



ASIA
EUROPE
ENVIRONMENT
FORUM

Tentative Programme
19-11-2008

**Asia-Europe Environment Forum
Track II Series**

Towards integrated adaptation and mitigation measures in agriculture

Panel discussion EU Pavillion
Poznan, Poland | 4 December 2008
10.30 am to 12.30 pm

Agenda

Please note that some names are preliminary and still have to be confirmed!

10h30-10h35 **Welcome**

- **Andrej Kranjc**,
Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning
Representative of Slovenian government

Opening Remarks on behalf of the ENVforum

- **Christer Holsberg**,
Director of Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia (SENSA)

10h35-11h35 **Chair: tbc**

Presentations

1. **Interactions of mitigation and adaptation strategies in the agricultural sector** (10min + 5min Q&A)
 - **Yuri Okubo**, University of Zurich
2. **Opportunities and obstacles of enhancing synergies** (10min each + 5 min Q&A)
Case studies from Asia:
 - **Masanori Kobayashi**, IGES

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Case studies from **Europe**:

- **Prof. Zbigniew Kundzewicz**, Professor of Earth Sciences, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland (tbc)

3. **Assessing the effectiveness of mitigation and adaptation synergies** (10min + 5 min Q&A)

- **Dr. John van Aardenne**, Climate Change Unit, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, EC Joint Research Centre

11h35-12h25

Panel Discussion: Successful governance instruments for an integrated approach

- **Moderator:** Axel Michaelowa, Perspectives GmbH

This panel discussion will discuss the topic in the context of the broader challenges that development decision-makers face to achieve low carbon emitting and climate resilient development and identify the capacities, research and possible cooperation between Asian and European countries that will be required to address these complex problems.

- **Richard Klein**, Swedish Environment Institute
- Robert Tippmann, EcoSecurities (tbc)
- **Suruchi Bhadwal**, TERI (tbc)

12h25-12h30

Closing Remarks: tbc
Rapporteurs: tbc

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CONCEPT

Overview

The role of agriculture in mitigation of climate change has traditionally been neglected. We will discuss possible synergies and trade-offs of mitigation and adaptation measures in agriculture and discuss how to mobilize stakeholders and enhance cooperation between Asian and European countries.

Background and objective

With the adoption of the United Nations Framework for Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol (KP) in 1992 and 1997 anthropogenic climate change was internationally recognized as a man-made problem with significant long-term economic, societal and environmental effects. Rapidly developing Asian countries are concerned by this development: Their agricultural systems are highly vulnerable to climate-related risks, while their energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are at the same time rapidly increasing. Many European countries struggle to achieve their mitigation commitments and most of them have not yet embarked on adaptation. To fulfill the leadership role Europe wants to take in climate policy, development of an integrated mitigation and adaptation strategy is necessary. This is particularly important for the agricultural sector, which traditionally has been exempt from stringent mitigation measures.

While the UN climate negotiations so far have focused more on mitigation, the discussion on integrated approaches for mitigation and adaptation could spur some movement towards a broader and more balanced approach to the post-2012 climate policy strategy. Policy-makers at the international, regional, national and local levels should be encouraged to develop and maximize the opportunities for implementation of such mutually supportive strategies and avoid trade-offs.

Agriculture

Agriculture has always adapted to meteorological developments. Anthropogenic climate change introduces stronger stresses and thus requires targeted adaptation. Moreover, agriculture is an emission -intensive sector that should deliver its share of greenhouse gas mitigation. This is the case both for European and Asian countries, even if the type of emissions sources and the concrete adaptation measures will differ. Agriculture is particularly important for rural development, especially in Asian developing countries and consequently, there is a need to stress linkages among rural development, sustainable agricultural practices, adaptation, and mitigation.

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Unsuccessful adaptation could have global repercussions if local impacts on food production multiply.

Key questions

We invite stakeholders in mitigation and adaptation projects (e.g. negotiators, experts in adaptation and mitigation inter-linkages/climate and development, decision makers in adaptation and CDM projects, NGOs) involved in agricultural issues to discuss integration of mitigation and adaptation.

For discussion, the following questions may need to be addressed:

- What are the mitigation technologies/measures that could be combined with adaptation measures in agricultural sector?
- How can we measure effectiveness of integrated adaptation and mitigation measures in agricultural sector?
- Are there any examples of mitigation projects that have considered adaptation or future vulnerability at the planning stage? Are there any adaptation measures that have considered mitigation? If so, what was the incentive for the project developers to do so?
- What are the obstacles to the integration of adaptation and mitigation concerns into international, regional, national and local agricultural policy and how can they be overcome?
- What are the best ways to facilitate the exchange of best practices in agricultural mitigation and adaptation in a manner that is mutually beneficial to all stakeholders?
- What incentives must the post-2012 climate policy framework provide to promote the integrated approach and the vision of a low-carbon, climate-resilient agricultural development?

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