



Dear colleagues,

The impact of natural hazards and man-made disasters undermines development – economically, socially, financially and culturally. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted livelihoods across the globe and is estimated to push an additional 88 to 115 million people into extreme poverty this year ([World Bank](#)). Vulnerable and marginalized populations suffer disproportionately in this pandemic and in other hazardous circumstances. Contagious diseases and viruses, raging wildfires, floods and storms, droughts, locust plagues, dwindling wildlife populations – we live in a “multi-hazard world where **risk is systemic** and disaster impacts cascade in unpredictable ways” (Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction).

A [UN report](#) published to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on 13 October confirms a **dramatic rise in climate-related disasters** over the last 20 years. However, not every drought, tropical storm or zoonosis has to become a disaster. While such events cannot be generally prevented, exposure to them can be minimised and their impact on people, economy, infrastructure and ecosystems can be mitigated. This is precisely where **disaster risk reduction** (DRR) comes into play: DRR strives to reduce the vulnerability of individuals, communities and entire societies by strengthening risk governance and the capabilities of people and institutional structures to respond to hazards.

Recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic therefore requires the determined commitment by governments, civil society and private sector actors alike to avoid lock-in effects of unsustainable technologies and practices, **re-evaluate their DRR strategies and strengthen their risk governance**. Building forward better means addressing risk holistically, that is, taking multiple, dynamic and interconnected risks into account when planning for the future.

We have argued previously that any recovery stimulus flowing into the economy, any investment into homes, roads, hospitals, schools and other critical infrastructure, any support for struggling industries should be sustainable and climate-resilient. Undertaking **sound disaster risk assessments** is essential to achieve this, which includes acknowledging the impacts of climate change in the first place and deriving adaptation measures accordingly. To build proper resilience, communities and other actors particularly at risk of a pandemic or any natural hazard must be included in making decisions relevant to their lives and livelihoods. Equally important are stringent **policy and regulatory frameworks**, adequate **resource allocation** as well as **political commitment and concrete measures** to deliver on the SDGs and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Build Forward Better Briefing #05 focuses on **COVID-19 responses targeted at strengthening risk governance** – although comprehensive risk management is (or should be) the very foundation of any “green” stimulus measure and proposition by governments, multilateral organisations, academia, civil society and other actors at the national and international level in order to achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the pandemic. The compilation shows that, to date, it is mainly international and civil society organisations pointing out the link to DRR, but some governments are highlighting the necessity to strengthen their risk governance to build forward better and prepare themselves for future shocks.

Many thanks to the GIZ colleagues from the project Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management ([GIDRM](#)) who contributed to this issue.

We hope you find this BFB Briefing insightful and look forward to your **feedback and thematic suggestions for future issues**. The next BFB Briefing will be about biodiversity and green recovery.

Best regards,  
IKI Projects BioFrame, CDCPIII, GET, SDG-RI & SPA

## #05 RISK GOVERNANCE- 27 October 2020

The **Build Forward Better Briefing** compiles the latest “green” stimulus news, measures and propositions by governments, multilateral organisations, academia, civil society and other actors at the national and international level. It shares insights on options and responses for a **sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic**. The current briefing gathers COVID-19 responses targeted at improving risk governance and reducing disaster risk.

This briefing is a **collaborative product by several GIZ IKI projects**.<sup>1</sup> Many thanks to the GIZ colleagues from the project Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management ([GIDRM](#)) who contributed to this issue. All previous issues of the BFB Briefing (#01 Monitoring, #02 Cities, #03 Tourism, #04 NDCs and LTS) can be accessed [here](#).

*Note: Measures and resources are listed in alphabetical order, with measures related to risk governance and resilience listed first and highlighted in yellow.*

### Government

#### Global

- 13 October marked the **International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction** – a day nominated by the UN to promote a global culture of disaster risk reduction. This year’s theme was about conveying the message that many disasters can be avoided or prevented if there are disaster risk reduction strategies in place to manage and reduce existing levels of risk and to avoid the creation of new risk. What that amounts to is “good disaster risk governance” (see resources by [UNDRR](#) and [GIDRM](#)). UN

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<sup>1</sup> Support Project for the Design and Implementation of the New Global Biodiversity Framework (BioFrame); Capacity Development for Climate Policy in Southeast & Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia, Phase III (CDCPIII); Green Economy Transformation in Cooperation with the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (GET); Support Project for SDG Review and Implementation Processes (SDG-RI); Support Project for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPA).

