

## IKI Alliance México Newsletter



### News from IKI projects in Mexico

A service provided by the “Mexican–German Climate Change Alliance”

#### Dear Reader:

This November, the international community came together at COP26 in Glasgow to discuss and establish a new framework for future global climate efforts. Against the backdrop of a challenging political context in many countries—marked by the ongoing pandemic—states agreed to innovative initiatives to curb global warming.

The previously agreed upon objective is to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius—a great challenge that will depend on the audacity and ambition of nation states to carry out their short- and long-term climate policies.

To this effect, the International Climate Initiative (IKI) acts as an engine of innovation. The IKI projects help to advance climate action and biodiversity conservation, providing valuable learning experiences in the process. In this issue of the newsletter, we are pleased to share with you the successes and challenges the Mexican IKI projects had in 2021. We will tell you about different success stories, learning experiences, reviews of featured events, and publications that demonstrate the impact of the IKI's work in Mexico.

The quarterly newsletter “IKI Alliance Mexico” highlights the activities and impacts of IKI projects and seeks to promote exchange and synergies between them.

Share this issue with your colleagues and counterparts and visit our blog or Twitter account! Do you have any comments? We would love to hear from you! Write to us at [iki.alliance.mexico@giz.de](mailto:iki.alliance.mexico@giz.de) or on [Twitter](#).

**We hope you enjoy this interesting read!**

## Introduction



This year has undoubtedly been a challenging one for the world economy and especially for Mexico, one of the countries most affected by the economic recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the IKI has provided additional funding so that its [projects](#) can integrate green recovery into their project activities.

Climate change is one of the main global concerns and is increasingly becoming part of civil society agendas. Young people are leading this movement around the world. Germany is an example of this: their active agenda has pushed the government to make the climate protection law more ambitious. Taking this new context into account, the IKI will promote greater youth participation going forward, and also push for a [strategy to promote gender action plans in their projects](#).

At the 26th Climate Summit (COP26), in addition to the [Glasgow Climate Pact](#), important voluntary initiatives were launched and alliances forged between major emitters such as the United States and China. Global results to be pursued include the progressive reduction of coal generated energy, the gradual reduction of fossil fuel subsidies, curbing deforestation, reduction of methane emissions and the opening of a dialogue for a new approach to green finance in the years to come.

Mexico's participation in this important summit coincided with the publication of the Special Climate Change Program ([PECC 2021-2024](#)), an important document that defines climate actions at a sectoral level. In this sense, Mexico was one of the countries that formally adhered to the declaration for the protection of forests and land use, and to the global methane commitment. Likewise, the country signed the declaration for all car and truck sales to be zero emissions by 2040.

An effective climate policy is not complete without efforts to conserve biodiversity. For this reason, at COP26 Mexico presented its [progress in the integration of biodiversity in the agricultural sector](#) and its role in achieving the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Sustainable agricultural practices were highlighted as essential, not only for species conservation, but also for food security and carbon sequestration.

Although 2021 has been a complex and challenging year, it has also set important signals for the path forward. IKI projects in Mexico remain committed, working hand in hand with our counterparts and partners for climate action and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

## Bilateral Projects

### Mexican-German Climate Change Alliance

02/2019 - 01/2023: Implemented by GIZ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)



The [Mexican-German Climate Change Alliance](#) is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit ([GIZ](#)) GmbH and seeks to assist the Mexican Government in the implementation of concrete measures to achieve the goals of the National Determined Contribution (NDC).



One of the biggest challenges in facilitating climate action is linking implementers to the required funding and increasing their capacities to promote and scale up their projects. The Alliance, along with Mexican counterparts and the Biodiversity Conservation in the Neovolcanic Axis (COBEN) project, trained nine socio-environmental enterprises who work in protected natural areas and have a positive impact on the climate. To increase their bankability, these projects received training and the opportunity to pitch their businesses to private sector investors.

The challenge of strengthening the link between climate policy, sustainable ventures and investors—a concept known as impact investment—is at the same time a great opportunity to implement the NDC goals.

Two examples of these socio-environmental ventures are mezcal production with a positive impact on the ecosystem and sustainable carpentry that enriches soils. Find out more about these nine projects in this [technical sheet](#).



