

United Nations System
Chief Executives Board for Coordination

ACTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE: THE UN DELIVERING AS ONE



United Nations System
Chief Executives Board for Coordination

The present document has been prepared by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), through its High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP). It brings together information on activities undertaken throughout the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, as contributed by the respective entities. The information was compiled by the CEB Secretariat, while the illustrations, photos and formatting have been provided by the UN Department of Public Information, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Produced at United Nations Headquarters, New York in November 2008

Contents

- Foreword by the United Nations Secretary-General 6
- Introduction 8
- The CEB climate action framework
 - Climate knowledge: science, assessment, monitoring and early warning 11
 - Adaptation 15
 - Capacity building 19
 - Financing mitigation and adaptation action 23
 - Reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) 27
 - Technology transfer 31
 - Supporting global, regional and national action 34
 - Public awareness raising 35
 - Climate-neutral UN 36
- List of Acronyms 37



Foreword



At the 13th session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC in Bali, Indonesia, we met to initiate an ambitious new phase of international cooperation on climate change in the light of compelling scientific evidence. At that time, I spoke of climate change as the “defining challenge of our time”. I also presented the beginning of an unprecedented coordination effort bringing together all the multilateral institutions that are part of the United Nations System to develop a strategic, coherent and operational framework to support the intergovernmentally agreed decisions within the UNFCCC. My intention has been to bring together all the diverse perspectives, expertise and strengths of the UN System so as to deliver as one in the critical area of climate change.

Since Bali we have seen even more compelling evidence why we must act now. Devastating recent climatic events like the tropical cyclones in Myanmar and the Caribbean, widespread flooding in India and China, and drought in Africa have highlighted the vulnerability that people all over the world face. It is clear that those who suffer the most from the increasing signs of climate change are the poor. Those that have contributed the least to this planetary problem continue to be disproportionately at risk.

As we meet in Poznan, we are witnessing the confluence of a series of events that threaten the very fabric of the international system and human and ecological security of individuals everywhere. The high and volatile food and energy prices have thrust at least 100 million people back into poverty. With the global financial crisis, and the recession that is following it, these numbers are likely to rise. We risk that all the efforts that have been made by countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals and to alleviate poverty, hunger and ill health will be rolled back.

At such a time, risks also present opportunities. In the face of mounting threats, the international community must demonstrate extraordinary will to come together and put in place the foundation for a better future. An ambitious climate agreement must be an essential part of this. Poznan must signal a clear message of commitment, coherence and momentum on climate change. As we look forward to Copenhagen, we must seize the opportunities presented by the multiple global crises to vision a low-carbon economy; one which not only ensures a secure climate but also spurs sustained economic growth. In other words, greatly enhanced investment in renewable energy and energy efficient technologies can not only put the Earth onto a sustainable track, it can generate employment and growth on an impressive scale. Massively increased investment in forest conservation and afforestation can have climate, biodiversity and economic benefits that are mutually supportive and strengthen our ability to reduce disaster risk. We must raise our collective level of ambition and commitment.

In delivering on agreements in the future, the world needs effective, efficient and well coordinated international institutions. This is particularly the case in the area of financing for climate change, both in terms of institutional arrangements and levels of funding. The entire UN System, through its Chief Executives Board, is committed to creating among its member institutions a strong and vibrant joint capacity to play its essential role in the transition to a sustainable and equitable world.

The attached document “Acting on Climate Change: The UN Delivering as One” outlines the second phase of the CEB initiative, as we prepare to roll out a more strategic joint framework of activities that we will present as a contribution to COP 15 in Copenhagen. Executive Heads in the United Nations System have mobilized the wide range of expertise and knowledge available within our organizations to focus on priority areas and specific deliverables which follow the approach defined in the negotiation and in pursuance of broader mandates and capacities already existing in the System.

The initiative brings together expertise and ongoing work in diverse areas ranging from science and technology to agriculture, transport, forestry and disaster risk reduction, to address both mitigation and adaptation. It brings together the normative, standard setting and knowledge sharing capacities of the System with its operational reach in order to support the most vulnerable. The United Nations System is positioning itself as an effective conduit of international action on an unprecedented scale.

We must take a comprehensive approach to address the interconnected issues of economic growth and development, climate change, food and agriculture, and energy. The role of global markets and financial instruments to deliver a low carbon economy and green growth will be paramount. Stimulus packages currently being designed to kick-start economic activity should be invested in infrastructure projects that deliver dividends of economic growth, cuts in greenhouse gas emissions and new green jobs. We must give real meaning to the concept of sustainable development, one that has inclusiveness, equity and environmental sustainability at its heart. An ambitious and fair climate agreement together with the political will to implement it will be a central component of global sustainable development.

On the way to the next Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC, in Copenhagen, the UN system will continue to intensify its efforts for a more coordinated and effective delivery in all areas related to climate change. We hope that our determined efforts in bridging the current implementation gap will contribute to long-term cooperative action on climate change at all levels and thereby help to reach a successful outcome in the negotiations. The UN system stands ready to assist with the implementation of the new mandates that will result from such an agreement.

I wish you every success in your negotiations here in Poznan. The whole world is watching and waiting; we should not disappoint them.

BAN Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

Introduction

The Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change confirmed that anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are having significant and negative impacts on the climate, emphasized the dangers of rising global mean temperatures and associated changes in precipitation patterns and extreme weather events, and provided an assessment of the means and costs of combating climate change. The message is clear: Accelerated action is urgently needed on mitigation, in order to address the causes of climate change and avoid future catastrophic consequences. At the same time, efforts for adaptation to current and future impacts must be stepped up.

The economic, social and environmental consequences of climate change, combined with its potentially irreversible nature, confront the international community with one of its most complex and serious challenges. The high-level event on climate change, convened by the United Nations Secretary-General on 24 September 2007 to galvanize political consensus, saw the unequivocal commitment of world leaders to concerted action. They agreed that the United Nations provides the appropriate multilateral framework for action and that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the only forum in which international action can be agreed.

The present document prepared by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), gives an overview of ongoing UN system actions in key climate change-related areas, in support of national endeavours and in furtherance of the implementation of mandates received through the UNFCCC and other intergovernmental bodies.

Rationale for action

Observable trends of ongoing climate change and current projections indicate increasingly severe negative impacts on all countries, with the most severe impacts disproportionately affecting the poorest countries with the weakest capacity for climate resilience. Equally, within countries, climate change is disproportionately affecting the poor and vulnerable in society. The projected impacts pose a serious threat to the achievement and sustainability of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries and the effective enjoyment of human rights in both developed and developing countries. Wide ranging implications are expected for communities in terms of increased water stress, food insecurity, abrupt changes in population dynamics, vulnerability of human settlements, livelihoods and society as a whole, as well as major negative repercussions on the health status of millions of people. A probable result of climate-induced disruption on a large-scale is an acceleration of human displacement resulting in increased competition for land, resources and housing with attendant unrest in both urban and rural settings, within and between countries. Africa, Small Island Developing States and Asian and African mega deltas are likely to be particularly affected. People living in poorly constructed settlements in high risk areas will increasingly be at the mercy of extreme weather events.

It is ultimately the human dimensions of climate change and the consequences for individuals, especially the most vulnerable around the world that mobilize us all to action to find sustainable solutions. The international community is faced with an urgent need to develop and implement ambitious programmes to respond to what the UN Secretary-General has called “the defining challenge of our times.”

Climate change presents an unprecedented challenge – but also an opportunity. An opportunity to create a new development paradigm that links policy setting with investments, as well as an opportunity for development practitioners, donors, and developing countries to ‘do development differently’, so that climate change considerations are built right into the foundations of plans to reach the MDGs and other development goals. Addressing climate change presents a new opportunity for new investment, enterprise development, decent job creation and higher incomes. Ambitious climate policy that addresses the underlying causes of climate change can provide the basis for future sustainable growth.

The UN system delivering as one on climate change

As a unique international mechanism with universal membership that combines convening power, normative work, standard-setting, policy development and operational activities, the UN system in its entirety has embarked on an action-oriented and coordinated effort to support the international community to rise to this challenge. The CEB initiative that commenced in early 2007 has already established a clear framework for action with focus areas for the achievement of early results. Agencies contribute within the framework of their respective areas of expertise, mandates issued by their governing bodies and resources made available to them. Work also continues in a number of cross-cutting areas that support this effort. The overall objective is to maximize existing synergies, eliminate duplication and overlap, and optimize the impact of the collective effort of the UN system.

