

# Ecuador reduced carbon emissions

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Energy is responsible for the majority of climate change-causing greenhouse gas emissions, mostly from the burning of fossil fuels. Despite efforts to reduce these emissions, the trajectory of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions globally remains far higher than what is needed to avoid the worst effects of climate change.

Note that numbers shown below refer to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion in the energy sector. They do not include other important sources of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions such as methane leaks from oil and gas operations, which are more difficult to measure. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Energy Data Explorer has more complete estimates for most countries and regions.

Per-capita energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions tend to be higher in more economically-developed countries, but can also vary greatly depending on the structure of the economy and the energy system. For example, per-capita emissions will be higher in countries that rely more on carbon-intensive modes of transportation (like driving and flying), have a higher share of energy-intensive industries (like steel or chemicals) or depend heavily on fossil fuels for power generation.

The vast majority of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the energy sector come from the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas for power generation or to fuel vehicles and machines.

The sectoral breakdown of energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions depends on the structure of the economy and the energy system. Power plants generate emissions by burning fuels to generate electricity and heat. In transport, the vast majority of emissions in most countries come from cars, which despite the rapid growth of EVs are still overwhelmingly reliant on oil-based fuels. Fossil fuel heating is the predominant source of residential emissions in most countries.

In industry, emissions come primarily from burning fossil fuels to produce heat for industrial processes such as making paper or steel. Note that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions generated directly by certain processes, like cement making, are not included here, and can be substantial.

Ecuador is the second country to access Results Based Payment under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) pilot programme. The first country was Brazil. Photo: Sergio Garrido

07 July 2019, Panama City, Panama -Ecuador just became the second country to receive financial resources from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for having successfully reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from deforestation in the past. Ecuador registers a historic reduction of its deforestation rate: 48.6% during the last two decades.

The decision praised Ecuador's efforts and commitment to implement environmental initiatives and policies

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for forest conservation and promotion of the sustainable use of biodiversity. The country went from annual net deforestation of 92,742 hectares in the period 1990-2000, to 47,497 hectares in the period 2008-2014.

With the approval of the four new projects, UNDP has supported a total of 23 countries to access more than \$785.7 million in GCF finance for full-sized climate change projects.

Climate change is a priority for UNDP. The organization is the largest implementer of climate action in the UN System, supporting over 700 projects, in 140 countries of a total value exceeding US\$ 3 billion. In addition to UNDP's own resources, this grant support is delivered in partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) administered trust funds and the Adaptation Fund, as well as other multilateral, bilateral and national partners.

About REDD+[1]: the UNFCCC COP 19, held in November 2013 in Warsaw, Poland, adopted the 7 decisions of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+. This agreement has widely been recognized as a breakthrough in negotiations providing clarity on several important issues related to REDD+ implementation. The Warsaw Framework for REDD+ builds upon earlier decisions adopted by the COP, and basically:

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Web: <https://www.hollanddutchtours.nl/contact-us/>

Email: [energystorage2000@gmail.com](mailto:energystorage2000@gmail.com)

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

