



EDITORIAL

The second meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP2) and the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP12) will be held in Nairobi from 6 to 17 November 2006 has set up very important agenda as a follow up of the decisions of the Montreal Conference known as the two-track process: (a) Ad Hoc Working Group and (b) the Dialogue on long-term cooperative action process in the context of future reduction commitment, long-term cooperative action to address climate change.

The main article emphasises on the freedom of every citizen and every nation from the threat of climate change. This threat undermines the other key freedoms. Further the Stern Review urged for immediate action as a cost-effective measure to avoid future costs of climate impacts which will be greater than the economic cost of the Great Depression or human and social cost of the World Wars.

This issue of ClimeAsia takes this opportunity to announce the 2nd International Workshop on Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in January 2007.

Freedom is not Free: Climate Change threatens development, food security and global justice

Atiq Rahman calls for deeper cuts in emissions and greater effort on adaptation to climate change impacts urgently to free the world from the eminent threat of dangerous climate change.

Runway climate change is looking ever more threatening. There appears to be just a small window of opportunity in this decade for rapid action to avert catastrophic and irreversible changes.

The good news is that - despite all the misinformation campaigns - the process of climate change negotiation is continuing. Scientific effort, through the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is narrowing uncertainty and

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Developing Negotiation Skills for LDCs and AOSIS Countries: An Urgent Need

Reasons behind low level of negotiating capacity and skills of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Association of Small Island States (AOSIS) are manifold. Mr. Abdullahi Majeed, Deputy Minister for Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water, Maldives suggested a number of steps for better negotiation. He presented this to a group of southern negotiators in August 2006 in Dhaka.

Once a person is chosen in a Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Association of Small Island States (AOSIS) country delegation for UNFCCC negotiation process, it is time to start preparing yourself for the task ahead. S/he should study the agenda for the particular meeting and receive briefings

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ClimeAsia is Published by CANSA at its Secretariat



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COP12/MOP2: Important Agenda for South



Twenty Fifth session of the Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) and the Second Session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG 2) in conjunction with Twelfth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP12) to the UNFCCC will be held in Nairobi, Kenya from 06 - 17 November 2006. The second workshop under the dialogue on long-term cooperative action to address climate change by enhancing implementation of the Convention (the Dialogue) will also be held from 15 to 16 November.

Subsidiary Bodies for Implementation (SBI) will discuss a number of issues related to implementation of various decisions while Subsidiary Bodies for Scientific and Technological Advise (SBSTA) will discuss Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change along with other issues. In the context of South, a number of agenda items are important to follow-up to understand it better and raise southern voice.

SBSTA agenda items important for south are: 3) Five-year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; 4) Development and transfer of technologies; and 6) Research and systematic observation. Details of each agenda item can be found in FCCC/SBSTA/2006/6*

The COP, at its eleventh session, adopted the five-year programme of work of the SBSTA on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (decision 2/CP.11). The SBSTA, at its twenty-fourth session worked on further

elaboration of list of activities of the five-year programme. The SBSTA agreed to consider the activities to be undertaken for the period up to its twenty-eighth session on the basis of a draft text, contained in annex I to document FCCC/SBSTA/2006/5, with a view to completing the task at its twenty-fifth session. The SBSTA will be invited to complete its consideration of the activities of the SBSTA five-year programme of work to be undertaken for the period up to its twenty-eighth session.

Under the development and transfer of technology agenda, the SBSTA will be invited to consider possible actions for enhancing the implementation of the technology transfer framework and the views from Parties on the review of the EGTT, with a view to recommending a draft decision for adoption by the COP at its twelfth session. It may also wish to take note of the documents prepared for the session and to determine any further actions arising from them.

Important agenda items under SBI are: 5) Financial mechanism under the Convention which will cover (a) Special Climate Change Fund; (b) Third review of the financial mechanism; (c) Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties; and (d) Additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility. Agenda item 6) Financial mechanism under Kyoto Protocol will discuss Adaptation Fund with special focus on operational modalities, governance and criteria for funding adaptation activities. Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention including (a) Progress on the implementation of decision 1/CP.10; and (b) Matters relating to the least developed countries is

also important.

Climate Action Network (CAN) shares its views on Adaptation Funds through ECO published in Bonn. It stated that Adaptation Fund must be under the sole authority of Kyoto Party and institution will manage fund shall function under the guidance of and be accountable to the conference of the parties serving as meeting of the parties to Kyoto Protocol. Majority representation of the developing countries should be in the governance structure. The operation modalities must be flexible, should use an expedited processing system, and full cost funding principles should be accepted to meet the cost of adaptation. Experiences and process of improvement of operational modalities of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) can be considered for developing the operational modalities for Adaptation Fund.