The convening agencies have been asked to work in close collaboration with the UNFCCC Secretariat.

At its April 2008 session the CEB decided to concentrate at this stage on five focus areas, which were identified in response to the UNFCCC negotiation process and in pursuance of the broader mandates and capacities in the UN system. To ensure better coordination, convening responsibilities were assigned to UN system entities with a large volume of activities in the respective focus areas and some additional cross-cutting ones. These areas, which may evolve as some issues are concluded and others emerge, are outlined below, along with the respective convening entities:

Focus areas:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| • Adaptation | HLCP collectively |
| • Technology transfer | UNIDO, UN-DESA |
| • Reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) | UNDP, FAO, UNEP |
| • Financing mitigation and adaptation action | UNDP, World Bank |
| • Capacity building | UNDP, UNEP |

Cross-cutting areas include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Climate knowledge: science, assessment, monitoring and early warning | WMO, UNESCO |
| • Supporting global, regional and national action | UN-DESA, UN Regional Commissions, UNDP |
| • Climate - neutral UN | UNEP |
| • Public awareness | UNCG, UNEP |

Mitigation, one of the pillars of the Bali Road Map along with Adaptation, Finance and Technology Transfer, is also addressed through actions carried out or supported by the UN system in different areas. This is particularly true of activities under REDD, with elements of mitigation action also embedded in work related to Financing, Technology Transfer and Capacity Building. The United Nations system will act further in this area following the Parties' decisions in this regard.

Programmatic work at the headquarters level through the CEB's High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) is connected to UN system activities at the country level through the UN Development Group, now also a pillar of the CEB, and the individual UN Country Teams. The UNFCCC Secretariat serves as the link to the global climate change negotiation process.

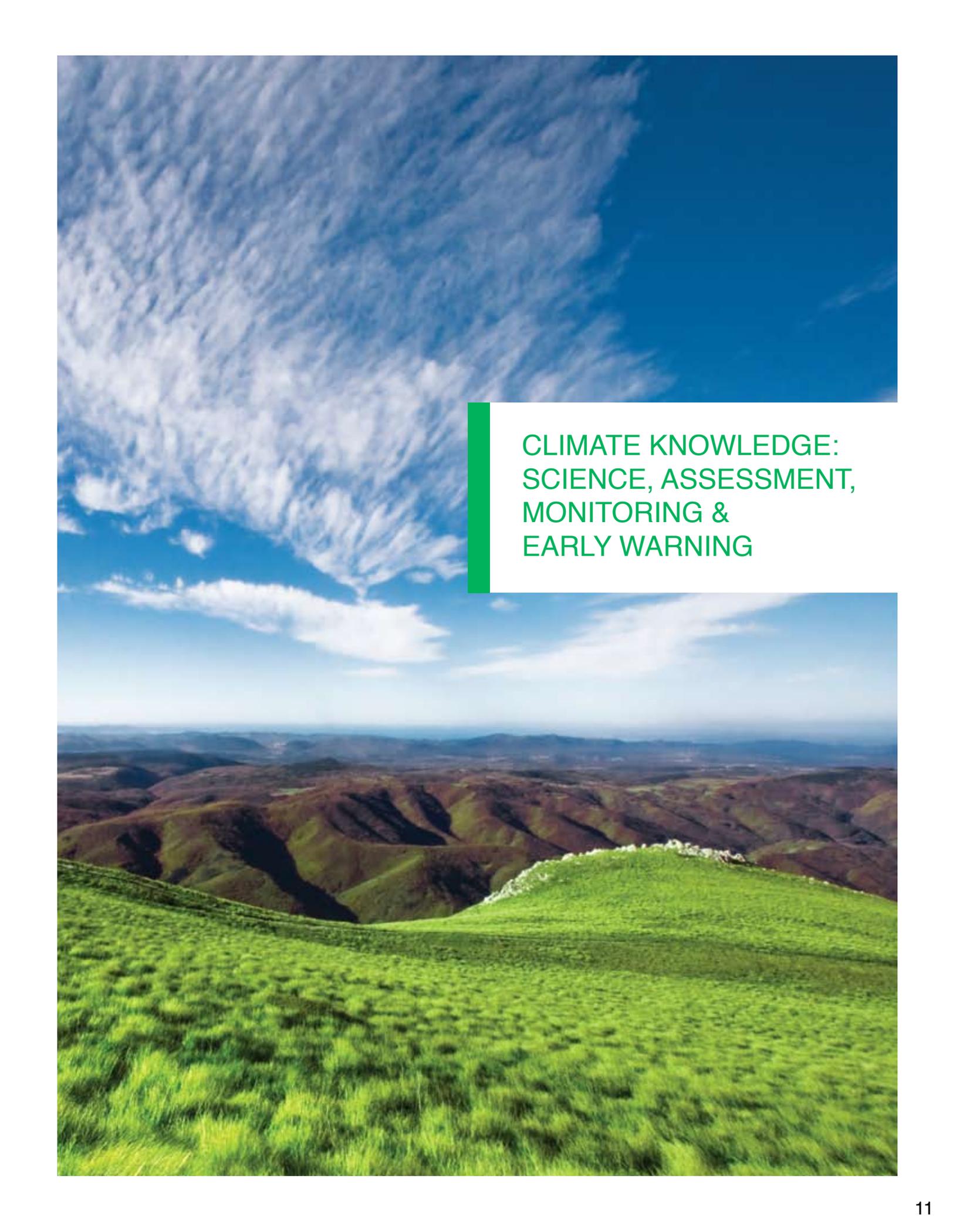
In addition to the indicative examples of UN system activities provided under each area below, a system-wide inventory of UN activities on climate change is being developed on-line both as an information resource and a planning tool (accessible through www.un.org/climatechange).

THE CEB CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION FRAMEWORK

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CHIEF EXECUTIVES BOARD FOR COORDINATION (CEB) HAS INITIATED A PROCESS OF ALIGNING ITS STRENGTHS TO ACHIEVE A COORDINATED ACTION-ORIENTED APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING MANDATES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND BUILD ON THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN DOING SO TO SUPPORT THE PROCESS FOR A GLOBAL AGREEMENT FOR THE POST-2012 PERIOD WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC). THE UN IS DETERMINED TO SUPPORT IN A COORDINATED WAY THE EFFORTS OF MEMBER STATES AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS IN TACKLING THE MULTIFACETED CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE, NOW, UP TO AND BEYOND 2012. TO ACHIEVE THIS, THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IS BRINGING TO BEAR, IN A WAY PERHAPS NEVER ACHIEVED BEFORE, THE COLLECTIVE STRENGTHS OF ALL ITS ENTITIES AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO THAT CHALLENGE.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THIS WIDE RANGING INITIATIVE WAS PRESENTED AT THE 2007 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE IN BALI, INDONESIA — THE 13TH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC (COP 13) AND 3RD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL (CMP 3) — IN DECEMBER 2007, WHICH ADOPTED THE BALI ROAD MAP. THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE CEB INITIATIVE AIMS AT CONSOLIDATING THE DELIVERY OF RESULTS, THROUGH COORDINATED COLLABORATIVE AND INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES OF UN SYSTEM ENTITIES, IN RESPONSE TO EXISTING INTERGOVERNMENTAL MANDATES AND IN SUPPORT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS INITIATED IN BALI. THIS PUBLICATION PROVIDES A REPORT ON PROGRESS IN THE ONGOING SECOND STAGE OF THE CEB INITIATIVE, AS WELL AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2008 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE — COP 14 AND CMP 4 — IN POZNAN, POLAND IN DECEMBER 2008. THE UN SYSTEM'S EFFORTS WILL BE INTENSIFIED ON THE WAY TO THE 2009 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE — COP 15 AND CMP 5 — AT THE END OF 2009 IN COPENHAGEN, DENMARK.

THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, WITH ITS ESTABLISHED STRUCTURES, COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS AND COLLECTIVE EXPERTISE, REMAINS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE PARTIES IN IMPLEMENTING EXISTING AGREEMENTS, AS WELL AS FUTURE ONES.



