

2020



OUR
ANNUAL
Report



LowCarbonCity

Content

Introduction	3
Our strategy	4
Our Impact	5
● We create solutions	
○ Collaborative Families	6
○ Humanitarian help Chocó	6
○ Resilience Kit	7
○ Children dreaming their city	7
○ Innovation award	8
○ Citizen award	9
● We educate	
- Education: Events	
○ Congress economy and risk of climate change	10
○ Climate finance	11
○ Green universities	11
○ Climate talks	12
○ Let's talk about our digital footprint carbono digital	12
○ V Low Carbon City World Forum	13
○ Book club	13
○ Webinars, workshops and more	14
○ Courses	15
- Education: public communication	
○ 30 day for the climate	16
○ Photography exhibition "Show the change"	16
○ Climate heroes	17
● We mediate knowledge	
○ Advocacy	17
○ Publications	18
Testimonials	19
Prencs	20
Compensations	22

Introduction

We have completed 5 years building collective solutions to tackle climate change in the most challenging year in the recent history of humanity. We learned about resilience, we made our first humanitarian aid actions, we adapted our work to virtuality and we explored other alternatives to reach our communities. Many times we felt vulnerable, but with the confidence that we are part of an evolutionary process in which more than ever we have the opportunity to promote change and regenerate our common home.

Through a collaborative effort with the public and private sectors, civil society, and academia, we have mobilized more than 90,000 people, around resilient and low carbon cities, in more than 120 cities. During 2020, we focused our efforts to put on the public agenda topics such as regenerative development, declarations of climate emergency, natural capital, climate finance, the economy, the risks and opportunities of climate change, green universities, and the digital footprint.

We also consolidated our Low Carbon City World Forum whose fifth version was carried out digitally,

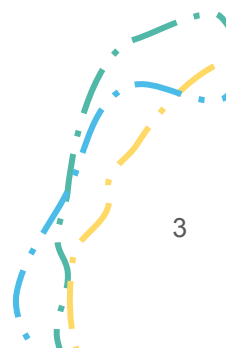
where all sectors meet to talk about regenerative development, green and resilient recovery, planetary health, circular economy, the role of children in climate action and frontier technology, among others.

We developed tools for teaching climate change and empowering children to be creators of solutions, with some one-on-one mentoring in places where there is no internet connectivity, which we hope to continue expanding.

We present below a compilation of the more than 40 activities carried out during 2020, where we educated and raised awareness about climate change, promoted opportunities to change our behaviors, connected citizens and experts to collaborate and created collective solutions together with communities the, public, private sector and academia.

It is a year of gratitude for all those who have accompanied, supported and encouraged us to continue on this path.

