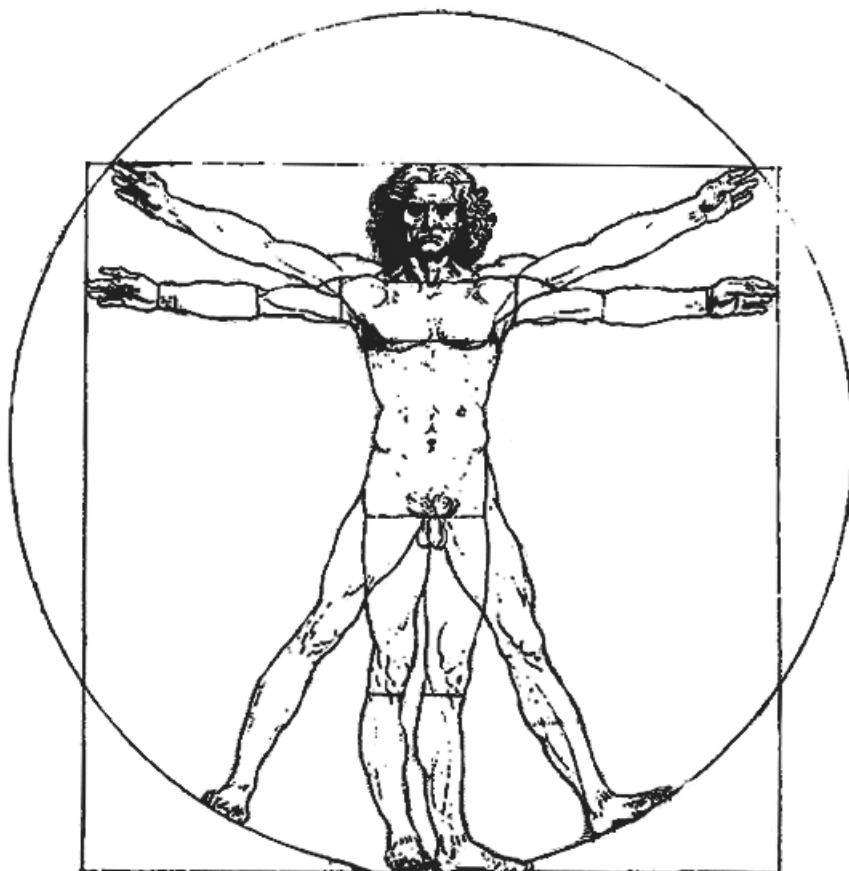


european capacity building initiative



ecbi

ANNUAL REPORT
2008/09

I. INTRODUCTION

For almost four years the European Capacity Building Initiative (ecbi) have supported the UN international climate change negotiations, aiming to promote a more level playing field between government delegations and to facilitate mutual understanding and trust – above all between European and developing countries.

This document will summarize activities undertaken in period April 2008 to April 2009, carried out by the Fellowship Programme and the Workshop Programme of the ecbi. This report is divided into three sections. The first section will provide an overview of all major capacity and trust-building activities. The second section will summarize the ecbi policy briefs and the content of the ecbi website.

About ecbi

The ecbi was launched in May 2005 during the 22nd Meeting of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB) in Bonn. The European Capacity Building Initiative (ecbi) has no legal standing, being instead an umbrella group for linking the programme components and participating organizations. The overall objective of ecbi is to overcome the lack of a level playing field between many delegations at climate change negotiations where there is the potential for mutual misunderstanding and a lack of trust. These are oriented both North South and South-South.

The ecbi consists of two main components, the first of which had been operating prior to the official launch: the trust-building **Fellowship Programme**. The second component is the capacity building and capacity utilization **Workshop Programme**. Each component is operated by a separate organization (called Lead Member Institutions): Oxford Climate Policy for the Fellowships (OCP); International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) for workshops.

Management and Governance

The day-to-day running of the ecbi is carried out by the Director with support from the Programme Heads of the ecbi Lead Member Institutions – Oxford Climate Policy (OCP) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). The Director and Programme Heads collectively form the Executive Committee.

The ecbi has a governing structure outlined in the ecbi Handbook of May 2005. The following provides the basic governance framework. For Internal Management, there is an **Executive Committee (EC)**, chosen by the Lead Member Institutions of the ecbi and with the Director and Programme Heads as *ex officio* members. This Committee is responsible for overall administrative and financial management.

The **Director** is furthermore responsible for managing the common, ecbi-level activities. There are **Programme Heads** who are not involved in day-to-day running of the activities but who ‘guide and integrate them at the “strategic” level’ and who are members of the Executive Committee. There is also a Project/Activity Leader responsible for project quality and implementing the guidance of the EC; and there are Project/Activity Managers (who manage the individual components of ecbi). For the External Management, there are three main components. First, there is the **Annual General Meeting** that is designed to provide feedback and strategic guidance to the EC. Attendees include representatives of Partner Agencies, of institutional Members, or individual members. The AGM is co-chaired by the two Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee. The **Steering Committee (SC)** provides external guidance for ecbi activities and is essentially designed to ensure that ecbi activities are ‘country driven’. The SC is also responsible for ensuring external monitoring and evaluation. The SC has 2 to 4 ordinary members, besides the two co-Chairs. The SC meets annually, preferably during the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body meetings in Bonn. The ecbi Director provides operational support to the two Co-Chairs.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE



Ambassador Bo Kjellén
Steering Committee Co-Chair
Former negotiator from Sweden,
Senior Research Fellow, SEI

Looking back at almost twenty years of climate negotiations it seems to me that we have all been involved in an active process of capacity-building. All negotiators have been on a steep learning curve as part of our experience of a new diplomacy for sustainable development.

We have had to adapt traditional negotiating skills to a new world, with science as a driving force and a slowly emerging perception of threats of a new kind, not attributable to any nation, but part of our own life-styles and the consequences of economic growth itself: we have had to learn how to defend the interests of future generations while performing our traditional duties as Government representatives and middlemen between the desirable and the possible.

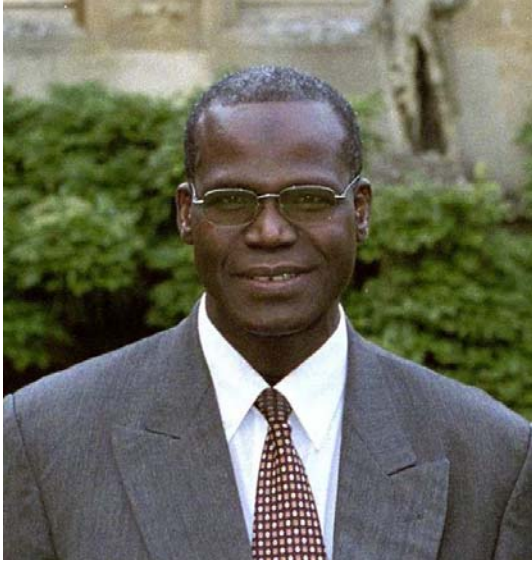
Thus we have all been learning, and we have all needed capacity-building. But it is not surprising that the concept has also been part of the negotiation itself as an important element in the North-South debate. We have often admired the skills and resourcefulness of many G 77 colleagues. But we from the north have also had to understand that the limited size of the administrations of many developing countries has limited the possibility for many of their

representatives to participate fully in all important negotiations, and to benefit fully from the learning process.

Ecbi was established to deal with these problems, and I feel that the Initiative is proving its usefulness more and more. Looking back at the year 2008, with the intensified negotiating rhythm of the Bali Action Plan, we have felt an increasing interest in the various components of the Initiative. The regional seminars have attracted a growing number of negotiators and the briefing seminars in connection with major climate meetings, such as the SB meetings in Bonn in June, or the COP 14 in Poznan in December, were met with considerable interest.

One ambition of the Initiative has also been policy analysis. This component has not been easy to implement in the way that it was initially conceived. However, in my view the constructive and thoughtful articles of leading doers and thinkers within the ecbi management in particular those from Benito Mueller and Saleemul Huq, have provided major contributions to the evolution of negotiators' understanding of key elements in the negotiations, such as the Clean Development Mechanism. Once again, the Initiative has proven to be a flexible instrument in capacity-building.

Finally, in 2008 we have understood better than before that capacity-building is only part of the story. We also need trust-building between south and north as the decisive process of the Bali Action Plan moves closer to Copenhagen. Powerful interests are at stake, and it is essential that senior negotiators come to know each other and trust each other as colleagues in the effort to face global challenges of a new kind. They also need to understand better the constraints imposed on negotiating positions by the various national situations that govern negotiators' instructions. This has been particularly important in the current situation, with the global recession forcing Governments to rethink economic policies. Therefore, the Oxford High-level Seminar of ecbi Fellows in September and their informal meeting in connection with COP 14 were particularly important in keeping the north-south dialogue on the right track.



Mama Konaté
Steering Committee Co-Chair, ecbi
Country Coordinator, Republic of Mali

La Feuille de Route de Bali, adoptée en Décembre 2007 en Indonésie a permis de redynamiser le Groupe Ad-Hoc sur les engagements futurs de réduction d'émission des Parties Annexe I au titre du Protocole de Kyoto (AWG-KP) mis en place en Décembre 2005 à la Cop 11 à Montréal(Canada).Elle a aussi consacré l'établissement du Groupe Ad-Hoc sur l'action coopérative à long terme au titre de la Convention(AWG-LCA), pour la mise en œuvre complète, efficace et durable de la Convention.

Ces deux groupes qui doivent livrer les résultats de leurs travaux à Copenhague en Décembre 2009, se sont mis immédiatement au travail dès Avril 2008 à Bangkok(Thaïlande).Ensuite, ils se sont retrouvés à Bonn en Juin 2008, Accra en Août 2008, Poznan en Décembre 2008 et Bonn en Avril 2009.

Ces rencontres ont essayé d'améliorer la compréhension par les Parties des différentes questions en négociation afin d'aplanir autant que faire se peut leurs divergences et de mieux préciser certaines nouvelles notions notamment pour AWG-LCA.Mais il faut noter que de l'avis général, en 2008 les négociations ont fait peu de progrès notamment pour AWG-KP qui a

connu un certain retard dans l'exécution de son programme de travail.