CLIMATE KNOWLEDGE:
SCIENCE, ASSESSMENT,
MONITORING &
EARLY WARNING



Climate knowledge is the foundation for the development of an effective response to the climate change challenge. The UN system plays a central role in this area, bringing together global resources for observation and analysis of climate change trends. It is committed to reinforcing its efforts to provide sound and unbiased scientific information and climate services to enable evidence-based policy and decision making at all levels.

Building up the individual and collective capacity of countries to monitor climate change, enhance climate science and services and utilize climate predictions is crucial for effective adaptation and mitigation strategies. Such capacity also enables timely planning to reduce the impact of increasing natural disasters, enhance food security and manage climate risks in all socioeconomic sectors.



The joint winners of the Nobel Peace Prize Award in 2007 — the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Al Gore, former Vice President of the USA and environmental campaigner — were chosen for "their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change". IPCC, co-sponsored by WMO and UNEP and supported by other UN system agencies, has during its two decades of existence provided the authoritative scientific evidence that underpins all action in response to climate change.

Key programmes and initiatives on climate knowledge generation and sharing include: →

Observations and monitoring of the climate system

The Global Climate Observing System consolidates and makes available to countries information on essential climate variables collected through global atmospheric, oceanic and terrestrial observation systems that use in-situ, satellite and other remote sensing technologies.

FAO, ICSU, ITU, UNEP, UNESCO/IOC, WMO

Scientific research and assessments

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change assesses the available scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation. Its assessments are underpinned by research, modelling, climate simulations and projections of future change, including work conducted by the World Climate Research Programme. Research programmes around the UN system support action on social, human and natural sciences on a number of climate-related issues, such as water management, biodiversity conservation, coastal zone management, migration, human rights and environmental ethics. Publications like the annual UNEP Year Book survey significant environmental science, global events, and issues of ecosystem management, disasters and conflicts, toxics, and resource efficiency, while the World Bank World Development Report 2009 will also focus on climate change.

FAO, IAEA, ICSU, IPCC, UNEP, UNESCO/IOC, World Bank Group, WHO, WMO

Monitoring of climate impacts and vulnerability

Monitoring reports, analysis and assessments provide valuable information on various climate-sensitive parameters and resources, such as: crop and food supply; marine and forest biomass resources; water resources; human settlements and related infrastructure; demographic, socio-economic and environmental trends; human development; human rights; disaster risk trends and progress in risk reduction; transboundary air pollution and watercourses and international lakes; hydroacoustic, seismic, infrasound and radionuclide data and reference standards used for atmospheric isotope measurements. Standards and recommended practices for GHG emissions by aircraft and ships are set by the respective specialized agencies.

CTBTO, FAO, IAEA, ICAO, IMO, ITU, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNISDR, OHCHR, UN Regional Commissions, WFP

Climate predictions, warnings and services

Climate/weather data management enables forecasts and the development and promotion of world climate impact assessment and response strategies, with climate hazards early warning systems, including regional flood alert systems and drought monitoring centres, in order to build the resilience of nations and communities to disasters.

CTBTO, UNCCD, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-ISDR, WMO

Emergency information on climate-sensitive socio-economic parameters

UN system organizations are supporting a number of specific emergency information and response systems on climate-sensitive socio-economic parameters related to agriculture, food insecurity and vulnerability, animal and plant pests and diseases, natural disasters.

FAO, IFAD, UNEP, WFP





ADAPTATION



The United Nations system is working to help people and communities in countries, especially those most vulnerable, to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change while continuing to grow and achieve their development goals and aspirations.

The UN system's work in this area is governed by the stipulations of COP decision 1/CP.10 and the Nairobi Work Programme on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change. Moreover, a large number of sectoral activities mandated by the system's governing bodies in areas such as agriculture and food security, disaster risk reduction, health, water, tourism are central to the challenge of adaptation work. Adaptation strategies are being developed including these areas as climate change considerations get further streamlined in UN system activities. The Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States and countries in Africa are the main focus of such activities, as they face the most difficult challenges and urgently need the assistance of the international community

in order to successfully safeguard the lives and livelihoods of their peoples, while attaining their development goals.

In addition to full-fledged activities in the aforementioned areas, ongoing work, which will be strengthened as intergovernmental mandates evolve, includes addressing the economic and social implications on developing countries of adaptation; climate change-induced human displacement; addressing interconnected issues of climate change, sustainable development, peace and security; special considerations for gender mainstreaming and attention to the needs of vulnerable groups like children and the elderly.

UN system action in the adaptation area includes: →



Support for national planning for adaptation

Assistance to Least Developed Countries with National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs); assistance to African countries in launching integrated and comprehensive approaches to adaptation; studies on the socio-economic and demographic impact of climate change on countries and cities; orienting infrastructure investment to cope with climate change, generate jobs and improve access to basic goods and services for the poor; strengthening health systems; support for demographic data collection; development of guidance and effective procedures for disaster risk reduction and response.

FAO, GEF, IAEA, IFAD, ILO, ITU, UN-DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNISDR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group, WFP, WHO

Enhancing knowledge sharing

Improving the linkage of climate data to global early warning and early action networks that build capacities in developing countries, provide consequential policy options, and strengthen humanitarian preparedness and response systems.

IFAD, IPCC, ITU, FAO, GEF, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO/IOC, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNITAR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group, WMO

Streamlining and scaling up financial and technological support

Integrating climate change risks into development planning and programming and UN system country operations; exploring insurance schemes; special emphasis on support for the rural poor in Africa and on reducing vulnerability in Sub-Saharan Africa.

IFAD, FAO, GEF, UNDP, UNEP, UNU-EHS, UN Regional Commissions (UN-ECA), World Bank Group

Institutional frameworks

Development of a Global Climate Change Adaptation Network consisting of a series of selected ground facilities, national and regional centres and an international support group of technical institutions; comprehensive approach to disaster risk reduction that includes preparedness and response strategies, guided by the Hyogo Framework for Action and meant to climate-proof development; establishment of regional centres, like the Inter-Agency Climate Change Centre for coordinated UN support to Pacific Island countries and regional organizations.

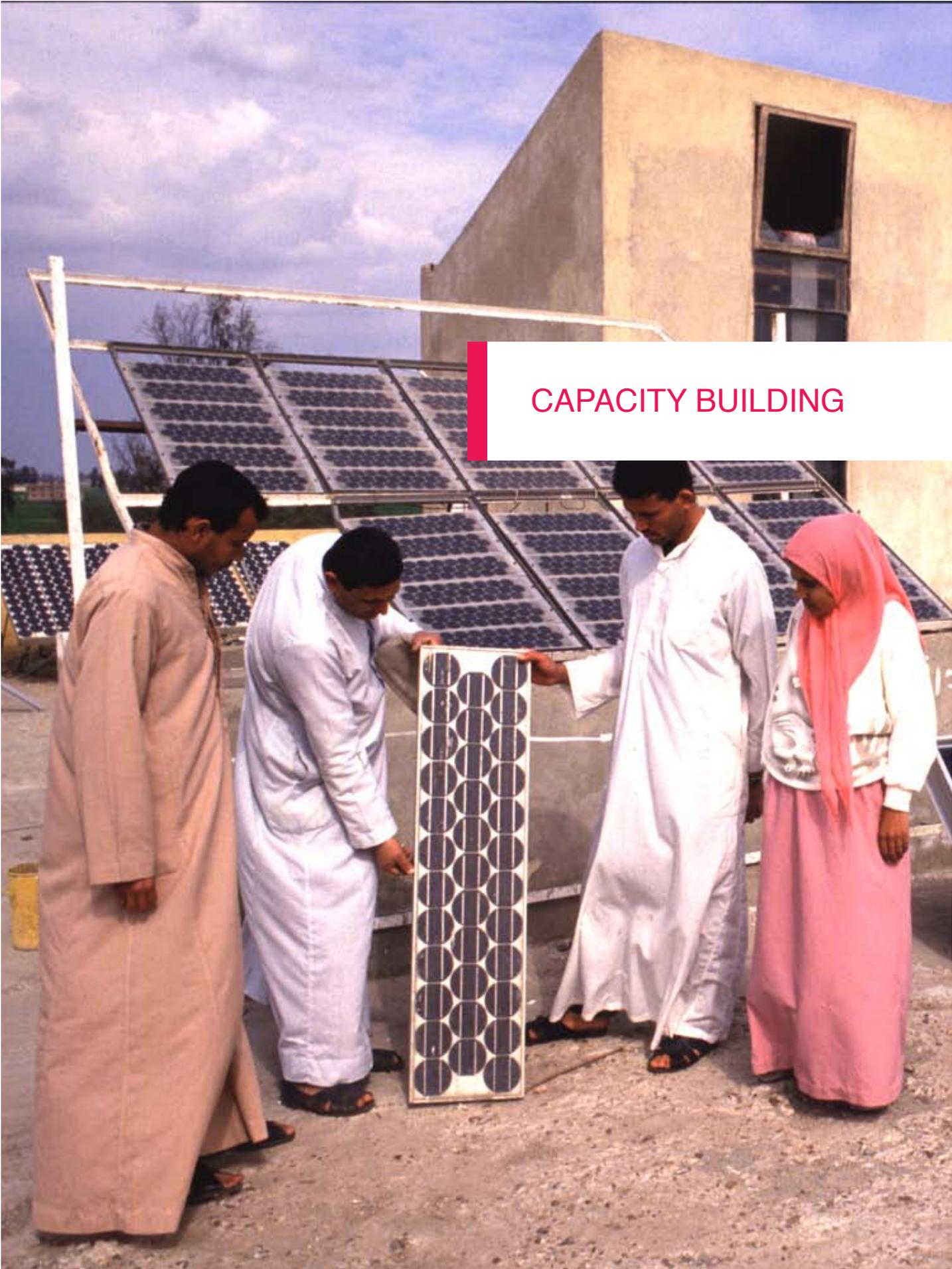
UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UN-ISDR, UNITAR, UN-OCHA, WMO, World Bank, NGO partners

