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GCCC Side-Event at UNFCCC COP20 in Lima Builds on CCS Momentum

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COP20 side event team in Lima Peru. Left to right: Mike Monea, Saskpower; Vanessa Nunez-Lopez BEG; Tim Dixon, IEAGHG; Katherine Romanak, BEG; Paulo Negrais Carneiro Seabra, Petrobras

In Lima, Peru at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COP) 20 last week, GCCC's Vanessa Nunez-Lopez and Katherine Romanak built on CCS momentum by hosting an information booth and an official side event with IEAGHG titled "New large-scale carbon capture and storage projects operating in the Americas."

The event showed the viability of CCS as a mitigation tool. Projects in various modes of deployment were highlighted including a summary of USA projects (emphasizing the role of the GCCC), the start of the Boundary Dam project in Saskatchewan, Canada, and Petrobras' strategies for using CCS to manage the CO₂ co-produced with Pre-salt hydrocarbons.

GCCC also presented information about an initiative for a global collaboration on an offshore demonstration project spearheaded by both the GCCC and the U.S. Department of Energy through the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum. IEAGHG summarized the significance of these projects in light of the anticipated climate agreement to be negotiated in Paris in 2015.

The GCCC/IEAGHG-hosted event was well-attended and well received. One Washington DC-based attendee summarized the impact of the discussions, "I didn't believe CCS could work but now I see that it can, because you are actually doing it."

Presentations given at the side event can be viewed here:

New Large-scale Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Projects Operating in the Americas

(http://www.ieaghg.org/docs/presentations/Dixon_Introduction_v4.pdf)SaskPower CCS Conference of the Parties

(http://www.ieaghg.org/docs/presentations/SaskPowerLima_Dec_2014.pdf)Petrobras' Offshore CO₂ Management –

Pre-salt development management

(http://www.ieaghg.org/docs/presentations/COP_20_-_Side_Event_Petrobras_Public.pdf) USA large scale onshore projects/Global offshore demonstration project

(http://www.ieaghg.org/docs/presentations/Nunez_Romanak_Lima_2014_final.pdf)

GCCC's first technical input to the UNFCCC was in 2011 when we presented research on groundwater protection and monitoring at both a UNFCCC workshop held in Abu Dhabi, UAE and at a side event at COP 17 in Durban, South Africa. Both events were designed to inform policy-makers about the latest CCS research relevant to negotiations on whether CCS should be included in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) for developing countries. GCCC technical input contributed to inclusion of CCS in the CDM which has set the stage for CCS to be recognized in other UNFCCC mechanisms including the finance mechanism of the Green Climate Fund, which recently reached a total of \$10 billion in pledges.



(http://www.beg.utexas.edu/gccc/blog/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/IMG_4645.jpg)

Katherine Romanak and Vanessa Nunez Lopez at the UNFCCC climate talks.

Posted in Katherine Romanak (https://www.beg.utexas.edu/gccc/blog/category/katherine_romanak/).

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- The Gulf Coast Carbon Center (<http://www.gulfcoastcarbon.org/>)
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