European Union programme of side events

United Nations Climate Change Conference Durban, 28 November - 9 December 2011









Ecodevelopment and resilient energy policies

Organiser: HELIO International, France

A new methodology to assist decision-makers in climate-proofing their energy policies in line with ecodevelopment goals will be presented. The methodology helps decisions makers assess the environmental, technical and economic viability of a proposed energy policy and takes into consideration the governance and participatory structures needed for successful policy implementation. Discussion will focus on how it can be applied in a European context.

EU-Africa scientific cooperation on climate change

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

This event will showcase specific examples of cooperation. The focus will be on best practices, challenges and opportunities for capacity building in climate change research in Africa, notably in the areas of climate predictions and scenarios, adaptation options, and climate change impacts on health, agriculture and ecosystems.

No event scheduled

BRUSSELS ROOM

EU capacity-building activities in Mexico and Indonesia: mitigation and MRV

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action

This event will give an overview of these capacity-building activities from the perspective of both the EU and the recipient countries. Particular attention will be paid to lessons learned on the ground.

Country-level climate change and impacts

Organisers: Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), UK, and Met Office, UK

The key scientific outcomes of a new study by the Met Office's Hadley Centre into the physical science and impacts of climate change across more than 20 countries worldwide will be presented. The study has been developed at DECC's request with the participation of France, Germany, Italy and Spain. The side event will also explore options for future collaboration in this important area of policy-relevant science.

Fair and efficient governance for the Green Climate Fund?

Organiser: Climate Action Network (CAN) France

How can it be ensured that GCF funding will be allocated fairly and spent efficiently? This event aims to share (often) divergent state and civil society perspectives and analyse political demands in the light of experiences on the ground. It will bring together representatives of the Transitional Committee from North and South, the French Development Agency and French-speaking civil society.

EU fast start finance: 2011 progress report

Organisers: Polish Presidency of the EU and European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action The EU will report on its progress in delivering fast start finance to developing countries. Key implementing agencies and Multilateral Development Banks will share their experiences of the fast start initiative and representatives of recipient countries will give examples of fast start success stories.

Making the transition to low carbon societies in a changing world

Organisers: Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, France, and International Research Network for Low Carbon Societies (LCS-Rnet)

This event will examine how to realise the paradigm shift in climate policies demanded by the Cancún declaration despite the current context of economic difficulties. It aims to open a fruitful dialogue between teams from LCS-Rnet, which covers the G8 countries, and scientists and policy-makers from the BASIC countries.

Global forest land-use change: the Remote Sensing Survey of FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment

Organiser: European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC)

The survey, co-funded by the European Commission, has been implemented over the last three years by FAO with JRC as the main scientific partner and participation from over 100 countries and more than 200 national experts. The results will be presented and discussed at this event.

Methodologies for REDD+: drivers, costs, and reference levels

Organiser: Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), UK

This event will present new research from a just-completed project on developing reference levels useful for REDD+ and to help estimate costs of REDD+ mitigation action. The session will provide insights into how, for example, national circumstances can be included in UNFCCC efforts to set reference levels.

Forestry projects: a variety of options

Organiser: CDC Climat, France

Whilst the REDD mechanism moves towards implementation – with the help of pioneering initiatives from actors such as the World Bank and Norway – other ways exist to mitigate climate change through a combination of forestry and carbon finance, both in tropical and temperate climates. Promising examples of such initiatives will be presented at this event.

A framework to assess the sustainability of different REDD+ design options

Organiser: Government of Belgium

The different options for REDD+ (e.g. on reference level and scope) will have an impact on the sustainability of its implementation in the field. This event will present a framework to analyse the environmental, socio-economic and institutional implications of different scenarios for individual countries.

The cost-effectiveness of REDD+

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action

This event will explore the impacts of different incentive schemes on the mitigation, adaptation and development potential of REDD+. It will also look at their impacts on REDD+'s capacity to engage all relevant partners and deliver maximum benefits in the shortest possible time.

EU support for capacity building on finance

Organiser: EU Expert Group on Adaptation

Finance is one of the areas where capacity-building needs are greatest. This event will focus on EU support for capacity building on finance in the broadest sense, including budgetary and accounting processes, financial management and access to financial resources

Sustaining systematic observation from space and related capacity building and training activities

Organisers: European Space Agency (ESA), South African Space Agency (SANSA) and European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC)

ESA, SANSA and JRC will present their contribution to establishing a long term systematic observation system in response to GCOS requirements and the European GMES and its data sharing principles. All three bodies are supporting capacity building and training in Africa.