Low Carbon City team



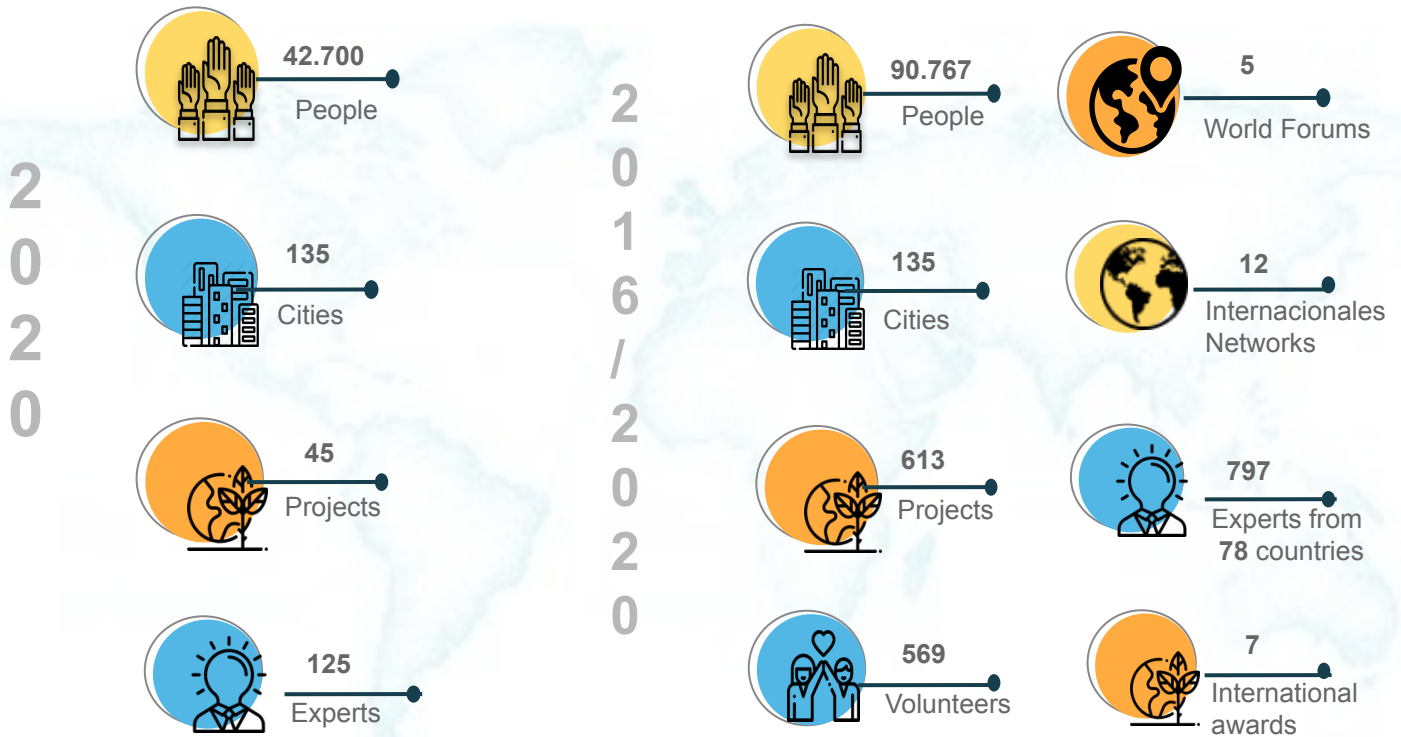
Our Strategy

We are an organization with global and local impact that works for the collective construction of solutions to tackle climate change, creating value in organizations and in society and generating systemic changes around the SDGs, with an emphasis on addressing change climate.



- We educate to generate behavioral changes and bring citizens closer together to solutions in a multi-generational and multi-stakeholder environment.
- We connect experts and citizens and all stakeholders.
- We create solutions together with communities, companies, governments, universities and the media.
- We generate collective knowledge, and mediate it to make it accessible to all.

Our Impact



New networks



We joined the Global Carbon Removal Task Force that will formally transition to the Global Carbon Removal Partnership at COP26 in Glasgow in 2021, which will convene and catalyze stakeholders from around the world to make political commitments, align priorities strategies, strengthen capacities and foster innovation to remove and store carbon.

We are one of the founding members of Count Us In, a community that seeks over the next decade to mobilize one billion people to take practical action to reduce emissions and challenge leaders to act boldly to bring about change in global systems.



Collaborative Families

Our heart is in Moravia neighbourhood in Medellin and together with the community we have developed various projects and solutions for sustainability since 2017. They have been our teachers and have supported us unconditionally. Therefore, when the pandemic struck, we built a chain of solidarity and resilience to accompany the most affected families during lockdown. This allowed:

- Connect supporter families with beneficiary families and create bonds of solidarity.
- Improve food security and resilience of families during lockdown.
- Avoid exposure to the virus, and decrease the risk of contagion.



75 Families supported



210 People



[Testimonies](#)

¡THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT CONTRIBUTED!



Supporting Humanitarian aid

#ElChocóTeNecesita

DONA DINERO
• Compraremos utensilios y alimentos a proveedores locales, con el fin de ayudar la economía del Chocó y entregar de manera más eficiente las ayudas.

O EN ESPECIE:
TAPABOCAS QUIRURGICOS Y GUANTES DE MANEJO
• Son requeridos en 15 Centros de Salud del departamento.

CONSIGNA EN:
Cuenta Ahorros Bancolombia
No. 201-457051-86 a nombre de
Movimiento Ambientalista Colombiano
NIT: 900865552-0

RECOLECCIÓN HASTA:
Viernes 20 de Noviembre de 2020
PUNTO DE ACOPIO:
Carrera. 14A No. 112 - 79, Usaquén, Bogotá.
WWW.MOVIMIENTOAMBIENTALISTACOLOMBIANO.ORG

Organizan:

We joined the Colombian environmental movement, Clima Lab and the Chocó chapter of the Red Cross to promote a funds and items donation campaign to 15 municipalities in Chocó, one of the areas most affected by the effects of climate change during the year.



9 Tons of humanitarian aid delivered



[Video](#)



Resiliencia Kit

As with the climate change crisis, COVID-19 requires a collective response at the individual, family, community, municipal, regional, national and international level. Because of this, our physical and mental health is at risk, but also our ability to respond and adapt. That is the reason why we created in alliance with Talento Verde and the Psychiatrist Alejandra Gutierrez, a small "kit" with some tools to facilitate adaptation to the current situation, contributing to the well-being of ourselves and our families, to maintain physical and mental health and especially, to increase our resilience capacity in the face of the crisis.



[Download here](#)



Children Dream their city



27 families



57 Children

Within the framework of our One Thousand Children, One Thousand Solutions program, we created tools for Moravian children belonging to the "guardians of the hill" local collective and their families, to learn about climate change and develop actions aimed at building a more sustainable neighborhood. We delivered a school supplies kit and educational worksheets of activities at home, accompanied by guidance socially distance workshops and door-to-door mentoring to guarantee safety. Likewise, we supported the children's families with vegan staples.