Operational activities in key sectors and support for adaptation at the local level

Scaling up sustainable land management in Sub-Saharan Africa within the TerrAfrica framework; Pan-African Land Policy Framework; MENARID umbrella programme for sustainable management of the drylands of the Middle East and North Africa region; decreasing vulnerability to climate variability in African river basins; sustainable natural resources management and building of climate resilient infrastructure through cash and food-based employment programmes to increase the resilience and adaptive capacity of food insecure households and communities; support for adaptation projects that focus on community-based natural resource management; assistance to rural poor by improving agricultural techniques and technologies; climate-friendly tourism; strengthening disaster risk reduction, disaster preparedness and humanitarian response; leveraging local purchases of food assistance in developing countries, Global e-Sustainability Initiative to further sustainable development in the ICT sector.

FAO, GEF, IFAD, ITU, UNCCD Secretariat, UNDP, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNISDR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions (UN-ECA), UNWTO, World Bank Group, WFP, WHO, regional and sub-regional organizations and civil society





CAPACITY BUILDING



The United Nations system works to strengthen national institutions and human capacity to better analyze the impacts of climate change, develop courses of action for greater resilience and implement relevant adaptation and mitigation activities.

The need for capacity building to assist national authorities, especially in developing countries, to respond to climate change has long been recognized in the UNFCCC work. Capacity building cuts across many of the issues under consideration in the climate change process and has featured in several decisions of the COP and of UN system governing bodies, which serve as a broad framework for relevant UN system activities.

These activities prioritize support for all stages of national planning — from assessing climate change impacts and available responses, to setting policy and implementing institutional changes, to making informed investment decisions, accessing additional sources of finance

and implementing critical activities for adaptation and mitigation. Emphasis is placed on ensuring that capacity building is issue-based and country-driven, tailoring strategies to reflect regional, national and local needs. Customization of global knowledge for local conditions and building on local knowledge to guide global responses and action is another guiding principle for UN system activities related to capacity building.

The UN is currently taking action in a number of critical areas to support capacity building to address climate change, including: →



Overall capacity building

Capacity development for national policy makers in addressing climate change-related challenges; regional and sub-regional preparatory workshops for climate change negotiators from developing countries, including SIDS and LDCs, on the UNFCCC Bali Road Map; technical and policy support to developing country Parties to the UNFCCC for preparing their national communications; supporting developing countries in their efforts to implement UNFCCC decisions through country-driven approaches ; awareness-raising, tool development, training and planning workshops at the local, national, regional and global levels; capacity building and support for the modernization and development of National Meteorological Services; mobilizing and enhancing capacity of governments, employers and workers organizations to contribute to coherent policies and effective programmes leading to greening economies with green jobs and decent work for all; capacity building in the use of geo-referenced demographic and socio-economic data; setting up a GHG reduction policy and tools for the postal sector at the national level.
GEF, ILO, UN Regional Commissions, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNITAR/CCP, UNWTO, UPU, WHO, WMO and other agencies

Capacity Building in Adaptation

Providing advisory services on how to mainstream climate change considerations into development decision-making, including for the achievement of the MDGs in the LDCs and other countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America; strengthening vulnerability analysis and food security monitoring capacity in the Sahel and Southern Africa; helping countries to plan capacity development initiatives to reduce risk, prepare and recover from disasters; support to city and other local governments in developing countries.
FAO, GEF, IFAD, ITU, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNISDR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group, WFP, WHO, WMO

Capacity Building in Finance/Mitigation

Assisting developing countries to improve their level of participation in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM); building the foundation for pro-poor ecosystem service markets to achieve impacts of scale in Africa.
IAEA, IFAD, GEF, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, World Bank Group

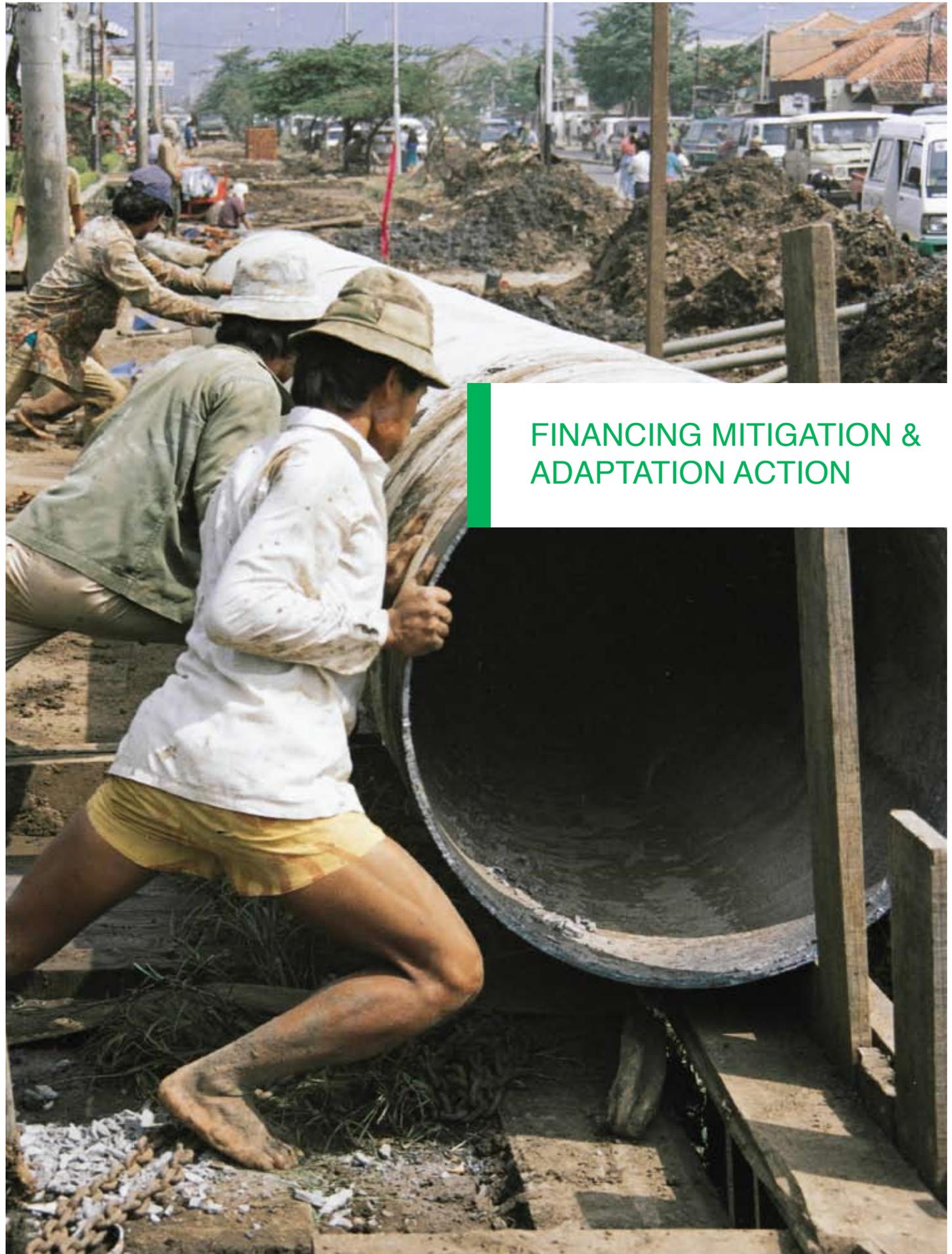
Capacity Building in Technology Transfer

