

Venezuela promotes Ecosocialism as an alternative to the unsustainable production and consumption model

Session of the Science and Technology Committee of COP 15 against desertification

Venezuela has reversed deforestation by 47% since 2002 P-4

Sustainable industrial development

Talk on the Circular Economy provided by Fondoin at the Minec P-5

Within the framework of World Migratory Bird Day

Minec offered a presentation on the impact of light pollution on migratory birds P-6



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REFLECTIONS ON ECOSOCIALISM

The new forest policy as a tool to fight the climate crisis



Minister Lorca before COP 15 against desertification

Venezuela promotes Ecosocialism as an alternative to the unsustainable production and consumption model



Lorca spoke before the XV session of the conference of the parties COP-15 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

On behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Minister of People's Power for Ecosocialism, Josué Lorca, ratified during his speech at the XV session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention on the Fight against Desertification (UNCCD), that the Latin American nation "promotes Ecosocialism as an alternative to the prevailing unsustainable model of production and consumption".

Minister Lorca heads the Venezuelan delegation that attends the event that takes place in the city of Abidjan, in the Ivory Coast, on the African continent, where spokesper-

sons from more than 190 countries attend, with the aim of dealing with the global problem of the loss of land.

According to the United Nations (UN), land is the foundation of a healthy and productive society, and COP15 will explore the links between land and other key sustainability issues.

In that sense, the discussions of the issues will continue in the high-level segment on May 9 and 10, 2022, which includes a Summit of Heads of State, high-level round tables and interactive dialogue sessions, as well as many other special and parallel events.

During his participation, the head of Ecosocialism announced that Venezuela is committed to saving life on the planet that "calls us today more than ever to take action and take urgent measures to face the deep environmental crisis generated by the production model and capitalist consumption.

Likewise, he listed a series of actions that Venezuela is carrying out to solve the environmental problem, despite the unjust unilateral coercive measures of which the country is a victim.

Measures listed by Minister Lorca in the fight against desertification.

Despite the unfair unilateral coercive measures of which we are victims, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has advanced important actions:

1.-The national drought strategy was developed, which has allowed an evaluation associated with the vulnerability of extreme drought events in the various productive sectors of the country to be carried out.

2.-32,690,990 trees of different species have been planted as part of our most important reforestation program, called Tree Mission.

3.-An integrated and com-

prehensive planning process for land use is carried out, through land use planning and management with the accompaniment of instances of People's Power and citizen participation, seeking the recovery of land cover.

4.-We have reversed deforestation by 47% percent since 2002.

5.-Participation in the Program for the Establishment of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Goals, forming a working group, made up of researchers and academics, to evaluate the LDN indicators (land cover, land productivity, and soil carbon).

6.-The National Committee to Combat Desertification and Drought was created.

7.-The National Action Plan on gender for the fight against desertification and drought has been strengthened, with the incorporation of women in the development of socio-productive activities such as: Conuqueras Women Program; Fisher Women Program and socio-productive project in the coffee area; Likewise, access to resources with gender equality has been promoted, established in the Land and Agrarian Development Law.

8.-The strengthening of the theme of land degradation in the curricula of related careers, activities of the natural and rural environment, through the development and integration of an academic curriculum, with the Training for Ecosocialism ; the Popular University of the Living Fruit Environment (Upafv); and the Bolivarian University of Vene-



The meeting was held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast

zuela (UBV).

9.-In the year 2021, 123,423 hectares were declared protected areas, highlighting a new National Park and three Wildlife Reserves, with which the System of Areas Under the Special Administration Regime (Abrae) continues to be strengthened, Venezuela as a country megadiverse , it protects 43 percent of its territory, far exceeding the 11th goal of Aichi.

10.-Montecano National Park was recently declared a natural monument, located on the Paraguaná peninsula, Falcón state, through which an area of 2,559 hectares of ecosystems of arid, semi-arid and sub-humid environments of the country is protected.

11.-Formation and training of Brigades to Fight Climate Change with more than 2,500 volunteers nationwide.

12.-Progress in the preparation

of the National Monitoring Report on the Neutrality of Land Degradation in the context of in order to start uploading to the PRAIS 4 Strategic Framework 2018-2030 and the objective of Sustainable Development SDG 15.3 of the UNCCD.

13.- The document called Dry Zones of Venezuela: Area and Population is being prepared, in order to quantify the dry lands with arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid climates.