This project was made possible thanks to the support of the Pollination Project, Puntos Verdes Lito, and community leaders.



Social Innovation award

The second version of the Social Innovation Award, sought to design an experience of participation and promotion of sustainability among the collaborators and volunteers of Grupo Argos and its subsidiaries, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of being an agent of change in their cities, transmitting their knowledge and to foster proactive habits towards being part of the solution. The award included national and international juries that supported the process representatives from Ciudad Emergente de Chile, PCDN Network from the United States, Impact Hub and Tierra Grata Colombia.

The winners were:

CO-PRO-FUTURO:

Professional co-processing with a vision of the future. Develop an innovative and sustainable solution for social inclusion that integrates communities into the value chain through the responsible management of cement waste. From Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Powerful fabrics: "Today the street is harder than ever and particularly for sex workers. " Through powerful fabrics and new futures, they seek new alternatives and paths for sex workers who have suffered the worst consequences of the pandemic.

Impacto Vital: Design and implementation of a raw water treatment system in the town of Las Piedras Municipality of Toluviejo - Department of Sucre, in Colombia.



16 Proposals



85 Participants in trainings and **65** participants in the presented projects.

Within the framework of the award, a kit "Agents of change for transformation" was created. This kit addressed the current crisis from the perspective of social inclusion and resilience, public education and mental health. It provided tools meant for a non-specialized audience, to learn about the management of social and non-profit innovation projects, systems change, and monitoring and evaluation of social impact indicators.



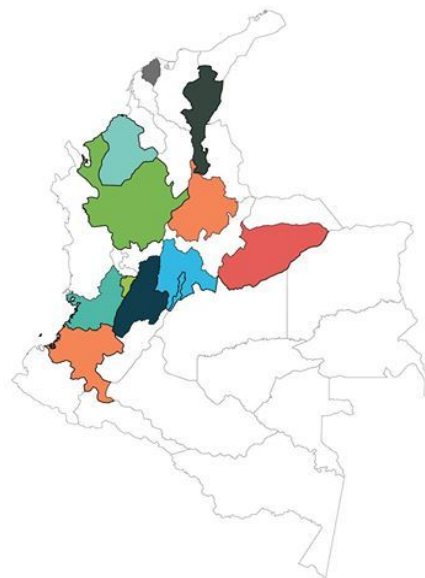
Citizen award

We believe that citizens can, together with their leaders, propose a more sustainable future, building more resilient communities throughout the Colombian territory.

For this reason, and with the purpose of promoting citizen participation in the formulation of development plans in municipalities of Colombia in matters related to mitigation and adaptation to climate change, we launched the citizen award “What is your Plan ?”.

People, academia, groups and non-profit organizations from 20 municipalities in 11 departments of the country had the opportunity to participate in this award,

with projects or project pilots that contribute to solving a problem associated with mitigation or adaptation for climate in your municipality.



Colective Tierra y Deditos Verdes
Medellín, Antioquia

1st

The citizen recovery of public space to turn it into a space that generates food, reflection and community training for adaptation to climate change.

Project ADAPTO
Yumbo, Valle del Cauca

2nd

This project aims to create growth conditions and transfer informal strategies for adaptation to climate change in small and medium-sized cities for their integration into public policies.

Cooperative Ser Capaz
Copacabana, Antioquia

3rd

This initiative promotes the use of organic waste from the Copacabana market place by implementing vermiculture practices, thus reducing the amount of waste in landfills.

Finalists:

Popayán, Cali, Yumbo, Montería, San Carlos, Valledupar, Copacabana, Bogotá, Medellín.