Supporting education, training, information exchange, best practices and national strategy initiatives related to the development and applications of renewable energy adapted to local needs and facilitating access to state-of-the-art technologies; creation of regional networks of climate change focal points in governments to promote exchange of experience and knowledge on technology transformation; training programmes and capacity building in the use of the patent information systems and practical mechanisms for technology transfer; capacity building seminars/workshops in different regions to assist countries in implementing new standards aiming at the reduction of GHG emissions by radio and ICT devices.
FAO, GEF, IPCC Secretariat, ITU, UN-DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC Secretariat, World Bank Group

Capacity Building in Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in Developing Countries

UN-REDD Programme (see relevant section for details)
FAO, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank Group





FINANCING MITIGATION &
ADAPTATION ACTION



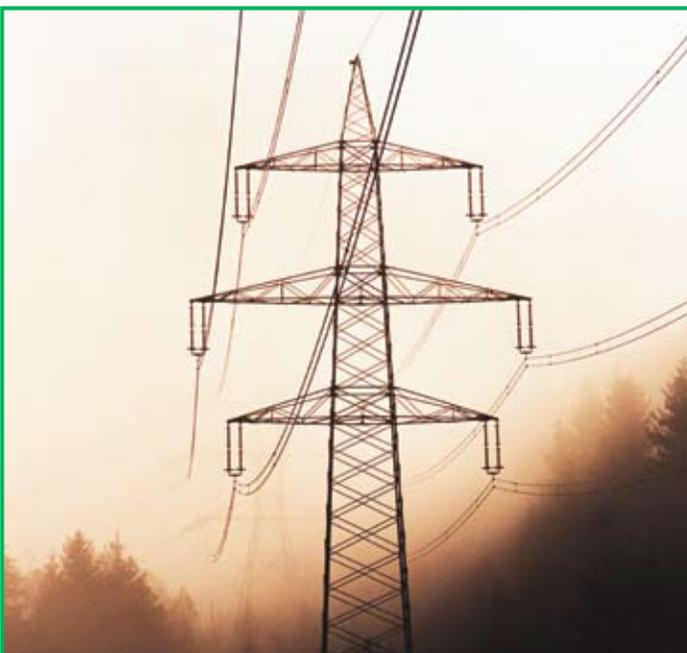
The UN system, including the Bretton Woods Institutions, is assisting developing countries in better leveraging finance from a variety of sources to help them adapt to climate change impacts and undertake nationally appropriate mitigation actions in the context of sustainable development.

Developing countries require substantial financial assistance for adaptation, technology cooperation and mitigation. Arrangements under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol need to be fully implemented and additional funds made available to support climate change actions in the context of each country's sustainable development process, especially in connection to adaptation to climate change.

The emerging and yet incomplete cost estimates of additional investments needed in developing countries — by public and private sources — are in the order of hundreds of billions of dollar a year for several decades. Addressing climate change will require significant changes in patterns of investment and financial flows including by redirecting investments and financial flows from all sources to more sustainable climate-friendly alternatives; scaling-up of international private and public finance dedicated

to investment in mitigation or adaptation activities or technologies; optimizing the allocation of the funds available by spreading the risk across private and public investors.

It is crucial to simplify access to the diversity of international funding sources, vertical funds, and investment opportunities, which pose a heavy burden on developing countries that are seeking to enhance national development through international financing. The UN system, including the Bretton Woods Institutions, is already assisting developing countries in better leveraging finance from a variety of sources and making their regulatory and investment environment more conducive to climate-friendly investment. Moreover, the UN system has an important role to play in supporting and enabling developing countries to participate in the carbon market and benefit from its enormous potential as well as prepare for future funding opportunities to catalyze climate action.



The UN is currently taking action in a number of critical areas to support finance to address climate change, including: →

Support for access to financing by developing countries

Strengthening national capacity in developing countries to assess investment and financial flows to address climate change; creating an online interface to assist developers of adaptation programmes in screening, identifying and accessing adaptation funding; case studies to help emerging economies assess the costs and benefits of less carbon-intensive options, examine financing sources and mechanisms and identify candidate projects and programmes; case studies to help developing countries particularly vulnerable to climate change assess the risks posed by climate change, design better strategies to adapt and understand the cost involved; development of technical methodologies/tools and data collection for specific sectors that facilitate developing country access to financial resources by helping them to meet eligibility/verification criteria of financial mechanisms (e.g. agriculture and forestry, energy options); assistance to countries in combining/sequencing GEF resources for policy change and leveraging new sources of finance.

IFAD, FAO, GEF, IAEA, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UN-ISDR, World Bank Group

Support for development and access to carbon markets

Developing the capacity of low-income countries to access the CDM through the Nairobi Framework; assisting developing countries in leveraging carbon finance for clean energy development and sustainable land use practices; exploring a number of avenues to deepen the reach of carbon finance to support long-term, climate-friendly investments, and harness new carbon finance potentials; linking large-scale ongoing tree planting and afforestation programs in developing countries to carbon credit schemes.

UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, World Bank Group, WFP

Support to leverage private sector investment in activities addressing climate change

Facilitating finance sector engagement in climate mitigation by building financier capacity and awareness, lowering the costs and barriers of initial transactions, and supporting the development of new financial products that accelerate adoption of climate technologies and markets; equipping financiers with the tools, support, and global network; working with municipalities, small and medium enterprises and other local stakeholders to broaden public-private partnerships and engage new actors.

GEF, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, World Bank Group

Support to leverage finance for energy efficiency and renewable energy

Mobilizing funds for greater energy access and security, energy efficiency and clean energy development projects in over 100 countries; improving effectiveness of public financing in catalysing sustainable energy sector growth; facilitating regional cooperation on energy efficiency for climate change mitigation

GEF, UNDP, UN-DESA, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNIDO, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group

Support to pilot innovative sources of finance and market mechanisms

Development of a voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework for all types of forests to support the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests and the achievement of the Global objectives on Forests; support of efforts to customize new insurance and re-insurance products for catastrophic and climate-related risks and expand their reach; promotion of Payment for Environmental Services as an incentive for carbon sequestration/mitigation at the community level.