La fin de l'année 2008 a été marquée par l'arrivée des Démocrates au pouvoir aux Etats-Unis d'Amérique avec l'élection de Barack Obama comme Président de ce pays.Ainsi, les cinquième et septième réunions respectivement d'AWG-LCA et AWG-KP ont été marquées par le retour des Etats-Unis d'Amérique avec des déclarations qui ont fait renaître l'espoir au sujet de la lutte contre le réchauffement global. Ces sessions ont permis d'échanger sur les coûts de l'adaptation et de l'atténuation, de prendre connaissance des propositions de niveaux de réduction des émissions de certains pays et groupes de pays, de fournir des éclaircissements sur les NAMAs (Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions), de parvenir à un accord sur les dates des réunions supplémentaires des deux organes subsidiaires et sur la désignation de John W Ashe à la présidence d'AWG-KP.Il est important de noter que la session de Juin 2009 à Bonn sera déterminante en ce sens que tout amendement au Protocole de Kyoto à examiner Décembre 2009 à la COP 15 à Copenhague, devrait être soumis aux Parties au courant du mois de Juin 2009, en vertu de « la règle de six mois ».

A travers différentes activités de ces programmes « Fellowship Programme » et « Workshop Programme », ECBI a continué de contribuer d'une part, à améliorer le climat de confiance entre négociateurs des pays en développement et pays développés et à renforcer d'autre part les capacités des négociateurs des pays en développement.

Ainsi, un colloque suivi d'un séminaire furent organisés du 01 au 06 Septembre 2008 à Oxford (Royaume Uni) au cours desquels les négociateurs des pays en développement ont non seulement pu échanger entre eux leurs points de vue sur des sujets de leurs choix, mais ont en plus pu discuter avec ceux des pays développés. Ces rencontres ont essentiellement pour buts de développer la confiance mutuelle entre ces négociateurs dans les deux sens à savoir Sud-Sud et Nord-Sud.D'autre part, au titre du « Workshop Programme », trois ateliers régionaux et un atelier préparatoire à la COP 14 ont été organisés. Ainsi, l'atelier régional d'Asie du Sud-Est et d'Asie du Sud s'est

déroulé du 12 au 14 Août 2008 à Male(Maldives) et a enregistré la participation de 7 pays : Bangladesh, Indonésie, Maldives, Népal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka et Vietnam. Quant à l'atelier régional de l'Afrique Australe et de l'Est, il s'est tenu à Gaborone au Botswana du 23 au 25 Septembre 2008 et a connu la participation de 11 pays : Botswana, Comores, Ethiopie, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibie, Afrique du Sud, Soudan, Ouganda et Zambie. Enfin, l'atelier régional francophone pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest a eu lieu à Conakry(Guinée) du 28 au 30 Octobre avec la participation des 13 pays suivants : Bénin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambie, Guinée, Guinée-Bissau, Mali, Mauritanie, Niger, Sénégal, Tchad et Togo.

Les ateliers régionaux ont pour but essentiels de renforcer les capacités des négociateurs afin de leurs permettre d'affronter en confiance les négociations.

L'atelier préparatoire, organisé juste avant la COP 14 a permis de renforcer les capacités de jeunes négociateurs provenant de 12 PMA (pays les moins avancés), et de les former en techniques de négociation afin qu'ils puissent renforcer les équipes de négociation de leurs pays.

Il est indéniable que ces activités ont eu et continueront d'avoir des impacts positifs sur l'efficacité de la participation au processus des pays en développement en général, mais plus particulièrement sur celle des pays les moins avancés.

A cet égard, la proposition faite par ECBI de renforcer la participation du Groupe des PMA par l'appui d'un juriste ne peut être que salutaire.

Mama Konaté

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT



Benito Müller

ecbi Director Head of Fellowships Programme
Supernumerary Fellow, Wolfson College
Oxford University,
Managing Director OCP
Director, Energy & Environment, OIES

The period from April 2008 to March 2009 marks the first year of ecbi Phase 2 during which there were 12 ecbi events attended by approximately 290 participants. Apart from our regular events, we had a number of additional trust-building meetings for selected UNFCCC delegates as well as the newly formed members of the Adaptation Fund Board. The year also saw the publication of an ecbi Policy Briefs and the provision of a Policy Report on the agenda items of the Bonn-1 for LDC negotiators.

The *Workshop Programme* organized its regular annual regional workshops aimed at building the capacity of regional climate change negotiators:

Regional Workshop for South and South East Asia, Maldives. Delegates from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated in this 3 day workshop held from the 12 to 14 of August 2008 in Male. The Workshop was organized jointly by the Ministry of Environment of Maldives and the ecbi. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Abdullahi Majeed, Deputy Minister of Environment of

Maldives. In the opening remarks he highlighted the importance of the workshop in climate negotiations, especially the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, namely for Least Developed Countries (LDC) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Regional Workshop for East and Southern Africa, Gaborone, Botswana. From 23 to 25 September 2008, climate change negotiators from Botswana, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia participated in the workshop, which was co-organized with the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife & Tourism, and inaugurated by Mr Mathias Chakalisa, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Wildlife & Tourism.

October 2008: Regional Workshop for West Africa, Conakry, Guinée. The Francophone workshop for West Africa was held this year in Conakry, from 28–30 October. It was attended by 22 UNFCCC Focal Points and negotiators, as well as representatives of various finance and development ministries from thirteen West African countries (Bénin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambie, Guinée, Guinée-Bissau, Mali, Mauritanie, Niger, Sénégal, Tchad et Togo).

Pre-COP Workshop, Poznan 27/28 November The ecbi brought together UN climate change delegates from 12 countries to strengthen the capacity of Least Developed Countries to negotiate and implement the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol and to engage in a number of trust-building activities. The ecbi Pre-COP Workshop was held in Poznan, Poland, the venue of the 2008 UN Climate Change Conference.

The *ecbi Fellowship Programme* also carried out its regular activities. On 8 June 2008, it organized the third annual *Bonn Seminar* during the intersessional meeting of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, Germany. The Seminar was attended by 56 UNFCCC delegates and was aimed at maintaining and strengthening the momentum of the trust-building activities of the 2007 Oxford Fellowships.

The **2008 ecbi Oxford Fellowships** took place from 1 to 6 September. As usual, it began with the **Fellowship Colloquium** (1–3 Sept) for Fellows and invited experts only, where the Fellows were given a chance to exchange views among themselves, to discuss issues chosen by them with the invited experts, and to prepare for the visit of their European Colleagues during the subsequent (3–6 September) **Oxford Seminar**, with high-level government representatives from the participating European Partner countries as well as the European. The venue for the Fellowships was Christ Church College, founded in 1546 by King Henry VIII, and the alma mater of many famous pupils and dons such as the philosopher John Locke, and the mathematician The Revd Charles Lutwidge Dodgson. The latter is better known by his pen name, 'Lewis Carroll'; the author placed Alice's Wonderland in the College's Fellows Garden. The 2008 Oxford Seminar was held at Oxford Town Hall, and was attended by 45 delegates from 23 countries. The regular activities of the Fellowship Programme concluded with a pre-COP strategy meeting for LDC and SIDS negotiators on 29 November in Poznan, Poland.

The Fellowship Programme also held a few 'extra-curricular' meetings, chief among which were a number of dinner meetings for the newly formed Board of the Kyoto Protocol

Adaptation Fund Board. On the evening of the first day of the first meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board (26-28 March, Bonn/Germany), the Fellowship Programme organized a dinner for a number of developing country and European Board members as part of the ecbi trust-building activities. The dinner was also attended by a leading member of the World Bank Climate Investment Fund initiative, who informed the dinner guests about plans for a 'Pilot Programme on Climate Resilience'. Follow-up dinner meetings were held on 16 June and 15 December 2008, and we had the privilege of co-hosting the first Chair's dinner of the AF Board on 24 March 2009. The other extra-curricular activity undertaken was an additional LDC strategy meeting. In preparation for the seventh session of the AWG-KP and fifth session of the AWG-LCA, taking place from Sunday 29 March to Wednesday 8 April 2009 in Bonn, the ecbi gathered together a number of delegates from least developing countries for some strategic discussions.

Finally, the ecbi published two Policy Briefs on the History of the current UNFCCC financial mechanism, and the architecture and governance of a reformed financial mechanism.

Benito Müller

4. The Adaptation Fund Board



Mr. Richard Muyungi
Chair of the AF Board: April 2008-April 2009
Office of Vice President, Tanzania

Starting from the first meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) in March 2008, the ecbi has assisted this new, unique fund by offering its trust-building expertise to its members: a number of dinners have been arranged to promote better understanding among them.

Mr. Richard Muyungi of the Vice President's Office of Tanzania, and a former chair of the AFB, has expressed his appreciation for the support the ecbi has given him as Chair of the Adaptation Fund Board, and the Board in general, over the past year. He also mentions that ecbi dinners have proved to be very useful in building the necessary trust between the AFB members. The letter of appreciation sent by the Chair can be accessed on the ecbi web.

The Adaptation Fund (AF) was established by the Kyoto Protocol Parties to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to meet the costs of adaptation, in the form of concrete adaptation projects and programmes.



The AF is a unique fund and has majority representation from developing countries. In addition to regional representation, all Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States have one representative.

The Adaptation Fund

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25th February 2009

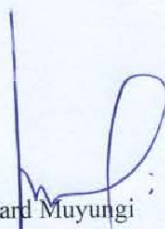
**Dr Benito Müller,
Director,
European Capacity Building Initiative (ecbi)**

Dear Benito,

Let me take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the cooperation and support the ecbi has given me as Chair of the Adaptation Fund Board, and the Board in general, over the past year. As you know, that year has been crucial to the success of the Adaptation Fund. We had to begin to operationalise the CMP decisions on how the Fund is to be run by setting the very rules and criteria to guide the decision-making of the Board in its mandates and initial tasks. This process was far from easy, not least because the Board was completely new, and of extremely diverse expectations and representation, ranging from the poorest to the richest constituencies. The ecbi dinners for the Board on the first day of the sessions helped the members to get to know each other in a congenial atmosphere and build mutual understanding of the issues at stake in a more relaxed mood, which was helpful in the deliberations that followed. Indeed, these dinners have proven to be so useful that we hope we will be able to continue this tradition, of course voluntarily if you can still be able to cover the costs.