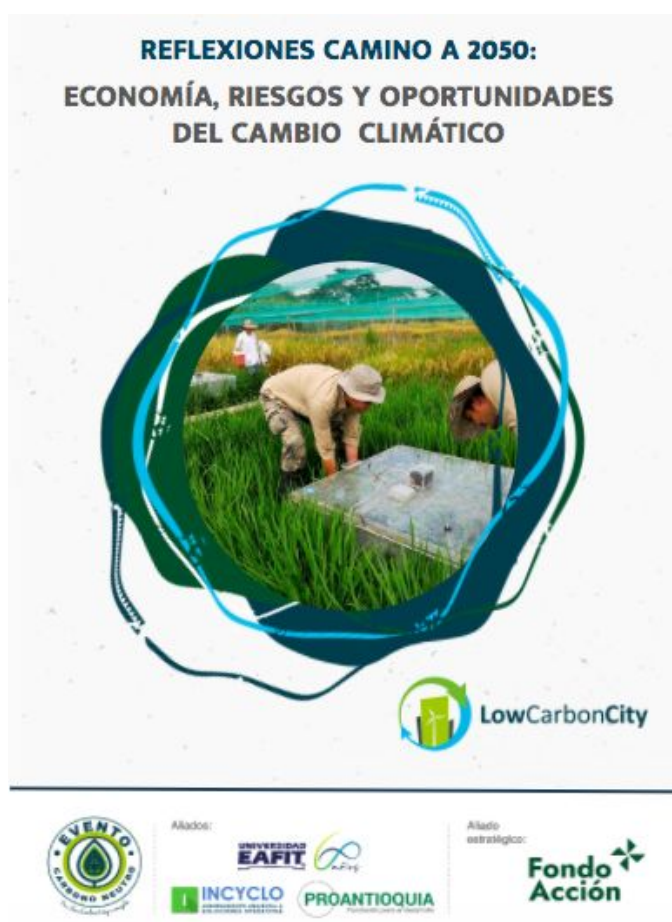


[More info](#)



Economics, Risks and Opportunities of Climate Change Congress.

With the aim of making visible the effects, risks and opportunities that the climate crisis, and green transition can have on different productive sectors; in addition to the long-term research agenda on the Study of Economic Impacts of Climate Change for Colombia (EIECC) coordinated by the National Planning Department, we organized this event. In this virtual space we brought together experts from public and private organizations such as Sura, Fondo Acción, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Transforma, PRI, the National Planning Department, among others.



1200 participants



80 cities



[Download report](#)



[View video](#)

"We learned a lot, we learned about the climate change, the risks and opportunities that exist within the health emergency, and the best thing we learnt was people who think that everything has a solution, people who see opportunities where others do not see them, the dreamy people who seek a better world, people who give feedback to their communities to implement what they have learned, people who think that quitting is more dangerous for everyone."

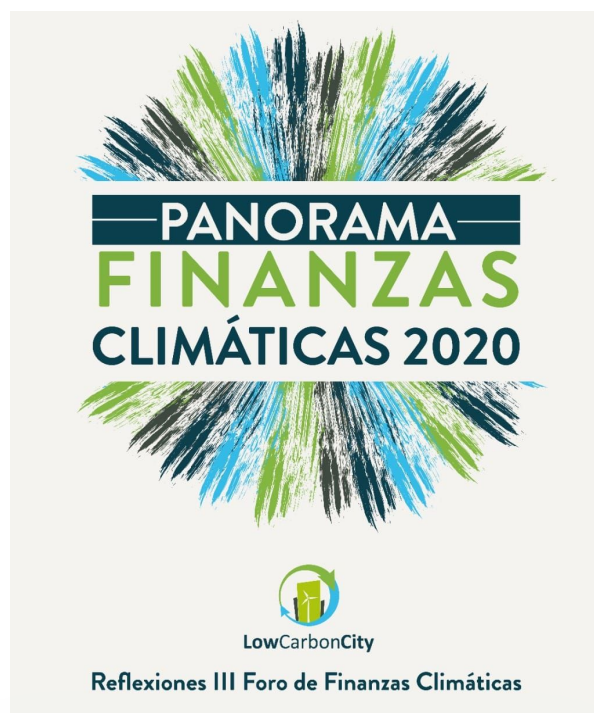
Testimony by Ana Clarisa Ruiz,
Participant



III Climate Finance Forum

On May 21st, we held the III National Forum on Climate Finance, with the purpose of publicizing the different tools and mechanisms available for climate finance, as well as the actors currently leading the issue in Colombia.

The Forum was a virtual, free and open space that brought together experts from private organizations and national and international government entities such as the National Planning Department, Climate Bonds Initiative, UNEP, EcoRegistry, British Embassy in Colombia, Grupo ISA, the Swiss Embassy in Colombia, Fondo Acción, Verra, Atmosphere Alternative, and Hill Consulting; around issues such as the voluntary carbon market, green bonds, public policy on climate finance, among others.



922 participants



12 experts



[Watch event](#)



[Download report](#)



III Green Universities Forum

On October 8th, we held the third edition of the Green Universities forum, that revolved around "Education for Sustainable Development by 2030" in partnership with EAFIT and EAN University. The event counted with the participation of the UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC), showcasing five transformative experiences of education in sustainable development.



612 participants



[Watch event](#)

Climate conversations

Climate Conversations is a format that aims to promote a national, regional and local dialogue around the climate crisis and climate emergency declarations. Its objective is to promote spaces for convergence, cooperation and alignment of agendas, around solutions that allow accelerating climate action in the territories. These events were organized by Low Carbon City with the support of ICLEI-South America / ICLEI - Colombia and Territorios Sostenibles. The first, held on June 24th, revolved around the declarations of climate emergency at the local, regional and national levels in Colombia; the second, held on July 29th, presented the current landscape of biodiversity and natural capital in the context of the climate emergency, and showed examples of how natural capital can catalyze innovative solutions at the service of sustainable and regenerative development.



