

ACA: experiences of climate action from the territories

The climate crisis requires efforts and commitments from all sectors. National governments, which must establish incentives and conduct policies for a transition to low-carbon economies, are essential, but the participation of local governments, the private sector and civil society as a whole is also needed.

This is why the Climate Action Partnerships (CPAs), a global WWF initiative that seeks to connect diverse subnational and non-state actors to accelerate and drive climate action aimed at limiting global temperature rise to below 1.5°C, have emerged.

These coalitions include subnational leaders from diverse sectors of society, such as state, local and regional governments; companies, investors and businesses; civil society; academic and cultural institutions; tribal organizations and faith communities; and health institutions.

ACAs promote the articulation and empowerment of key actors at the local level, with the aim of accelerating the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient societies.

On this path, several initiatives and experiences are part of ACAs, such as Vulcan Energy Resources, which works towards a carbon-free future through the integrated supply of renewable energy and carbon-neutral lithium. From the Upper Rhine Valley, Europe's largest source of lithium, the company seeks to become Europe's leading Zero Carbon Lithium™ company and enable energy security through geothermal energy.

Another example is telecommunications company Vodacom, which highlights the role of technology and connectivity in promoting equality, which can help create sustainable and inclusive value in Africa.

From communications and education, the campaign "Let's ACT. For a Stronger Cape Town", was created in 2021 and is a corporate communications tool to enable and support residents, communities, businesses and organizations to take action for a stronger, healthier and more resilient Cape Town for all. The campaign is being implemented in phases, and is currently focused on reinforcing energy, water and waste efficient behaviors, and raising awareness of how this contributes to a more resilient city.

Also in the line of education, with a focus on children and the urban forest, the Municipality of Independencia, in Chile, created the Center for Environmental Practices (CPA), a space open to the community where they teach about circular economy, waste management, urban gardens, composting and others. In addition, it began planting an Urban Forest, which seeks to provide a green space for the community. From this, Itrend created an educational resource in Learn Resilience, to make it known to students across the country.

Meanwhile, the Alliance for Climate Action Argentina (AACAA) has developed a synergy model between the Argentine Chamber of Renewable Energies (CADER), Cervecería y Maltería Quilmes (part of the AB InBev group) and Fundación Vida Silvestre. This focuses on the energy efficiency axis, understanding that acting on it is an opportunity for the value chain of Cervecería Quilmes and that it materializes the fact of leading by example, with regard to the founding objectives of AACAA to actively contribute to the fulfillment of the Paris Agreement, as well as to support the Argentine NDC.

On the Nature-Based Solutions side, the city of Saltillo in northeastern Mexico is leading the way towards sustainable urban planning through the City Lab project. In a first phase, it considered an integrated urban analysis, stakeholder participation and the co-creation of a solutions roadmap by local experts and actors to address the city's urban challenges. The City Lab process allowed the identified actions to be anchored in Saltillo's planning documents, ensuring the long-term implementation of the roadmap.

This falls within the framework of the Morgenstadt Global Smart Cities Initiative (MGI), funded by the German government through the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

Within the framework of ACA South Africa, another interesting initiative is the one that explores all the applications of algae, which aims to create a new industry for the South African economy to contribute positively to the global fight against climate change.

Another Chilean experience is the recycling system for cardboard, glass, aluminum cans and PET of the ENAC Technical Training Center, implemented since 2022. This system was developed with the entire educational community, teachers, staff

and students. In addition, waste management is carried out with a base recycler to generate a positive social impact. An average of 200 kg of waste is recycled, equivalent to 7% of total waste. The goals set committed CFT ENAC to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and to begin measuring its Institutional Carbon Footprint.