I look forward to your continued collaboration and cooperation with the Board in its endeavour to deliver on adaptation funding for the developing countries, particularly those with the least capacity to address the already being experienced impacts of climate change.

Yours Sincerely,



Richard Muyungi
Chair,

*Adaptation Fund Board

Vice President's Office, United Republic of Tanzania

First Chair's Dinner of the Adaptation Fund Board

During the fifth Adaptation Fund Board meeting in Bonn, Germany, 24-27 March 2009, the ecbi hosted a first Chairs' Dinner, attended by Board members from several developed and developed countries.

The ecbi trust-building initiative is an important means of helping members to build mutual understanding and to become better acquainted. Among the Board members there are four specially selected ecbi Fellows who have held ecbi Oxford Fellowships: Emily Massawa from Kenya, in 2007, and for 2008, Merlyn Van Voore from South Africa, William Kojo Agyemang-Bonsu from Ghana, and Farrukh Khan from Pakistan.



Participants at the Adaptation Fund Board Chair's Dinner, hosted by ecbi La Redoute, Bonn, Germany.

5 North-South trust building- Bonn Seminar 2008

The first task of the ecbi is to assist developing countries by building their capacity to present their issues and participate in shaping the climate change regime. Equally important is to build trust between negotiators with a focus on South-South relations, as well as to facilitate the North-South dialogue.

The ecbi Fellowship Programme also organises an annual one-day Bonn Seminar during the intersessional Subsidiary Bodies meetings in Bonn/Germany. European ecbi Partners have the opportunity to engage

with senior developing country delegates particularly from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) –some of whom are past ecbi Fellows.

On the 8th June 2007, the ecbi Fellowship Programme held the third Bonn Seminar gathering together 56 delegates, from 39 developing and 20 European countries during the intersessional meeting of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, Germany to maintaining and strengthening the momentum of the trust-building activities of the Oxford Fellowships – particularly the North-South component.



Participants of Bonn Seminar 2008, Old Town hall ('Altes Rathaus')

6. ecbi LDC Strategy Meetings

The ecbi assists LDC negotiators in building expertise over and beyond issues specific to LDCs, enabling them to divide negotiating tasks among the group, rather than every individual following the same negotiating track. Negotiations on new greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for developed countries and potential actions for developing countries are to be finalized at the UN Copenhagen Climate Conference in December 2009. As a major part of the ecbi capacity utilization activities, defined as crucial for the preparation of the UN Conference in Copenhagen, two Strategic meetings for the Less Developing Countries took place in 2008.



Participants of the ecbi pre-COP Workshop, Polish Academy of Science, Poznan, Poland

The Pre-COP Workshop 2008

The collective work of the ecbi participants resulted in a final draft for the International Air Passenger Adaptation Levy (IPAL) proposal by the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) within the framework of the Bali Action Plan.

The proposal was submitted to the UNFCCC AWC-LCA on 12 December 2008. The proposed levy also conforms to the idea of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, but because of the non-national nature of the activities this conformity

is not with respect to the responsibilities and capabilities of countries, but with respect to (i) the personal responsibilities of passengers due to the international emissions produced and (ii) the benefits and opportunities from travelling by air all over the world. Indeed, given the international character of the activities in question and of the resulting emissions, the only equitable way deal with the non-national responsibilities for these activities is at the personal level, which – given the price levels of international flights – also shows regard for the idea of respective individual capabilities.

Pre-Sessional LDC Strategy meeting

The Second Strategy meeting for LDCs negotiators that took place, on 24 March 2009 in Bonn. Before the April UNFCCC session AWG-KP and fifth session of the AWG-LCA in April 2009 in Bonn, the ecbi published a policy report providing a summary overview of the main outcomes of the previous UNFCCC sessions.



The report outlined what will be discussed in December 2009, and emphasized that the 'negotiations on a successor agreement (or agreements) to the Kyoto Protocol are facing a tight deadline which take place from 7-18 December.'

The report was prepared by The Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development, (FIELD), which is a group of public international lawyers committed to promoting fair and effective outcomes for all by helping vulnerable countries, communities and campaigners to negotiate for fairer international environmental laws. The full version of this useful report for policymakers can be accessed from the ecbi website. This report was distributed among the participants at Bonn.

Both meetings were attended by a number of delegates from Less Developing Countries who worked jointly with the ecbi resource people

7. The 2008 ecbi Oxford Fellowships Colloquium and the Seminar

The 2008 ecbi Oxford Fellowships took place between 1–5 September 2008, at the University city of Oxford, England. Eleven Fellows attended, from Argentina, China, Ghana, India, Mexico, Pakistan, South Africa, and Vietnam. Developed countries negotiators from Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the European Commission joined the Fellows for the Oxford Seminar from 3 to 5 September.



ecbi Fellows 2008, Christ Church College, Oxford

Once again, emphasis was made on the value of interaction between the participants as a trust-building exercise. This was considered a crucial element for success in the UNFCCC negotiations.

The result was a frank and open exchange of views about the issues on the agenda. The Fellowships began with the Fellowship Colloquium which took place at Christ Church College from 1 to 3 September.

During the Colloquium, the Fellows discussed in detail issues of particular relevance at this stage of the UNFCCC negotiation process: finance and adaptation; the future of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM); technology transfer under the Bali Action Plan and the implementation of paragraph 1.b of the Bali Action Plan.

The Fellowship Colloquium was followed by the Oxford Seminar from 5– 7 September at Oxford City Town Hall. This gave the Fellows the opportunity to engage in discussions with their European colleagues. Presentations were made by Fellows, by invited expert speakers on

The Seminar was opened by the Lord Mayor of Oxford, Councillor Susanna Pressel, who welcomed participants and emphasized the importance that the Oxford community at large and the University in particular attached to climate change and the topics of 2008ecbi Oxford Seminar: Individual Themes. The following summary of the discussions at the 2008 Oxford Seminar are mainly based on the feedback forms submitted by the Fellows and participants after each session.



The meetings were held in accordance with Chatham House Rules and the views expressed are accordingly unattributed.

Three contact groups had held exchanges- (on adaptation, mitigation and institutional arrangements) as well as two in-session workshops (on REDD and various sectoral approaches). There had been an intense exchange of views in Accra: fault lines had

the post 2012 UN Climate Change Regime, the participants started with a brief discussion of the outcome of UNFCCC climate change talks held at Accra, 21–27 August 2008. UNFCCC Climate Change talks held in Accra, 21-27 August 2008. As the Seminar's agenda centred around the various aspects of shaping the become very clear. These were identified international sectoral approaches and on the elements and the results of a possible differentiation between developing countries. In addition, questions were raised on the interpretation of the mandates of the two Ad Hoc Working Groups (AWGs); some participants, particularly those from developing countries, wanted mandates to focus strictly on the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, rather than on amending them or devising new instruments. Others saw this position as standing in the way of progress: the Convention was a flexible instrument open to extensions and additions.

Some of the Seminar participants expressed concern about the perceived lack of a sense of urgency in the negotiations. It was felt that so far, the discussion on adaptation, , was the most promising outcome. Some progress had also been made on technology transfer. A lively debate ensued about the structure of the future financial arrangements, with some signs of a potential convergence of views. This was not the case on mitigation, however, where there was considerable divergence of opinion. The topic was discussed again later during the Seminar. Participants noted that although a number of proposals, spanning a wide range of issues, were now on the table, the actual negotiations had not yet begun. They hoped that a boost in the process would result from further talks at COP 14 in Poznan.



Oxford Seminar
Oxford Town Hall, UK

Financial Flows

The Fellows presented the conclusions of their Colloquium discussions. Presentations were also made by invited experts on (a) the change in flows needed to reduce 2030 global emissions 25% below 2000, (b) the financial mechanism of the Convention and (c) a number of specific proposals on the table to raise the necessary additional finance.

In the discussion, it was pointed out that a number of concrete and sometimes innovative proposals for increasing financial resources were being put forward, as well as proposals for their governance. These were not mutually exclusive. The delivery side would need more attention in order to ensure an equitable, efficient system for delivering new, additional, adequate and predictable funding for adaptation, technology transfer, REDD and capacity building.

The Fellows stressed that developing countries could only deliver their commitments under the Convention to the extent that developed countries delivered on their commitments, including the financial objects listed under Art 4 of the Convention.

The overriding priority for developing countries was social development and poverty reduction. The Fellows proposed a possible architecture for the future governance of the 'new' funding. Taking the AF as a model, they advocated: guidance of and accountability to the COP; equitable, relevant and balanced representation of all Parties within the executive body; a transparent system of decision making, on the basis of one country one vote; and direct access to funding for all developing country Parties (with emphasis on most vulnerable and least developed Parties).

This funding would cover the incremental costs of mitigation, building capacity and institutional infrastructure, and the full costs of adaptation, low carbon technologies and National Action Plans. The role of the carbon

market in delivering finance for adaptation and technology transfer was discussed. There was general agreement that funding for technology transfer would need to come from sources other than the carbon market.



Participants of the Oxford Seminar.
Christ Church College, Oxford, UK

Adaptation Financing

The participants discussed more specifically the funding for adaptation. Large increases in resources will be needed. At the same time, adaptation does not lend itself easily to being financed through market incentives, which is why there is a need for a significant element of public finance through some form of taxation and levies. There were varying opinions about the potential of the CDM adaptation levy, but there was consensus on the need to generate other innovative sources of ‘international public’ funds, such as an extension of the CDM levy to international emissions trading

(the ‘Norwegian Proposal’), or the use of an adaptation levy on international travel. The participants noted the establishment by the European Union of a Global Climate Financing Mechanism (GCFM), aimed at poor developing countries most vulnerable to climate change. The funding would be raised by frontloading aid commitments from borrowing on the financial markets. Some participants pointed out that duplication of institutions and parallel processes should be avoided. Indeed, in the view of the developing country Fellows, all the funding that is meant to be counted towards compliance with Convention commitments

should flow through Convention instruments, be they the Financial Mechanism or the Adaptation Fund of the Kyoto Protocol. A progress report was presented on the work of the Adaptation Fund's Executive Board.