Session of the Science and Technology Committee of COP 15 against desertification

Venezuela has reversed deforestation by 47% since 2002

During the second session of the Committee on Science and Technology, on the dissemination and accessibility of best practices of the XV of the Conference of the Parties (COP15), of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), The Venezuelan commission reported that the country has reversed deforestation by 47% since 2002.

At the meeting, which takes place in the city of Abidjan, in Ivory Coast, the Venezuelan commission notified that the nation formed a working group made up of researchers and academics; the National Committee to Combat Desertification and Drought was created; A program on gender was developed with the incorporation of women in the development of socio-productive activities such as: Women Conquerors Program, Women Fishermen Program and the socio-productive project in the coffee area.

Likewise, the promotion of ac-



Venezuela participated in the COP-15 Grulac against desertification



The Venezuelan delegation presented the advances in the fight against desertification

cess to resources with gender equality, established in the Land and Agrarian Development Law, was explained.

The Minister of People's Power for Ecosocialism, Josué Lorca, who heads the Venezuelan delegation, made a request to the Fund for the Global Environment and the Global Mechanism of the Convention, to "direct their greatest efforts to financially support programs and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and learning, as well as the strengthening of national capacities together with the communities".

Likewise, he called for online training actions to be promoted and at the same time to create a network for the exchange of knowledge and capacity

development.

Also, the representation of Venezuela participated in the meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (Grulac), in which the approach of a Drought Protocol presented by Morocco was discussed.

In addition, there was an intervention in the opening plenary session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC), during which the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requested to strengthen the mechanisms for distance learning and training, and to grant them a permanent character.

Sustainable industrial development

Talk on the Circular Economy provided by Fondoin at the Minec



The activity exposed new forms of sustainable economy

To publicize the advantages for the environment of the maximum reuse of resources, the president of the Industrial and Technological Reconversion Fund (Fondoin), Indira Villafania, gave a talk on Thursday on the "Circular Economy", which took place at the headquarters of the Ministry of Popular Power for Ecosocialism (Minec), in the center of the capital.

The authority of the Fondoin, who exposed the subject in the Waraira Repano Hall, a space shared by the Popular University of the Environment Fruto Vivas (Upafv) with the Minec, on the sixth floor of the Ecosocialism Tower, was accompanied by the General Director of Training of the Minec and president of the National Foundation for Environmental Education (Fundambiente), Jesus Méndez.

Villafania explained the reason for the need to transcend the current production model, the alarming statistics on extraction, the increase in social inequalities, the objectives pursued by the "Circular Economy", the characteristics and elements on which it must build.

"From the Fondoin of the Ministry of Industry and National Production, we are deployed at the national level with the 'Circular Economy' proposal for Venezuelan eco-industrial development, as an alternative to the prevailing system, to the current production model, which is degrading, makes an irrational use of natural resources

and do not allow the replacement of the same by natural means" he said Villafania.

He added that it is necessary that the industrial socio-productive forms "are more aware every day, that they have the training tools and the required adjustments that can allow them to develop eco-industrial in an increasingly progressive manner, and above all twinned with the different gears that we can do with partner institutions".

"For us it is very important to continue strengthening the eco-socialist model hand in hand with Minec, but also implementing all the concepts that make it easier for us to generate sovereign eco-industrial zones, impregnated with our own cultural heritage and that allow each of the Venezuelans the well-being or satisfaction of their needs within the framework of better use and waste", he said.



The activity took place in the Waraira Repano room

Within the framework of World Migratory Bird Day

Minec offered a presentation on the impact of light pollution on migratory birds

The General Directorate of Ecosocialist Training of the Ministry of People's Power for Ecosocialism (Minec), offered the presentation "Dark nights, safe migrations", to motivate people to reduce the impact of light pollution on birds.

The exhibition seeks to raise awareness about "the need to protect the fauna that lives and depends on dark skies for their biological cycles," said speaker Miguel Matta, coordinator of the World Migratory Bird Day program for Latin America.

He added that there are simple actions we can take to reduce the incidence of light pollution, such as turning off the lights at night, closing the windows so that the light from inside does not go outside, and changing normal light bulbs to energy-saving light bulbs.

Matta specified that in Vene-



The activity seeks to raise awareness about the importance of bird migration

zuela there are about 1,400 species of birds in total, and almost 178 are short, medium and long-distance migratory birds, adding that "this positions us as the sixth country with the most birds in the world."

