European Union programme of side events

United Nations Climate Change Conference Cancún, 29 November to 10 December 2010



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Introduction

The Cancún climate conference is an opportunity to take a significant step towards the goal of an ambitious, comprehensive and legally binding global framework to combat climate change.

The European Union wants to see Cancún deliver a balanced package of decisions that both addresses key elements of the future global climate architecture and leads to immediate action on the ground. As the only region that has put in place binding legislation to ensure its climate and energy targets for 2020 will be met, the EU will do all it can to facilitate a successful outcome.

But UN climate change conferences are not only negotiating sessions: the numerous side events offer a invaluable opportunity to share research and best practice from around the world, explain national and regional policy approaches and debate key issues. Side events indirectly support and inform the negotiations by spreading relevant knowledge.

This programme gives details of the more than 40 side events being organised by the 27 Member States and the institutions of the EU during the Cancún conference. The events will be held in the EU Pavilion at CancúnMesse.

All registered participants at COP 16/CMP 6 are most welcome to attend.

Monday 29 November



Reduction pledges of the Copenhagen Accord: chances and risks for the 2°C target

Organiser: Environmental Assessment Agency, the Netherlands

This side event will focus on the implications for global emissions and abatement costs of pledges and mitigation action plans submitted to date. How far are the pledges from meeting the 2°C target, and how can the gap be narrowed? What are the trade-offs between short-term and long-term mitigation?

SymbioCity – sustainability by Sweden: growing GNP and reducing CO₂ emissions at the same time

Organisers: Ministry of the Environment and Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden This event will provide insights into how Sweden has managed to grow its economy while simultaneously reducing CO₂ emissions. Since 1990 the economy has expanded by 44% while emissions have been cut by 9 %.

A CDM fit for the future –why is CDM reform needed and how can developing countries benefit?

Organiser: Department for International Development, United Kingdom

A selection of speakers will share their views on the evolution of the Clean Development Mechanism and greater use of standardised approaches. The event will look in particular at how these reforms could help increase low-income countries' access to the CDM.

SymbioCity - sustainability by Sweden: capacity-building based on Swedish examples

Organisers: Ministry of the Environment and Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Preserving natural resources and reducing the environmental impacts of urban growth have been policy priorities in Sweden for the past 50 years. This event will look at how Sweden is promoting environmental protection in developing countries by facilitating capacity-building in areas such as environmental legislation, education and urban development.

Tuesday 30 November

EU side events room



Joint Implementation in a post-2012 context

Organiser: CDC Climat, France

The panel will discuss the Joint Implementation mechanism, in particular the way forward after 2012. Special attention will be given to the views of investors. The discussion will draw on the recent Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee report.

Presentation of EU report on fast-start financing - EU Delegation tent at Moon Palace.

Organisers: Belgian EU Presidency and European Commission – DG Climate Action

The EU and its Member States will present a report on progress in implementing their fast start financing commitment for 2010. The report and side event ensure transparency in the EU's delivery of fast start finance and follow a preliminary state of play given in June.

REDD+ and biodiversity

Organiser: European Commission – DG Environment

This event will present and discuss the potential for synergies between REDD+ and the biodiversity agenda, and the catalytic role and impacts of forest carbon finance and related sectoral transformation policies. It will draw on the outcome of discussions held in the framework of the Rio Conventions' Ecosystem and Climate Change Pavilion during the Nagoya biodiversity conference.

EU progress towards fulfilling its Kyoto obligations

Organiser: European Commission – DG Climate Action

This side event will focus on progress made by the EU and its Member States towards meeting their Kyoto Protocol GHG emission commitments and the policies that have contributed to this result. The latest data on historical emissions and emission projections for the future will be presented.

Wednesday 1 December



Carbon accounting and the climate politics of forestry

Organiser: Department of Forest Resource Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Current approaches to forest resource-based carbon accounting consider only a fraction of its potential and fail to adequately mobilise the LULUCF sector to contribute more efficiently to stabilising atmospheric GHG concentrations. This event will present a model which sets up cost-effective mitigation strategies in the long term and is based on the efficient and balanced use of forest resources.

Working with nature - ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and mitigation

Organiser: European Commission – DG Environment

The benefits and potential business opportunities of working with ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and mitigation will be highlighted. This event is a contribution to the Rio Conventions' Ecosystem and Climate Change Pavilion which brings together a number of key international partners.

Scientific perspectives after Copenhagen

Organiser: Belgian EU Presidency

What are the scientific implications of the 2020 emission reduction pledges in the Copenhagen Accord? Different emission pathways will be discussed, as well as the technical and economic feasibility of achieving large emission reductions.

Innovative climate financing – public, private and multilateral sources

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

Mobilising private investments through bilateral and multilateral sources will help to increase spending on climate-friendly and sustainable technologies. Innovative financing approaches, such as the Global Climate Partnership Fund (KfW), part of BMU's International Climate Initiative, will be discussed at this event.