When resources for adaptation become available, there will be a need to prioritize adaptation actions and to set the modalities for funding: e.g. allocation to individual countries' governments to adaptation programmes in addition to adaptation projects. In any case, the future framework will have to go beyond the donor-recipient relationship, particularly if the funds are international and not country donations.

The Future of the CDM

The participants were given a presentation on the future of the CDM. Although the CDM has been successful in generating billions of CERs, there has been increasing criticism voiced by the media in industrialized countries about its lack of environmental integrity. It is important to prevent further development of public opposition to the CDM. Some participants therefore argued that additionality testing should be strengthened. However, others stressed that it was wrong to confuse environmental integrity with (investment) additionality, and that the latter would have to be abandoned if countries such as India and China were to maintain an interest in the mechanism. Underperforming Designated Operational Entities should be suspended and Executive Board members should be granted legal immunity. It was also mentioned that the European Union was envisaging tightening its supplementarity rules post 2012, and that it was planning to impose quality standards on CDM projects. In future, the CDM would have to contribute to global mitigation and not remain only an offsetting mechanism. Two quite distinct options were discussed: on the one hand, there was a proposal to discount CERs, whereby the discounting is calculated according to a differentiation between host countries on the basis of their per capita emissions or their GDP. **An alternative** proposal, put forward by the Fellows, was for Annex B countries to take on an obligation to retire a number of CERs as one possible means of implementing paragraph 1.b.ii of the Bali

Action Plan. By retiring the CERs, and hence not using them as offsets, the scheme would provide genuine MRV reductions in developing countries. Paying for them would provide genuine MRV finance in the spirit of para. 1.b.ii. The point was made in the discussion that whereas the EU was asking for additional guarantees and rules, developing countries were demanding simplified procedures and increased potential for the CDM. This could cause an impasse in the post 2012 discussions. Finally, some participants expressed the view that CDM might not continue to exist in the long term, as developing countries with GHG emissions – and therefore mitigation potential – would no longer export emission credits since they would need them to contribute towards their own mitigation goals.

Technology Transfer under the Bali Action Plan

The Fellows also emphasized that in their view, transfer of technology (TT) was not about technology trade: it could not be left to the vagaries of market-based mechanisms alone. In any case, the carbon price was too low for TT to happen in all but the largest projects. Furthermore, the technology had not been developed with the host country in mind. Rather, TT was about concessional access to technology, and collaborative development of new climate change technology. This needed to go hand in hand with enhancing the capacity of developing countries to make use of existing and future technologies to address climate change.

Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) were also recognised one of the crucial issues in the TT debate. The Fellows advocated a 'new deal' on IPRs, which would strike a balance between rewards for the innovators and global SD benefits. Purchase of IPRs licenses would be done on a concessionary basis through a financial mechanism; and there should be more collaborative R&D. A further presentation compared the EU's current thinking with the proposals from NAI countries. NAI Parties demanded, among other things,, new institutional structures under the UNFCCC, such as a Technology Board, a global public procurement scheme for IPRs and a multilateral technology fund for enhancing transfer of existing technologies. In contrast, the EU was

of the view that structures needed to be designed in accordance with needs (hence: technology needs assessment, capacity building etc) and that the market and the private sector would provide finance, given incentives to facilitate this. In discussion, it was pointed out that there was a need for new cooperative mechanisms to finance clean technology in developing countries, but that the IPR issue needed to be seen as part of the overall costs, rather than as a separate obstacle. Some participants also doubted the efficiency of a potential concessionary market for clean technology, as the use of coal for energy would remain cheaper and therefore more attractive.

Para 1. b. of the Bali Action Plan

The Bali Action Plan deals with the implementation by Annex I Parties of their commitments and legally enforceable international obligations, together with non Annex I Parties taking nationally appropriate actions supported and enabled by finance, technology and capacity building. The measurability, reportability and verifiability (MRV) of actions on the part of non Annex I Parties is inextricably tied to the measurability, reportability and verifiability of actions on technology, finance and capacity building by the Annex I Parties.

In their presentation, the Fellows questioned the commitment of the Annex I Parties to take the leadership in GHG mitigation, in view of the unlikelihood that targets will be achieved for the first KP commitment period. This is becoming evident at a time when the IPCC has suggested that Annex I countries would need to reduce GHG between 25-40% below 1990 levels by 2020, and by much higher percentages by 50%.

In discussion, it was noted that at the moment, positions were quite far apart. The 'fault lines' which were becoming apparent in the post Bali process were identified by non Annex I Parties as (1) the explicit or implicit moves by Annex I parties to change the spirit or nature of the UNFCCC or the Kyoto Protocol; (2) the non participation of the US; (3) the discussion of further differentiation between non Annex I Parties; (4) the proposed sectoral approaches for mitigation and for the CDM; (5) the lack of agreement on technology and finance.

On the differentiation issue, one developing country participant said that in his view, whilst delinking GDP growth from increases in GHG emissions was understood and accepted, differences in national situations could be accommodated in national action plans and in other subsidiary instruments. To some extent, this idea was also contained in para 1.2.(b) of the BAP. European participants pointed out that although mitigation efforts were expected from non Annex I countries, the same level of commitment as for Annex I Parties was not. It was suggested that the notion of 40-60 key developing country players might be useful. In conclusion, it was acknowledged that on both sides of the Annex I/ non Annex I divide, mitigation efforts had been made. Collaboration to further reduce GHG emission was crucial.

A reformed CDM might be a bridge towards that goal. Financial and technological assistance will move the developing countries' actions regarding mitigation further forward.

8. Workshop Programme

In the past four years, a number of *twelve* ecbi Workshops have been organized in regions of East & Southern Africa, West Africa, South and South East Asia, as well as before annual COP negotiations. Regional Workshops have gathered together more than *four hundred* participants to work together on capacity building and capacity utilization of climate change negotiations.

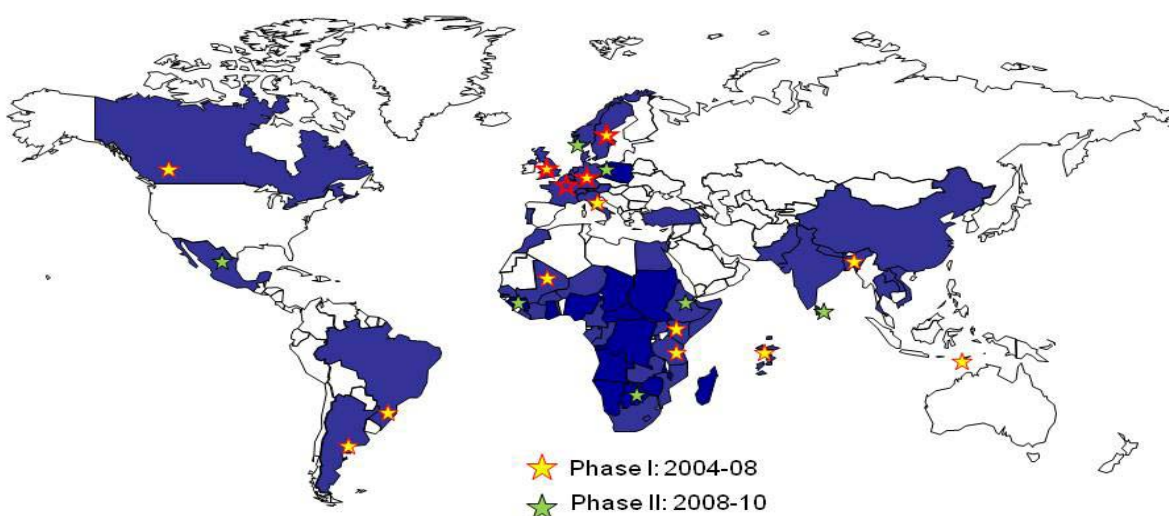
The main purpose of the pre-COP Workshops is to support selected (junior) negotiators from LDCs in gaining a better understanding of the issues discussed at the COPs, and to build their negotiating skills through role-playing and other practice sessions.

While not intended to prepare negotiating

positions – the prerogative of the countries themselves – the pre-COP workshops aim to help build the skills and capacities to negotiate more effectively.

The overall aim of Regional Workshops is threefold:

- (1) To discuss upcoming negotiation issues of regional importance, with a view to facilitating negotiation positions for the subsequent UNFCCC Sessions;
- (2) To introduce the participants from the mainstream ministries to the climate change problem, with particular focus on its regional aspects;
- (3) To facilitate networking and ease of communication, especially between climate change negotiators and their mainstream colleagues.



East and Southern Africa 2008 ecbi Regional Workshop

Gaborone, Botswana. 23–25 September 2008.

Opening the workshop, Mr Mathias Chakalisa, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism said that it was an honour and a privilege for Botswana to host this ecbi event. Botswana was a small contributor to global warming but would unfortunately suffer from its impacts.

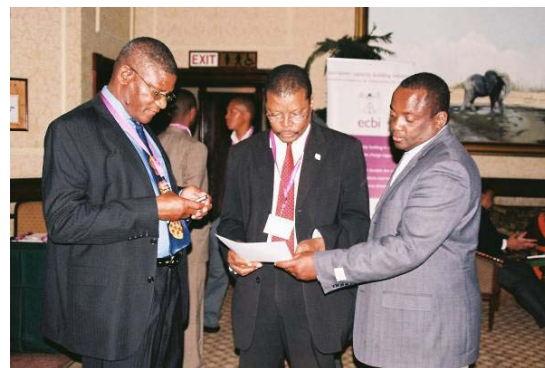


Mr Chakalisa regarded this workshop as a prime opportunity to cross-fertilize ideas across the regions' ministries of environment and finance. He commended ecbi and IIED for organizing the workshop, which significantly contributed to building the capacity of negotiators in the region, and through them, across Africa.