Cañón del Sumidero in the Te'etik Socio-environmental Zone / High Quality Custom Wood Products | Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas

#### Read More:

- » [Low Carbon and Resilient Economies: Financial Disclosure and Climate Risk Management](#)
- » [Uncertainty as the greatest climate risk](#)
- » [The Fantastic Nine: Socio-environmental Ventures United for Adaptation to Climate Change and Biodiversity Conservation](#)

## Adaptation to Climate Change Based on Ecosystems with the Tourism Sector (ADAPTUR)

09/2017 - 12/2022: Implemented by GIZ México

The project Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change with the Tourism Sector (ADAPTUR) is implemented by GIZ in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism (SECTUR), the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) and the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC).



©ADAPTUR/Mariana Rodríguez Aguilera: Panoramic view of the restoration of soils and forests in San Miguel de Allende.

In November 2021, the GT-ADAPTUR and local counterparts visited different ejidos in the municipality of San

Miguel de Allende (Guanajuato) such as Doña Juana, Las Tinajas and El Salitre, to follow up on the climate change adaptation measures implemented under the project.

During 2020, in more than 550 hectares of semi-desert, actions were carried out to improve soil retention and moisture, restoration of gullies, elaboration of trenches and contour lines. Said activities were carried out with the participation of inhabitants of the ejidos and the support of civil society technicians.

One year after its implementation, slopes that were previously stony and not very fertile now look green with native grasslands, and the terraces retain the substrate and maintain the water. In addition, the presence of previously absent biodiversity can be observed through birdsong and traces of mammals that are coming back to the area.

Learn more about the activities in this video:



©ADAPTUR/Video: "Greening the semi-desert in San Miguel de Allende"

## Convergence of Energy Policy and Climate Change (CONECC)

09/2017 - 11/2021: Implemented by GIZ México



© CONECC / CONECC Team at the project closing event.

The project Convergence of Energy Policy and Climate Change (CONECC), implemented by GIZ, has aimed to build bridges between climate action and sustainable energy in the country. In the last four years of its implementation, the project strengthened—at federal and state levels—a set of elements to create a future of sustainable, inclusive and green energy that would contribute to the achievement of climate goals in the hands of public and private sector

actors, civil society and academia.

CONECC's achievements include the following:

- The promotion of social, environmental and economic co-benefits of renewable energy and energy efficiency together with eight states of the republic and the programming of the CO-B MX tool for their quantification.
- The creation of a Technological Innovation Hub (HUBIQ), together with the government of Querétaro and its entrepreneurial ecosystem, co-creating and designing solutions that contribute to the achievement of climate goals.

- Estimating carbon budgets associated with electricity consumption in Yucatán and Jalisco and tracing their state decarbonisation routes.
- Support to SEMARNAT in mitigation potential modeling processes that allow the achievement of Mexico's climate goals, through tools such as LEAP and the facilitation of participatory processes.

We hope that CONECC's legacy will continue and that the climate-energy relationship will continue to strengthen. We thank all the GIZ and IKI programmes and projects with whom we have worked hand in hand to achieve these results!

#### Read More:

- » [Co-benefits of the Bicentennial Photovoltaic Park in Tamaulipas](#)
- » [Innovation Ecosystems as an Impetus for the Decarbonisation of the Energy Sector](#)
- » [The ABC of Co-benefits: How Can We Communicate the Benefits of Sustainable Energy?](#)
- » [External and Innovative Cooperation in Latin America: A GIZ Perspective](#)
- » [Development and implementation of Carbon Budgets and Decarbonization Routes for climate action in the electricity sector of Jalisco and Yucatán \(2021\)](#)
- » [2nd Virtual Conversation: Co-benefits of sustainable energy: an opportunity to promote well-being and sustainable development in Mexico](#)
- » [Building bridges between climate action and sustainable energy. CONECC project closing event 2017-2021](#)

## Biodiversity and Sustainable Agrosilvopastoral Livestock Landscapes (BioPaSOS)

12/2016 - 12/2021: Implemented by CATIE - Costa Rica

The Biodiversity and Sustainable Agrosilvopastoral Livestock Landscapes ([BioPaSOS](#)) project promotes climate action and biodiversity conservation in livestock landscapes in the states of Jalisco, Chiapas and Campeche. It is implemented by the Tropical Agricultural Research and Teaching Center ([CATIE](#)), with the support of other institutions and with funding from the International Climate Initiative ([IKI](#)).



