



# ACCIÓN Clima - NDC Implementation and Regional Knowledge Transfer

## Context

Costa Rica is playing an internationally respected leadership role in climate change mitigation and is involved on international platforms. This includes the NDC Partnership and the High Ambition Coalition. The country adopted its decarbonisation plan in 2019, with the aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. Costa Rica is currently developing a national Climate Empowerment Strategy (Estrategia Nacional de Empoderamiento Climático), which supports civil society's resilience to climate change. In addition, the country is continuing its adaptation policy with the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan adopted in 2022.

## Objective

Relevant actors in Costa Rica are implementing national climate targets and disseminating good approaches to climate policy, both regionally and internationally.

## Key players

ACCIÓN Clima is financed within the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). The project is implemented on behalf of the German Development Cooperation GIZ and the Climate Change Directorate (DCC) of the Costa Rican Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE). DCC is responsible for the technical-institutional implementation of the country's climate policy, including the coordination of the Decarbonization Plan and adaptation policy, the development and coordination of mitigation and adaptation activities, as well as the management of activities for the implementation of the NDC.

On behalf of	German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) within its International Climate Initiative (IKI)
Country	Costa Rica
Partners	Climate Change Directorate (DCC) of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE)
Duration	05/2021 until 04/2026
Volume	10,000,000 Euros

## Approach

The project takes up successful approaches from the previous phase and adds new strategically important topics. There are five main components:

- *Climate policy coordination and cooperation*  
The project aims to strengthen institutional capacities for integrated climate protection strategies and policies - including actors from civil society. Furthermore, it accompanies the development and, in some cases, execution of ambitious NDC implementation projects.
- *Environment and climate finance*  
Financing modalities with the private, insurance and banking sectors are developed, the recruitment of foreign direct investments for priority transformation processes promoted and green fiscal reform, climate incubators and the development of monitoring mechanisms strengthened and linked.
- *Climate protection at the local level*  
The project works on strengthening the coope-

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ration between actors from municipalities and the private sector to develop and implement climate protection measures in relevant sectors such as waste management and transport.

- *Regional NDC hub*

The peer-to-peer transfer of Costa Rica's lessons learned for NDC implementation in the region is promoted by means of an innovative knowledge platform. The partners and the project strive for close cooperation with international cooperation networks and respected knowledge and exchange platforms. In addition, the project collaborates with the Central American Integration System (SICA) on renewable energies and energy efficiency in the search for joint initiatives among member countries.

- *IKI interface Central America and the Caribbean*

The project acts as an interface for regional information and knowledge management between projects financed by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) in Central America and the Caribbean.

In the previous phase, the project developed as a "dockingpoint" for the implementation packages of various IKI global projects and climate projects of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), which ensured coordinated and informed advice and coherence for the joint partner institutions. This approach is continued in the third phase.

## Target group

The project is aimed at Costa Rica's entire population, the private and public sectors, civil society organizations, ministries, public institutions, municipalities, companies, associations, non-governmental organisations and regional institutions. As part of the regional IKI interface and the regional NDC hub, actors from Latin America, including climate secretariats and environment ministries, focal points for climate change in associations in the private sector or municipalities, or research institutions and think tanks, will be addressed.

## Expected impacts

Medium-term effects with regards to climate protection are to be expected above all from increasing mitigation capacities and increasing the ambition level of the NDC in relevant sectors. The project implements relevant measures e.g., in industry, tourism, sustainable mobility and waste and recycling management. This is aimed for particularly through the further development of personnel and institutional capacities, which ensure that technically well-founded and politically feasible climate policy decisions will be made in the future. Relevant actors are enabled to further develop national adaptation policy and to derive effective programs and actions for improved adaptation to climate change. The cooperation with the private sector will create new markets and employment prospects and make an important contribution to the ecologically and socially sustainable economic growth of the country. The role model character of Costa Rica in the region is strengthened by feeding the experiences into the international climate dialogue and is intended to motivate other countries to develop decarbonisation strategies for a transformation to a climate-friendly economy.

## Credits

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