



INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME An initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's European Development Fund

MEDIA BRIEF:

The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States have met to assess the outcomes of COP 24 and discuss the way forward on implementation.

Brussels, Belgium, 14 March 2019

On 5th and 6th March 2019 the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States organized a Special Meeting of the Sub-committee on Sustainable Development on COP24 Outcomes and Roadmap to COP25 to discuss follow-up actions to COP24, focusing on key issues for the ACP Group of States, including specificities for Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries and Land-locked Countries.

The objectives of this Special Meeting were (i) to explore ways and means to support ACP Countries in the updates of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) expected for 2020, (ii) to organize an event during the United Nations General Secretary's Climate Summit and the 74th General Assembly Debate in September 2019 and (iii) to identify other potential international and regional opportunities of relevance for the ACP Group to collaborate, leading up to COP25 in Chile.

Participants included representatives of ACP Countries in Brussels, regional partner organizations, European Commission, climate negotiators, South Centre, United Nations, other institutions, international organizations and civil society organizations.

The Special Meeting was very successful and well attended.

The following needs were identified by the meeting:

- More support on NDCs review, update and implementation;
- ACP Secretariat to play a bigger and efficient role as a hub serving and supporting the climate negotiating groups;
- Support to the AOSIS Group (Alliance of Small Island States)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

About the ACP

The **African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP)** is an organisation created by the Georgetown Agreement in 1975. All 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific Member States, except Cuba, are signatories to the Cotonou Agreement, also known as the “ACP-EC Partnership Agreement”, which binds them to the European Union. Of the 79 states, 48 are from sub-Saharan Africa, 16 from the Caribbean, and 15 from the Pacific.

The ACP Group’s main objectives are:

- Sustainable development of its Member-States and their gradual integration into the global economy, being poverty reduction a priority. This requires a new, fairer, and more equitable world order;
- Coordination of ACP Group activities to facilitate ACP-EC Partnership Agreements;
- Consolidation of unity and solidarity among ACP States, as well as mutual understanding between their peoples;
- Establishment and consolidation of peace and stability in a free and democratic society.

About the GCCA+ initiative

The **Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+)** is a European Union flagship initiative, which helps the world’s most vulnerable countries to address climate change. Having started with just four pilot projects in 2008, it has become a major climate initiative funding over 70 projects of national, regional, and global scope in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific. This EU initiative helps mainly Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) increase their resilience to climate change.

The GCCA+ also supports these group of countries to implement commitments from the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change (COP21). This is in line with the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the new *European Consensus on Development*.

About the Intra-ACP GCCA+ Programme

It is an **Intra-ACP Group of States Programme** that supports ACP countries’ efforts to address climate change, helping them to better tackle climate change as a challenge to their development. It is funded by the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), in the context of the wider Global Climate Change Alliance+ (GCCA+) flagship programme and it is managed by the ACP Secretariat in Brussels.

The Programme’s **overall objective** is to increase the resilience of ACP regions and countries to climate change and achieve the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular the Goal 13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”, in order to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable development. Its **specific objective** is to strengthen the capacities of ACP regions and countries to undertake regional and national adaptation and mitigation actions in response to the challenges caused by the impacts of climate change.

Further information, reference documents and reports are downloadable at:

www.intraacpgccaplus.org/knowledge-management-platform

- An analysis of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the ACP Group of States
- 10 stories of technical assistance from the Programme Intra-ACP GCCA
- Building Resilience to Climate Change in ACP countries
- ACP Issues paper for the COP24 Katowice Climate Change Conference