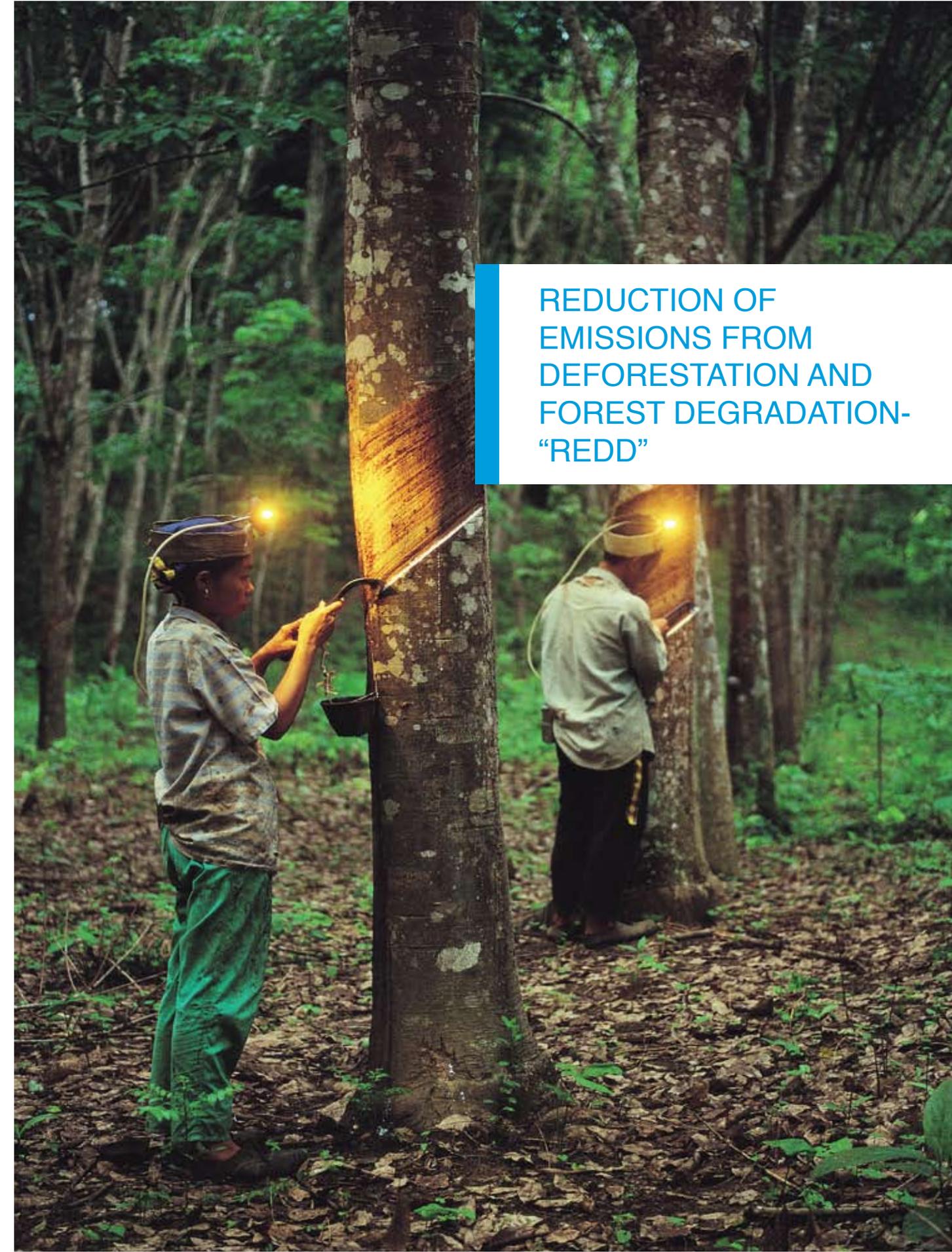
FAO, GEF, IFAD, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNFF, World Bank Group, WFP

Mobilize new and innovative concessional finance

A new Climate Investment Funds portfolio with an expected capitalization of some US\$ 6 billion, to build on progress made by many of the developing countries, with the objectives of scaling up investments in low-carbon technologies, and supporting various programs to test innovative approaches to climate action, including for adaptation, forestry and renewable energy.

World Bank Group and the MDBs





REDUCTION OF
EMISSIONS FROM
DEFORESTATION AND
FOREST DEGRADATION-
“REDD”



REDD-related activities of the UN system aspire to contribute towards achieving sustainable management of forests that enables the economic, environmental and social goods and services of forests to benefit countries, communities and forest users, while also contributing to global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Support for efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation has been expressed at the highest political levels and has been included in the Bali Action Plan adopted by UNFCCC at the thirteenth session of its Conference of the Parties (COP 13) held in Bali, Indonesia in December 2007. COP 13 also adopted a decision on 'Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action'. This decision guides UN system work and encourages countries to explore a range of actions, identifying options and undertaking efforts to address the drivers of deforestation.

Ongoing work, which would benefit from further intergovernmental guidance, includes: formulation/ implementation of national REDD policies and practices through capacity building and policy/ technical assistance; creating incentive/payment schemes that encourage national level action on mitigation measures in the forest sector combined with international support mechanisms; identification, development and promotion of REDD activities that are compatible with other international objectives, for example, the MDGs.

Key activities of the UN system in this area include: →



UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD)

The UN-REDD Programme includes the following key activities: at international level, promoting coherence across REDD initiatives, facilitating the exchange of national experiences and feeding into efforts in developing REDD arrangements linked with the UNFCCC process; at national level, assisting developing countries to prepare and implement national REDD strategies focusing on nationally-identified needs and priorities, including co-benefits. FAO, UNDP, UNEP

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

The FCPF provides a global partnership forum for developing and industrialized countries to build capacity for REDD while piloting and testing performance-based incentives in 30 countries (25 of which already selected). The FCPF provides a balanced representation of 20 developing and industrialized countries along with observers from UN-REDD, UNFCCC, forest-dependent indigenous populations (UNPFII) and NGOs, other IGOs as well as the private sector. The Partnership is expected to be strongly complemented by investment funding being developed under the Forest Investment Programme included in the Climate Investment Funds. World Bank Group

Data collection, information sharing and capacity building

Development of the Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), a comprehensive data collection on the state of the world's forests scheduled for release in 2010; undertaking global remote sensing survey of forests and establishing an information gateway providing easy access to remote sensing imagery; examining the role of biosphere reserves in demonstrating and assisting in the development of REDD strategies and practices; generating baseline information at the global and regional level on trends in the rate of deforestation, afforestation and natural expansion of forests over the past 30 years; developing a global framework and methodology for monitoring forest change. FAO, UN-DESA, UNESCO, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNU

Assistance with national planning and capacity building

Development of a strategic framework for action on forests and climate change through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) to assist countries in using forests to both mitigate the effect of greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to changing climatic conditions that may prove harmful to forests and forest dependent communities; capacity building in all countries for monitoring, assessing and reporting on forests and land use changes; establishment a collaborative research network in four countries of Southeast Asia to create new knowledge and alternative options for community-based sustainable forest management.

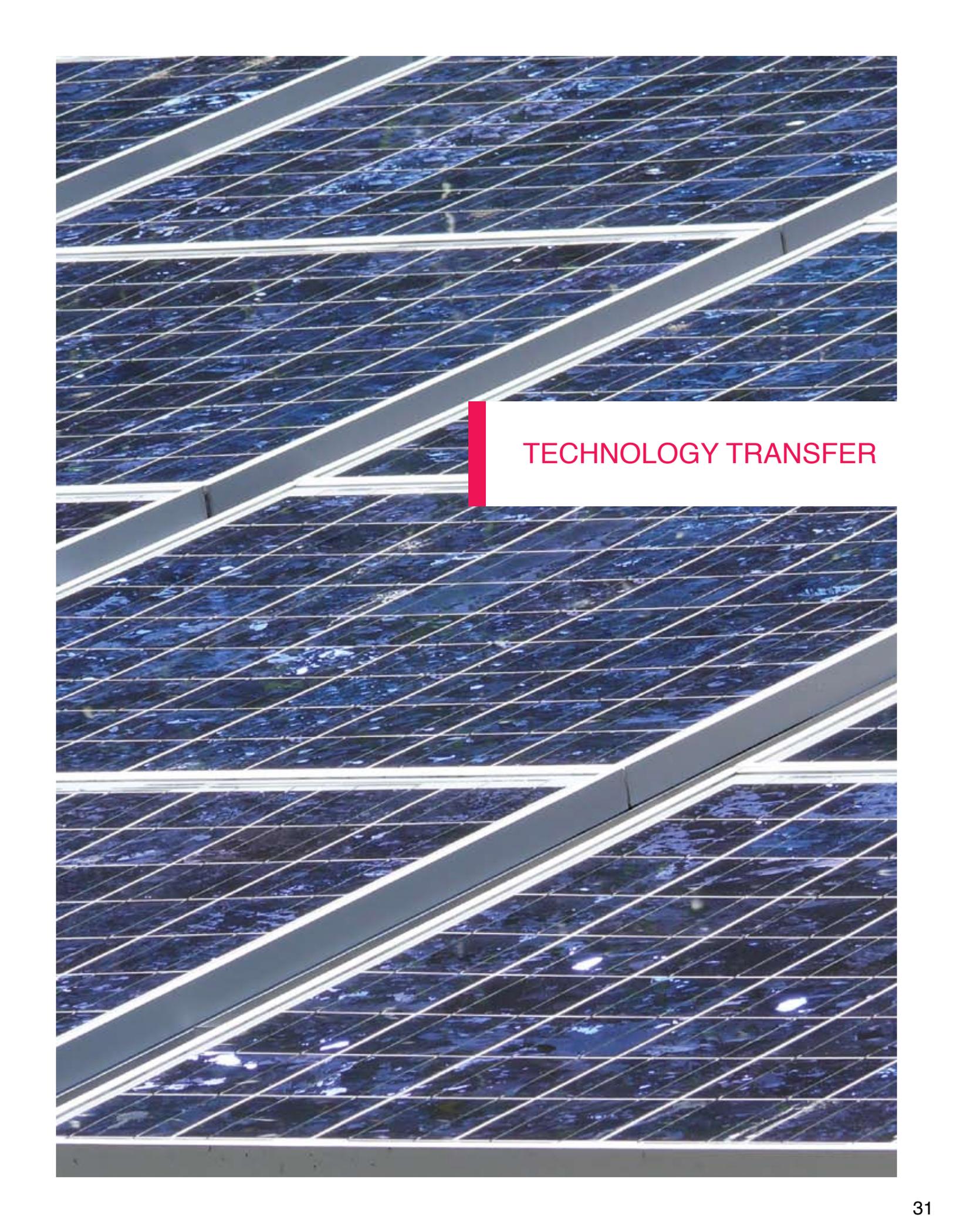
CBD Secretariat, FAO, GEF, UN-DESA, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, World Bank Group non-UN partners

