



1 NO POVERTY **2 ZERO HUNGER** **3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING** **4 QUALITY EDUCATION** **5 GENDER EQUALITY** **6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**

Side-event to the UN High-Level Dialogue on Energy

Challenges and Opportunities for Harnessing Climate & SDG Synergies: the role of Carbon Dioxide Removal

**24 September 2021
11:00 UTC (07:00 EDT)**

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United Nations Regional Commissions
ECA ECLAC ESCAP ESCWA UNECE

11th INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ENERGY
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
VIRTUAL | SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2021

C2G Carnegie Climate
Governance Initiative

**Challenges and Opportunities for Harnessing Climate & SDG Synergies:
the role of carbon dioxide removal**

Broadcasting: <https://youtu.be/h27VKJZ1MnU>

11:00 AM UTC (7:00 AM EDT)

Background:

Five years on from the Paris Agreement, recognition is growing that without a rapid acceleration in action, limiting global average temperature rise to 1.5-2 °C will not be possible. All the emission pathways in the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C will require the removal of large volumes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere using carbon dioxide removal techniques (CDR) to achieve net-zero and thereafter net negative emissions.

CDR includes both nature-based approaches such as afforestation and reforestation, and technology-based approaches such as direct air carbon capture and storage (DACCS)^{1,2,3}. All present potential benefits and risks, and if deployed at the scale and pace indicated by the IPCC, would create co-benefits and trade-offs for delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)⁴. Substantial governance gaps exist around scaling CDR⁵ to deliver the net removals needed which need to be addressed urgently to ensure that societal choices, policies and investments take into

¹ For more detail see: <https://c2g2.wpengine.com/carbon-dioxide-removal/>

² CCUS technology brief: https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/CCUS%20brochure_EN_final.pdf

³ Geologic CO2 storage in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia:
https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Geologic%20CO2%20storage%20report_final_EN.pdf

⁴ For more detail see: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14693062.2020.1843388>

⁵ For more detail see: https://www.c2g2.net/wp-content/uploads/are-we-ready_2021_execsummary_EN.pdf

account regional and national specificities as well as climate and energy goals, in the context of SDG implementation.

High-level Virtual Dialogue:

The UN Regional Commissions can play an instrumental role in bringing different actors together, addressing knowledge and governance gaps and breaking silos in implementing the SDGs. Enhancing governance of CDR could provide an excellent opportunity to focus and align regional and international efforts and foster a cross-sectorial approach.

This event is hosted in partnership between the five UN Regional Commissions ([ECA](#), [ESCAP](#), [ECLAC](#), [ECE](#) and [ESCWA](#)) and the Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative ([C2G](#)).

Moderated by Janos Pasztor, Executive Director of C2G, it features all five Executive Secretaries:

- Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, ECLAC
- Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, ECE
- Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, ECA
- Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, ESCAP
- Ms. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, ESCWA

The recording is also available with interpretation into [中文](#), [Español](#) and [Français](#)