Thursday 2 December

EU side events room



Roadmap 2050: a practical guide to a prosperous, low-carbon Europe

Organiser: European Climate Foundation, the Netherlands

The Roadmap 2050 shows why the power sector should become zero-carbon and how to achieve this. The Roadmap, drafted in close co-operation with the European Commission, provides a practical, independent and objective analysis of pathways to achieving a low-carbon economy in Europe.

The Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund (GEEREF)

Organiser: European Investment Bank Group

The Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund (GEEREF) will give an update on its investment activities and present some of its small and medium-sized clean energy projects in Latin America.

REDD and governance: lessons learned from FLEGT

Organisers: European Commission – DG Development, EU Member States and the European Forest Institute The EU has recently concluded Partnership Agreements with several countries under the EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). Speakers from the EU and partner countries will outline the lessons learned about options for improving governance in REDD processes and tackling other governance challenges.

Innovative responses to climate change in urban service delivery

Organiser: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany Which adaptation and mitigation solutions do local energy and water suppliers propose for urban areas? This side event will discuss innovative public and private partnerships and technological solutions.

Friday 3 December



Creating public goods for renewable energies – the Global Solar and Wind Atlas and the long-term strategy for joint capacity-building

Organisers: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade and Danish Ministry for Climate and Energy

The Multilateral Solar and Wind (S&W) Working Group was established in June 2010 to implement the action plans on S&W energy technologies mandated by the MEF. Thirteen countries are already involved and this has given rise to a lively exchange between politics and science initially focusing on a concept for a global S&W Atlas and a long-term strategy on joint capacity-building.

Engaging the private sector in climate change mitigation activities

Organiser: European Commission – DG Enterprise and Industry

This side event will discuss a recent study on how to increase the private sector's role in the UNFCCC. It will also provide information on EU plans to standardise the measurement of GHG emissions and explore possibilities for public-private partnerships, industrial sector-specific co-operative mitigation activities and private capacity-building programmes.

Under which conditions are REDD+ projects feasible?

Organiser: Office National des Forêts (ONF), France

How to launch REDD+ projects will be the focus of this side event. It will gather experiences and insights from REDD+ project developers, public and private banks, and tropical country authorities. The publication *REDD+ at the project scale: assessment and development guide* will be presented.

What's new in financing climate change? Global figures and concrete innovations

Organisers: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Global Climate Partnership Fund (KfW), European Investment Bank (EIB), Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Agence française de développement (AFD) National and international financial institutions and experts will discuss recent global data on international public climate finance. The event will look at concrete investments and financing innovations which meet developing countries' needs.

Saturday 4 December

EU side events room



Multi-level policy for a green society – A research discourse

Organiser: Federal Environment Agency (Department of Energy Strategies and Scenarios), Germany

The Low Carbon Society Research Network is promoting international research cooperation. This event will address the following questions: How are strategies promoted on the national, municipal and individual level in respect to an economic transition? What does a low carbon society mean and which methodology is needed to support the transformation process from a researcher's perspective for different actor categories?

Cities and adaptation to climate change

Organiser: Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and the Sea, France

The National Observatory for the Effects of Climate Change (ONERC) will present its global analysis *Adaptation of cities to climate change*. This report deals with cities' vulnerability to climate change and proposals for innovative actions at local and national levels. It also provides a benchmark of French cities that have begun to implement adaptation policies, research programmes and projects.

Green investment schemes in the EU: institutions, national priorities and future prospects beyond 2012

Organiser: Ministry of Environment, Czech Republic

This side event will compare the green investment schemes of selected EU Member States and discuss the prospects for these schemes beyond 2012. Lessons will be drawn for both host countries and buyers.

Options to track actions and pledges - an overview

Organiser: Ministry of Climate and Energy, Denmark and ECOFYS

Following the submission of national actions under the Copenhagen Accord, one of the pressing questions is how to monitor and assess these actions. The methods applied will need to account for the big differences in the type of commitments/actions submitted and the relative responsibilities of different countries. This side event will present a variety of methodological approaches to address these challenges.

Monday 6 December



EUrocLIMA – the scientific aspects of climate change in Latin America, and EURO-SOLAR – renewable energy for sustainable development

Organiser: European Commission – EuropeAid and Joint Research Centre

The side event will present the scientific component of the EUrocLIMA regional co-operation programme and its five actions concerning soils, water, food security, desertification and sustainability of bio-energy. There will also be a presentation of the EURO-SOLAR programme, which will provide 600 rural communities without access to electricity with photovoltaic panels and small windmills.

Global proposals on climate change outside the UNFCCC process

Organiser: Environment Ministry, Ireland

Ireland, in collaboration with UNEP, has initiated a project to examine international policy frameworks to address climate change, including a number of global proposals that have been developed outside the UNFCCC process. The project will be conducted by the World Research Institute. The side event will provide an overview of the project and an opportunity for interested parties to give their views on innovative proposals.

European engagement in climate action in small island states

Organiser: European Investment Bank

This event will provide an overview of European Investment Bank and coordinated European initiatives to finance climate action projects addressing the specific challenges of small island states. Ministers from islands in the Caribbean, Atlantic and Pacific will give examples of how dedicated financial support can help small island states address the climate challenges they face.