It has also disagree with the idea of linking Adaptation Fund with Five-year Programme of Work on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change. Linking Adaptation Fund with Five-Year programme of work will allow other Non-Kyoto Parties to access this fund and therefore strongly oppose this idea. Activities identified under the Five-year programme of work may be considered only for identification of priority areas and activities.

Finally CAN urged that the Kyoto Parties first to decide the institutional arrangement, modalities of operation, eligibility criteria, and priority areas and then negotiate and finalize institution to manage the Adaptation Fund. CAN also demand that the adaptation levy on CDM should be applied to all the other flexible mechanisms.



Climate Change and Development Links

Saleemul Huq, Hannah Reid, Laurel A. Murray

Until recently, climate change was viewed largely as an environmental concern, of little relevance to development policy-makers or practitioners. Likewise, development approaches have been given less attention within the climate change community, who instead favour natural science approaches focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This paper describes the independent evolution of climate change and development discourses, and provides some explanation as to why the two fields have operated largely independently from one another. The recent initiatives to strengthen links between the climate change and development communities are also described. These are of particular importance as climate change impacts will significantly affect national development. Climate change experts can no longer ignore the fact that most climate change impacts will fall predominantly on the world's poorest people. Likewise, without addressing climate change issues, much development policy and practice will be wasted. Alternative development pathways will influence the capacity of communities and countries to adapt to climate change.

Despite the magnitude of its likely impacts on the least developed countries, until recently climate change has been viewed largely as an environmental concern, of little relevance to development policy-makers or practitioners. Likewise, development approaches have been given less attention within the climate change community, who instead favour natural science approaches focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This paper explores why this separate evolution has occurred, and what

it means for our attitude towards development and our struggle to reduce the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable nations.

WHY MUST CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT BE BETTER LINKED?

The link between climate change and development is obvious. Climate change impacts will

significantly affect national development, particularly amongst the world's poorest communities. In turn, alternative development pathways will determine future greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and influence the capacity of communities and countries to adapt to climate change. "For either process to work, each must reinforce the

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Not Millions, Adaptation Needs Billions of Dollars

Mozaharul Alam

Managing the Impact of Climate Change is one of the six areas of the Gleneagles Plan of Action. It has also stated that all countries need further access to information and to develop the scientific capacity that will allow their governments to integrate climate, environmental, health, economic and social factors into development planning and resilience strategies.

Strategies to adapt to climate change recognised that adaptation activities are, to a large degree, site specific and depend upon each country's circumstances, actions can be better informed by global knowledge and research. Adaptation actions must also be integrated into national and/or regional plans of development. Adaptation will require a mix of transfer of existing technology, new technologies, and the revision of planning standards and systems. Many of the technologies to cope with the climates of the future already exist. However, these technologies must still be transferred and people accustomed to their use. South-South technology transfer can play a major role in adaptation. The knowledge shared must

blend traditional knowledge with the most recent scientific discoveries. There is a need to develop stronger global systems of assessing and sharing knowledge about responses to climate variability.

The World Bank Investment Framework gave emphasis on urgent action needed for climate-proof development because decisions taken today about infrastructure, production systems and institutions determine the vulnerability of those systems for many decades to come. The overall annual costs to adapt to projected climate change, i.e., climate-proof development, are likely to lie in the \$10 billion to \$40 billion per year range of which about a third is associated with public finance.

The investment framework recognised that ultimately new financing instruments will need to be explored for adaptation. Financial assistance will be required for technology transfer, but in many cases simply more application of existing technology is needed. For example more water storage; more coastal protection; higher capacities in flood mitigation; and higher standards in building design.

Climate Change and Development Links

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other". Re-integrating these two policy areas is a significant but important challenge. Man-made climate change is the result of increasing GHG emissions caused by development factors such as economic growth, technology, population and governance. The evidence for climate change impacts on both natural and human systems is increasing (Table 1).

Unsustainable development is the underlying cause of climate change, and development pathways will determine the degree to which social systems are vulnerable to climate change. Climate change will have a direct impact on development in relation to climate sensitive activities such as agriculture, and indirect consequences on social issues such as poverty and education (Figure 1). Furthermore, climate change is likely to exacerbate inequalities due to the uneven distribution of the costs of damage, necessary adaptation and mitigation efforts. Climatic changes could lead to environmental scarcity in certain regions, which could harm people's livelihoods and lead to migration or, in extreme situations, conflict between social groups. Conflict over transboundary water sharing between Sudan and Egypt has already been observed.