Dr Saleemul Huq thanked Botswana for its hospitality and welcomed participants to the workshop. He briefly outlined the objectives of the European Capacity Building Initiative (ecbi): to build capacity, as well as understanding and trust, between negotiators from developing countries and between developing country negotiators and their European counterparts. The regional workshops aimed at enhancing the group dynamics in the group of most vulnerable countries. They took place in various regions in the period leading up to a UNFCCC COP or just before a COP. So far, they had received very positive feedback.

The key issues in the negotiating process from Bali to Copenhagen

Linda Siegele, of FIELD and ecbi resources presented an overview of the main negotiating issues on the agenda of the UNFCCC process between September 2008 and December 2009, when it was hoped a post 2012 regime would be agreed. The Bali Action Plan had established two tracks of negotiation: one under the Convention (in the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action, AWG-LCA) and another under the Kyoto Protocol (in the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments from Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, AWG-KP). The AWG-LCA was the forum that regrouped all UNFCCC Parties and where most of the issues directly relevant to developing countries were to be discussed. The overarching principle for the work of the AWG-LCA was that of a 'shared vision' for a future regime. Four building blocks had been identified for its work: adaptation and mitigation, with technology transfer and financial resources as cross-cutting issues.



Participants expressed interest in enforcement of the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol; a short discussion around enforcement of international environmental law ensued. In general, enforcing multilateral environmental agreements depends upon the will of the State Party to comply. It is in the best interests of all Parties to encourage States to act responsibly in the case of global environmental issues, as opposed to applying sanctions for causing environmental damage. With this in mind, compliance provisions in global environmental agreements tend to be aimed at building consensus around common environmental objectives to promote the process.

Where enforcement mechanisms in multilateral environmental agreements appear weak, it may be possible to access 'enforcement' mechanisms from supporting international law. One example is the recent case of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference's use of international human rights law where they petitioned the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights seeking relief from violations of the human rights of Inuit people resulting from global warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions from the United States of America. It is worth noting that the Kyoto Protocol has a compliance mechanism and that the Parties have established a Compliance Committee, which has two branches: one for an enforcement and a second for facilitative action.

The second branch aims to provide advice and assistance to Parties in order to promote compliance, whereas the enforcement branch has the responsibility to determine consequences for Parties that fail to meet their commitments. For more information on compliance with the Kyoto Protocol, please visit the following the UNFCCC Secretariat webpage: http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/compliance/items/2875.php.

Other topics of particular interest to participants were the adequacy of a 2° C 'limit' on the increase of global average temperatures; the adaptation levy on the CDM; and the newly created Adaptation Fund. Some of these topics were discussed in detail later in the workshop.



Participants of the ecbi Regional Workshop for East and Southern Africa
Gaborone, Botswana

An Introduction to the basic Science of Climate Change and the IPCC Process

Claire Parker, ecbi consultant, presented a short overview of the science underlying climate change, aimed mainly at the participants who were 'new' to the issue or unfamiliar with its scientific aspects. This was followed by a question and answer session.

Major issues under negotiation towards the post 2012 UNFCCC regime relevant to the region

Emily Massawa (Kenya) presented the developing countries' perspectives on the post - 2012 issues. She highlighted Africa's vulnerability to climate variability and change: impacts were starting to undermine sustainable development; the costs of disaster management were rising beyond affordable limits; and the poor were particularly at risk. Most countries in Africa combined institutional weakness with weak technical capacity. Access to both funding and opportunity was equally poor.



During the last round of negotiations, a number of proposals were made with regard to adaptation and adaptation finance, one of which was the Africa-Regional implementation initiative, which would involve a network of African centres of excellence and the implementation of pilot projects. Adaptation and adaptation finance were, so far, the most promising issues where early agreement might be reached.

Differentiation among NA1 was a contentious issue. The G-77/China and the African Group strongly opposed it, because the emissions per capita criterion disadvantaged countries with smaller economies, among other reasons. The G77 was therefore focusing on the implementation of the Convention. Most of these issues were discussed again in the last session –

please see below under Consultation among participants on possible African positions for COP14 in Poznan, December 2008.

Dr Huq explained that because of the crucial nature of the funding issue in the ongoing negotiations, there was an important role to play for officials from ministries of finance. The 'disconnect' which had long existed between them and their colleagues from environment, who traditionally dealt with climate change, needed to be addressed.

Dr Huq and Dr Mueller explained some of the funding issues now on the agenda of the negotiations, and some of the proposals made (see also the Chapter in this report on Adaptation and Adaptation Finance). One participant suggested that in order to make progress with discussions on funding, it might be useful for the non-Annex I countries to take a proactive stance on climate change in the context of their development. These countries should determine: what they would wish to see achieved in the various sectors, over what period of time and at what cost. In response, the Annex I countries could propose a financial mechanism to achieve these aims.



Several participants reported that such planning was already under way in their countries, some of them along the NAPA model. Some non-Annex I countries had set up their own funds for adaptation, to which Annex I countries were invited to contribute.

The participants discussed what an agreement in Copenhagen would need to comprise: (a) larger mitigation commitments from Annex I countries (b) US participation (c) a large scale financial support from Annex I countries for technology

transfer and adaptation and (d) action by the larger G77 countries.

It was pointed out that the larger non-Annex I countries were prepared to take mitigation action, provided these were financed in a 'mrv' (measurable, reportable and verifiable) manner by the Annex I countries. However, neither 'emissions per capita' nor 'emissions per GDP' were considered acceptable as criteria for the imposition of commitments on the other, smaller and/or more vulnerable countries. The importance of good cooperation between the G77 countries was underlined, as was the need for these countries to prepare their negotiating positions carefully and to make submissions to the COP and its bodies.

Development and Transfer of Technology

Angela Kabuswe (Zambia) made a presentation on the development and transfer of technology, with special reference to Africa. She recalled that transfer of technology was provided for in the Convention under article 4.5 and explained that so far, it had mainly applied to mitigation technology (in particular, hardware for the energy sector). She further described some of the challenges technology transfer was facing.



In the discussion, it was pointed out that AI countries stated that their governments were not in a position to transfer technology as the intellectual property rights were in the hands of the private sector. The NAI countries therefore wanted funding to buy out these rights, or to acquire licenses for use of the technology on a concessionary basis. There was a Chinese proposal for the establishment of a technology

transfer fund, which may become part of the post 2012 agreement.

Africa's adaptation needs would be less well served by big and expensive 'hardware' technology than by know-how: how to put in place effective disaster management, how to protect communities, how to use natural barriers to sea level rise etc. This type of know-how could usefully be transferred South-South, and did not need to be part of the technology transfer framework under the Convention. However, in the negotiations, the African countries should support the G77 on furthering the technology transfer issue and, in return, request support for their adaptation strategies and finance.

The CDM. Past experience and prospects for the new regime

A presentation on the future of the CDM: African Perspectives, was given by Dr Mueller. The CDM was designed with the dual aim of assisting developing countries in achieving sustainable development and at the same time assisting industrialized countries in achieving compliance with their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission-reduction commitments. The CDM was also intended to transfer low carbon technologies to developing countries. Its uneven geographical distribution had been a problem: in Africa in particular the uptake of projects had been poor (2.6% of the total). This could be due to the complexity of the CDM procedures, to domestic barriers or to the fact that as emissions are low, mitigation potential is limited and transaction costs are relatively high. Methodologies designed for small scale projects intended to stimulate development of CDM projects in Africa, as well as the possibility of project bundling had failed to address this problem. Dr Mueller suggested one solution might be to facilitate the development of simplified methodologies which encompass regional baselines, enabling small scale projects to feed into regional electricity grids.

Participants discussed a number of other factors that had so far played a role in Africa's low share of CDM projects. The first funds established by the World Bank went to big emitters; there was a belief that only LULUCF projects were suitable for Africa (although landfill projects were plentiful). Furthermore, Designated Operational

Entities (DOEs) were unhelpful and African countries had not established their Sustainable Development criteria sufficiently well. It was pointed out that the EU was now looking at running at least one CDM project in each African country. This would be the ideal way to build capacity, develop the institutional framework and for African countries to 'learn by doing'. It was also suggested that the World Bank could be asked to establish a special CDM facility for Africa.

Dr Mueller also explained that a new type of CDM was being envisaged, provisionally called CDM+. The present CDM does not (necessarily) lead to global emission reductions and has not delivered on technology transfer or capacity building. The CDM+ would be designed to yield CERs that developed countries would have to 'retire' – i.e., not sell – and which would be sold internationally to finance, in particular, technology transfer and capacity building (in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner). One participant noted that it would be timely to add biodiversity criteria to CERs, earned from CDM projects (in addition to the existing ones on sustainable development).

REDD

David Lesolle (Botswana) explained how the work on the agenda item, 'Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action' was progressing. He also highlighted issues of special relevance to Africa, such as ownership issues, illegal logging, inventories of stocks, etc. He pointed out that reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation required stable and predictable availability of resources. He explained that SBSTA was still discussing the methodological aspects of REDD, as well as a range of policy approaches and positive incentives. Participants noted that this issue was actively being negotiated as potentially a part of the post 2012 regime and that it cut across the traditional negotiating blocks.

A dedicated REDD fund might be created to finance the preservation of the sequestration potential of tropical forests. An alternative would be to credit REDD activities as part of a wider carbon market.