The International Carbon Action Partnership: state of play and outlook for 2011

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

This event will present the International Carbon Action Partnership's current and future activities. These aim to contribute to establishing a well-functioning global carbon market and a well-designed and compatible domestic emission trading system.

Tuesday 7 December

EU side events room



The EU Emissions Trading System after 2012: preparing EU ETS 2.0

Organiser: European Commission – DG Climate Action

This side event will provide information on lessons learned from the first two trading periods of the EU Emissions Trading System and look ahead to developments after 2012. It will also cover the EU's proposals for reforming the Clean Development Mechanism and setting up new market-based mechanisms.

Early warning > Early action; climate risk management from a humanitarian perspective

Organisers: The Netherlands and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre Since 2002, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre has pioneered the integration of climate-related risks into the activities of a humanitarian organisation. This side event will present and discuss programmes undertaken in 65 countries, the concept of early warning > early action and lessons learned.

The World Resources Report 2010: Integrating Climate Change Risks into National-Level Planning and Policymaking

Organisers: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway, and the World Resources Institute

This side event will showcase stories around the world demonstrating how short- and long-term climate risks are being integrated into national-level planning and policymaking processes. In doing so, it will draw upon the case studies being prepared for the upcoming World Resources Report.

Reduction pledges of the Copenhagen Accord: chances and risks for the 2°C target

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Wednesday 8 December



EUrocLIMA - the socio-economic impacts of climate change in Latin America

Organisers: European Commission – EuropeAid and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) This event will present the socio-economic component of the EUrocLIMA programme and give a summary of the socio-economic impacts of climate change on the main sectors in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Launch of the Partnership for Market Readiness

Organiser: World Bank

The World Bank will launch the Partnership for Market Readiness. This partnership between developed and developing countries will provide a platform for innovative new market instruments and capacity-building to enable countries to scale up mitigation efforts. Connie Hedegaard, European Commissioner for Climate Action, and ministers from several countries will participate.

Meteorology and development projects on adaptation to climate change in Africa

Organisers: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France and African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD), Niger This side event will focus on the activities of ACMAD and how it is helping African populations to adapt to climate change impacts. ACMAD is mainstreaming climate change information into development processes, helping African scientists, and supporting the implementation of local-level adaptation projects.

Building alliances for climate change adaptation

Organiser: European Commission – DGs Climate Action, Development and EuropeAid

This moderated debate will feature a panel of high-level speakers including EU Climate Action Commissioner Connie Hedegaard and ministers from developing countries. It will look at the importance of adaptation as a global priority and the role of fast-start finance in a longer-term perspective. It will also take stock of progress in implementation of the EU's Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA). The event will be followed by a cocktail reception.

Thursday 9 December

EU side events room



Fast-start finance: how to make the international financial architecture more efficient, equitable and transparent

Organiser: Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, the Netherlands

The Netherlands has launched a website compiling information on fast-start climate finance. Possible further steps will be discussed. The event will also consider how to make the transition from fast-start finance to longer-term climate financing.

Energy efficiency and technology transfer

Organiser: European Parliament

The side event will highlight current policies on energy efficiency within and beyond the EU, including EU legislation on the energy performance of buildings and on eco-design. Ways to transfer knowledge and technologies to other countries and regions will be discussed.

International climate and environmental policy - a foreign policy task

Organiser: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Germany

How can the specific policy instruments and expertise of ministries of foreign affairs contribute to the negotiations on a global climate change regime? The role of foreign ministries in international climate change policies will be the focus of this event.

After the crisis: financing a sustainable future

Organiser: European Parliament – GLOBE EU

GLOBE EU, a cross-party group of members of the European Parliament, will hold a round-table debate on the policy and financial options needed for a global shift towards low-carbon economies. The options include innovative sources of finance, a redirection of subsidies, and reforms of national budgets, taxation systems, corporate accounting and credit-rating rules.

Friday 10 December



The future of carbon financing schemes for urban transport: Mumbai paves the way

Organisers: Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and Sciences Po Paris, France Current carbon finance instruments are not adequate to fund public transport infrastructure. This side event will present the findings of a pioneering experiment in Mumbai, where a method is being developed for collecting data about direct and indirect emissions.

Domestic and international perspectives on MRV

Organisers: Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and Sciences Po Paris, France This workshop will present and discuss the results of a project aimed at supporting the international partnership on mitigation and MRV launched by the German and South African governments. It will also look at some specific case studies of MRV in the EU, US, Mexico, South Africa and Indonesia.

Reducing international aviation and maritime transport greenhouse gas emissions - a European perspective

Organiser: European Commission – DG Climate Action

This event will look at cost-effective solutions for reducing GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport which are under discussion in ICAO, IMO and UNFCCC. It will also provide an update on the status of implementation of Europe's legislation, and consider the impacts of those measures on GHG emissions from the two sectors.



Belgian EU Presidency: www.eutrio.be

European Commission Climate Action Cancún conference page: www.ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/international/cancun_en.htm

COP 16/CMP 6: www.cc2010.mx

UNFCCC: www.unfccc.int