There are many examples where specific development projects may be jeopardised by climate change. For example, in 1985 a glacial lake outburst in Nepal destroyed a newly completed World Bank funded hydropower dam. Such incidents demonstrate the clear need to consider the impacts and vulnerabilities of climate change on current and planned development programmes. This need for 'climate proofing' applies to small (such as micro-credit schemes) and large (such as

infrastructure construction) development projects alike.

NEED FOR INTEGRATION BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE POLICY LEVEL

The UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol both require that climate change be tackled within the wider context of sustainable development. However, the research community has been

slower to explore these wider linkages between the issues than the political arena. Climate change negotiations are still dominated by concerns about reducing emissions amongst industrialised nations (mitigation), and few attempts have been made to operationalise climate change into the wider development agenda. Some parties to the negotiations also

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Table 1. Examples of impacts from projected changes in extreme climatic events

Projected Change in extreme Phenomena during the 21st Century	Representative examples of projected impacts
Simple Extremes Higher maximum temperatures, more hot days, and heat waves over nearly all land areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased incidence of death and serious illness in older people and urban poor Increased heat stress in livestock and wildlife Increased risk of damage to several crops
Higher (increasing) minimum temperatures: fewer cold days, frost days and cold waves over nearly all land areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased cold-related human morbidity and mortality Decreased risk of damage to several crops Extended range and activity of some disease vectors
More Intense precipitation events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased flood, landslide Increased soil erosion Increased flood runoff
Complex Extreme	
Increased summer drying over mid-latitude continental interiors and associated risk of drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased crop yields Decreased water resource quantity and quality Increased risk of forest fire
Increased tropical cyclone peak wind intensities, mean and peak precipitation intensities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased risk to human life, risk of infectious disease epidemics Increased coastal erosion Increased damage to coastal ecosystems and coral reefs
Intensified droughts and floods associated with El Niño events in many different regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased agriculture and range-land productivity in drought-prone and flood-prone regions
Increased Asian summer monsoon precipitation variability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased flood and drought magnitude and damages in temperate and tropical Asia

Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Third Assessment Report, 2001

Sea Change: Why Global Warming Could Leave Britain Feeling the Cold by *James Randerson*

Scientists have uncovered more evidence for a dramatic weakening in the vast ocean current that gives Britain its relatively balmy climate by dragging warm water northwards from the tropics. The slowdown, which climate modellers have predicted will follow global warming, has been confirmed by the most detailed study yet of ocean flow in the Atlantic.

Most alarmingly, the data reveal that a part of the current, which is usually 60 times more powerful than the Amazon river, came to a temporary halt during November 2004.

The nightmare scenario of a shutdown in the meridional ocean current which drives the Gulf stream was dramatically

portrayed in *The Day After Tomorrow*. The climate disaster film had Europe and North America plunged into a new ice age practically overnight.

Although no scientist thinks the switch-off could happen that quickly, they do agree that even a weakening of the current over a few decades would have profound consequences.

Warm water brought to Europe's shores raises the temperature by as much as 10C in some places and without it the continent would be much colder and drier.

Researchers are not sure yet what to make of the 10-day hiatus. "We'd never seen anything like that before and we don't understand it. We didn't

No new ice age yet, but Gulf Stream is weakening. Atlantic current came to halt for 10 days in 2004

know it could happen," said Harry Bryden, at the National Oceanography Centre, in Southampton, who presented the findings to a conference in Birmingham on rapid climate change.

Is it the first sign that the current is stuttering to a halt? "I want to know more before I say that," Professor Bryden said.

Lloyd Keigwin, a scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic

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Developing Negotiation Skills in LDCs and AOSIS.....

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from your counterparts who have the know-how of the proceedings. It would be also advisable that you consult colleagues from other sectors who had been to the previous meeting or those who can enlighten you on the issues concerned. Should you feel that you require background knowledge or you are not confident of the issue at hand do not hesitate to communicate with colleagues in the neighbouring countries or region and discuss the issues involved.

CONTINUITY OR RETENTION

This is also known as the institutional memory. It is essential for our governments to allow the continuity or retention of person(s) who are thoroughly acquainted with the global climate change developments. Presence of such person(s) will particularly helpful for those who

are trying to draw form their vast knowledge. This would be particularly useful in cases where there is a need for the past references regarding the negotiations are called into question.

CREATING A BASE

It is understandable the same group of individuals attending the negotiating process will not continue always. The Head or the Leading Officers should try to engage and motivate junior staff members in the ministry or the office to play a part in the mediations. The head of the delegation should seek all means possible to include and despatch less seasoned officers to negotiating sessions.

BUILD CONFIDENCE

It is important to build confidence or trust within your

own group, be it LDCs or AOSIS. We know that there are limitations to smaller delegations, say one, two or three persons. It is therefore essential we should seek support and co-operation within our own group to follow committees or ad-hoc groups running parallel to each other to raise concerns of your own group at meetings of G77 or larger geographical blocks.