LULUCF - Modalities and implications of more intensive inclusion in Kyoto and post-Kyoto processes

Organiser: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

The Kyoto framework and LULUCF-based carbon accounting strategies only lead to quite small amounts of carbon sequestration. Can LULUCF be better mobilised and would Parties be willing to agree to a new accounting framework? How would reform impact incentives for carbon sequestration, forest management, use of harvested wood products, fossil-fuel substitution, biodiversity protection and promotion of the efficient use of forest-based resources?

African countries in the global carbon market: Challenges, opportunities and initiatives

Organiser: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany

This event showcases lessons learnt from the German ministry's initiatives to promote carbon markets in Africa through policy advice, capacity building, technical assistance and finance. Examples include innovative financing instruments for seed funding, activities targeting the bankability of projects, and assistance for developing programmes of activities.

The role of civil society organisations in adaptation in developing countries

Organiser: Coordination Sud, France

How can civil society organisations enhance local and national adaptive capacities in developing countries by adopting a cross-cutting, systemic approach to adaptation? At this event an empirical analysis carried out among French and African development NGOs will be presented. The main features of a holistic framework for adaptation action will be discussed.

African COP: A perspective from Germany's International Climate Initiative (ICI)

Organiser: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety, Germany

This event will show how the ICI finances climate protection and adaptation measures together with African partners. Regional cooperation as a means to strengthen adaptation capacities and protect forests will also be addressed.

New prospects for energy access and sustainable forest management through carbon finance in LDCs

Organiser: Groupe Energie Renouvelables, Environnement et Solidarités (GERES), France

Carbon finance can be a real vector of sustainable development for the poorest communities. This event will give an overview of the French actors currently working in the field of carbon finance as well as look at concrete results to date and the challenges for accelerating implementation of sustainable development.

Opportunities for non-carbon benefits of REDD+

Organisers: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action; Convention on Biological Diversity; Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
This event will explore how the rules to be agreed on assessing and rewarding the performance of REDD+ activities could have a positive impact on the rights and livelihood of forest communities and the ecosystem services they depend upon. The benefits of landscape restoration will be highlighted in particular.

Africa-EU Partnership Second Action Plan 2011-2013

Organiser: Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, France

Climate priorities approved at the December 2010 summit of the Africa-EU Partnership will be presented. The Great Green Wall on Sahel Sahara Initiative will be among the projects discussed.

The role of CCS in realising a low-carbon economy

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action

Starting from the role for CCS foreseen in the Commission's Roadmap to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050, this event will set out the EU's work on CCS to date. It will include presentations of the EU directive on CCS and the NER 300 funding programme for demonstration of innovative low-carbon technologies. State of play, problems encountered, lessons learnt and challenges ahead will be addressed.

REDD+, carbon stocks assessment and baseline setting: project-level inputs to Madagascar's national inventory

Organiser: Fondation GoodPlanet, France

This event will illustrate how forest carbon inventory and deforestation analysis using different tools (airborne LiDAR, allometric and soil carbon loss model, Overland, opensource tools) at the project level are crucial for setting an accurate REDD+ national baseline.

What's new in financing climate action: Global figures and concrete innovations

Organiser: European Investment Bank (EIB)

National and international financial institutions and experts will discuss recent global data on international public finance of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The event will look at concrete investments and an Innovative Climate Finance Report will be presented.

NAMAs – New opportunities for the transport sector

Organiser: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany

A major expert workshop held in Bonn in June 2011 addressed the main differences between the CDM and NAMAs in the transport sector and unveiled opportunities for GHG mitigation in developing countries. The results of this workshop and some interim results of TRANSfer, a 3-year project funded by Germany's International Climate Initiative which includes activities in South Africa, will be presented at this event.

Analysis from the OECD/IEA Climate Change Expert Group

Organisers: Governments of Estonia and Chile

The results of recent papers and workshops on key negotiation issues such as climate finance will be presented, followed by discussion with leading experts from developed and developing countries.

MRV of GHG emissions: sharing the EU's experience and vision

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action

The focus of this event will be on the lessons learnt through implementation of the current MRV system under the Kyoto Protocol and on new developments in the EU's domestic legislation. The EU's progress in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, and the policies and measures taken, will also be highlighted.

Kyoto Protocol - past and future emissions

Organiser: Ministry of Economy, Poland

This event will present GHG emission trends and analyse emissions based on the 2011 national inventories of Annex I Parties and the national communications from non-Annex I Parties. The key factors influencing future GHG emissions will be discussed by Parties.