[View Conversation #1](#)



[View conversation # 2](#)

"A very complete forum. A wide variety of views and experiences from all panelists. Valuable messages to be converted into actions and be part of the transformation towards sustainability. Thank you".

Mali Marin

Let's talk about our digital footprint

Due to the crisis caused by the pandemic, the use of the internet and other digital tools has increased and, with it, its environmental impact. In order to share best practices for the use of these medias and recommendations on how to reduce the digital carbon footprint, Low Carbon City organized this forum in partnership with EcoGox. The event also launched the Low Carbon City publication on the Internet's Carbon Footprint.



[Watch event](#)



5th Low Carbon City World Forum

After the previous editions, organized respectively in Colombia, Mexico, Paris and Costa Rica, the fifth Low Carbon City World Forum took place between September 22nd and 25th 2020.

The forum was held virtually and we brought together experts from around the world on topics such as regenerative development, frontier technologies, circular economy, slow cities, and planetary health, among others. This with the purpose of promoting climate action by citizens, academia, the public and private sectors, and by showcasing different initiatives and solutions that seek to promote the mitigation and adaptation of their territories to climate change.

SPEAKERS 5th Low Carbon City WORLD FORUM MEDALLIN 2020

<p>Kotchakorn Voraakhom Fundadora Porous City Thailandia</p>	<p>Julia Kumari Fundadora I See Change USA</p>	<p>Heather Hochrein Fundadora EV Match USA</p>
<p>Jesús Cepeda Fundador OS City México</p>	<p>Olga Bocarejo Fundadora Banca AIR Colombia</p>	<p>Gator Halpern Fundador Coral Vita Bahamas</p>
<p>Jenifer Colpas Fundadora Tierra Grata Colombia</p>	<p>Eduardo Muñoz CEO EV Share Argentina</p>	<p>Arturo Hernandez Fundador Los Supercivicos México</p>



3456 participants



52 experts from 20 countries



[Watch event](#)



[Read report](#)



Book Club

Club de Lectura

Eduardo Atehortúa habla sobre el libro "Green Swans: The Coming Boom In Regenerative Capitalism"

Federico Botero habla sobre el libro "A Finer Future: Creating an Economy in Service to Life"

During the time we spent in confinement, many of us had the opportunity to reconnect with reading. At Low Carbon City, we wanted to promote the reading habit, focused on sustainability issues.

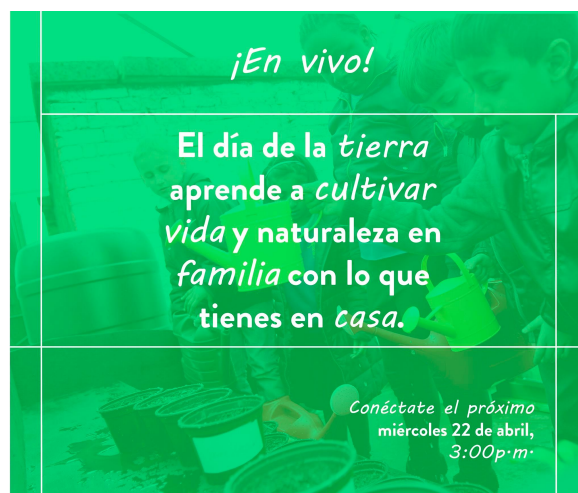
We spoke with Federico Botero, CEO of Ecoral, about "A Finer Future" written by Hunter Lovins, and with Eduardo Atehortúa, PRI Representative for Latin America, about "Green Swans", written by John Elkington.

Webinars, Workshops and more

To keep our community connected with interesting and innovative topics, we continued creating learning spaces for all audiences. Likewise, we linked to spaces organized by allies and friends in our network, to exchange experiences.


Some of them were:

- Learn to cultivate life and nature as a family with what you have at home in alliance with La Savia and environmental awareness. April 22.
- Local and Territorial Plans for Climate Change in Chile and Colombia: Formulation and learning in alliance with Adapt Chile. August 21.
- Resilient cities and climate financing with Fundación Avina and Helvetas, Bolivia. 26 of August.
- Climate Change: Challenges and challenges in Latin America with Participa.Pe from Peru on August 27.
- Climate finance for the Mexican Institute of Finance Executives in its University chapter, EBC Mérida Local Board of Directors and UADY Faculty of Economics, in Mexico. August 5.
- Workshop prototyping the post-covid city aimed at young university students in alliance with the Technical University of Berlin. September November.
- Let's talk for the planet organized by the Government of Antioquia within the framework of the Climate Emergency Declaration.




Courses

We designed and carried out three Climate Finance Courses. One with the Manizales Autonomous University and Corpocaldas for officials of the Regional Climate Change Node, another with Eafit University, and one independently for private sector actors.