NEVER BE INTIMIDATED OR DISCOURAGED

LDCs/AOSIS country delegations should never be intimidated or discouraged from listening to opposing views from the developed countries. We know that these matters are complex and complicated. We should not expect that in one meeting or session, a solution to the problem would come as your Christmas Present! Audience to controvert or divergent opinions also help

Freedom is not Free

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demonstrating the anthropogenic foot-print. The Kyoto Protocol has come into force and European countries are trying to implement it. But the bad news is that there are increasing extreme climatic events while, global action to reduce greenhouse gases remains very weak, and emissions are increasing more rapidly than ever.

There should be an absolute 5.2 percent reduction in the greenhouses gas emissions during the Protocol's first commitment period, in fact we have seen a greater increase. And the Kyoto target itself was only designed to be the first, small and inadequate step. It is an absolute priority that the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change achieve deeper cuts, so as to meet its prime objective - saving the planet from the threat of runaway climate change. COP-12/MOP-2 in Nairobi must strive to achieve them.

Over the last five years, there has been an unprecedented increase in extreme weather events in rich, developing and least developed countries alike - including cyclones, floods, heat stress, drought, and the rapid melting of polar ice and glaciers. All countries will need to adapt. Devastating hurricanes like Katrina and Rita have exposed the United States' vulnerability, demonstrating lack of preparedness and the need for adaptation even there – and the adaptation needs of the poorer countries are much greater.

The Convention and Protocol enshrine simultaneous actions on mitigation and adaptation. In the final analysis mitigation is the best form of adaptation, which is

certainly no substitute for it. Any delay in reducing emissions will only increase the need and cost of adaptation, and increase the risk of runaway global climate change. The primary responsibility of the Convention and Protocol - and all their member states, signatories and non-signatories - is to reduce emissions now. Industrialized countries must take the lead. Developing countries must also do

Freedom from the threat of climate change is one of the key freedoms for which every country will have to take responsibility. If it is not ensured, such other freedoms – as from hunger, injustice, terrorism and

their utmost, and seek a path of development with a lower GHG emission.

The delay in the Protocol coming to force has deprived the world of a major opportunity for reversing the course of rapid increase in greenhouse gases. Even its attempt to be a first, small beginning was thwarted by a small group of countries. By contrast, European countries are trying to implement it; but attempts are weak and inadequate. A limited number of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects are emerging. But they are virtually exclusively in the domain of such large developing countries and major emitters as China, India and Brazil. Most of the smaller and poorer nations - and particularly the Least Developed Countries - will largely remain outside its benefits, though they will be the most affected by the adverse impacts of climate change. A special mechanism to include them is essential to make the CDM a universal instrument.

All efforts must be made to include the USA into all future processes. In this rapidly globalizing world it is neither desirable nor helpful to keep the greatest economy out. The US is not only the greatest greenhouse gas emitter, it also can play a key role in solving the problem of climate change with its scientific and financial capabilities. If the US Administration is serious about freedom across the world, then freedom from the increasing threat of climate change - particularly for the poor and vulnerable countries and communities - must be part of the equation.

While mitigation efforts have stumbled, there has been some progress over adaptation, maybe as a result of their very failure. This also serves as a rebuff to climate skeptics, emphasizing not only that climate change is real and already here, but that communities and ecosystems need to be protected from its potential threats. Much of this is due to interest from developing countries who have identified that adaptation has direct and reinforcing relationship to sustainable development. Many have led and initiated important advances. The 48 nations of the Least Developed Countries, for example, have started National Adaptation Plans of Action: several industrialized countries, such as Finland and UK, have initiated similar plans and activities. Adaptation has to be focused to development. It will be supported, and become cost-effective, if done with sensitivity and respect for local and national circumstances.

The Convention's objective is “stabilization of the greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous anthropogenic intervention with the climate system”. But what is “dangerous” remains both controversial, and a scientific challenge, and must be resolved

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Hot from the Press:

Stern Review: Climate will cost over 5% of Global GDP

Stern Review on the Economics of Climate change termed as the most comprehensive review ever carried out on the economics of climate change was published on 30 October 2006 in London, UK.

“The conclusion of the Review is essentially optimistic. There is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we act now and act internationally. Governments, businesses and individuals all need to work together to respond to the challenge. Strong, deliberate policy choices by governments are essential to motivate change. But the task is urgent. Delaying action, even by a decade or two, will take us into dangerous territory. We must not let this window of opportunity close.”