Funding and operational activities

Assisting developing countries in their effort to reduce emissions from REDD through the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility by building capacities for REDD activities and testing a program of performance based incentive payments in pilot countries; planting of millions of trees each year, using cash- or food-based employment programs targeted at food-insecure communities, rehabilitating and transforming marginal and eroded lands into as sustainable, livelihood-enhancing resource base, addressing desertification and soil erosion, and contributing to the sequestration of carbon; reducing deforestation and land degradation in the Congo basin through the Congo Basin Initiative; support for reforestation by planting over 10 million trees annually in refugee and IDP hosting countries.

FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNHCR, WFP, World Bank Group





TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



Technology transfer and development activities by the UN system promote the diffusion and uptake of environmentally-friendly and climate-friendly technologies and practices towards achieving objectives of mitigation and adaptation at the country level.

The transfer of technologies to developing countries is central to pursuing meaningful adaptation and mitigation actions, as well as more broadly advancing sustainable development goals and objectives. This issue has been highlighted in discussions on the post-2012 framework for international climate policy, with the Bali Action Plan highlighting the importance of technology transfer. The framework under the UNFCCC has five main themes: technology needs and needs assessments; technology information; enabling environments; capacity building; and mechanisms for technology transfer (decision 4/CP.7). The UN system is supporting enhanced implementation of the Convention through increased collaborative and mutually reinforcing actions within these five themes.

The UN system activities are sensitive to the reality that the support for the development and transfer of technology requires not only “hard” technology, but also support for national capacity and systems to facilitate the transfer, development and deployment of technologies. Future work will need to build on, and then move beyond, national technology needs assessments to in-depth analyses of the actual market and trade barriers that prevent technology transfer and uptake from taking place. Many existing technologies can be deployed more widely in developing countries with local and global benefits, with a prominent example being energy efficiency, particularly in the building sector. At the same time, new global partnerships will be necessary to develop and deploy the next generation of technologies to meet climate and sustainable development goals.

The UN is currently taking action in a number of critical areas to support development and transfer of technologies to address climate change, including: →



Technology needs and needs assessments

Support to countries in preparation of their Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) reports; development of energy indicators for a sustainable development methodology that facilitates identifying options and potential for technology transfer in the energy sector; support to national and local governments to integrate climate change concerns in land use planning, infrastructure standards, building codes and building materials and to address energy use in buildings; development, in cooperation both with governments and the private sector, of an internationally agreed standard methodology to measure the impact of ICTs on climate change.

FAO, GEF, IAEA, ITU, UN-DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UN-HABITAT

Technology information

Databases on climate-related technologies/IPRs in public domain and technology transfer projects and environmentally sound technologies; development of comprehensive national technology plans that provide the basis for the systematic removal of barriers needed to develop markets for prioritised technologies; dissemination of technical knowledge related to climate-friendly tourism through a web-portal and interactive workshops; dissemination of knowledge and transfer of environment-friendly agricultural technologies that address both climate change adaptation and mitigation at the community level.

FAO, IFAD, UNEP, UNIDO, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNWTO, WIPO

Enabling environments

Transforming markets through testing, development and establishment of new technologies; promoting the development of markets for energy efficient technologies and development of International Standards on Energy Management; Green Jobs Initiative to promote opportunity, equity and the transition to a green economy; standardized licensing agreements to facilitate technology transfer and reduce transaction costs; regional programmes on trade and environment capacity building to foster an enabling environment for technology transfer; supporting policy change and institutional development to promote greater private sector investment in technology transfer and development (such as smart wind tariffs, power purchase agreements, and capitalization of pilot financial instruments); transforming markets through testing, development and establishment of new technologies, financial products/structures, and business models, and scaling up of those successful initiatives with the highest potential impact; policy analysis on the ingredients for enabling environments for technology transfer, and policy options for promoting private sector inputs into public policy outcomes.

GEF, ILO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group

Capacity building

Handbooks and training on conducting Technology Needs Assessment for climate change, preparing technology transfer projects for financing, and conducting technology transfer negotiations; training in and transfer of decision support tools for countries to select policy options that “climate proof” coastal communities with a focus on Africa; tools, policy support and technical assistance for climate-friendly urban infrastructure investment, at the public and private levels, in the context of rapid urbanization; developing national and local capacity to adapt and widely disseminate clean energy technologies to expand access to modern energy services and expand clean and affordable energy services for rural people; developing capacity of Member States to better leverage Earth observation and remote sensing technologies, both for monitoring climate change itself and for building and deploying early warning systems; high-level dialogue meetings on technology development and transfer; e-Environment scoping study, to provide guidelines for developing countries on how to use ICTs for better management and protection of the environment as a key part of their development process, with particular focus on climate change and building capacity of member states in geospatially-enabled ICT for climate change and disaster mitigation.

FAO, GEF, ITU, UN-DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO-IOC, UNFCCC Secretariat, UN-HABITAT, UNIDO, UN Regional Commissions (UN-ECA)

Mechanisms for technology transfer

Scaling up financing to contribute to demonstration, deployment, and transfer of low-carbon technologies with a significant potential for long-term greenhouse gas emission savings; networking, joint research and development and the promotion of approaches for cleaner, more efficient industrial production through Technology Centres/Investment and Technology Promotion Centres/Cleaner Production Centres; fostering of agricultural technology innovation through the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research; public-private partnerships for technology transfer.

FAO, GEF, IFAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, World Bank

SUPPORTING GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTION

An effective response to climate change-related challenges requires actions at the global, regional and national levels. The UN system is using its expertise and resources to ensure planning and delivery of coherent support to countries in their efforts at all three levels.

Global level

UNFCCC provides the central global forum for normative work on climate change. The mandates it issues, together with relevant mandates issued by other intergovernmental bodies across the UN system, set the goals and standards towards which multilateral action on climate change aims. Climate knowledge developed or disseminated by UN system entities provides the scientific basis for decision making. Public information activities increase awareness of governments and the broader public and contribute to strengthening the international consensus for decisive action.

Regional level

Guided by regional and subregional priorities and challenges, and within the framework of the Regional Coordination Mechanism convened by the UN Regional Commissions, consultations are being held to decide on selected focus areas for collaborative and coherent UN support to climate-related actions at the regional and subregional levels. Such areas include: strengthening observation networks and monitoring and assessment systems; promoting policies and investment for energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy sources, new technologies and standards for reducing CO₂ emissions from vehicles; fiscal policies for promoting “green growth” and; risk management system in climate-sensitive countries and sectors. Some of the activities relating to those areas have been illustrated under the various sections of this document.