Wales and Scotland: An innovative approach to combating climate change

Organisers: The Governments of Wales and Scotland

Wales and Scotland have made strong commitments on climate change in support of climate action by the United Kingdom and EU, including strengthening their support for developing countries. This event will look at the partnerships Wales and Scotland are building with developing countries, UN agencies and multilateral development banks.

WARSAW ROOM

No event scheduled

Leveraging funds for climate change in developing countries: the EU in action

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid This event will showcase innovative financing mechanisms developed by the EU (structure, function, results) and experience in mobilising additional funding for investments by leveraging loans and partner countries' own contributions. Climate Change Windows (CCW) recently created within regional investment facilities will also be presented as well as GEEREF, the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund.

Breakthrough in IMO: The first legally binding global CO₂ standards for an industry sector

Organiser: Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, Cyprus

The Energy Efficiency Design Index adopted by IMO in July 2011 will be the focus of this event. EEDI, which will apply to new ships built from 2015, represents the first ever mandatory global GHG reduction regime for an international industry sector.

Agriculture and climate change in developing countries

Organiser: Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières, France

This event will discuss a range of climate issues related to small farmers in developing countries. These include the role of smallholder agriculture, and particularly livestock farming, in the mitigation of climate change and food security as well as the potential for replication of adaptation strategies that small farmers are developing. The event will feature a photo exhibition about climate change and small-scale livestock farming in developing countries.

Agroforestry as a key model for REDD+

Organiser: ONF International, France

This event will highlight two agroforestry success stories from Democratic Republic of Congo and Colombia which form part of national REDD+ strategies and are highly replicable in the Congo and Amazon basins. The Moringa fund, a dedicated agroforestry vehicle supported by the Rothschild bank and France's Office National des Forêts International, will also be presented.

The Road to Rio+20: An update and exchange on the latest activities regarding Low Emission Development (LED)

Organiser: The World Bank

This event will update partners on latest developments in the area of low emission development (LED) and share latest knowledge products and analytical results. The dialogue will provide an opportunity to develop ideas for supporting LED efforts in developing countries in a well coordinated manner in the run-up to Rio+20.

Green economy: towards a low carbon society

Organiser: Federal Environment Agency, Germany

Drawing on examples from Germany and other countries, this event will highlight the potential of green markets and the economic opportunities of a transition towards a low carbon society (e.g. efficiency gains, innovation effects, business opportunities, green jobs).

Tackling aviation emissions through the EU Emissions Trading System

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action

The EU Emissions Trading System has been operating since 2005 and covers aviation emissions from 2012. This event will provide an opportunity to discuss the EU's legislation and the need to advance market-based actions to address aviation emissions.

EU support to capacity building on climate change financial aspects and MRV

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, with participation of UNDP

The event will focus on capacity building for financial management of climate-related support and for MRV in developing countries. The debate will look at lessons learnt, best practices and gaps/needs for future actions. An update will be given on the EU–UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme.

Wallonia initiative on fast start finance: projects in African LDCs

Organiser: Region of Wallonia, Belgium

This event will illustrate how sub-national initiatives with innovative approaches, such as the fast start initiative of Belgium's Wallonia region, are meeting the needs of local communities in Africa. In addition, the Network of Regional Governments - nrg4SD - will present sub-national governments' commitments and the actions they are taking around the world

France's first National Adaptation Plan

Organiser: Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, France

This event will present the content of France's five-year adaptation plan, adopted in July 2011, and give an overview of the method behind it. The plan includes 230 adaptation measures in 20 areas.

Innovative and effective approaches to climate change adaptation in Africa: EU experiences

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid
The EU is providing adaptation assistance to Africa through the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) and
geographical programmes. Partner countries together with the EU will explain how they promote innovative and
effective approaches, like mainstreaming and budget support, and ensure alignment with countries' agendas, systems
and long-term capacity-building and ownership.

Country-level assessments of climate change impacts

Organiser: UK Government

This event will present a major new assessment, carried out by the UK Met Office Hadley Centre in collaboration with global scientists, to summarise the observed and projected impacts of climate change in individual countries. The project has captured this new science work in an engaging format.

The EU Roadmap for a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050 and impacts on industry

Organiser: European Commission

The Commission's low-carbon Roadmap, published in March 2011, sets out a cost-effective pathway and milestones for reducing the EU's GHG emissions by 80-95% by 2050. This event will give an overview of the roadmap and focus on how the EU's industrial competitiveness might be affected, in particular in energy intensive sectors.