The Review finds that all countries will be affected by climate change, but it is the poorest countries that will suffer earliest and most. Unabated climate change risks raising average temperatures by over 5° C from pre-industrial levels. Such changes would transform the physical geography of our planet, as well as the human geography – how and where we live our lives.

Adding up the 12 costs of a narrow range of the effects, based on the assessment of the science carried out by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2001, the Review calculates that the dangers of unabated climate change would be equivalent to at least 5% of GDP each year.

The Review goes on to consider more recent scientific evidence (for example, of the risks that greenhouse gases will be released naturally as the permafrost melts), the economic effects on human life and the environment,

and approaches to modelling that ensure the impacts that affect poor people are weighted appropriately. Taking these together, the Review estimates that the dangers could be equivalent to 20% of GDP or more.

In contrast, the costs of action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to avoid the worst impacts of climate change can be limited to around 1% of global GDP each year. People would pay a little more for carbon-intensive goods, but our economies could continue to grow strongly.

If we take no action to control emissions, each tonne of CO₂ that we emit now is causing damage worth at least \$85 – but these costs are not included when investors and consumers make decisions about how to spend their money. Emerging schemes that allow people to trade reductions in CO₂ have demonstrated that there are many opportunities to cut emissions for less than \$25 a tonne. In other words, reducing emissions will make us better off. According to one measure, the benefits over time of actions to shift the world onto a low-carbon path could be in the order of \$2.5 trillion each year.

The shift to a low-carbon economy will also bring huge opportunities. Markets for low-carbon technologies will be worth at least \$500bn, and perhaps much more, by 2050 if the world acts on the scale required. Tackling climate change is the pro-growth strategy; ignoring it will

ultimately undermine economic growth.

The Review looks at what this analysis means for the level of ambition of global action. It concludes that the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere should be limited to somewhere within the range 450 - 550ppm CO₂e (CO₂ equivalent). Anything higher would substantially increase risks of very harmful impacts but would only reduce the expected costs of mitigation by comparatively little. Anything lower would impose very high adjustment costs in the near term and might not even be feasible, not least because of past delays in taking strong action.

Climate change is the greatest market failure the world has seen. Three elements of policy are required for an effective response.

The first is carbon pricing, through taxation, emissions trading or regulation, so that people are faced with the full

There is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we act now and act internationally. Governments, businesses and individuals all need to work together to respond to the challenge

social costs of their actions. The aim should be to build a common global carbon price across countries and sectors.

The second is technology policy, to drive the development and deployment at scale of a range of

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Climate Change and Development Links

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fear that attention on development linkages will detract from efforts to reduce emissions and divert scarce funds to more general development projects.

The IPCC is the main body responsible for assessing the literature on climate change. This body acknowledges that development may be the most effective policy framework to address climate change mitigation and is critical to the success of adaptation strategies. The IPCC was formed in 1988 and originally limited its study to the scientific, technical and economic aspects of climate change. As seen in Figure 2, the first two assessment reports only investigated the evidence for climate change, its impacts, and the cost-effectiveness of policy options. Indeed, the IPCC has often been criticised for neglecting the climate-development nexus. The Third Assessment Report went the furthest to address development linkages by including “discussions about alternative development pathways and global sustainability (especially through its emphasis on scenarios)”.

The IPCC assessments have evolved gradually to introduce socio-economic analysis into climate research and it is widely hoped that the upcoming Fourth Assessment Report, due in 2007, will integrate sustainable development into all aspects of the report and further explore the integration of development and climate change policies.

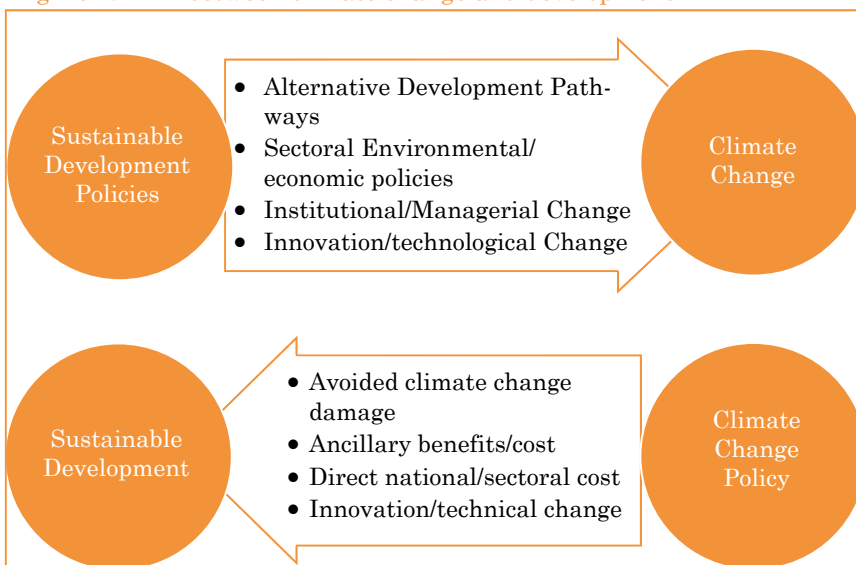
RESOLVING TRADE-OFFS BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Development pathways, particularly in the world’s poorest countries, can either increase or diminish the impacts and vulnerability of households and communities to climate change. Development activities therefore need to be included in climate research when assessing the vulnerability of the world’s poor. For instance, diversification of livelihood sources, improved infrastructure, education and institutional strength all help to reduce vulnerability to climate change as well as encouraging socioeconomic development. In this respect, climate change adaptation and development share many of the same goals to

