

Alliances for Climate Action strengthen at COP27 and expand their presence in Asia and Africa

Phoenix (USA), Peñalolen (Chile), Monterrey (Mexico), Cape Town (South Africa), cities separated by thousands of kilometers, but united by the relentless effects of water scarcity and the urgency of implementing policies and projects to address it. Also for being part of the Alliances for Climate Action (ACA), an initiative present in ten countries, which promotes the articulation and empowerment of non-state and subnational actors to accelerate the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient societies.

The presentation of mitigation and adaptation experiences in these four cities closed an interesting day of conversation and the exchange of ideas at the ACA Day at COP27, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

The ACA Day, held at the Panda Pavilion, started with big News. First, the launch of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Climate Action Alliance, a milestone that as highlighted by Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, WWF Global Climate and Energy Lead, is the first ACA to be created in a country prior to hosting a climate change COP (COP28).

"I believe that the ACA really try to find solutions, they are incubators of the best projects in the territories, projects that keep us hopeful of not exceeding 1.5°C," he said.

The ACA UAE launch panel was attended by H.E. Essa Al Hashimi, representative of the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment; Laila Abdullatif, Director General of Emirates Nature - WWF; Gonzalo Muñoz, COP25 High Level Champion and the aforementioned Manuel Pulgar-Vidal. The event moderated by Sabrin Rahman, Managing Director and Head of Sustainability for Europe, Middle East, North Africa and Turkey at HSBC.

Other news from ACA Day was the announcement that an ACA will be established in Kenya, which will thus become the eleventh alliance.

As for the day's four events, they addressed financing for disruptive climate solutions in key sectors; growth and impact of ACA from local to global; the power of nature to combat climate change in cities and organizations; and managing water scarcity. More than twenty representatives or partners of ACA participated as panelists during ACA Day.

"This ACA Day was a really enriching day, where we were able to share different initiatives and visions within the framework of the alliances and also reinforce the idea of what we are looking for with them. Because while national governments try to reach agreements in negotiations, there are also many other voluntary agreements between non-state and subnational actors that can be implemented and financed easily, bringing climate action to the territories in a quick and effective way," said Ricardo Bosshard, director of WWF Chile and Global Leader of Alliances for Climate Action (ACA).

ACA is a network of national alliances globally coordinated by WWF. ACA is currently active in ten countries: United Arab Emirates, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Japan, Mexico, South Africa, Vietnam and the America Is All In alliance in the United States.