 77 participants

We developed a Course on Climate Change for public servants in the Andean, Amazon and Orinoquía, Caribbean and Pacific regions, in alliance with the Climate Reality project, the Procuraduría of Colombia (equivalent of the Attorney general's office) , the Ministry of Environment, the Climate Group, Fondo Acción, OpEPA, GIZ and the National department for planning. Our module was focused on communication, governance and community empowerment for addressing climate change.

 855 participants

We designed the Food Safety and Climate Change Course in partnership with the CES University that will be open to the public in 2021.



LowCarbonCity
CURSO
INTRODUCCIÓN AL FINANCIAMIENTO CLIMÁTICO Y SUS TENDENCIAS
23 DE OCTUBRE AL 14 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2020
24 horas — Modalidad virtual

Introducción y acceso a fuentes internacionales
Definiciones y Contexto // Arquitectura internacional del financiamiento climático // Fondo Verde del Clima

Instrumentos económicos
 Mercados voluntario de carbono // Mercados regulado de carbono // Impuesto al carbono // Biodiversity offsets // Certificados de energía

Instrumentos financieros
Bonos Verdes // Seguros climáticos // Inversiones// Productos verdes de la banca

Evaluación financiera de proyectos verdes
Principales elementos para la evaluación financiera de proyectos verdes // Herramientas y metodologías para la modelación financiera de proyectos verdes

Más información e inscripciones en lowcarbon.city/portfolio/financiamiento-climatico/

Encuétranos en: 

Más información: info@lowcarbon.city



Curso internacional

Cambio climático y seguridad alimentaria y nutricional

Inicia: 16 de octubre de 2020

Inversión: 500.000 COP / 145 USD

Metodología: Curso online, sincrónico
Duración: 30 horas

LowCarbonCity **UNIVERSIDAD CES**
Un compromiso con la excelencia

Más Información: kquiroz@ces.edu.co | cesneutral@ces.edu.co

#30Days4theClimate



"I am an activist for climate change, I develop projects to reduce Solid Urban Waste, I give talks on responsible consumption, workshops to reduce the use of polluting materials through the substitution of more environmentally friendly alternatives."

Karen Palacio, Victoria de Durango, Mexico


"I recycle as much as I can, compost food waste, use energy-efficient appliances, drive an electric vehicle, and constantly look for ways to reduce my footprint."

Ethan Urie, Rochester

For the third time we carried out the behaviour change campaign #30days4theClimate, with two new partners OpEPA and WWF Colombia in addition to Climate Reality, Ciudad Emergente and Dear Tomorrow.

"I reduced my food waste, I became a vegetarian 7 years ago, I try to always buy organic, I only buy for responsible businesses, I only buy local clothes and only buy them when necessary, I just started a business to communicate the climate crisis, I left to buy plastic for good, I have a bottle where I put soft plastic, I watch documentaries and share them with my family and friends."

Valentina Alvarez, Medellin

 228 Pledgers

Photography Exhibition

The exhibition in alliance with the EPM Library is a compilation of pictures from different parts of the world, where professional and amateur photographers had a platform to showcase the visible effects of climate change in the daily lives of people from across the world.



#HéroesClimáticos



Advocacy

We participated in the group of experts that reviewed the update of Colombia's NDC at the invitation of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. Likewise, we helped spread the public consultation process with our stakeholders.

We had the opportunity to lead the Technical Table on Climate Crisis, with the purpose of generating inputs for Medellín's Development Plan regarding Climate Change components. This exercise resulted in a publication that was delivered to the city's environment secretary.

We also participated and generated citizen and technical comments during the drafting of the Medellín Climate Change Plan during the year, advocating for increased citizen participation.

We created the reel video series **#HéroesClimáticos** to promote and showcase actors with initiatives working to address climate change from different perspectives. In the first episode we invited [Marcela Fernández](#), co-founder of Cumbres Blancas, a foundation dedicated to giving visibility to Colombian Glaciers. Our second guest was [Federico Restrepo](#), co-founder of Energía Vectorial, a company that converts conventional cars into electric cars.



El ambiente
es de todos

Minambiente

¡Gracias por contribuir a la NDC actualizada de Colombia!

Hemos recibido sus comentarios. Muchas gracias por su tiempo.

Como le comentamos en correos anteriores, de manera paralela a la encuesta a expertos, tenemos abierto el proceso de **consulta pública sobre este mismo documento hasta el próximo 26 de octubre para toda la ciudadanía.**

Para nosotros es importante tener los aportes de más ciudadanos; por eso le agradecemos difundir esta consulta en sus redes sociales de manera que podamos tener una mayor cantidad de comentarios.

Lo puede hacer compartiendo el siguiente video: <https://youtu.be/8C8FMZs-mPc>

¡Su aporte es muy importante para nosotros!