© BioPaSOS / CATIE : Producer from the state of Campeche on her cattle ranch

BioPaSOS promotes sustainable livestock production, in which the participation of women is essential. Thus, the project strengthens the capacities of women cattle ranchers by encouraging their participation in Field Schools and experience exchanges. These spaces have allowed these women a process of empowerment within their role in livestock, acquiring new knowledge about good production practices and gender equality, and participating in spaces for reflection on the challenges and opportunities of women livestock farmers.

In the first exchange, 12 women from the three states where BioPaSOS is involved participated, who later replicated the experience, benefiting 81 more women. Learn about their experiences in the following video:



# BioPaSOS

Biodiversidad y Paisajes Ganaderos Agrosilvopastoriles Sostenibles

Fomentando la ganadería sustentable por medio del fortalecimiento de capacidades: el caso de la participación de las mujeres en las Escuelas de Campo



© BioPasos / CATIE. [Participation of women in the Rural Schools of the BioPaSOS project](#)

These processes have the support of the Jalisco Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), the Chiapas Secretariat of Gender Equality (SEIGEN) and Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (SAGyP), and the Campeche Secretariat of Rural Development (SDR).

#### Read More:

- » [Book: Methodological guides for the facilitation of learning sessions in Rural Schools](#)
- » [Toolbox to Promote Sustainable Livestock Development](#)

## Preparation of an Emissions Trading System in Mexico (SiCEM)

09/2017 - 02/2023: Implemented by GIZ México



© GIZ México SiCEM Online Course

In 2021, the project Preparation for an Emissions Trading System in Mexico (SiCEM), implemented by GIZ, carried out various activities with key stakeholders in order to build capacities for the sector regulated by the Emissions Trading System (ETS). Among them are:

- **Virtual sessions: Accountability and Transparency in the framework of an ETS**, which recognised key points and lessons learned to maintain the integrity of the ETS.
- **Executive Dialogues on International Carbon Markets**, organised by the European University Institute, in cooperation with SEMARNAT, the Delegation of the European Union and GIZ Mexico.
- **Learning Network: Strengthening Capacities in the Electric Power Generation Sector**, a space for exchange between the companies belonging to the electric power generation sector on the ETS.
- **Course: Strengthening of Technical Capacities in the Elaboration of Curves of Marginal Abatement Cost** and Course on Forest Carbon Projects, developed in conjunction with the Mexico Global Compact for the analysis of tools and processes to support the ETS.

These events seek to strengthen the components of the transition phase from an ETS to its operational phase in 2022, consolidating the technical-regulatory elements for the Mexican ETS.

#### Read More:

- » [Emissions Trading System: Strengthen technical capacities of the industry in identifying marginal](#)



## Regional Projects

### Cuencas Verdes

01/2018 – 12/2023: Implemented by OroVerde Fundación de Bosque Tropical and Pronatura México A.C.

**CuencasVerdes** is implemented by Pronatura México and works on a regional scale in priority basins of Mexico, Cuba, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic. The project runs over a five-year period with the support of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety (BMU). Its objective is to promote the implementation of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) measures and innovative Governance Mechanisms through a comprehensive climate change conservation model.



© Diana Sánchez / Launch of the EbA Program for Sierra de Guadalupe State Park

An expected impact of the project is the development of use plans that incorporate EbA actions at sites of incidence. In Mexico, three EbA Programs have been developed, the most recent in the Sierra de Guadalupe State Park in the State of Mexico.

Last October, the official launch of the program was carried out with the participation of specialists and the authorities of the [State of Mexico Environment Ministry's](#) General Coordination of Ecological Conservation. This programme contributes to the development of EbA measures that allow a positive impact on this lung of the Valley of Mexico basin.

### Costas Listas — Integrating climate change in marine protected areas and coastal management of the Mesoamerican reef ecoregion.

09/2018 - 11/2022: Implemented by WWF



© Costas Listas

The **Costas Listas** project is implemented by the World Wildlife Fund (**WWF**) in coordination with international, national and local partners. Its objective is to strengthen the capacities of adaptation to climate change of local communities in the Yucatan Peninsula.

In 2021, the project completed the portfolio of climate change adaptation measures made up of actions for the conservation and restoration of ecosystems with a spatial expression, which refers to implementation sites chosen based on their potential to generate greater benefits to local communities. The portfolio was designed using technical inputs and with the participation of various stakeholders.