reduce social and environmental vulnerability.

However, many current development pathways could potentially increase climate change vulnerability in the pursuit of social and economic gains. Not all development outcomes are ‘win-win’ for development and climate change. Where the climate change and development agendas have conflicting interests, difficult trade-offs will need to be addressed. This is especially important when examining development projects that have a ‘lock-in’ character that may hinder a country or community’s ability to cope with future climate change. For example, certain development plans may increase dependency on climate-sensitive resources, such as rain-fed agriculture, thereby increasing vulnerability. Development schemes can also lower adaptive potential. For example, many African countries, influenced by external donors, are reforming their water sector (including reforming water rights), which could reduce water access among the poor, and therefore increase their vulnerability to droughts.

Figure 1: Link between climate change and development



(Source:Swart et al.,2003

Climate change research often uses the concept of ‘winners and losers’ when exploring future impacts. At the global, regional and local levels, certain sectors may experience positive or negative impacts to climate change. This is particularly apparent in the agricultural sector, where changes in rainfall distribution may favour certain agricultural sectors and harm others, depending on the region and specific crops/livestock. O’Brien and Leichenko (2000) have explored interactions between climate change impacts and economic globalisation and the notion of ‘double exposure’ has emerged. This is where the

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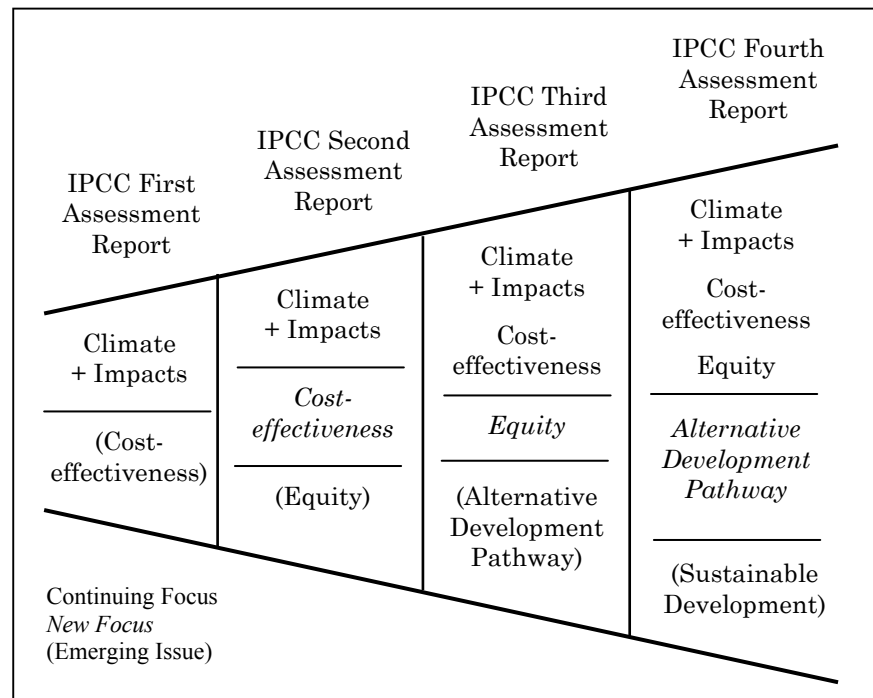
impacts of climate change and globalisation have a cumulative effect and essentially create 'double winners' and 'double losers' (e.g. where marginal livelihoods in rural India are compounded by recurrent droughts which will become worse with climate change). It raises important questions about equity and the effect development has on vulnerability and adaptive capacity. Negative climate change impacts can often put an additional burden on those communities and sectors that are already marginalised. Likewise, the negative impacts of climate change can potentially offset the benefits enjoyed in certain areas due to economic globalisation.

Many local communities are already adapting to the impacts of climate variability and climate change on a daily basis. Their experiences can offer lessons for national governments wishing to support adaptation activities.