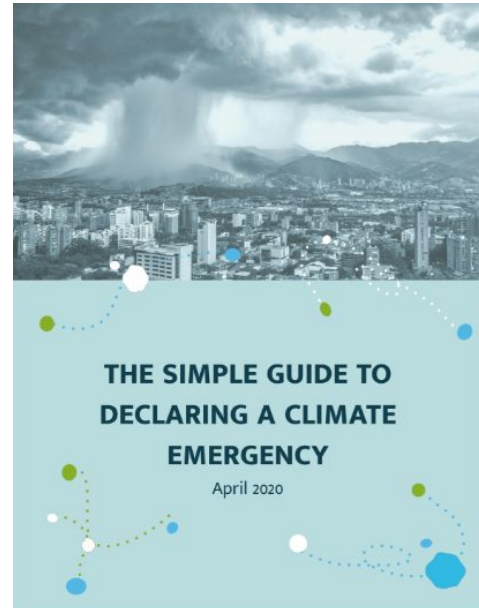
Publications

We produced several publications during the year, always with the aim of condensing collective knowledge, making it available for anyone, particularly towards readers previously unfamiliar with the topics. Some were on trending topics and others related to the conclusions and knowledge discussed in our events. They were drafted taking into account the voices, reflections, questions, challenges and problems expressed by the participants.

- Results of the Environmental Technical Table on the Climate Crisis.
- The simple guide to declaring a Climate Emergency.
- Digital Carbon Footprint: A guide to understanding and reducing it.
- Overview of Climate Finance in 2020: Reflections from the 3rd Low Carbon City Climate Finance Forum.
- Climate Change Economics, Risks and Opportunities: Reflections towards 2050.



[See publications](#)



Testimonials by our partners

“ Working with Low Carbon City is an honour, a pleasure, a reminder that we are all at the service of restoring the ecological balance of the planet. The team is the best there is in Colombia, they will always have the support of Climate Reality. ”

Matthew Boms, Strategic Project Manager Climate Reality Project Latin America



“ For me as a local leader and coordinator of the Tropical Workshop space in Moravia, it was a great support to work together with Low Carbon City , we were able to develop workshops with children on different topics. For us it was an opportunity to learn new experiences and above all to help children explore their abilities and creativity. ”

Cielo María Holguín, Co-founder, Urban Lab Medellín Berlín



Gloria Calderón, Coordinator, "Moving Colombia's Low Carbon Development Strategy", Fondo Acción



“ From Fondo Acción we have been able to articulate easily with Low Carbon City in terms of their listening, interpretation and synergy capacities, which has allowed us to find very favourable spaces for working together to achieve the articulation that is desired at the territorial level by the Moving the ECDBC project. Working with Low Carbon City has been a very interesting experience, working with people with a personal, professional and technical capacity of very high quality. ”



Media Coverage

EL ESPECTADOR

[Medellin to host the fifth Low Carbon City World Forum](#)

EL TIEMPO

[Medellin to host the fifth Low Carbon City World Forum](#)

Territorios SOSTENIBLES

["Help me", the cry of a boy named Josué](#)

LA NETWORK

[What if the current crisis was caused by Climate Change??](#)

eICOLOMBIANO

["The Voice of the Earth" - opinion piece by David Escobar](#)

LatinClima
Red de Comunicación en Cambio Climático

[Fifth Low Carbon City World Forum](#)



Live appearance. Teleantioquia News.



More media coverage



Media Coverage



[III GREEN UNIVERSITIES FORUM \(spanish\)](#)



[What footprint am I leaving on the world. \(spanish\)](#)



[Shadows cast over the Paris Agreement](#)



[Regeneration : the key concept at the heart of the Low Carbon City World Forum \(spanish\)](#)



[Women's changing the world with their ideas](#)



[Women's leadership in the environment](#)



[In the "new normal"², educating for sustainability is an imperative challenge. \(spanish\)](#)



More media coverage



Our carbon footprint & offsetting



At Low Carbon City we are aware of the impact our work can have on the planet, even in the virtual world, because even those activities have a digital footprint. For this reason, since 2016 we have been measuring and offsetting our emissions with our technical partners INCYCLO for measurement, and with our partners CO2 Zero for offsetting. In 2020 we emitted 15.7 tonnes of CO2 equivalent, [offset through the Cordillera Central Forest Project by CO2 Zero](#). In this way we certify that our work is Carbon Neutral.

We invite organisations interested in these measurements and offsettings to contact us.

Thanks to all the people and organizations that joined us this year. Let's keep knitting!

TEAM 2020

Adriana Calle Jordá, Ada Luz Mercado, Alejandra Uribe, Carmen Ruiz, Camilo Silva , Emma Van de Sompel, Gabriela Ruiz, Juliana Gutiérrez, Lina Vollrath, Oriana Ballesteros, Valentina Mondragón.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alejandro Álvarez, Florian Lorenz, Juliana Montoya, Monica Pérez, Ricardo Zapata, Juliana Gutiérrez.

