R20's new vision and new leadership

After a few months of silence, we have the pleasure to come back to you with some major changes regarding R20’s mission. Indeed, in addition to being a technical assistance provider on a project by project basis, R20 is today a finance initiatives incubator, whose mission is to accelerate the design and deployment of finance vehicles for sustainable infrastructure such as zero waste management, sanitation, decentralized renewable energy, energy efficiency, regenerative agriculture and nature-based solutions at subnational level.

In 2021, R20 has enabled the creation of a new blended finance initiative, the Subnational Climate Fund (SCF) managed by a consortium of highly qualified partners; Pegasus Capital, a US fund manager accredited to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for equity, the International Union for Conservation of Nature accredited to the GCF for grant and Gold Standard.

By doing so R20 has taken a new strategic direction in becoming an incubator of financial vehicles for sustainable infrastructure and biodiversity at subnational level. Our approach aims to “connect the dots” and foster understanding and interconnection between policy-makers, clean technology providers and public & private investors, including development agencies, commercial banks, philanthropies, sovereign funds, pension funds and family offices. throughout the whole project development value chain.

Following this strategic change, two important internal development have occurred within R20: 1) the association has moved to a foundation status, and 2) David Albertani has become the new CEO while Christophe Nuttall will now act as a strategic advisor.

With a new team in place, R20 will, more than ever, stay at the services of regional and local authorities willing to achieve their climate change ambitions and goals. This new quarterly newsletter will keep you informed of the latest innovative finance vehicles incubated at the R20 and dedicated to subnational authorities.

Christophe NUTTALL
Strategic Advisor

David ALBERTANI
Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Barbara Buchner is Global Managing Director of Climate Policy Initiative. Named one of the 20 most influential women in climate change and one of the 100 most influential people in climate policy, Barbara advises leaders on climate, energy, and land use investments around the world.

Barbara directs the Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance (the Lab) and its sister programs in Brazil and India. The Lab’s public-private approach solicits, shapes, and tests cutting edge climate finance instruments that resolve financing barriers hindering alternative energy, adaptation, and land use projects. Instruments from the Lab have mobilized over 2.6 billion US dollars for sustainable development in developing countries in six years.

**Jiao Tang**
Director of Programmes

Jiao leads our technical assistance programmes and develops a pipeline of investible projects. She is an expert on waste management and regenerative agriculture.

In her free time, Jiao loves working on community farms in the countryside growing vegetables and creating recipes for small-holder farmers’ rare species and unsold vegetables. Besides, Jiao spends quite a bit of her spare time learning about viniculture and the world of wine.

**Shayma Shaban**
Operations Manager

Shayma is the one that ensures operational management and coordination support for R20 and SCF activities. She brings her experience from the public sector on setting-up and coordinating public and private working groups to develop sustainable infrastructures projects.

During her spare time, she likes testing recipes from all the world and stand-up comedy shows. She also likes running or walking in the nature.

**Cecilia Serin**
MarComm Manager

Cecilia is making sure that you all know what R20 is about and that we do not miss an opportunity to collaborate together. She bring experience from International Organisations and Impact Investing world.

During her spare time, Cecilia loves to practice yoga, and do sports with her two kids. Winter is for skiing, summer for paddle-boarding.
On Wednesday June 8, our president, Melchior de Muralt and our CEO, David Albertani met with his excellency, Mr. Journes Frederic, Ambassador of France in Bern to receive a €100'000 contribution from the French government towards the development of a new Finance Facility, in order to coordinate and promote sustainable solutions to limit the impacts of climate change in Mediterranean hotspots.

The Subnational Climate Fund (SCF) regional workshop “Investing in sustainable subnational solutions for climate, nature, and people” for Latin America in Quito, Ecuador, is part of SCF capacity-building program.

The workshop aims to gather key actors from sub-national governments, project developers, and financial institutions to present the fund, build capacity on project development in key themes, and share experiences on sustainable finance in the region.
In 2021, R20 became a member of the consortium of The Subnational Climate Finance initiative (SCF). SCF is a global blended finance initiative that aims to invest in and scale mid-sized (5 – 75 M $USD) sub national infrastructure projects in the fields of sustainable energy, waste and sanitation, regenerative agriculture and nature-based solutions in developing countries.

SCF initiative integrates an investment fund of mid-sized infrastructure projects (SCF Fund) and a grant-funded dedicated to technical assistance facility (SCF Technical Assistance). R20 will use its expertise and network to provide technical assistance in identifying suitable projects for the fund to invest in.

The SCF has already been endorsed by 42 emerging countries including 13 Least Developed Countries and 6 small Island Developing States. Thanks to GCF which has committed USD 150 million out of the USD 750 million targeted equity fund and USD 18.5 million out of the USD 28 million targeted technical Assistance facility, SCF Global is now fully operational.