CONCLUSION

This paper clearly demonstrates the need for the climate change and development communities to improve communications and find ways to work together. It underlines the relevance of climate change issues to development policy-makers and practitioners, and it likewise stresses the need for climate change experts to increase the level to which climate change impacts, particularly on the world's poor, are incorporated into their discourses and planning. Some steps have been made to bring the development and climate change communities together. These need to be built on and improved so that development efforts are not wasted, and the impacts of climate change on the world's poor are both acknowledged and taken responsibility for. It is vital to the success of both

Figure 2: Evolution of IPCC Assessment Reports



Najam et al.,(2003) "Integrating Sustainable Development into the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change", S11.

development and climate change policies that climate change be incorporated into development programmes at international, regional, national and local levels.

Some specific recommendations for particular groups of actors are as follows:

International donor agencies need to assess the extent to which their investment portfolios in developing countries might be at risk due to climate change and take steps to reduce that risk.

Developing country governments need to understand the extent to which they may be vulnerable to climate change and take steps to reduce vulnerability (and enhance adaptive capacity) of the most exposed sectors and populations.

Vulnerable communities (and

NGOs and other agencies working with those communities) must also understand the extent to which they may be vulnerable to climate change and to take steps to reduce their vulnerability (and enhance adaptive capacity), eg. through micro-insurance schemes.

Less developed country countries should implement their National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs).

All conscious citizens of the world must understand their own contribution to the problem of climate change and their capacity to reduce emissions and support those most vulnerable to unavoidable impacts.

This article is adopted from Gatekeeper Series 123 of IIED and the full report is available at www.iied.org.



Hot from the Press: Stern Review

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low-carbon and high-efficiency products. And the third is action to remove barriers to energy efficiency, and to inform, educate and persuade individuals about what they can do to respond to climate change. Fostering a shared understanding of the nature of climate change, and its consequences, is critical in shaping behaviour, as well as in underpinning both national and international action.

Effective action requires a global policy response, guided by a common international understanding of the long-term goals for climate policy and strong frameworks for co-operation. Key elements of future international frameworks should include a) Emissions trading, b)

Technology co-operation, c) Action to reduce deforestation, and d) Adaptation.

The poorest countries are most vulnerable to climate change. It is essential that climate change be fully integrated into development policy, and that rich countries honour their pledges to increase support through overseas development assistance. International funding should also support improved regional information on climate change impacts, and research into new

Concerns of the Christian Aid, UK is that the Stern Report has dismissed a level of CO₂ and other equivalent greenhouse gases (CO₂e) of 450 parts per million as too expensive. But in reality poor people are already struggling to cope with existing climate change as a result of an atmosphere polluted with 430ppm of CO₂e.

crop varieties that will be more resilient to drought and flood.

Sir Nicholas Stern, Head of the Government Economics Service and Adviser to the Government on the economics of climate change and development.

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politically. Present concentrations of greenhouse gases are already leading to heat stress, extreme weather events, the melting of polar ice, and the shifting of glaciers and permafrost.

So, have we reached dangerous levels? This remains a grave concern. A global and urgent political consensus on this is essential, but so far there is none. The European Union is moving towards a 2°C increase as the limit of acceptability, yet that may still have intolerable impacts. In the absence of consensus, this must be seen as the absolute upper limit, with a view to reducing it.

In the final analysis, this is an issue of consumption, production and environmental justice. Agreeing the Convention was principally a process of governmental North-South negotiations. But civil society - environmental, research, scientific and business groups - has influenced governments to decide in favour of

the planet above narrow national or group interests. The principle of “common but differentiated responsibility” was accepted by all parties and actors.

The 2006 Conference of the Parties should be a fertile ground for discussing the second commitment period - bringing deeper cuts in the North and more decarbonized economic development in the South. Initiatives and discourses on a post-Kyoto architecture, with various positions on equity, fairness and allocation of responsibility and burden sharing have already been initiated by different groups in both the North and the South. The more progressive ones - such as the “South-North Dialogue on Equity in the Greenhouse, a proposal for an adequate global climate agreement” - have combined researchers and institutes from both.

The present structure of North-South negotiation may need to be revisited. But any future

architecture must include all nations - and particularly the USA, the greatest emitter. It must take into consideration the need, and the right, of poor countries and communities to survive with their development needs met and minimum dignity ensured.

Freedom from the threat of climate change is one of the key freedoms for which every country will have to take responsibility. If it is not ensured, such other freedoms - as freedom from hunger, injustice, terrorism and dictatorship - could be equally threatened. There is no part of the planet so isolated and fortified that it is free from the danger. Climate security has to be for the entire planet, and all its citizens.