Secretary General António Guterres stressed that “COVID-19 has shown us that systemic risk requires international cooperation”.

- The mayors of **12 big cities in North America, Europe and Africa** pledged to divest from coal, oil and gas and shift their money into green energy, buildings, transport and other investments to help them recover from the pandemic and tackle climate change. Together, the cities are home to more than 36 million residents and hold over US\$295 billion in assets.
- In a virtual meeting of the **Climate Vulnerable Forum** (CVF), the leaders from the world’s most climate vulnerable nations called on all countries to fulfil their commitments under the Paris Agreement and submit improved Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by the end of 2020. Many speakers advocated for building climate ambition and NDCs into COVID-19 recovery plans.
- The **Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action** met in its annual plenary session on the margins of the Annual Meetings of the World Bank and IMF. It reaffirmed its commitment to the Helsinki Principles and discussed fiscal, economic and financial policies to tackle climate change amid the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The press release mentions the importance of green recovery but fails to send a clear message on what actions this group is taking.
- **Germany** and **Luxemburg**, along with the World Bank, EIB, GIZ, Global Covenant of Mayors, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, have launched the City Climate Finance Gap Fund. The Gap Fund will support the preparation of projects that have the potential to advance low-carbon and resilient infrastructure in cities, stating that “urbanization and the COVID-19 response provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to plan, develop, build and manage cities that are simultaneously more ecologically and economically sustainable”. Support focuses on capacity-building of local authorities and cities, pipeline-building for technical assistance during the later-stage project preparation and increasing the pool of bankable projects.
- **Germany** and the **UK** support the Ambition Initiative by the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Facility with €168 million to support countries in implementing their emissions reduction targets as they recover from the pandemic.

## Africa

- The African Development Bank will disburse US\$5.6 million to **Niger** to implement its Africa Disaster Risk Management Funding Programme (ADRIFi). The funding is meant to strengthen the country’s resilience and response to climate shocks by improving its disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change. It comes at a critical time as Niger struggles with the dire impacts of COVID-19 on household income, the agricultural sector and the country’s macroeconomic balance.
- **South Africa**, in its new Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (and its implementation plan), has committed R100 billion to create 800,000 employment opportunities over the next three years to help build a “new economy”. The plan outlines four strategic interventions: infrastructure investment, energy security, employment stimulus and re-industrialization. A number of projects are listed under “green industrialization”, including building retrofits and solar power. The document also refers to a just transition. Other aspects of the energy security objective do not reference decarbonisation.

## Asia & Oceania

- The pandemic has highlighted the criticality of regional infrastructure in facilitating the smooth provision of transport, connectivity and utility services. Climate-related disasters have already caused significant damage and loss to infrastructure in the **Asia-Pacific region** (see UN ESCAP’s Asia-Pacific Disaster Report). This highlights the need to invest more in strategic resilient development rather than solely in reactive recovery efforts to increase resilience to overlapping risks.
- **New Zealand’s** Minister for Climate Change announced that his country will be the first in the world to require the financial sector to report on climate risks. The changes “will bring climate risks and resilience into the heart of financial and business decision making”, he said. If approved by Parliament, financial entities could be required to make disclosures in 2023 at the earliest.