He commented that there is a great diversity of migratory bird species in Venezuela such as the migratory hummingbird, the migratory tucuito rubí that travels between the islands and Venezuela, the red-headed vultures and the peregrine fal-

cons, among others.

Matta applauded the conservation of the National Parks in Venezuela since they allow birds to take refuge, and stressed the need to make an effort to take care of them.



The activity took place within the framework of World Migratory Bird Day

REFLECTIONS ON ECOSOCIALISM

The new forest policy as a tool to fight the climate crisis

By Josué Alejandro Lorca Vega

Our country naturally adds a large contribution of carbon sinks that serve as a barrier to control the advance of global warming, however, we are not exempt from its effects, so, although our carbon footprint does not have the aggressiveness of industrialized countries, we have the duty to firmly contribute to mitigating the effects for all of humanity.

It is here that the need emerges for a Forest Policy that is coherent and responsible with the people's struggle to save Mother Earth. There are large international projects that are examples to follow. Among them, the great effort of the Sub-Saharan African countries, which have transformed the Sahel Strip into a green wall against the advance of the desert.

It is about 8 thousand kilometers of forests planted and maintained by the local populations of 11 African countries. The successful results are definitely a guide to what the peoples of the South can do when it comes to contributing together and concretely to mitigating the effects of climate change.

The interesting thing about this is the derived benefits for the peoples: First, the multilateral coordination of the 11 countries has fostered an environment of peace that was unthinkable in decades in the area, although there are still differences, they have united in this noble objective of stop the advance of desertification. Secondly, the boost that has been given to the forestry industry in the area has been impressive; the countries see the produc-

tion of wood and derivatives from controlled forest management reflected in their economies.

Thirdly, the technological level that they have developed in terms of reproducing seedlings for reforestation banks, and not least, the irrigation and planning techniques to take advantage of the rainwater that is so scarce in the area. In the end, but most importantly, the process of displacement of entire populations, victims of Climate Change, who, thanks to the Green Wall project, have returned to their ancestral places, was stopped.

In our country we have made progress in terms of reforestation and forest management, we have a mission created by our Comandante Chávez for this purpose, the Tree Mission,



which involves the people in this process, we also have institutions like CONARE, but we have to do more, we cannot settle with what we have achieved so far and there is no better time for it, when we are facing a climate crisis caused by capitalist greed.

In our Plan for the Homeland, two particular objectives are foreseen in this matter, both from the perspective of economic development and from the perspective of the salvation of Mother Earth. Regarding the responsible economic use of forests

3.1.1.6. Promote the development of the Forest Engine, in order to expand and develop primary production and forestry use in the country, expanding plantations in volume and territorially, and transformation infrastructure throughout the production chain.

Regarding environmental responsibility and the creation of a new development



system that respects life and Mother Earth, Objective V is in full swing.

For this we are going to plant ten million trees that we have set as a goal in the 2022-2023 national reforestation plan, which we are going to produce in our nurseries together with the people in the main areas affected in the country by climatic effects and by the action human.

But we will not stop there, we plan to expand the capacity of forest reproduction and for this we have the operational will of our

organized people, but above all with that scientific talent that we have been able to appreciate in our I National Congress of Researchers on the Climate change. We are going to promote creative efforts in reproduction and that allow a substantial acceleration in obtaining mature seedlings prepared to quickly reforest the affected territories.

If each Venezuelan planted a tree, we would be doubling the goals: we must reforest to capture carbon, reforest to generate oxygen, reforest to maintain our biodiversity, reforest to generate water for future generations, by sowing water we will be sowing life.

In this era of economic growth and new local ventures, saving the planet is a great opportunity to promote that Powerful and Great Venezuela that we all want. Together everything is possible!



Up to date with Nicolás

@NicolasMaduro

05/14/2022

Every time we visit the Mausoleum where the remains of the Liberator Simón Bolívar rest, the patriots who carry his thought high, we connect with his heroic deed. Nine years after the inauguration of this work, we ratify: Long live Bolívar!



@NicolasMaduro

05/13/2022



A pleasure to receive His Excellency Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo, Secretary General of OPEC. We were talking about geopolitics and the current challenges facing the world economy. We are determined to contribute to the stability of the oil market.



@NicolasMaduro

05/11/2022

I am open to hearing new proposals, ideas and visions for Venezuela to recover. I reiterate my call to all Venezuelans, let's put pettiness aside, it's time to work together and consolidate this first stage of growth of the real economy.



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