In 2022, field implementation will begin, including the conservation and restoration of coastal dunes and mangroves. This will be done within the framework of the Costas Listas project and with additional resources that were channeled as a result of the work carried out within the project.

One challenge has been the mobility restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, which has

limited ties with certain actors—particularly those from the local communities. In recent months, communication with the communities has been resumed and in 2022 it will be further strengthened.

## Transformative Governance: Catalysing Urban Coalitions to Drive Systemic Transformation Toward Sustainability

01/2021 - 12/2026: Implemented by United Nations University — Institute for the Environment and Human Security

Transformative Governance: Catalysing Urban Coalitions to Drive Systemic Transformation Toward Sustainability— implemented by the United Nations University’s Institute for Environment and Human Security ([UNU-EHS](#)), the World Resources Institute ([WRI](#)), the German Development Institute ([DIE](#)) and the International Institute for Environment and Development ([IIED](#))—aims to facilitate the establishment of transformative urban coalitions in five Latin American cities.



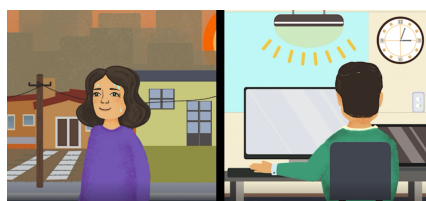
© UNU-EHS

The month of November will go down in history, due to COP26. During this meeting, the UNU-EHS, together with its implementing partners, presented the project in at least four events organised in Glasgow and Brussels, emphasising the importance of involving different actors such as artists, activists and scientists in the creation of strategies to achieve more sustainable and inclusive cities. The events were very successful because interest was shown in the project: there was active public participation (face-to-face and virtual) and the hosting spaces were at their maximum capacity.

As part of the commitments met, one of the most important is that countries must attend COP27 with updated plans on how to reduce their emissions by 2030. Considering that cities represent 75% of world emissions, the project of *Coaliciones Urbanas Transformadas* is more relevant than ever.

## Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative (GUCCI)

10/2018 - 02/2022: Implemented by Equidad de género, ciudadanía, trabajo y familia A.C



© Elda Flores Montelongo / Fragmento Video Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative

This project is implemented by the charity [Equidad de género, ciudadanía, trabajo y familia A.C](#) in the cities of Mexico and Tlaxcala. It aims to integrate the gender perspective into urban planning, climate mitigation and adaptation policies. Their work focuses on strengthening the capacity-building of public officials and citizens, as well as developing and implementing recommendations to improve the processes of design and implementation of climate

policies.

The work carried out in 2021 has made it possible to consolidate the general recommendations developed during the project for the forestry sector. Hand-in-hand with the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR), a process was started to modify the operating rules of the programme for sustainable forestry development. This has motivated other sectors to start strengthening processes to guarantee the closure of the inequality gaps between women and men in the workplace, requiring a greater demand in ambition levels for the years to come. This has been recognised by the Inter-Institutional Group on Gender and Climate Change: the results and methodologies of this project will serve as a reference in the communications from Mexico on progress on climate change and human rights.





Video Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative Public Presentation December 13  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/EquidaddeG%C3%A9neroMx>

## Selva Maya — Promotion of Biodiversity and Climate Change Monitoring

08/2016 - 12/2021: Implemented by GIZ México

After six years of generating alliances between scientists, communities and decision-makers in the tri-national region (Belize, Guatemala and southern Mexico), the project Promotion of Biodiversity and Climate Change Monitoring in the Selva Maya, funded by the BMU and part of the IKI, held its closing session on November 25.



© Jorge Uribe / GIZ

The different strategic partners and official counterparts of the project such as the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity of Mexico ([CONABIO](#)), the National Council of Protected Areas of Guatemala ([CONAP](#)) and the [Belize Forest Department](#), highlighted the processes and positive impacts that were achieved with the implementation of the regional project of GIZ.

These are some of the positive impacts achieved in the different monitoring lines implemented by the project:

- Biological and climate change monitoring
- Impact on environmental public policies
- Citizen science
- Trinational reports of water bodies in the Selva Maya
- Strengthening cross-border cooperation
- Strengthening the capacities of key actors
- Regional use of surveillance tools
- Management and monitoring of protected areas
- Common communication strategy

These achievements improved the conditions of the political and institutional framework for regional cooperation in the field of biological diversity and climate change in the Selva Maya, the second forest massif in the American continent after the Amazon.