From CDM to new mechanisms for Africa: how to create continuity for low carbon development

Organiser: CDC Climat, France

While new flexibility mechanisms (NAMAs and sectoral crediting) are a hot topic for discussion, they are still far from being implemented. In the meantime, the significant CDM potential of African countries, especially non LDC nations, is threatened by post-2012 uncertainties. This event will look at prospects for avoiding a harmful gap and helping African economies continue working towards low carbon development.

Europe on the way to a low carbon future

Organiser: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
A number of European countries are planning for a low carbon future. Strategies are being developed to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy and low carbon alternatives in all sectors. Representatives from 5 countries (Slovenia, Sweden, France, UK and Germany) and the European Commission will set out the key elements of this transition, which aims at a 80-95% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Global Learning Platform on climate policies

Organiser: Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales (IDDRI), France

This event will promote IDDRI's initiative to the international community of climate policy-makers. First results from China and India will be presented, with the participation of high-level officials from these countries and Europe. New countries are invited to join the initiative from 2012.

Towards an enhanced role for carbon markets in supporting climate mitigation

Organiser: The World Bank

Many countries are preparing to build on the experience gained in carbon markets to support low emission development. This event will show how both developed and developing countries, supported by the World Bank, continue to extend the scope, scale and reach of carbon finance in innovative ways.

EUROCLIMA: Science and policy jointly fighting climate change in Latin America (Part I: Biophysics)

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid EUROCLIMA is a joint Latin America-EU environmental programme with a specific focus on climate change. This event will present the programme's biophysical component. This aims to generate tools and make available studies to help establish the foundations for analysing the impact of climate change on natural resources in Latin America, especially in the fields of soils, water, bio-energy, drought and desertification and food security.

EUROCLIMA: Science and policy jointly fighting climate change in Latin America (Part II: Economics)

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid
The second part of this event will present the socio-economic component of EUROCLIMA, implemented by UN-ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean). This component aims at improving knowledge and facilitating information-sharing on socio-economic aspects of climate change in Latin America.

Exploring linkages between climate change, security, vulnerability and adaptation: examples from southern Africa

Organisers: Centre for Climate Policy and Research (CSPR), Sweden, Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI) and Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI)

The relationship between climate change and security, vulnerability and adaptation will be explored in a panel discussion with researchers and stakeholders. Practical work at local level, with a focus on water resources in southern Africa, will be used as an illustration.

Climate action in cities

policy networks will be highlighted.

Organiser: European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action and European Parliament

The significance of urban development for the transition to a low-carbon and climate resilient society will be the focus of this event. Initiatives in the EU and beyond, the interdependency of pioneer cities and international cooperation and

Smart and feasible solutions: Decentralised bio-fuel production and consumption

Organiser: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

This event will focus on the potential role of vegetable oils, which can be produced locally by farmers and used directly for energy, and associated technologies in contributing to the fight against climate change and to development in rural areas, particularly in developing countries. It will include presentations of a vegetable oil-fuelled cooker and on the use of pure vegetable oil to power tractors.

Climate financing: from 'fast start' to 2020 and beyond

Organiser: European Parliament

This event will examine the implementation of fast-start financing to 2012, options for scaling up funding from 2013-2020 and sources of funding including "new and additional" finance. It will also look at the resources allocated to adaptation and mitigation and operationalisation of the Green Climate Fund.

Looking forward: Effective private sector engagement in climate finance

Organiser: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

The private sector is expected to finance a major share of the measures for climate mitigation and adaptation. This event will consider the key question of how the international climate finance architecture, and in particular the Green Climate Fund, can mobilise private finance at scale.

National legislators driving progress.

Organisers Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE EU)

This event will present the outcomes of the GLOBE G-8+5 Cape Town Legislators forum of 2-4 December at the South African Parliament, including a Legislators Initiative on Adaptation. There will also be reports on recent progress on legislation on forestry, environmental services and mitigation in Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, Japan, UK, and Germany.

New Nordic goals – Smart Solutions

Organisers: The Danish Energy Association and The Danish Ecological Council

In the Nordic countries there is a growing consensus that solving climate change requires an energy revolution. Representatives from government, industry, green NGOs and energy producers, suppliers and distributors will give their views on how CO_2 -neutrality in 2050 can be achieved and will present examples of cooperation and solutions for getting there.

