

A Pro-poor and People-centered Response to Climate Change

Consultation, Washington, DC, May 27, 2008

World Bank Social Development & Agriculture and Rural Development

Contacts Robin Mearns; Eija Pehu; Nicolas Perrin
<http://go.worldbank.org/W13H8ZXS1/>

Work relates to Adaptation X Mitigation X

1. What is your organization doing to advance pro-poor and people-centered climate change?

- Addressing climate change is central to the development and poverty reduction agenda. The poorest countries stand to suffer the earliest and the most from the effects of climate change. An effective response to climate change must combine both mitigation—to avoid the unmanageable—and adaptation—to manage the unavoidable. Climate change should not be allowed to halt or slow the progress of developing countries: there is a double challenge of reducing global damaging carbon emissions while meeting the adaptation needs of the world's poor.
- At the G8 Gleneagles Summit in Scotland in 2005, the World Bank was mandated to develop a roadmap for accelerating investments in clean energy for the developing world, in cooperation with other international financial institutions. This roadmap, termed the, identified the scale of investments needed for countries to (i) increase access to energy, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa; (ii) accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy; and (iii) adapt to climate variability and change.
- The development of the *Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development* (SFCCD) is underway and includes extensive consultations with a full range of stakeholders, including developing country clients, development partners (UN agencies, RDBs, bilateral donors), the private sector, and civil society through August 2008. The full SFCCD will be proposed for endorsement by the World Bank's Executive Board in September 2008 and subsequently discussed at the 2008 Annual Meetings. The consultations process for the SFCCD will include an assessment of the WBG's comparative advantage in the context of the roles and responsibilities of multiple international players, and will support the UNFCCC process and developing countries' knowledge and capacity to participate in the negotiations while being neutral to any negotiating party position.
- The SFCCD is an action framework based upon six strategic pillars:
 1. scaling-up operational approaches to integrate adaptation and mitigation in development strategies;
 2. consolidating efforts to mobilize and deliver finance;
 3. expanding the WBG's role in developing new markets;
 4. tapping private sector resources for climate friendly development;
 5. clarifying the WBG's role in accelerating technology development and deployment; and
 6. stepping-up policy research, advocacy, knowledge management and capacity building.
- The World Bank Group is working to help poor countries access additional concessional funding to enable them to cope with climate change and still achieve economic growth, poverty reduction, and ultimately the MDGs. It does so by (1) Helping developing countries to move to a lower carbon path by exploiting and promoting new technologies in renewable energy, supporting energy conservation, and increasing energy efficiency; (2) Preventing deforestation through the World Bank's Carbon Finance Unit initiatives; (3) build a greater understanding of the social implications of climate change and designing and providing support to Adaptation initiatives to climate risks.

2. What is, in your view, the most critical gap or unaddressed issue in the international negotiations towards a pro-poor climate regime?

- For the Social Development of the World Bank, the issue of climate change has thrust itself into the forefront of global debate. However, while the natural science of climate change is increasingly certain on what will happen to earth's climate, **the debate on the likely social consequences of climate change for human society is still in its infancy**. With this challenge in mind, the Social Development Department of the World Bank is taking the lead to build a greater understanding of the social implications of climate change by developing a series of peer learning events and studies on the social aspects of climate change and developing a full program on Social Dimensions of Climate Change (SDCC).
- Agriculture is also a key sector in adaptation to climate change. Climate variability, prolonged droughts, higher temperatures and increasing incidence of floods in some areas has a significant impact on agriculture, which in turn is a major livelihood source for poor people.
- In terms of the impact on agriculture dependent communities (vulnerability, institutional capacity, adaptation strategies) our knowledge is very limited. Similarly, our capacity for an informed trade-off analysis on long term investments (dams, irrigation, rural roads, etc.) as well as community and multistakeholder consultation processes is weak.
- A severe economic and social challenge is where climate impacts may lead to major land use change, whereby there can be demands to support transitions such as industry relocation and migration of people. Specific knowledge and assessments on these aspects is lacking.