- **China** is the world's largest emitter of carbon dioxide. The nation's president Xi Jinping announced at the UN General Assembly in late September that China aims to see CO<sub>2</sub> emissions peak before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. Chinese leaders are discussing new measures to tackle climate change at a government plenum to finalise a new 5-year national development plan.
- **Japan** will become carbon-neutral by 2050, the country's Prime Minister has pledged. In his announcement, Yoshihide Suga did not provide details on how Japan will reduce carbon emissions to zero but said it would promote renewable energy and prioritise safety as it seeks a bigger role for nuclear.
- **Malaysia's** Prime Minister announced a special focus on sustainability will be included in the country's 2021 budget, explaining that a green recovery approach would not only spur the economy and social well-being, but also drive the nation's development on a low-carbon and climate-resilient pathway – particularly important for a mega-biodiverse country such as Malaysia.
- The World Bank has committed financial, technological and knowledge resources to support **Pakistan's** green recovery initiatives in forestry, environmental protection and climate change resilience to restore people's lives and livelihoods affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Europe

- The **German** government adopted the latest progress report of the country's Adaptation Strategy (DAS). In addition to taking stock of past activities, the government set priorities for future work, including better financing of climate adaptation. With more than 180 measures, it aims to make Germany climate-proof; against risks from floods, low water or disrupted infrastructures, adverse effects on agriculture, health hazards, economic risks and challenges in civil protection.
- The **European Commission** has set out strategic guidance for the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility in its 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy (ASGS). The Facility is the key recovery instrument at the heart of NextGenerationEU and will provide €672.5 billion of loans and grants in frontloaded financial support for the crucial first years of the recovery.
- The **European Parliament** voted to update the EU's climate target for 2030, backing a 60% reduction in GHG emissions by the end of the decade, up from 40% currently. However, a 60% target for 2030 is still not in line with what the science shows is needed to keep global warming below 1.5-2°C. NGOs had been calling for at least 65% emissions reductions by 2030 and a separate target for carbon removals from sinks. The target will now need to be debated and decided upon by the EU Council.
- The **German Umweltbundesamt** (UBA) evaluated 130 scientific studies and statements that deal with the design and effectiveness of green economic recovery programmes. It shows that there is a broad consensus on the necessity and benefits of green recovery programmes, the eligibility criteria to be applied and the particularly suitable areas of support. Additionally, UBA published a position paper proposing approaches for a substantive reorientation of international environmental and sustainability policy. According to the paper, the nexus of environment and health as well as the resilience of economic and social systems should be given more attention.
- **Hungary's** President János Áder announced that the country will close its last coal power plant, increase the capacity of its solar plants and make 90% of its energy production carbon-neutral within ten years. Also, new buses used in public transport will be electric and a new afforestation scheme will help grow hundreds of thousands of hectares of new forest across the country, he added.
- **Scotland** supports climate-friendly projects as part of a green recovery, focusing on active travel, waste reduction and community climate actions.
- **Spain** has announced to invest €72 billion of its share of the EU Recovery Fund to create more than 800,000 jobs over the next 3 years. A green energy transition and the digitalization of the economy will receive 37% and 33% of the funds respectively.
- The government of **Sweden** acknowledges climate-neutral solutions in their industry and transport sector as well as efforts for biodiversity as essential topics of its COVID-19 recovery. An investment of about €930 million will support green recovery initiatives in the country's 2021 budget.

- The **UK Green Recovery Challenge Fund** offers up to £40 million to support the nation's green recovery while creating and safeguarding jobs. The supported projects contribute to either nature conservation and restoration, nature-based solutions or connecting people with nature.

#### Latin America & Caribbean

- Restoration efforts in **Colombia's recovery plan** include reforestation and support for sustainable agriculture. To reverse deforestation and combat climate change, the government aims to plant 180 million trees. The package includes funds to promote agroforestry and agropastoralism, farming techniques that can restore soils and ecosystems. The government also plans to tighten mining regulations to protect the environment.
- **LAC region** ministers and representatives from international organisations have called for the COVID-19 recovery to be guided by the principles of inclusive development, equality and sustainability. Gathered virtually for the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), officials highlighted the multifaceted impacts of the pandemic, which have exposed deep development gaps in the region, and emphasized the importance of multilateralism and cooperation in the face of COVID-19. During the session, ECLAC launched its new paper "Building a New Future: Transformative Recovery with Equality and Sustainability".
- The German KfW Development Bank on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) supports the economic recovery of **Peru** with €250 million in loans aimed at linking the fight against the pandemic's impacts with the country's commitment to achieve climate goals. Loans will help small businesses and their employees survive the economic crisis. As soon as the economy begins to recover, the funds will be used to promote climate-friendly investments.

