



## Collaboration agreement between

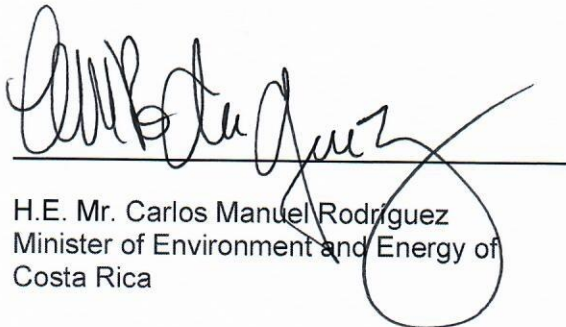
Costa Rica and

**The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT)**

**to promote and support the use of the national climate change metrics system SINAMECC**

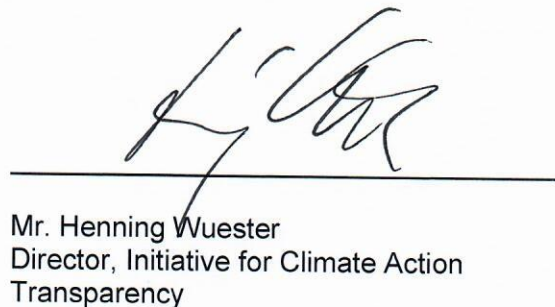
The Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) of Costa Rica and the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) have agreed to collaborate regarding Costa Rica's National Climate Change Metrics System (Sistema Nacional de Métrica de Cambio Climático, SINAMECC) as specified in the attached agreement.

The undersigned have concluded this agreement in Madrid, Spain, on 11 December 2019 during the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.



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H.E. Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez  
Minister of Environment and Energy of  
Costa Rica



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Mr. Henning Wuester  
Director, Initiative for Climate Action  
Transparency



**Collaboration agreement  
between Costa Rica and ICAT  
to promote and support the use of  
the national climate change metrics system SINAMECC**

The purpose of this document is to define the scope of collaboration between the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) of Costa Rica and the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) regarding Costa Rica's National Climate Change Metrics System (Sistema Nacional de Métrica de Cambio Climático, SINAMECC) in order to strengthen SINAMECC, and promote and support its application in other developing countries.

SINAMECC was specifically designed to facilitate Costa Rica's compliance with the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework and to improve the data-based decision making to meet the challenges of the climate crisis. Its design philosophy is completely impact oriented: building the system as open-source software with the explicit goal of sharing it with other countries and building an international community of practice. This "SINAMECC community", can then work together to maintain and improve the system, saving resources and improving South-South collaboration.

SINAMECC has received and continues to receive support from a variety of partners and is under active development and continuous improvement. It currently incorporates initial versions of a variety of functionalities including:

- Data collection and management features which can be used to automate or semi-automate data gathering and pre-processing for GHG inventory/BUR/NC/BTR development and NDC and policy MRV;
- A calculation engine to estimate the GHG inventory, based on the IPCC guidelines and gathered data;
- A mitigation action registry to keep track of and follow up on specific targets, policies and projects and their emissions;
- Data visualizations and open data portal to facilitate transparency and data sharing, simplifying the reporting process;
- Systems management functionalities including user access and automatic notification administration.

This collaboration is foreseen in recognition of the potential of SINAMECC to support the implementation of an enhanced transparency framework in developing countries and raise climate action ambition. SINAMECC facilitates the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework in accordance with modalities, procedures and guidelines under the Paris Agreement in an integrated fashion allowing countries to establish a basis for continuous data management needed for reporting, tracking of NDCs and supporting a process for the effective preparation of updates to their NDCs.

Building on Costa Rica's experience of developing and using SINAMECC and of ICAT's experience in supporting countries in developing capacity for climate action transparency, the two parties agreed to work together, to support the application of SINAMECC in other countries, encouraging south-south cooperation. At this time, it is proposed that the cooperation includes the following efforts:

The Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica:

- Makes available the SINAMECC codes as open-source software free of charge to other countries that wish to apply it for their national transparency framework, provided that they, in turn, make available to the user community free of charge any changes and improvements made to the tool; and
- Offers technical expertise for the application of the system, both regarding the IT aspects and the experience in using the tool to support climate action and policy development domestically, subject to reimbursement of any extra costs such as travel cost or cost for experts external to MINAE;

The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT):

- Will support the further development of SINAMECC to facilitate the application of the GHG inventory and registry tools to a broader set of national circumstances and emissions profiles, as required;
- Offers to support with resources and technical expertise ICAT countries that wish to apply SINAMECC, in tailoring SINAMECC to their domestic circumstances and priorities, provide training for officials from government agencies and national experts that would use the tool, and integrate efforts into the overall activities related to climate action transparency. ICAT countries are those that have already joined the Initiative and receive support from ICAT and those that may be selected in future to become part of ICAT; and
- Will endeavor to support and co-finance peer-to-peer exchange activities such as workshops, including funding the necessary travel within the limits of available resources.

Both parties collaborate to promote SINAMECC as a tool for climate action transparency and jointly plan collaboration with interested countries, including the tailoring of the tool to their needs and training activities (e.g. workshops), including peer-to-peer exchange on the application and further development of SINAMECC.

As this collaboration evolves, experience and resource needs will be reviewed at regular (6-monthly) intervals.