



A Special Report on Selected Side Events at the Bonn Climate Change Talks - June 2009

Published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Online at <http://www.iisd.ca/climate/sb30/enbots/>

Issue #11 | Saturday, 13 June | Bonn Climate Change Talks, 1-12 June 2009 | Bonn, Germany

Events convened on Friday, 12 June 2009

Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation (ACCCA)

Presented by Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA-TM)



Mamadou Diakhite, UNITAR, said the results of the ACCCA project should be shared with others and stressed the need to continue the work by attracting increased funding and technical support.

More information:

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This event presented results from a project entitled "Advancing Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation: Description of 14 Pilot Actions in Africa and Asia."

Mamadou Diakhite, UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), introduced the ACCCA project, underscoring its goal of combining research and on-the-ground implementation. Sudhir Sharma, UNFCCC Secretariat, noted that the ACCCA project helps to build local capacity and stressed the need to share project results with other communities. Michel Van Den Bossche, EC, discussed various ongoing adaptation-related projects in the EC's EuropeAid Co-operation Office.

Fernanda Zermoglio, ACCCA Support Team, provided an overview of the ACCCA projects, highlighting that they involved communities and scientists working together to address climate change risks and adaptation needs.

Maggie Opondo, University of Nairobi, Kenya, described two projects that were undertaken in her country that aimed to reduce vulnerability to malaria epidemics. She said the projects employed a participatory approach to foster community ownership.

Togtokh Chuluun, National University of Mongolia, discussed a project undertaken in his country, which aimed to develop local adaptation strategies for coupled human-environment systems in rangelands. He explained that the project, *inter alia*, defined best land management practices for fragile rangelands and in pastoral systems, and restored cultural landscapes at multiple scales.

Florenca Pulhin, University of the Philippines, Los Baños, described a project in the Philippines that evaluated the vulnerability of upland farmers to climate change and aimed to build capacity through workshops, training sessions and the production of communication materials. She said the project conducted an impact assessment and an assessment of the level of awareness among farmers and stakeholders of climate change issues.

Suppakorn Chinvanno, SysTem for Analysis, Research, and Training (START), suggested possible next steps, including: expanding the scope of adaption actions; scaling up pilot actions by mainstreaming them into national development strategies and policies; and including a monitoring mechanism in communities to help understand how to sustain benefits in the long term.

Participants discussed, *inter alia*, lessons learned from the project.

This issue of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin on the Side (ENBOTS)* © <enb@iisd.org> is written and edited by Alexandra Conliffe, Radoslav Dimitrov, Ph.D., and Sikina Jinnah, Ph.D. The Digital Editor is Markus Staas. The Editor is Soledad Aguilar <soledad@iisd.org> and the Director of IISD Reporting Services is Langston James "Kimo" Goree VI <kimo@iisd.org>. The Sustaining Donors of the *Bulletin* are the United Kingdom (through the Department for International Development - DFID), the Government of the United States of America (through the Department of State Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs), the Government of Canada (through CIDA), the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission (DG-ENV), and the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea. General Support for the *Bulletin* during 2009 is provided by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Government of Australia, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, the Ministry of Environment of Sweden, the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, SWAN International, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Japanese Ministry of Environment (through the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies - IGES), the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (through the Global Industrial and Social Progress Research Institute - GISPRI), the Government of Iceland, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The opinions expressed in the *Bulletin* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IISD or other donors. Excerpts from the *Bulletin* may be used in non-commercial publications with appropriate academic citation. For information on the *Bulletin*, including requests to provide reporting services, contact the Director of IISD Reporting Services at <kimo@iisd.org>, +1-646-536-7556 or 300 East 56th St., 11A, New York, NY 10022, USA. The ENBOTS team at the Bonn Climate Change Talks - June 2009 can be contacted by e-mail at <alexandra@iisd.org>. Production of ENBOTS at this meeting has been provided by the UNFCCC Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The EU Climate and Energy Package

Presented by Portugal

This event presented the new EU climate and energy policy.

Jürgen Lefevere, European Commission (EC), stressed that the new EU climate and energy package is legally binding on EU Member States and will enter into force on 25 June 2009. He said it is comprehensive and includes, *inter alia*, decisions on renewable energy, effort sharing and the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). Lefevere drew attention to the Renewable Energy Directive, which stipulates that energy from renewable sources should be increased from 8.5% to 20% by 2020.

Simon Marr, EC, discussed the new phase of the EU ETS, which will take place between 2013-2020. He said its primary feature is a “robust” EU-wide cap beyond 2020 that sets out to achieve absolute emission reductions of 6.5% compared to 2005 levels. He stressed that: the ETS has fully harmonized allocation rules; auctioning is the default allocation method; and free allocation is to be phased out in favor of full auctioning by 2027.

Marr emphasized that as of 2013 more than 50% of the total cap is to be auctioned, with expected revenues of €30-50 billion annually, and added that at least 50% of auctioning revenues will be used to fund mitigation and adaptation policies within and outside of the EU. He said the EU envisions: an OECD-wide carbon market by 2015, to be extended to advanced economies by 2020; linkages between the EU ETS and non-Annex B countries such as the US as well as sub-state entities; and pilot projects to test the inclusion of REDD credits in carbon markets.

Tom van Ierland, EC, presented the new EU decision on effort sharing, noting it covers 60% of the EU’s GHG emissions and involves all economic sectors except Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry and those covered by the EU ETS. He stressed that it includes: binding annual targets for 2013-2020; strict reporting obligations and annual compliance checks; and immediate corrective action against Member States in case of non-compliance. He said national reduction targets were determined on the basis of GDP per capita, and will average 10% for non-ETS sectors by 2020, compared to 2005 levels. Van Ierland described flexibility mechanisms, including the ability to: bank early over-achievements; borrow up to 5% emissions from the subsequent year; transfer emission rights between Member States; and use CDM credits of up to 3% of 2005 emissions.



Jürgen Lefevere, EC, said the EU reduced its GHG emissions by 6.5% between 1990 and 2005, and plans to further reduce them by at least 14% between 2005 and 2020.



Simon Marr, EC, said aviation will be covered by the EU ETS as of 2012, and that 300 million allowances are available before the end of 2015 for carbon capture and storage and renewable energy demonstration projects in the EU.

More information:
<http://ec.europa.eu>