#### North America

- **Canada's** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has outlined a plan to spend CAN\$10 billion on infrastructure and clean technology projects that he says will create up to 60,000 jobs and build infrastructure in priority areas like clean power generation, zero-emission transit, broadband internet access and irrigation infrastructure for farmers in Western Canada.
- The **US** presidential election on 3 November is a critical moment for global climate action. Joe Biden has promised to "lead a major diplomatic push" to raise countries' climate ambition and put the US "back in the driver's seat". Biden has committed to re-join the Paris Agreement – which the US will formally leave on 4 November – on his first day in office and to "fully integrate climate change" into US green recovery as well as foreign and national security strategies.

#### International Organisations, Partnerships & Alliances

- The **FAO policy brief** "Food systems and COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean" addresses the resilience of agricultural livelihoods and the food system. It showcases lessons learned by those who had to manage disasters; indicating that it is critical to understand, monitor and anticipate the impacts of crises on agriculture and agricultural livelihoods early on.
- A policy paper by the **OECD** emphasises a systemic resilience approach to deal with COVID-19 and future shocks. Acknowledging that massive disruptions can and will happen, it is essential that core systems have the capacity for recovery and adaptation to ensure their survival.
- A report by the **SOAS Centre for Sustainable Finance** and others provides a comprehensive analysis of the ways in which climate risks affect sovereign risk. It outlines five policy recommendations, emphasising the importance for financial authorities to integrate climate risk into their risk management processes and for governments to prioritize comprehensive climate vulnerability assessments and work with the financial sector to promote investment in climate adaptation.
- The **United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)** published a working paper including recommendations to support EU Member States in the development of their national recovery and resilience plans to be inclusive of solid risk reduction and resilience building measures.



- A similar [brief](#) was published by **UNDRR** for the Asia-Pacific region. It states that unlike in an event-centric disaster, in the case of COVID-19 preparedness, response and recovery overlap. This results in the dilemma of managing the long-lasting shock, preparing for recovery and addressing pre-existing challenges of poverty and inequality all at the same time.
- Finally, the **UNDRR** invites members of the DRR community to comment on the new “[Words into Action guide on nature-based solutions for disaster risk reduction](#)”.
- The **Asian Development Bank** created a [framework](#) to help identify recovery interventions that will not only achieve general recovery goals but also enhance low-carbon and resilient development.
- Improving public health, infrastructure and climate actions of cities and regions across Europe is the goal of a [COVID-19 support plan](#) by the **European Investment Bank** which was announced during the 18<sup>th</sup> European Week of Regions and Cities.
- This year’s **IEA World Energy Outlook** (WEO) targets the key uncertainties facing the global energy sector in relation to the duration of the pandemic and its implications, while mapping out the choices that would pave the way towards a sustainable recovery.
- The **International Chamber of Commerce** (ICC) and **UNICEF** have issued a [joint call](#) for enhanced cooperation between the public and private sectors to strengthen the response to COVID-19 and enable a resilient and sustainable rebuild from the pandemic.
- **NDCP** and the **United Nations Partnership for Action on Green Economy** (PAGE) announced that they will [jointly support](#) 49 partner countries in including green and climate-resilient measures in their recovery packages.
- **PLAN 12** is a [UN initiative](#) led by adolescents and young people that responds to the changing reality presented by COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean and the urgent need to expand opportunities for adolescents to continue their learning trajectories.
- The **UNEP report** “Building a Greener Recovery: Lessons from the Great Recession” discusses efforts to introduce green stimulus and recovery efforts during the 2008-2009 Great Recession, deriving learnings for constructing a post-pandemic green recovery strategy for both G20 and low and middle-income countries today.
- The **World Bank** has published the [document](#) “Leaning Forward to Save Lives, Scale-up Impact and Get Back on Track: World Bank Group COVID-19 Crisis Response Update” as an input for the virtual Development Committee Meeting on 16 October. Implementation progress is discussed along four thematic pillars to help countries address the crisis and transition to recovery.