VOLUNTEERS

Juan Pablo Buitrago, Lina Marcela Cataño, Diana Constanza Restrepo, Natalia Osorio, Dominic Tremblay, Camilo Angel, Gabriela Guerrero, Andres Felipe Vera, Jimena Gutiérrez, Camilo Trujillo, David Cardona.

OUR ALLIES

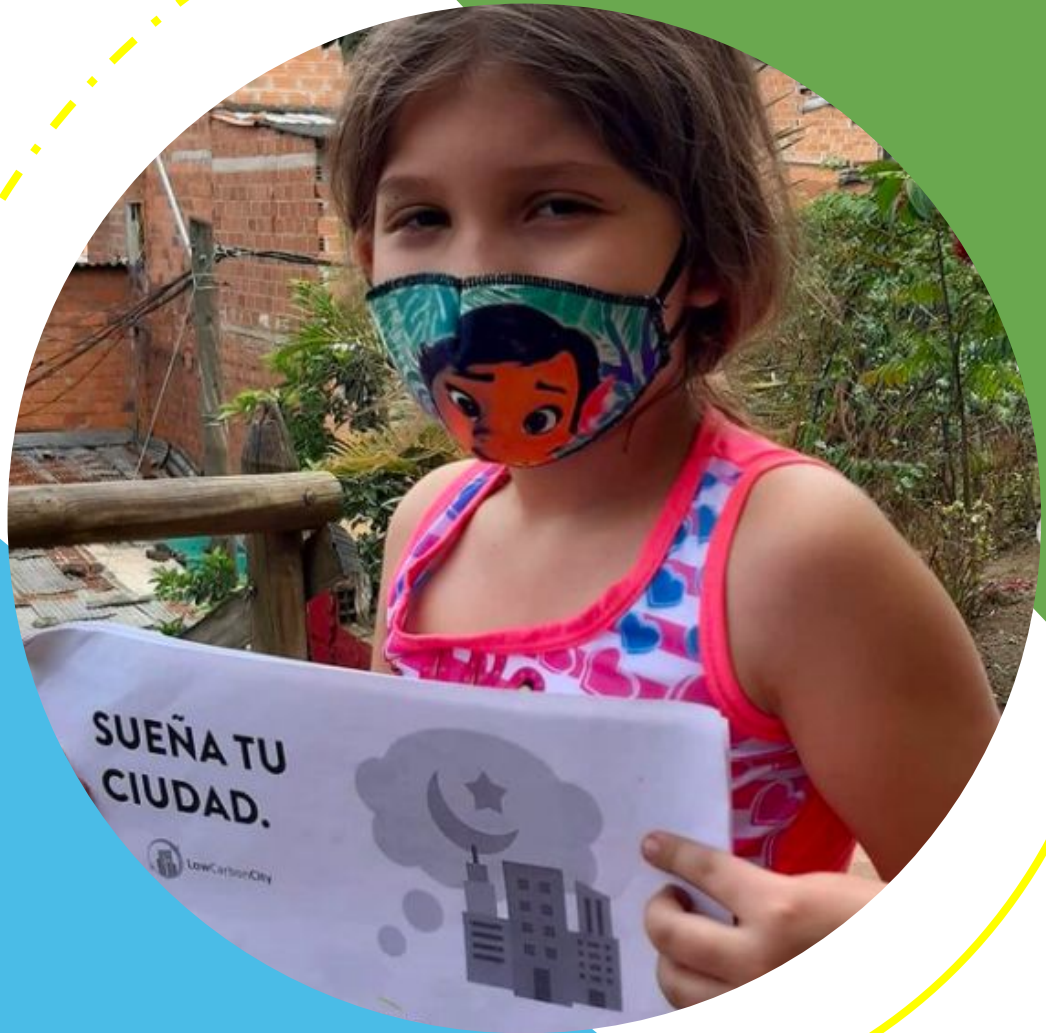
Adapt Chile - Ashoka - Centro de Desarrollo Cultural Moravia - Climate Reality - Comfama - Corantioquia - DAAD - EcoGox - Ecoregistry - Fondo Acción - Fundación Argos - ICLEI América del Sur - ISA - Incyclo - I see Change - La Savia - Natural Building Lab - Proantioquia - Parque Explora - Puntos Verdes Lito - Ruta N - Sistemas Inteligentes en Red - Sofía Pérez de Soto - Territorios Sostenibles - Universidad Técnica de Berlín - Urban Oasis - Universidad EAFIT - Universidad CES - Universidad de los niños - XM.

“ This poem is going to be a little house that you can turn to when every refuge turns hostile

”

Tamara Grosso

2020



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