National level

The UN system, collectively through the UN Development Group (UNDG), is developing means to improve support and collaboration on climate change activities at the country level. A task team on climate change and environmental sustainability has been created under UNDG to gather information on needs and best practices, as well as to develop in 2009 detailed recommendations and guidance to enhance UN agencies collaboration at national level through the UN Country Teams.

PUBLIC AWARENESS RAISING

The Secretary-General has made it a top priority of his tenure to raise awareness at the highest level of the potential impacts of climate change and the necessity for taking urgent action. He is pursuing that personally, in cooperation with other UN system Executive Heads, as well as through his Special Envoys on Climate Change and other senior UN officials.



Gateway to the UN System's
Work on Climate Change

www.un.org/climatechange



www.climate-l.org

While political buy-in is key to making strides towards tackling climate change, individual action undertaken by more informed citizens is fundamental as well. The UN Communications Group Task Force on Climate Change, through its member agencies, has developed a strategic communications programme to deliver messages and information to key target audiences in order to build support among decision-makers and the public for a new global agreement that will effectively address climate change.

Public awareness-raising activities carried out by the UN system and the UN Communications Group include:

- “UNite to combat climate change” — a UN-wide campaign to promote an inclusive, comprehensive and ratifiable deal in Copenhagen.
- Climate Neutral Network (CN Net)—Online tool for outreach, networking, and awareness-raising on climate change; aims to catalyze an international response to global warming. Participants register; submit their climate neutral strategies; and share best practices. Target groups are governments (national, local) and the business sector
- Global UN branding and advertising campaign on climate change in cooperation with the International Advertising Association (IAA)
- Effective media training for promoting coverage of climate change and the UNFCCC negotiations in developing countries
- Reinforced work to include climate change in education for sustainable development
- Maintaining a central portal/Gateway connecting to all UN system entities active on climate change (www.un.org/climatechange) and cooperating with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) for Climate-L.org (www.climate-l.org).

CLIMATE-NEUTRAL UN

Following the Secretary-General's urging to "lead by example", the CEB decided in October 2007 to move towards a climate-neutral UN. A UN Climate Neutral Strategy devised through the UN's Environment Management Group provides the framework for doing so.

In accordance with the strategy CEB members committed to achieve the following by 2009:

- Estimate greenhouse gas emissions consistent with accepted international standards;
- Undertake efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the extent possible; and
- Analyze the cost implications and explore budgetary modalities- including consulting with governing bodies as needed - of purchasing carbon offsets to eventually reach climate

Progress made as of late 2008

- The majority of UN system organizations have now designated climate neutral focal points. Eight of them have established internal task forces to address climate neutrality within their organization, while ten have designated a 'senior-level champion' to drive the process. Eight organizations have prepared a strategy document outlining how they intend to move the organization towards climate neutrality.
- The organizations main sources of greenhouse gas emissions are from official travel, refrigerants use in air conditioning, official vehicles, and electricity consumption. Good progress has been made by organizations in estimating their greenhouse gas footprints, with some seventeen agencies having begun the process, eight of which have preliminary data, and four of which have final or near-final numbers.
- Some ten agencies have developed strategies outlining how they will reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, of which seven have already begun implementing some measures. Seven organizations have organized climate-neutral events made possible through the purchase of offsets.
- A UN Climate Neutral Knowledge Management website has been established to provide a platform for sharing experience, tools, methods, guidelines, bench-marking and documenting best-practice. It will also document individual agency's greenhouse gas emissions and reductions.

Next steps

- Further refine the UN climate neutral strategy, in particular, agreeing on methodological issues where a common approach is needed.
- Follow through on commitments for 2009.

List of acronyms

CEB – United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

CMP- Conference of the Parties serving as Meeting of the Parties (for the purposes of this publication this refers to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol)

COP- Conference of the Parties (for the purposes of this publication this refers to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change)

CN Net- Climate Neutral Network

CTBTO - Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

GCOS-Global Climate Observing System

GEF- Global Environment Facility

HLCP- High Level Committee on Programmes of the CEB

IAA- International Advertising Association

IAEA - International Atomic Energy Agency

ICAO - International Civil Aviation Organization

ICSU-International Council for Science

IFAD - International Fund for Agricultural Development

IISD- International Institute for Sustainable Development

ILO - International Labour Organization

IMO - International Maritime Organization

IMF - International Monetary Fund

IPCC-Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

ITC - International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT

ITU - International Telecommunication Union

MDB - Multilateral Development Banks

MDGs - Millennium Development Goals

NAPAs - National Adaptation Programmes of Action

REDD- Reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation

UN - United Nations

UNAIDS-Joint and Co-sponsored UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

UNCBD- UN Convention on Biological Diversity

UNCCD - UN Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCG - UN Communications Group

UNCTAD - United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UN-DESA – UN Department of Economic & Social Affairs

UNDG - UN Development Group
UN-DOCO - Development Operations Coordination Office
UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
UN-ECE - UN Economic Commission for Europe
UN-ECA - UN Economic Commission for Africa
UN-ECLAC - UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme
UN-ESCAP - UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO/IOC - UNESCO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Council
UN-ESCWA - UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNFCCC - UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT - UN Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR - Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO - United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNISDR – UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNITAR - United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNITAR/CCP - UNITAR Climate Change Programme
OHCHR - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
UN-OCHA - UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNRISD - United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
UNRWA - United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNU - United Nations University
UNU –EHS -UNU-Institute of Environment and Human Security
UNWTO - World Tourism Organization
UPU - Universal Postal Union
WB - The World Bank
WFP - World Food Programme
WHO - World Health Organization
WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO - World Meteorological Organization
WTO - World Trade Organization

THE CEB CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION FRAMEWORK

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CHIEF EXECUTIVES BOARD FOR COORDINATION (CEB) HAS INITIATED A PROCESS OF ALIGNING ITS STRENGTHS TO ACHIEVE A COORDINATED ACTION-ORIENTED APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING MANDATES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND BUILD ON THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN DOING SO TO SUPPORT THE PROCESS FOR A GLOBAL AGREEMENT FOR THE POST-2012 PERIOD WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC). THE UN IS DETERMINED TO SUPPORT IN A COORDINATED WAY THE EFFORTS OF MEMBER STATES AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS IN TACKLING THE MULTIFACETED CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE, NOW, UP TO AND BEYOND 2012. TO ACHIEVE THIS, THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IS BRINGING TO BEAR, IN A WAY PERHAPS NEVER ACHIEVED BEFORE, THE COLLECTIVE STRENGTHS OF ALL ITS ENTITIES AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO THAT CHALLENGE.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THIS WIDE RANGING INITIATIVE WAS PRESENTED AT THE 2007 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE IN BALI, INDONESIA — THE 13TH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC (COP 13) AND 3RD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL (CMP 3) — IN DECEMBER 2007, WHICH ADOPTED THE BALI ROAD MAP. THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE CEB INITIATIVE AIMS AT CONSOLIDATING THE DELIVERY OF RESULTS, THROUGH COORDINATED COLLABORATIVE AND INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES OF UN SYSTEM ENTITIES, IN RESPONSE TO EXISTING INTERGOVERNMENTAL MANDATES AND IN SUPPORT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS INITIATED IN BALI. THIS PUBLICATION PROVIDES A REPORT ON PROGRESS IN THE ONGOING SECOND STAGE OF THE CEB INITIATIVE, AS WELL AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2008 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE — COP 14 AND CMP 4 — IN POZNAN, POLAND IN DECEMBER 2008. THE UN SYSTEM'S EFFORTS WILL BE INTENSIFIED ON THE WAY TO THE 2009 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE — COP 15 AND CMP 5 — AT THE END OF 2009 IN COPENHAGEN, DENMARK.

THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, WITH ITS ESTABLISHED STRUCTURES, COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS AND COLLECTIVE EXPERTISE, REMAINS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE PARTIES IN IMPLEMENTING EXISTING AGREEMENTS, AS WELL AS FUTURE ONES.