Adaptation Financing

Dr Huq gave a brief introduction on where the issue of adaptation stood within the process, namely that it was being discussed in both SBSTA and SBI. SBSTA was dealing with the methodological issues and the sharing of information (Nairobi Work Programme). The SBI dealt with the funding for adaptation. Several funds had been established that covered adaptation projects (SCCF, LDC Fund, and Adaptation Fund). These were still insufficient to cover the predicted huge costs of adaptation; funding therefore remained the most important issue still to be resolved. Dr Huq explained the innovative character of the Adaptation Fund, in that its governance is placed directly under the COP/MOP and that its Executive Board has a majority of developing countries and a one-country-one-vote rule (unlike the GEF Council). Dr Huq added that the G77 countries wanted the future financial architecture to reflect this type of governance. The participants were informed about the various funding proposals on the table and briefly discussed their advantages and disadvantages. The proposals needed to be evaluated on the basis of a number of criteria: adaptation finance needed to be new and additional; predictable; adequate; equitable and appropriate. It was noted that adaptation does not lend itself easily to being financed through market incentives, which is why there is a need for a significant element of public finance through some form of taxation and levies. Participants were given a short presentation on a possible adaptation levy on international travel (the International Air Passenger Adaptation Levy or IAPAL), which was under discussion within the In conclusion, participants agreed that it was opportune for the African group to make decisions about what funding proposals to support and to draw up a list of preferential adaptation projects to be funded, on the basis of a comprehensive needs assessment of LDCs.

Consultation among participants on possible African positions for COP14 in Poznan, December 2008

The consultation was led by David Lesolle (Botswana), in order to prepare the African delegations' positions for the forthcoming UNFCCC COP14. It was held between African participants without facilitation from the ecbi team. A summary of the discussion is distributed together with this report.

Excursion

Participants visited the Gaborone Game Reserve, a short distance on the western side of the city. A guided visit of the reserve was much enjoyed; it has a good network of game viewing roads, a visitors education centre, a couple of picnic sites, a game hide and a remote bird hide overlooking a fine expanse of reeded wetland.

2008 ecbi Regional Workshop for South and South East Asia

Before the opening of the workshop, participants listened to a recitation from the Holy Koran.



Dr Saleemul Huq welcomed participants to the workshop and briefly outlined the objectives of the European Capacity Building initiative (ecbi). These were to build capacity, as well as understanding and trust, between negotiators from developing countries and between developing country negotiators and their European counterparts.



Dr Abdullahi Majeed, Deputy Minister for Environment of the Maldives welcomed the participants to the Maldives. He reminded them that the ecbi was at the forefront of training climate change negotiators from developing countries and that the workshops run by IIED broadened the scope of these negotiators by providing them with expertise to devise strategies and form policies. Participants from UNFCCC delegations and from mainstream development

ministries were given a better understanding of the issues and learned to engage more effectively. Dr Majeed emphasised the importance of initiatives such as ecbi for countries, for example, the Maldives, both an LDC and a small island state, which need substantial help in view of their lack of resources compared to those of developed nations or larger developing countries.

Key issues in the negotiating process from Bali (2007) to Copenhagen (2009)

Claire Parker, ecbi consultant, presented an overview prepared by FIELD of the main negotiating issues on the agenda of the UNFCCC process between now and December 2009, when it was hoped a post 2012 regime would be agreed upon. The Bali Action Plan established two tracks of negotiation: one under the Convention (in the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long term Cooperative Action, AWG-LCA) and one under the Kyoto Protocol (in the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments from Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, AWG-KP).

The AWG-LCA was the forum that regrouped all UNFCCC Parties and within which most of the issues directly relevant to developing countries were to be discussed. Four building blocks had been identified for the work of AWG-LCA: adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and financial resources. The overarching principle was that of a 'shared vision' for a future regime. After the presentation, and mindful of the forthcoming negotiation sessions in Accra (21-27 August), and in Poznan (1-12 December), the resource team gave participants -most of whom had no extensive negotiating experience - their views on the importance of the various topics for developing countries in general and LDCs in particular. They also gave advice on how to tackle the intricate and often confusing negotiating process. In particular, they emphasised the role of the negotiating groups, and highlighted their importance for the individual negotiator, especially if he/she were member of a small delegation. Ways to overcome the difficulties posed by small delegations were suggested; the importance of the continuity of individuals within delegations was emphasised.

The political history and current background to the items in the presentation was explained and

discussed. Topics of particular interest among participants was the adequacy of a 2° C 'limit' on the increase of global average temperature; the adaptation levy on the CDM; and the newly created Adaptation Fund. Some of these topics were investigated in detail later in the workshop.

The CDM: past experience and prospects for the new regime

Dr Benito Mueller gave a presentation on the preliminary results of a Climate Strategies Project, aimed at harnessing the views of two major developing country Parties — India and China — about their experience so far with the CDM and its future post-2012. Both countries would, of necessity, have to be involved in shaping the CDM under the new regime. An inception workshop had been held in both India and China. It was a given that current modalities of CDM – project CDM 'bundling'; (whereby a number of small and similar projects were bundled and approved together) and programmatic CDM (whereby an open-ended list of projects could be carried out after the 'type' of project has been approved) would continue to exist. Sectoral (or enhanced) CDM — now under discussion but widely controversial, especially among developing countries, was only discussed in China.



The Chinese workshop was organized by Tsinghua University in Beijing. Participants had identified four types of possible sectoral CDM: cap-based (one cap per sector); intensity-based (e.g., a cap per tonne of production); policy-based and technology-based. Of these, the Chinese team favoured intensity-based or technology-based types. This revealed potential problems: among others, double counting (as a project and as part of a sector). An absolute target

for any sector was unacceptable to China, as it was seen as a potential precursor of an overall GHG emissions target.

The Indian workshop was organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICI). Participants there emphasised the need for maintaining sufficient demand for CERs after any reforms of the CDM; there was concern about the EU's limitation of the use of CERs for achieving national targets. It was also thought that the concept of additionality (both carbon and financial) needed to be reviewed. Participants were in favour of enhanced programmatic CDM to tap the potential of smaller projects more effectively. Finally, Dr Mueller referred to a new type of CDM that was being envisaged, provisionally called 'CDM+'. This had been devised to help respond to Point II. B. ii in the Bali Action Plan, which calls for

Nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner to be addressed.



The present CDM does not (necessarily) lead to global emission reductions and has not delivered on technology transfer or capacity building. The CDM+ would be designed to yield CERs that developed countries would have to 'retire' – i.e. not sell – and which would then be sold internationally to finance, in particular, technology transfer and capacity building (in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner). Afterwards, the participants briefly exchanged experiences with setting up their administrative structure for CDM and with getting CDM projects approved by the host country and by the

Executive Board. Unsurprisingly, the big countries had a far larger number of projects in the pipeline than the smaller ones. The uneven geographical distribution of CDM was again brought up.

Adaptation, Technology Transfer and Financial Flows

Dr Huq gave a brief introduction on where the issue of adaptation stood within the process; it was being discussed in both SBSTA and SBI. Although funds had been established to cover adaptation projects (SCCF, LDC Fund, Adaptation Fund) these were insufficient and funding remained the most important issue to be resolved yet. Dr Mohammad Reazuddin (Bangladesh) gave a presentation on Adaptation, Technology Transfer, and Financial Flows in addressing Climate Change. He outlined a conceptual adaptation framework: ways to implement the action plans, response strategies, as well as means to develop these strategies. He discussed the technologies for adaptation and mitigation and the ways to advance technology transfer. He also covered the various proposals on the table for raising the required funds.

Subsequently, participants discussed the state of progress of their own adaptation plans as well as the advantages and disadvantages of the various funding proposals.

A European Perspective

Mr Fergus Auld, First Secretary at the UK High Commission in Delhi and in charge of climate change and energy, presented a European perspective on the current issues being debated within UNFCCC, and the UK vision for the post 2012 framework. This vision had been informed by the scientific findings of the IPCC report and by the economic analysis of the Stern review, which showed on the one hand that the threat to mankind from climate change was more serious than had previously been envisaged, and on the other hand that action now was less expensive than delayed action or non-action.

The EU's strategy was built around the target of limiting the increase in global temperature to 2°C above pre-industrial levels. It consisted of a series of ambitious policy goals. The EU had

confidence in the leadership from Annex I Parties but expected large G77 economies also to undertake mitigation efforts. The EU had also welcomed the recent South African strategy on climate change and appreciated the continuing Indonesian leadership.



The EU saw the LDCs as important allies in promoting ambitious mitigation targets as part of the new regime. It viewed market mechanisms as one of the crucial elements of the post-2012 regime, as they would deliver the funds necessary for the development of low carbon technologies and adaptation in the developing countries. In discussion, it was pointed out that the EU hoped to see a change in US policy after the election of a new President, but acknowledged that the new US negotiating team would not be in place before mid 2009. The US was also – albeit slowly – becoming more aware of the adaptation needs of the developing world, and of the fact that developing countries were already taking action on climate change.

NAPAs, adaptation methodologies, the Nairobi Work Programme on Adaptation.

Mr Amjad Abdulla (the Maldives) presented issues of importance to the LDDCs, in particular: adaptation, the NAPAs, the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts and vulnerability, and the implementation of Decision 1/CP.10 (Buenos Aires Plan of action on adaptation and response measures). It became clear from the discussion that the issue perceived as the most pressing by the LDCs was still to realize concrete adaptation projects going on the ground, and to be able to access the funds available in a less cumbersome way. The NAPAs process had led to frustration among the LDCs, as the work involved in

drawing up the NAPAs had not resulted in actual projects: this was partly due to insufficient available funding (\$150m in the LDC Fund); partly to the required access procedures and further, to the multi-tiered system established by the GEF for accessing the funds. This last caused delays and a loss of funds through overhead expenditure.

Participants shared their experience with the NAPA process. They noted that pursuing the adaptation/ adaptation finance issue in the UNFCCC process was a full-time task, calling for the specialised skills of trained negotiators.

Field Trip

Participants visited Guraidhoo island, which had been hit by the 2004 tsunami. Damage inflicted, on top of the effects of erosion caused by the rise in the sea level were clearly visible: for example, a helicopter landing strip had been broken and part of it had fallen into the sea. The group also saw Hulhu Male, an artificial island which had been built to ease the overcrowding in Male itself, and was receiving more inhabitants.