Germany's low carbon and energy strategy

Organiser: Federal Government of Germany

Germany has decided on a new 'energy concept' entailing the development of a low carbon economy. The German Minister for Environment will present policies and strategies for reaching Germany's ambitious goals. Other presentations will demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of the programme.

EU-Eastern Partnership cooperation in climate policy

Organiser: Ministry of Environment, Poland

This event will discuss specific challenges in implementing climate policies in the countries of the EU's Eastern Partnership - Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Areas covered will include technology transfer, capacity building, MRV, forestry and adaptation. The partner countries' assistance needs will also be discussed.

ICAP - International Carbon Action Partnership

Organiser: International Carbon Action Partnership

Recent developments in emissions trading in OECD countries and developing nations will be showcased at this event.

Climate diplomacy in perspective: From early warning to early action

Organiser: Federal Foreign Office, Germany

On 20 July 2011, the UN Security Council unanimously raised concern about the possible impacts of climate change on peace and security. This side event, offered jointly with the British FCO and African partners, will discuss how climate policy can help to enhance climate protection, improve solution-oriented dialogue and information exchange, and prepare for the security risks of a world undergoing climate change.

Exploring opportunities for NAMA market readiness

Organiser: Nordic Council of Ministers

This event will describe the activities of the joint Nordic Initiative on NAMAs. The over-arching objective of the proposed programmes is to improve host countries' readiness to benefit from international climate finance and/or the carbon market for supporting scaled-up mitigation action.

Paris-Nairobi Climate Initiative, access to clean energy in Africa and most vulnerable countries

Organisers: Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, France, and the Prime Minister of Kenya
The Prime Minister of Kenya and the French Minister will give an update on the Paris-Nairobi Climate Initiative on access
to clean energy in Africa and countries most vulnerable to climate change, launched on 21 April 2011 in Paris. Projects
with private sector actors will be presented, focusing on new financial mechanisms and with representatives from
partner countries. The event will be bilingual in French and English.

Gender and climate change: Actions, results and lessons learnt

Organisers: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland, and Global Gender and Climate Alliance

This event will showcase successes achieved under the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) umbrella as well as through Finland's bilateral cooperation. It will demonstrate best practice examples and strategies for successfully integrating the gender perspective into international and national-level actions on climate change.

SymbioCity, the Swedish approach to sustainability - from fossil fuel dependence to green growth

Organiser: Ministry of the Environment, Sweden

This event will look at how Sweden has gone from being the most fossil fuel dependent country in the industrialised world to a more resource-efficient society with a significant share of renewable energy. Whether for a region, city, district, building or household, the SymbioCity approach is adaptable to different scales and budgets.

An update on the work of the Adaptation Partnership, hosted by Spain, Costa Rica and the United States

Organiser: Government of Spain

An update on the actions, workshops and studies carried out by the Adaptation Partnership over the past year will be presented.

No event scheduled

Energy policy strategies of the Baltic Sea region for the post-Kyoto period

Organiser: Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, Germany, and Baltic Sea Region Energy Cooperation (BASREC)

Can the Baltic Sea Region become carbon neutral by 2050? This event will present a comprehensive project on low-carbon energy strategies of the region for the post-Kyoto period, giving concrete policy recommendations for the development of a secure and climate-compatible energy system for 2020 and beyond.

Linking disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

Organiser: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Climate change has a major impact on the frequency and intensity of weather-related hazards such as floods and droughts. This event will present a conceptual overview of how to link disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and, focusing on ecosystem-based approaches, corroborate the concept through successful experiences.

Building the climate change regime: Survey and analysis of approaches

Organiser: Department of the Environment, Ireland

This event will present the outcomes of the project of the same name, undertaken jointly by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) with the support of the Government of Ireland. The project seeks to identify concrete pathways for building an international climate regime capable of delivering a level of action consistent with the objectives of the Convention.

No event scheduled

Portugal's fast-start commitment

Organisers: Climate Change Commission, Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning of Portugal

This event will present projects being supported by Portugal in the context of its fast start financing commitment, with a strong emphasis on cooperation with Portuguese-speaking African countries.

The Italy-China partnership as a successful model of international cooperation on climate change Organisers: Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, Italy, and National Development and Reform Commission, China

Italy and China launched a cooperation programme in 2000 to promote key technological solutions for sustainable development and climate change and leverage public and private resources of over €340 million. The main results and success stories of the partnership will be presented, together with new goals for the future.

No event scheduled