The author, Dr. Atiq Rahman, is the Executive Director of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS). This article first appeared in UNEP's Climate Change and Economic Development issue of Our Planet magazine, Volume 17 No. 2. (2006).

Sea Change.....

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Institution, in Massachusetts, in the US, described the temporary shutdown as "the most abrupt change in the whole [climate] record".

He added: "It only lasted 10 days. But suppose it lasted 30 or 60 days, when do you ring up the prime minister and say let's start stockpiling fuel? How can we rule out a longer one next year?"

Prof Bryden's group stunned climate researchers last year with data suggesting that the flow rate of the Atlantic circulation had dropped by about 6m tonnes of water a second from 1957 to 1998. If the current remained that weak, he

predicted, it would lead to a 1°C drop in the UK in the next decade. A complete shutdown would lead to a 4°C-6°C cooling over 20 years.

The study prompted the UK's Natural Environment Research Council to set up an array of 16 submerged stations spread across the Atlantic, from Florida to north Africa, to measure flow rate and other variables at different depths. Data from these stations confirmed the slowdown in 1998 was not a "freak observation"- although the current does seem to have picked up slightly since.

Source: The Guardian, Friday October 27, 2006

Second International Workshop on Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change- January 2007

The second "International Workshop on Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change" will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 11- 16 January 2007. The first workshop was held in Dhaka in 2005. The workshop will consist of two days field visit to see community based adaptation activities on the ground and three days interactive discussions on different thematic areas in Dhaka.

The primary aim of the workshop is to share the latest developments in adaptation programmes, priorities and solutions, through sharing of experiences and knowledge dissemination between participants. The specific objectives are:

- to bring different stakeholders and practitioners to share and discuss knowledge of Community Based Adaptation (CBA) practices from different parts of the developing world;
- to capture the latest learning from experience of CBA around the developing world;
- to enhance capacity of the most vulnerable groups and people and improving livelihoods in developing countries and integrate these lessons into national and international development programmes; and
- to compile papers and the findings of group discussion into workshop proceedings for further dissemination worldwide.

For further information, please contact, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), House 10, Road 16 A, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh. Email: ccadaptation.workshop@bcas.net; info@bcas.net

Second ECBI Regional Workshop for South and Southeast Asia

The second ECBI Regional Workshop for South and Southeast Asia was held in Rajendrapur, Bangladesh from 8 to 10 August 2006. Altogether 24 participants from 8 Countries in South and South East Asian and European countries participated in the workshop. These included both UNFCCC Focal Points as well as representatives from ministries of Finance and Planning from a number of countries. The workshop started with words of welcome from the hosts and organisers and with some farming presentations on the UNFCCC and the agenda for the upcoming COP12 to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2006. The majority of the workshop was held in an

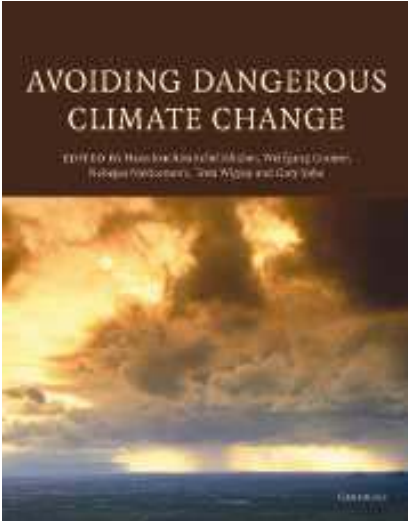
informal, roundtable, discussion mode with substantive inputs and discussion from all the participants. The main issues discussed in the workshop included Future of UNFCCC/ Kyoto Protocol regime (specially CDM), Lack of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects in LDCs, Adaptation issues generally National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs), and Adaptation Fund in particular.



Resources

Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change

Published by: Cambridge University Press, 2006



Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change edited by Hans Joachim Schellnhuber is published by Cambridge University Press in 2006. This book consolidates the scientific findings presented at the International Symposium on Stabilization of Greenhouse Gas Concentrations, Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change took place in Exeter, UK.

The message coming out of the book is clear - that climate change is happening, that impact of the change are likely to be more serious than previously thought, and that there are already technological options that can be used to ultimately stabilize the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at appropriate levels.

Caring for Climate

Published by UNFCCC, 2005



“Caring for Climate” by Joanna Depledge and Robert Lamb is produced by the Information Services of the UNFCCC secretariat. This is a guide to the Climate Change Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. This guide is issued for public information purposes but is not an official text of the Convention in any legal or technical sense.

This guide provides scientific information on climate change and background of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol. It has highlighted commitments of the Parties of the Convention and Protocol. This guide is very useful for the new comers.

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