Participants of the South & Southeast Asia Workshop
Male, Maldives

ATELIER REGIONAL FRANCOPHONE ecbi POUR L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST EN 2008

Les travaux de l'atelier régional 2008 de renforcement des capacités sur les changements climatiques pour les pays francophones d'Afrique de l'Ouest se sont déroulés du 28 au 30 octobre 2008 à Conakry (Guinée). L'atelier a regroupé les points focaux de la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques (CCNUCC), ainsi que des représentants des Ministères chargés des Finances et/ou du Plan venus de 13 pays africains: Bénin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambie, Guinée, Guinée- Bissau, Mali, Mauritanie, Niger, Sénégal, Tchad et Togo. Il y avait au total 22 participants. Trois cadres de l'ecbi animaient les travaux.

Accueillant les participants en Guinée, Monsieur Ahmed Traoré du Ministère du Développement Durable et de l'Environnement souligne le rôle important que joue l'ecbi depuis quatre ans dans la formation et l'accompagnement des négociateurs des pays les plus vulnérables. Représentant l'Etat hôte, Monsieur El Hadj Mamadi Condé, Chef de Cabinet du Ministère du Développement Durable et de l'Environnement, ouvre ensuite officiellement l'atelier. Monsieur Condé souligne la gravité de la menace posée au développement durable par les changements climatiques, dont certains effets se font déjà sentir. Face à cette urgence, il est impératif que les pays de la sous-région prennent part activement aux négociations de la COP14 devant se tenir à Poznan en décembre 2008. Monsieur Condé souhaite aux participants de fructueux travaux. Monsieur Huq remercie l'Etat hôte et informe les participants du programme de l'atelier. Il souligne l'importance de l'aspect informel des discussions.

Les participants entament ensuite leurs travaux. Un exposé les informe du contexte dans lequel se négocie le régime changements climatiques d'après 2012, ainsi que des questions saillantes à l'ordre du jour des réunions CCNUCC COP14 et COP/MOP4 devant se tenir en décembre 2004 à Poznan (Pologne). Un second exposé retrace les concepts scientifiques de

base expliquant les changements climatiques et informe les participants des travaux récents du GIEC. Chacun de ces exposés est suivi d'une séance questions-réponses.

Questions saillantes

En ce qui concerne les questions saillantes, les participants expriment un vif intérêt pour le financement de l'adaptation et la mise en œuvre des PANAs ; la situation actuelle concernant le MDP et les améliorations qui font l'objet de discussions ; l'avenir du régime CCNUCC au vu du refus des Etats-Unis de ratifier le Protocole de Kyoto; le transfert des technologies et les droits à la propriété intellectuelle ainsi que l'analyse économique faite par Sir Nicholas Stern en 2006. Les animateurs répondent à de nombreuses questions. Ces thèmes seront repris en plus de détail dans la suite de l'atelier, lorsque trois participants feront des exposés détaillés sur les questions-clés vues de la perspective des états africains.

On fait remarquer que la région devra se développer en choisissant des modèles de développement qui tiennent compte de l'atténuation nécessaire des gaz à effet de serre. On souligne qu'on ne peut désormais dissocier développement et adaptation.

Aspects scientifiques

Une discussion tout aussi animée a lieu sur les aspects scientifiques. On exprime le souhait qu'un centre de calcul sous-régional soit établi pour mettre au point de modèles sous-régionaux. Ceci permettrait en outre d'analyser les paramètres relatifs à la mousson en Afrique de l'Ouest et de mener des projets d'anticipation. La région a besoin de se doter de données plus nombreuses et plus fiables; le GIEC aussi souhaiterait disposer de données régionales. Un bon réseau d'observations devrait être établi. On voudrait également disposer de structures techniques permettant l'évaluation du coût de l'adaptation.

Monsieur Huq a fait remarquer que de telles infrastructures scientifiques et informatiques relèvent des administrations nationales tandis que cet atelier vise l'aspect international des négociations.

LE régime CCNUCC après 2012

Dans son exposé, Madame Thiam (ENDA, Sénégal) rappelle les principes directeurs soutenant le régime changements climatiques des NU ainsi que l'adoption, à Bali, en décembre 2007, d'une feuille de route avec une vision, des objectifs et des voies de négociations, ainsi qu'un délai pour la conclusion de ces négociations: décembre 2009 à la COP15 de Copenhague.

Elle rappelle également les processus mis en place, l'un au titre du Protocole de Kyoto: le Groupe de Travail Spécial sur les Nouveaux Engagements (AWG-KP), l'autre au titre de la Convention: le Groupe de Travail sur l'Action de Coopération à long terme (AWG-LCA). Ce dernier examine un éventail plus large de mesures que le premier: non seulement la réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre mais également l'élaboration d'une stratégie d'adaptation, le transfert des technologies et des ressources financières vers les pays en développement.

Le débat sur la réduction des émissions couvre (a) l'approfondissement des réductions des pays industrialisés (b) l'encouragement de certains pays en développement (surtout les économies émergentes) à réduire leurs émissions (c) la prise en compte des réductions d'émission liées à la déforestation et à la dégradation des terres (REDD) et (d) l'amélioration du MDP.

On fait remarquer que les pays les plus vulnérables, qui seront les plus atteints, et notamment ceux d'Afrique doivent saisir l'occasion d'exprimer, ainsi que de s'assurer de ce que leurs intérêts soient pris en considération. Une de leurs préoccupations est de définir quels engagements chiffrés ils souhaitent de la part des pays de l'Annexe I. D'autre part, plusieurs participants soulignent qu'il est nécessaire que les pays de la région s'engagent le plus possible dans les négociations en s'appuyant sur leurs aspects communs, et en formant des alliances au sein des groupes de contact. L'avancée du désert, ainsi que les problèmes liés à la hausse du niveau de la mer sont les principales préoccupations qu'ont les pays de la sous-région suite aux changements climatiques. Ces pays devront aussi s'engager dans les débats sur le REDD et l'amélioration du MDP et

doivent faire des grands efforts pour parvenir à parler d'une même voix. On se félicite de ce qu'en octobre à Cotonou, lors de la réunion des Ministres de l'Environnement des Pays africains, on a décidé de former un groupe, le CDAO, qui pourra parler pour tous les pays de la sous-région.

Enfin, les participants attirent l'attention sur la difficulté de former des positions communes quand les rencontres entre négociateurs sont si peu fréquentes. Ils décident de saisir l'occasion de cet atelier pour préparer leur position à l'avance de la réunion du groupe africain qui doit se tenir à Alger du 14 au 17 novembre.

Transfer des Technologies

Monsieur Birama Diarra (Mali) fait un exposé sur la mise au point et le transfert des technologies (TT). Il rappelle que le GIEC a défini le transfert de technologies comme «un vaste ensemble de processus qui englobent les échanges de savoir-faire, de données d'expérience et de matériel pour l'atténuation des changements climatiques et l'adaptation à ces changements...».

Monsieur Diarra esquisse les principales caractéristiques d'un TT réussi. Il faut: que le transfert de connaissances et de savoir-faire soit suivi de l'adaptation de cette technologie aux besoins et conditions locaux; la reproduction sur place de la technologie; et l'intégration large des différentes parties prenantes.

Le point de départ pour un TT est l'élaboration par les pays en développement d'une évaluation des besoins technologiques ou 'technology needs assessment' (TNA). Monsieur Diarra explique que seuls 24 pays africains ont, à ce jour, élaboré leur TNA (Bénin, Burundi, Burkina-Faso, Botswana, Cap vert, Tchad, Congo, Congo Démocratique, Éthiopie, Gabon, Gambie, Ghana, Guinée, Malawi, Mali, Namibie, Niger, Sénégal, Togo, Ouganda, Algérie, Égypte, Soudan, Seychelles). Ces pays ont reçu en moyenne 100.000\$ pour ce faire. Répondant à une question, Monsieur Diarra précise que ces évaluations doivent être prises en compte dans les plans de développement des pays, et qu'il est important de les porter à la connaissance des différents ministères.

Enfin, Monsieur Diarra explique que l'aide publique au développement et le mécanisme financier de la convention climat sont des instruments privilégiés qui devraient permettre

un large transfert de technologies. Cependant, la tendance est manifestement à une augmentation de l'importance des investissements privés et au tassement de la contribution de l'aide publique au développement. Dans ce contexte, les droits de propriété intellectuelle constituent une des majeures barrières au TT. Il a été suggéré dans d'autres enceintes que ces droits pourraient être acquis à tarif réduit concessionnaire par un mécanisme financier et mis à disposition des pays en développement.

Certains participants expriment le point de vue qu'en l'absence d'investissement privé provenant du Nord, les pays de la sous-région devraient prendre l'initiative de se doter de technologies et de savoir-faire 'propres' là où ils le peuvent : on cite l'exemple d'éoliennes construites dans la sous-région et de la termitière pluvio-prédictrice au Mali. En Afrique, l'accent doit être mis sur l'adaptation à partir du savoir faire endogène. On rappelle que suite aux demandes des pays du G77, le TT (y compris des technologies d'adaptation) est, depuis Bali, un des piliers du régime CCNUCC d'après 2012.

L'Adaptation et son Financement

Madame Fatou Gaye (Gambie) fait un exposé où elle explique tout d'abord l'importance de l'adaptation pour les pays vulnérables. Le réchauffement climatique, dont les effets sont déjà visibles, progressant rapidement, il est impératif que la capacité d'adaptation de l'Afrique et des PMA en particulier augmente. Les barrières à l'adaptation sont tout d'abord le manque de financement, aggravé par la complexité des procédures permettant d'accéder aux fonds disponibles. S'ajoutent le manque de ressources, ainsi que de capacités institutionnelles et techniques pour intégrer l'adaptation dans la gestion et dans la planification du développement. Le délai encouru dans la mise en œuvre des PANAs a accru les coûts de certains projets ainsi que la vulnérabilité des pays. Enfin, le manque d'éducation, de formation et de sensibilisation du public, surtout dans les communautés locales, freine l'adaptation.