#### Academia, Private Sector & Civil Society

- Global landmark agreements, such as the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction share objectives for a resilient and sustainable future. Their successful implementation requires collaboration, coherence and competent institutional settings on all levels of governance within a country. This short [video](#) by **GIZ** illustrates how Germany implements these global agreements coherently.
- The **Global Center on Adaptation** (GCA) and the **African Adaptation Initiative** (AAI) [recommend](#) focusing stimulus investment on resilient infrastructure and food security to overcome the COVID-19 and climate crises, proposing a set of policy recommendations that bring a “triple dividend” to African countries; reduced pandemic risk, climate resilience and strengthened economic recovery.
- A [new report](#) by the **Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction** (GNDR) shows that people at risk of disasters are consistently ignored when it comes to making decisions about disaster prevention in their own communities. It provides a checklist for policymakers to ensure that development initiatives are informed by the people they are designed to support.
- The **Institut für Zukunftsstudien und Technologiebewertung** (IZT) produced a [podcast series](#) (in German) on transformative resilience amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The [report](#) “No going back to normal: Imagining a Just Recovery in South Africa” by the **Institute of Economic Justice**, **350Africa.org** and the **Climate Justice Coalition** emphasizes that while ensuring immediate relief and long-term recovery, decision-makers need to consider the interrelated crises of wealth inequality, racism and ecological decline, which were in place long before COVID-19. The

authors argue that policies must be geared towards recalibrating the system in which we live in order to mitigate the climate crisis, build resilience and ensure the wellbeing of all people.

- The [ODI Briefing Note](#) “The impact of Covid-19 on climate change and disaster resilience funding: trends and signals” suggests that the funding gap for climate and disaster resilience to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework will widen. Yet, it argues that opportunities exist to harness co-benefits for pandemic recovery and climate and disaster resilience and that decision-making needs to be more risk-informed and incorporate risks from multiple threats.
- An [analysis](#) by **Recourse** finds that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) fails to recognise the scale of climate change-related macroeconomic risks. The review analysed the IMF’s most recent risk and economic policy advice for five countries with ongoing coal sector expansions (India, Indonesia, Philippines, Mozambique, South Africa), showing it is green-lighting fossil fuel expansion – despite the fund’s stated support for a green COVID-19 recovery.
- [Analysis](#) commissioned by **We Mean Business** and conducted by **Cambridge Econometrics** shows that green recovery plans boost income, employment and GDP better than return-to-normal stimulus measures, with the added benefit of reducing emissions. In all geographies modelled (global, the EU, Germany, Poland, Spain, the UK, USA, Japan and India), green recovery plans were found to be more effective than return to normal stimulus approaches that reduce VAT rates and encourage households to resume spending.
- Latin American and Caribbean countries must rethink their economic model to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a [research paper](#) released by **Chatham House**. It shows that the pandemic increases the need for circular economy principles to build a more resilient and sustainable economy, which tackles inequality, reduces poverty and provides a boost for skilled jobs. The report argues that dependence on resource exports, low manufacturing capacity and high levels of waste make the region particularly vulnerable to disruptions caused by the virus.
- **Climate Action Tracker** [examined the COVID-19 recovery packages](#) of China, EU27, India, South Korea and the US. The briefing presents a global temperature update, taking into account the economic impact of COVID-19, and includes projections of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on 2020 and future emissions.
- A new [analysis](#) by researchers from **Imperial College London**, **Climate Analytics** and the **Electric Power Research Institute** in the US shows that an ambitious path to a 1.5°C world would be well within reach if just a fraction of COVID-19 funding was invested in a ‘climate-positive’ recovery, with the dual aims of stimulating the global economy and accelerating the deployment of low-carbon energy supply and energy efficiency measures. However, according to the authors, current recovery policies are leading us towards a world 3°C above pre-industrial averages.
- The **International Institute for Sustainable Development** (IISD) shows in the [report](#) “Building Climate-Resilient and Equitable Cities During COVID-19” that many city leaders worldwide respond to the crisis with creative solutions, recognizing that actions in response to the pandemic can also make cities greener and more climate-resilient.
- The **Joint Research Centre’s** (JRC) [Science for Policy Report](#) calls on governments and the EU to foster transformative resilience amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The paper highlights the need for citizen participation, clear and effective crisis communication and a “360-degrees system approach”.
- **NewClimate Institute** and other contributors produced an [overview](#) of recently adopted mitigation policies across all sectors, on climate-relevant COVID-19 response measures and on NDCs and LTS for 25 countries and regions. Their assessment indicates that, with exceptions of the EU and Republic of Korea, most countries have not implemented explicitly “green” recovery measures.
- The **Sustainable Trade Initiative** (IDH) released a new [podcast episode](#) on “Green Recovery in the Land Use Sector”, following a [short report](#) on how to best leverage COVID-19 economic recovery support packages in the land use sector for the benefit of people and the planet published earlier.
- In a new [commentary](#), the **World Resources Institute** (WRI) proposes to conceive of COVID-19 recovery and NDCs in terms of building blocks in the same larger structure: green recovery elements provide some of the necessary, near-term foundation for the commitments in NDCs. To achieve this,