The project, developed from 2016 to December 2021, generated different knowledge documents that account for the experience acquired with public and academic institutions and involved citizens. These tools will support political decision makers by providing clear and specific recommendations from technicians, scientists and citizens who carry out biological and climate change monitoring.

These are diverse voices of caution regarding the fragile balance of natural habitats and the unique species that inhabit the Selva Maya region. To learn more about the trinational monitoring of bodies of water and fauna associated with the Selva Maya, take a look at the following audiovisual materials:



© Selva Maya / [Monitoring of bodies of water and associated fauna in the Selva Maya](#)

You can also watch the video on the implementation and use of the monitoring and surveillance tool in protected areas (SMART) in Mexico, with regional support:



© Selva Maya / [Monitoring and surveillance of protected natural areas of the Selva Maya in Mexico through SMART](#)

GIZ continues to work in the region with the Project for Strengthening Strategic and Operational Cooperation for the Protection of the Mayan Forest under the umbrella of the Mayan Forest Programme, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).





## FELICITY. Financing Low-Carbon Infrastructure in Cities

03/2017 - 06/2022: Implemented by GIZ México



The global FELICITY programme aims to bridge the gap between financial funds and sustainable infrastructure in cities. Cities continue to position themselves and present the progress of their projects, sharing their experiences and learning from best practices.

In addition to closing the funding gap, one of the programme's success stories has been the provision of tools for cities like Naucalpan and Mexico City to become increasingly involved and position themselves in national and international forums.

This is relevant because the presence of cities in various forums is crucial to dialogue and the mobilisation of funds for sustainable projects. With this objective, this year a series of events took place between FELICITY and the cities it accompanies. We invite you to learn more in the following links and infographic:



© Pinkfish 2021

### Read More:

- » [Learn about the Challenges and Opportunities in the Development of Climate Projects at Subnational Level in Mexico](#)
- » [Climate Change Action Groups - Second Edition](#)
- » [Financing Forum for a Green and Inclusive Recovery 2021](#)

## Water and Sanitation Companies for Climate Change Mitigation (WaCCLiM)

12/2013 - 12/2022: Implemented by GIZ México

The Water and Sanitation Services Companies for Climate Change Mitigation (WaCCLiM) programme is a joint initiative between GIZ and the International Water Association (IWA),



with the aim of supporting water and sanitation companies to reduce their carbon footprint and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The relevance of water and sanitation systems to ensure health and hygiene measures has become evident during the COVID-19 pandemic. Water and sanitation services have faced financial difficulties, mainly due to the reduction in income from the payment of water tariffs, further hampering investment and technology transitions, such as the implementation of climate-smart technology within the sector.



© Bianca Corona

Facing this issue, WaCCliM provides mentoring to the water and sanitation systems in Mexico to prioritise implementing measures, in order to achieve sustainable, resilient and efficient water management.

Themes included in the technical advice range from the reduction of greenhouse gases, the identification of climate risks, low energy consumption pumps, to the production of biogas from wastewater and increasing efficiency through digitisation.

There is still a wide margin between the identification of measures and project proposals, and their implementation. Measures must be accompanied by policy advice in order to create an enabling environment that includes incentives for a transformative urban water and sanitation sector at national, sub-national and local levels of government.

#### Read More:

» [Study to identify sources of national and international climate financing for water and sanitation \(OO\) operators in Mexico](#)



## Other News and Events



### The third call for proposals by IKI Small Grants is open from 15th of December 2021 to 15th of April 2022.

In a one-stage selection procedure, small regional, national and local organisations based in an ODA-eligible country can apply for funding for local or regional climate and biodiversity projects. IKI Small Grants provides funding between EUR 60,000 and EUR 200,000.