En ce qui concerne le financement, on note que l'on prévoit qu'une nouvelle structure (par exemple un nouveau mécanisme financier) pour un financement de l'adaptation fera partie

du régime d'après 2012. Les critères fondamentaux pour un tel financement est qu'il soit adéquat et durable. Le financement de l'adaptation constituera un élément primordial dans les négociations pour les pays en développement, et en particulier pour les pays vulnérables (PMA et pays africains) dont les besoins d'adaptation seront considérables. On passe en revue les fonds déjà disponibles sous le régime UNFCCC : la priorité stratégique du FEM pour l'adaptation; le Fonds pour les pays les moins avancés ; le Fonds spécial pour les changements climatiques. Ces fonds sont gérés par le FEM et les déboursements se font par son l'intermédiaire. Ces fonds, qui s'élèvent à environ \$500m à l'heure actuelle, ne suffiront pas à couvrir les énormes besoins financiers de l'adaptation (estimés par diverses organisations à entre \$9 et \$86 milliards par an d'ici 2030). Le Fonds pour l'Adaptation (FA), par contre a le potentiel de contribuer de façon significative aux besoins d'adaptation des pays vulnérables. Le FA est alimenté par la part des fonds provenant des activités sous le MDP (prélèvement pour l'adaptation) et on prévoit qu'il contiendra \$1 milliard d'ici 2012. Ce fonds est géré par un Conseil exécutif qui est directement sous l'autorité de la COP/MOP. La composition du Conseil exécutif garantit que les pays en développement y ont la majorité des voix. L'accès au fonds sera direct, sans devoir passer par les agences intermédiaires comme c'est le cas pour les autres fonds. La présidence du Conseil est à présent assurée par Richard Muyungi (Tanzanie). Les procédures et modalités pour le déboursement des fonds doivent être réglées après la réunion de Poznań. Dans la discussion, on souligne que la mise en œuvre des PANAs doit rester prioritaire parmi les initiatives d'adaptation.

Les participants prennent note des propositions sous examen visant à créer un nouveau mécanisme financier ainsi qu'un fonds pour l'adaptation faisant partie du régime d'après 2012. Ces propositions varient entre un engagement des pays industrialisés à contribuer un pourcentage de leur PNB; le prélèvement d'une taxe sur les émissions de CO₂ ; un prélèvement sur les droits d'émissions dans le système international d'échanges de droits d'émissions sous Kyoto; et une taxe sur les voyages par avion internationaux. On a également proposé d'étendre le prélèvement pour l'adaptation aux autres transactions du

carbone (échange de droits d'émission et mécanisme d'application conjointe). On souligne encore qu'il est crucial pour les pays africains de faire entendre leur voix d'abord au sein du G77, et ensuite dans le débat plus large qui aura lieu à Poznań sur le financement de l'adaptation.

Séance des Participants

Cette séance a pour but de permettre aux participants d'assembler, entre eux, les éléments d'une position africaine sur des thèmes choisis : ici, l'adaptation et le transfert

des technologies. La séance est présidée par Monsieur Komi Tomyeba (Togo). Le résumé des conclusions est attaché au présent rapport

Excursion

La délégation guinéenne a organisé une excursion sur le terrain afin de montrer aux participants une forêt de mangrove située dans la baie de Sangraia.



Participants of the Regional workshop for West Africa
Conakry, Guinée

9. The ecbi POLICY BRIEFS

'International Air Passenger Adaptation Levy (IPAL)'. Compiled by Benito Mueller.

This brief is structured as follows: Part I of the brief reviews thirteen questions, with the answers listed below. Part II elaborates the LDC proposal to a proposal by the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) within the framework of the Bali Action Plan. December 2009 the UNFCCC AWC-LCA on 12 December 2008.

1. Why create competition to the French Solidarity Levy for HIV/AIDS and malaria?
2. What would be the impact on tourism, particularly in the most vulnerable countries?
3. Could there be exemptions on who the levy is applied to?
4. Why exclude Air freight?
5. Why does IAPAL only focus on air travel and not maritime travel, which is also contributing to climate change?
6. Why IAPAL? Why not use an adaptation levy on emission permits instead, as suggested by the European Commission?
7. Could IAPAL revenue collected in developing countries be earmarked for use in the collecting countries?
8. How many different countries and UN groupings would be contributing to IAPAL revenue?
9. Is it fair to levy passengers from poor countries when they have not contributed much to climate change?
10. Does IAPAL have a special appeal to passengers because it supports those who are most vulnerable to climate change?
11. Why not make the levy voluntary?
12. Why a per passenger rate?
13. How does IAPAL fit the related G77 proposals on finance?

Following the very successful example of the French 'Leading Group' solidarity levy to combat HIV/AIDS, the LDCs Group

proposes an adaptation solidarity levy on international air passengers to provide more adequate funding for adaptation activities in the poorest, most vulnerable countries and communities. In line with the French levy, the LDC Group proposal is to establish a small passenger charge for international flights – differentiated with respect to the class of travel – to raise between \$8bn and \$10bn annually for adaptation in the first five years of operation, and considerably more in the longer term. This will constitute a significant step towards ensuring adequate financing for developing country adaptation costs. The levy is to benefit the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund, which is currently replenished by a two percent solidarity levy on the share of proceeds from the Clean Development Mechanism. It is to be universal in the sense of covering all international air travel and collected by airlines at the point of ticket sale. Being international and dependent only on the evolution of the air travel demand – and not on bilateral replenishment – the funds raised will truly be new and additional, as well as significantly more predictable than traditional funding mechanisms. The levy will also be able to provide individual people and businesses who have the means to fly internationally with the opportunity to take on their responsibilities and express their solidarity with those fellow human beings who are much less capable to deal with the impacts of the international passenger flight emissions.

The levy provides for an equitable mechanism victim compensation in a sector which – due to the non-national character of the emissions – eludes the traditional interpretation of common but differentiated responsibilities in terms of national (historic) emissions. The proposed levy will have a significant effect on passenger numbers – less a tenth of the expected annual growth rate – and hence minimal to no negative impact on tourism dependent economies. By contrast, it will have significant positive impacts on the development of the poorest and most vulnerable countries and communities, by avoiding climate change impacts through timely and adequate adaptation measures funded by the revenue raised through the levy.

UNFCCC negotiations. Policy Brief

This brief is structured as follows: Part I of the brief reviews, in summary, main outcomes of the UN Poznan Climate Change Conference in December 2008. Part II considers the upcoming sessions of the AWG-LCA and the AWG-KP, which take place in Bonn from 29 March to 8 April. In conclusion, Part III considers the following negotiating sessions, which take place in Bonn from 1-12 June 2009.

The negotiations on a successor agreement (or agreements) to the Kyoto Protocol are facing a tight deadline. Negotiations on new greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for developed countries and potential actions for developing countries are to be finalized at the UN Copenhagen Climate Conference, which take place from 7-18 December 2009. Developing countries have argued for emissions reductions of 25-40 percent for developed countries by 2020, referring to the Fourth Assessment Report (AR 4) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Small island states have raised the need for greater reductions to avoid catastrophic impacts on their countries. The negotiations are taking place in two parallel tracks: a track related to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which takes place in the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA). This track includes discussing actions that developing countries might take under a new agreement and it involves the US, which has not joined the Kyoto Protocol. The other track, which relates to the Kyoto Protocol, takes place under the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP). The second track is focused on revising the current commitments that developed countries have under the Protocol (an overall reduction of at least 5 per cent below 1990 levels in the ‘commitment period’ 2008-2012). Funding and technology transfer are among the key issues in the negotiations. For example, the Adaptation Fund was established under the Kyoto Protocol to finance two adaptation activities in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change. It is financed from the ‘share of proceeds’, that is, a 2 percent levy on the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Negotiators are considering if the share of proceeds could be extended to emissions trading and Joint Implementation (activities between developed countries). At the next negotiating sessions, which take place from 29 March – 8 April, negotiators will start focusing on specific elements of text, which might become part of a future agreement. By the following negotiating sessions, which take place from 1-12 June in Bonn, full negotiations should be under way in both the AWG-LCA and the AWG-KP. The deadline for submitting proposals for a new protocol, which could replace the Kyoto Protocol, or for amendments to the UNFCCC or Kyoto Protocol, is 17 June 2009.

9. Website build and development:

www.eurocapacity.org

Background - Technology

The site was established in the first place in the summer of 2005. Izabela Ratajczak-Juszko and Nick Daisley are resource people working on this project from its very beginning.

The specification required that the website be set up for dynamic management from within the ecbi office, and an early decision was taken to build on a platform of MySQL database and PHP dynamic pages. At the time of website building, there was no commercial or open-source Content Management system that could readily be shaped to the task in hand, so all components of the system were built from the ground up, using experience gained on the website for the Tyndall Centre, and other environmental projects. The administrator uses forms in a secure environment to put content into the database, and allows a good measure of flexibility for the design of one-off pages for specific events. The system must handle personal records, a wide variety of 'documents' (including images, presentation files, press releases etc), together with events, invitations, event registrations and news items.

A project manager, calendar and email manager were built into the original site, but all have been supplanted by free Google applications, some accessible from within the interface. The database platform for the database was upgraded in November 2008 to improve functionality and security. Matters of data security are kept under constant review. The programming technique of AJAX has begun to be used to deliver dynamic material with greater efficiency on some of the administrative pages.

Survey of Users

Informal surveys have been carried out at most of the events in which the ecbi has been involved, to determine attitudes to the site and the value of its resources. This information was fed back into the design process. Feedback on the design and efficient delivery of information has been very positive, but the responses, together with an analysis of the site's log files, suggested that users were not finding their way into the resource as often as the project had hoped. One result has been the choice to do away with the special controlled access to 'network resources', which seemed to be a disincentive for busy people to engage with the site.

New Site Version

A decision was therefore taken to reshape the site, keeping confidential material in the hands of the administrators, but selectively available to network members by request, and making all other resources public. Documents and images from specific events and projects would be subdivided and made more immediately available to those engaged in them. The opportunity was taken to overhaul and modernize the site design at the same time as changing access, using different typefaces and styles in response to feedback. Five versions of the website to the new specification were provided to the office for consideration and assessment.

The chosen new version of the website is close to completion and adoption.

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