nations must situate NDCs within the new context of recovery, orient recovery toward climate where applicable and unpack what types of measures can achieve what goals.

### Information Hubs

- The [page](#) “Natural Disasters & COVID-19: Resources for Professionals & Emergency Workers” by the **US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** offers links to resources and information that public health professionals, healthcare workers, and emergency responders can use to help people stay safe during and after a natural disaster amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **PreventionWeb** is a [knowledge platform](#) for disaster risk reduction. It features an extensive section on the [COVID-19 pandemic](#), including a number of reports on [the interlinkages of COVID-19 and natural hazards](#), investigating compounding risks.
- The **Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE)** together with five UN agencies has launched “Learning for a Green Recovery”, a global e-learning series that addresses the key policy issues central to the green recovery debate. The six online courses are available via [UN CC:Learn Platform](#) and are free and self-paced. They aim to inform and shape the public policy debate around green economic reform and ultimately support countries in planning their responses to COVID-19.

### Past Events

- Recovery policies and investments need to be aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; this was discussed by scientists, policy-makers and practitioners at the **General Assembly Second Committee side event** “Disaster Risk-Informed and Resilient COVID-19 Recovery”. The concept notes and further information can be found [here](#).
- This year’s [German Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction](#) took place virtually from 19-20 October. Although the main conference language was German, some of the livestreams, video sessions and panels were held (and will be made available) in English.
- In cooperation with **GIZ**, the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the **MEFIN Public Private Dialogue (PPD9)** took place as a [virtual event](#) on the topic of “De-Risking Climate and Pandemic Disasters”. A 2-minutes video summary of the key take-aways can be accessed [here](#).
- The biennial [GNDR Digital Global Summit](#) took place from 6-22 October. Its aim was to build relationships and identify opportunities for collaboration to enhance local resilience.
- Discussions on biodiversity, energy, public investments and financial and corporate governance were held at a two-days virtual conference on the path to a green recovery organised by the **European Investment Bank, Project Syndicate** and other partners. The recordings can be found [here](#).
- Under the hashtag #BuildForwardBetter, **IMF** and **World Bank** held a [panel](#) on “Post-COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience” with participants from the IMF, the UN and Blackrock Inc.

### Upcoming Virtual Events

- **EIT Climate-KIC** in cooperation with the European Commission’s Executive Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises will host a [side event to the Circular Economy Forum](#) on 1 December that explores how circular economy research and innovation can support nations in their green recovery.
- The 12th International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific, [ISAP2020](#), will be held online by the **Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)** from 9-13 November and on 30 November 2020. This year’s theme is “Just Transitions Toward Sustainable Societies in Asia and the Pacific: Building forward better for our future beyond COVID-19”.
- The **UNFCCC’s** [“Race-to-Zero Dialogues”](#) will be held from 9-11 November and cover both mitigation and adaptation progresses and also shine a light on different sectors and their corresponding green, healthy and nature-positive recoveries.