### Coming up: Training for introduction to the use of the ECAM tool

Training will be offered to the personnel of the drinking water and sanitation utilities on the use of the Energy Performance and Carbon Emissions Assessment and Monitoring Tool (ECAM). When: February 2022



Página principal de ECAM 3.0, accesible via: [www.waccclim.org/ecam/](http://www.waccclim.org/ecam/)



### Gender into Urban Climate Change Initiative (GUCCI) Project Event

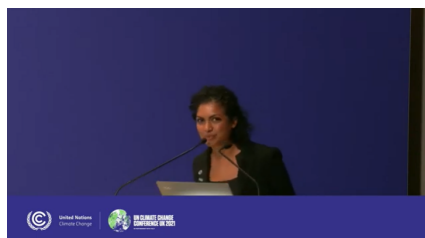
The GUCCI project held a national event to disseminate the results of the integration of the gender perspective in urban climate action in Mexico City and Tlaxcala. Find the link to the recording in the title of this note.

## BioPaSOS Project Virtual Seminar

On November 8, 10 and 12, BioPaSOS held its Virtual Seminar on Sustainable Livestock: An Option to Conserve Biodiversity, in which it shared scientific and practical evidence about sustainable livestock and biodiversity conservation.



Logo for BioPaSOS (Biodiversidad y Paisaje Ganadero Agroecosistemas Sostenibles) with logos for CATIE, AGRICULTURA, CONABIO, and IICA. Text: "Estrategias implementadas para la ejecución del proyecto BioPaSOS". Date: "Viernes 12 de noviembre 2021". Time: "A las 10:50 hrs (CDMX)". Registration link: "REGÍSTRATE AHORA https://bit.ly/GanaderiaSust".



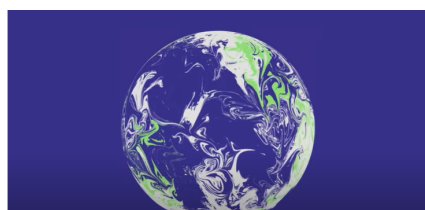
## November 9: COP26, European Union Pavilion, Brussels. "Race to Zero: Transforming Cities Through Data, Research and Art"

In this session organised with ICLEI Europe, examples were discussed of how local governments, research organisations, private companies, civil society and other stakeholders have collaborated to advance the development

of projects aimed at reducing emissions in cities. Access the recording of the event through the link in the title of this news.

## November 10: COP26 Glasgow - Blue Zone. Art and Science: The New Inspiring Couple?

At this event, the UNU-EHS, together with the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, showed how film, the arts and creative communication can better tell the story of the climate emergency, inspiring hope and action. Access the recording of the event through the link in the title of this news.



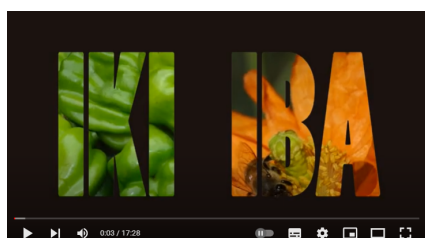
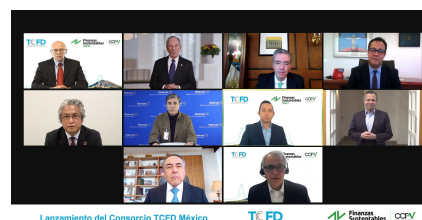
## November 11: COP26 Glasgow - Green Zone. Create New Coalitions to Win the Race to Achieve Zero Carbon by 2050

This event showed how filmmakers and activists can cooperate with scientists to inform and inspire people from different communities to commit to concrete actions to

drastically curb carbon emissions. Access the recording of the event through the link in the title of this news.

## Official launch of the TCFD Mexico Consortium

As part of the Green Finance Advisory Council (CCFV), the Mexican chapter of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) was officially launched. It seeks to promote a better integration and disclosure of financial risks related to climate change.



## IKI IBA Project: 5 years of cooperation for Sustainable Agriculture

We share this video which commemorates the achievements, work and effort of so many people who have worked for a more sustainable and just agriculture in Mexico in the framework of the IKI-IBA project.

## Other IKI Newsletters!

Subscribe to these newsletters that inform about current activities and results of IKI projects in Brazil, as well as Central America and the Caribbean. Please also visit the IKI website of [Perú](#).



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The "IKI Alliance Mexico" newsletter is administered by the "Mexico-Germany Climate Change Alliance" and reports every three months on news of climate change and biodiversity projects in Mexico financed by the International Climate Protection Initiative (IKI). Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment,



Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports this initiative on the decision taken by the German Parliament.

[/LINK]

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