3. Do you plan to address this issue? If yes, how?

The SDCC workplan's objectives are to:

- Articulate a global agenda on the social dimensions of climate change;
- Develop an analytical framework, and specific tools and methods of social analysis relevant to climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- Deepen thematic and country-based knowledge on the social dimensions of climate change;
- Apply all of the above in contributing to socially inclusive, climate-resilient policies and operations in client countries through Bank-wide strategic, corporate, lending and analytical products¹.

The following activities are currently underway or planned:

Participation in the preparation of a *Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development* (SFCCD). This framework articulates the Bank Group's vision on how to integrate climate change and development challenges, without compromising growth and poverty reduction efforts. This will be done through the World Bank Group's country operations including policy dialogue, lending, and analytical work in client countries, and through its regional and global operations. The SFCCD will broaden the scope of the *Clean Energy Investment Framework (CEIF)* by encompassing all relevant sectors, including energy, transport, urban, water, agriculture, forestry, environment, economic policy, and social protection, and by further elevating adaptation as the central attribute of development confronted by changing climate. The SFCCD will benefit from close coordination with the *World Development Report 2010 on Climate Change* and several other major analytical products.

A technical workshop (March 2008) including [research papers presentations](#) was held by the SD department to consider how climate change is likely to affect issues of Conflict, Migration, Urban Space, Rural Institutions, Drylands, Social Policy, Indigenous Peoples and Gender and addressed the following questions:

¹ Current priority corporate/ strategic products include the Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development (FY08), WDR 2010, Study on Economics of Climate Change Adaptation, and Bank-wide training on Climate Change for Development Professionals (ongoing).

- How will people's lives and livelihoods change as a result of climate change?
- What are the likely consequences for different groups of people within society, for example, indigenous peoples or fishing communities?
- For those already confronting war, crime, hunger, disease or insecure livelihoods, how will they manage additional threats stemming from climate change?
- Will insecurity worsen and for whom?
- What policies should be put in place to help people cope?

A specific work program dedicated to SDCC (supported by TF and Bank budgets) has been launched in 2007/2008 which includes:

- Follow-up studies on SDCC workshop (Conflict, NRM & CC; Human Rights & CC; Governance & CC)
- Papers and notes : Analytical Framework for SDCC ; Co-benefits of forest carbon finance for local communities; Tools & methods for SDCC project interventions; Study on Economics of CC Adaptation; etc.
- Case studies, peer learning events and knowledge products on: Area Based Development and Climate Change Adaptation (West Africa and Latin America) (ARD, SDV); Co-management Framework for the costing options of adaptation for Local Institutions; Gender and Climate Change; Indigenous Peoples & CC, etc.
- Conferences and Community of Practice/ Peer Learning Networks on SDCC: Website, microdocumentaries, blog, learning events; Conference on land rights, livelihoods and CC mitigation (Sept); Conferences and workshop about the various studies and learning event all through 2008,2009 and 2010

Specifically for Agriculture, ARD has been launching a series of initiatives:

- Of the 135 analytical studies on-going in the Bank on different aspects of climate change, both in the center departments and the regions, 11 are led by ARD. Of these 5 directly address poverty and vulnerability of local communities. The most comprehensive study led jointly by the Agriculture and Rural Development Department (ARD) and the Environment Department is focusing on understanding climate change impacts on agriculture and associated natural resources. This comprehensive report will look at both the biophysical as well as institutional challenges regionally, nationally and locally. This work will be expanded to support design of climate proofed investments in the regions especially to reduce risk and vulnerability among poor rural communities.
- Case studies, peer learning events and knowledge products on: Risk and vulnerability analysis of rural communities; Climate change and food security in Africa, Water, growth and poverty in Africa,
- Sectoral knowledge management including agriculture oriented website.

4. What are the challenges you see in addressing this gap?

- Coordinating between the various organizations' initiatives and avoid sectoral thematic silos to provide a holistic analytical framework and methodology useful for analysis and action.
- Create a strong community of practice involving different stakeholders (communities, governments, research institutes, donors, private sectors, research centers, civil societies...) in order to raise awareness and create policy and operational synergies.
- Going beyond recommendations and studies and provide timely operational support and adequate funding windows to help implement initiatives.