

## CCAC welcomes Helena Molin Valdés as new Head

Helena Molin Valdés, new Head of the Secretariat of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC), is an experienced leader within the United Nations system and a long-time proponent of sustainable development, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster reduction.

Molin Valdés has been instrumental in making the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) an important force in global disaster management. Holding various positions since 2000, including Acting Director and Chief of Advocacy and Outreach, she developed and led the global campaign Making Cities Resilient; helped organize the World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction in Kobe, Japan in 2005; and played a principal role in drafting and negotiating the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters. Out of the Hyogo Framework for Action emerged the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, which Valdés helped establish.

Molin Valdés has authored, co-authored or coordinated many papers, handbooks, global reviews and reports on local development, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and resilience. She has worked extensively with both UNEP and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and has organized and led international delegations and events, including at RIO+10, Rio +20 and several of the UNFCCC COPs.

Early in her career, Valdés headed a Swedish development NGO, Association Nicarauac, some of whose work involved improving traditional brick production and cookstoves, a key focus for the CCAC. She is an architect by training, with a degree in architecture and urban development from Lund University. She speaks English, Spanish and Swedish.

**The Climate and Clean Air Coalition** is a voluntary global partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific institutions and civil society committed to catalyzing concrete, substantial action to reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants (including methane, black carbon and many hydrofluorocarbons). The Coalition has [11 initiatives](#) working to raise awareness, mobilize resources and lead transformative actions in key emitting and cross cutting sectors. SLCP reduction must go hand in hand with deep and persistent cuts to carbon dioxide and other long-lived greenhouse gases if we are to stay under a 2 degrees Celsius warming limit.

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