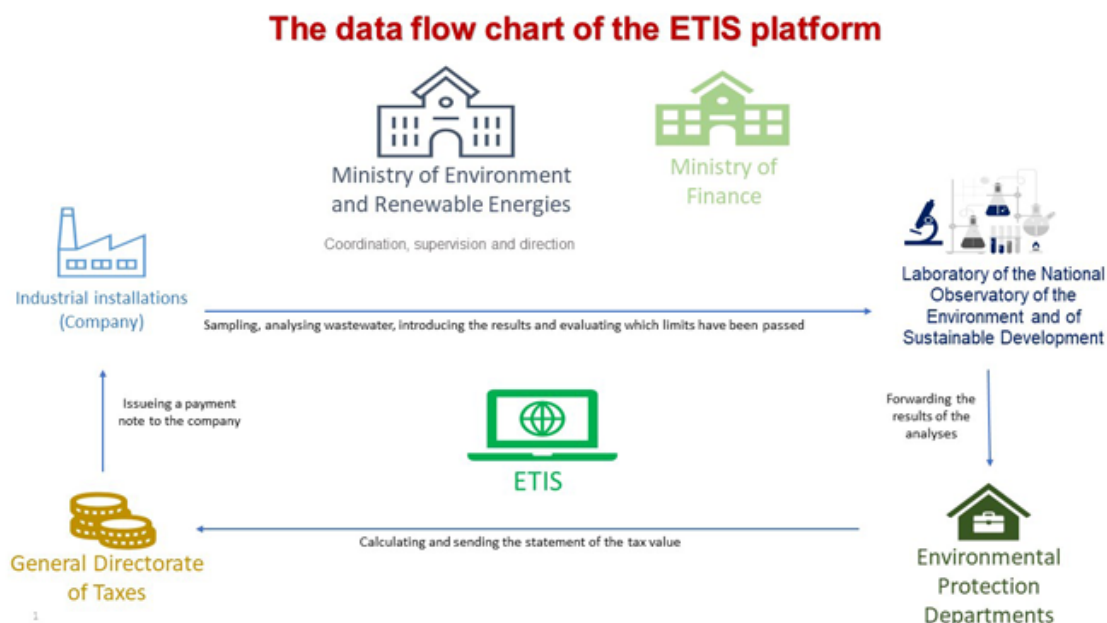
» [Connecting Central American landscapes – biological corridors for ecosystem restoration](#)

» [Restoration and deforestation-free supply chains by smallholder farmers](#)

Contact:

» [Lena Green](#)

Digital revolution in Algerian environmental taxation



Data flow diagramme of the Environmental Tax Information System in Algeria. © Sife.me.gov.dz

An innovative digital Environmental Tax Information System has been established in a cooperation project between GIZ and the Algerian Ministry of the Environment and Renewable Energies. The digital solution improves the efficiency on the monitoring and control of over 78,000 potentially polluting industrial installations. The system provides digital end-to-end tracking of data exchange and statements on environmental taxation between various governmental bodies. After the successful piloting in four administrative districts, a nationwide rollout is planned in other 58 districts.

Further information:

» [Article by GIZ Algeria on LinkedIn](#)

Contact:

» [Hachemi Boukert](#)

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