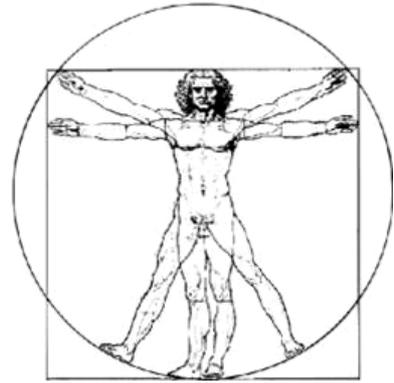

european capacity building initiative (ecbi)

for sustained capacity building in support of the
international climate change negotiations



2006 ecbi REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

8 – 10 AUGUST 2006

BRAC CDM, RAJENDRAPUR, BANGLADESH



The second ecbi Regional Workshop for South and Southeast Asia was held in Rajendrapur, Bangladesh from 8 to 10 August 2006. Altogether 18 participants from 10 countries participated in the workshop (see List). Following presentations on the history of the climate negotiations and the agenda for the upcoming UN climate conference in Nairobi, Kenya, the workshop switched to an informal

roundtable mode with substantive inputs from all the participants. The main issues discussed are presented below.

Agenda of COP/MOP

The agenda for the upcoming twelfth conference of parties to the UNFCCC (COP12) and the second meeting of parties to the Kyoto Protocol (MOP2) to be held in Nairobi in November 2006

was discussed in some detail. The participants highlighted the following issues to be of special interest to their countries:

- Future of UNFCCC/Kyoto Protocol, especially the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM):
- Lack of CDM projects in LDCs;
- Adaptation issues generally;
- Adaptation Fund in particular; and
- National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs).

Lack of CDM Projects in the region

Matthias Krey of Perspectives Climate Change in Zürich presented the findings of a study carried out as part of the ecpi Policy Analysis Programme on experiences from CDM projects in Southeast Asia. The study showed that the vast majority of CDM projects in the region are going to China and India. The participants discussed the reasons why other countries in the region were not attracting more projects. One of the major barriers identified was the lack of awareness and understanding of CDM opportunities amongst the private sector, and hence the lack of projects being submitted. The following possibilities for increasing the number of projects in other countries were identified:

- Focusing on types of projects which all countries can do (for instance, methane capture from waste);
- Developing common methodologies that can be replicated in other countries;
- Promoting South-South cooperation in developing projects (specially amongst private sector actors);
- Sharing regional expert resources on methodologies and project development;
- Ensuring properly directed capacity building efforts (for instance, aimed at private sector entrepreneurs to develop CDM projects);
- Persuading developed countries to support pilot CDM projects in each country to enable learning-by-doing.

Adaptation Funding

The need for Adaptation Funding was discussed in some detail and the various funds were examined.

(i) The Least Developed Countries (LDC) Fund

This fund, with around US\$100 million so far, is for supporting LDCs to carry out their NAPAs. The experiences of the LDCs present were shared and it was felt that the NAPAs should be finished and submitted as soon as possible, so the actual implementation of priority projects can begin.

(ii) The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)

This fund, with approximately US\$400 million, is for all developing countries and not just LDCs. Although it is now in place, none of the countries present have been able to access it yet. It was felt that the fund should be made available quickly and all developing countries should be encouraged to submit adaptation projects for funding.

(iii) The Adaptation Fund (AF) under the Kyoto Protocol

The issue of operationalising this new fund was raised at the COP11/MOP1 in Montreal in December 2005, and subsequently at a workshop held on the issue in Edmonton and the meeting of subsidiary bodies in Bonn in May 2006. No agreement was reached, however, and the subject is on the agenda of COP12/MOP2.

One of the main sticking points in the negotiations for this fund is the desire of some (mainly developed) countries to give over its management to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which is already managing the other two adaptation funds. This has been opposed by many (mostly developing) countries.

The participants of the Dhaka meeting felt that this is an important new fund, since it is not based on voluntary donations from rich countries like the other two funds, but on mandatory private sector contributions from the CDM. Hence the governance structures should be carefully negotiated, instead of simply agreeing to the GEF managing it along similar lines to the other two funds.

Conclusions

The ecbi Regional Workshop for South and Southeast Asia (the second such workshop in the region in the last two years) was felt to have been quite successful by its participants. However, the unfortunate lack of participants from India was deemed to be a major missed opportunity. It was also felt that more effort was

needed to get better representation from mainstream ministries such as Finance and Planning in future workshops.

for additional information see

www.EuroCapacity.org

Participants list

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