

June 19, 2013

## **“Climate technology and Development” SB38 Side Event report**

Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (OECC)  
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This is a report of a side event held at the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subsidiary Bodies of Implementation of the UNFCCC from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> 2013, in Bonn, Germany.

- Title: “Climate technology and development”
- Event Type: Side Event
- Date : Thursday, 6 June 2013
- Organizer(s) : Climate Strategies
- Venue : Wind - Ministry of Environment, Bonn, Germany
- Presenters:
  - Andrzej Blachowicz (Climate Strategies)
  - Heleen de Coninck (Radboud University Nijmegen)
- Discussants:
  - Linus Mofor (IRENA), Xiaohua Zhang (National Centre for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation), Marion Geiss (GIZ)
- Abstract: What are conditions for innovation for climate-compatible development for different categories (the emerging industry, the rising middle class, the base of the pyramid) in developing countries? This side-event tried to answer this question with a presentation and discussion.

### **■ Summary**

Opening remarks by Mr. Andrzej Blachowicz (Climate Strategies)

“Technology for Policy Makers”

Heleen de Coninck (Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (ISIS) Radboud University Nijmegen)

- Prof. de Coninck introduced the “Climate technology and development project” and its partners, namely ECN, IIT (Delhi), Radboud University, University of Sussex, UNICEN, Tufts University, and Climate Strategies.
- The aim of this project is to translate academic insights on innovation and

technology transfer for the benefit of negotiators and policymakers. Conclusions and recommendations of this project are aimed to be communicated to the Technology Mechanism.

- She explained technology development and transfer in the context of climate change, and she raised several key questions such as what did we find in different technology value chain cases? What did we find for policymakers?
- In addition to concepts of “hardware” (installations) and “software” (information and capabilities), the speaker introduced the concept of “orgware” which is referred to institutions (public and private).
- Other concepts such as “technology cycle” and “technological innovation systems” in the context of climate change in developing countries were further discussed with introduction of some examples and technologies that have the potential to mitigate the effects of climate change while at the same time, engage in sustainable development.
- The speaker concluded by giving some recommendations that can be raised to the Technology Mechanism, on the role of policy in building low-carbon innovation systems and implementing climate technology actions such as to facilitate learning between countries on exchange programmes, combining local knowledge with international capacity, ask the CTC&N to act in a request basis by countries, set up a task group on appliances, engage with global manufacturers and standard organizations, etc.

#### General Discussion

1. Linus Mofor (IRENA) added the importance that renewable energy can have in terms of technology or innovation systems. He mentioned the role of standards in the technology discussion and also the composition of value-chains. He underlined the importance of technology cooperation inside these chains adding that innovation is always a win-win situation, hence the value chain should be considered as a development opportunity.
2. Xiaohua Zhang (National Centre for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation) was in favor of technology in bottom-up approach. In fact, he disagrees with the top-down approach presented in the ADP discussions. He explained how complicated the national innovation system can be, since it is not a linear process.
3. Marion Geiss (GIZ) comments were supported with experiences on technology

transfer in developing countries. She underlined the fact that one of the ultimate purposes of this process is for developing countries to develop their own markets. She supported the importance of participation from different stakeholders and explained how they interacted with universities, local manufacturers, and the other relevant institutions. Although a model is not easy to replicate due to the fact that each country is different, according to their experience, if a product or service is commercially feasible, then it can be replicated.

## 1. Q&A

Q.1 (Representative from Canada): Most (developing) countries do not have all what is needed to have a full-fledged National Innovation System. Actually you need to modify the technology cycle for most countries, but this seems to be nonsense.

A.1-1 (de Coninck): When we talk about improving the National Innovation Systems we are not talking about having all countries in the same level of development. But it is also true that each country needs to have innovative capabilities because they are flexible, thus, in a sense you are right.

A.1-2 (Linus Mofor): Each country should evaluate where they have their best value and concentrate in that part. This is one way to differentiate from others.

Q.2 (MOE, Japan): Can you please explain what “orgware” is? Can you explain why appliances over other technologies have been mentioned?

A.2 (de Coninck): “Orgware” means institutions as well as the policies in place to work on technologies. Also means existence of institutions and markets.

As for the 2<sup>nd</sup> question, appliances can be a good start for analysis because of electric energy standards. In recent years, we have identified big gains on electric energy but cooperation issues are still a problem. There are many issues that technically are possible, but we cannot force manufacturers to do certain things.

Q.3 (GEC, Japan): How can we best cooperate in a multilateral scheme. What roles should multilateral and bilateral programs should have in relation to transfer of environmentally friendly technologies?

A.3-1 (Linus Mofor): In the case of IRENA we have more than 110 parties participating in different programs. Sometimes they do bilateral programs after identifying their interests. But I recognize the difficulty on trying something in a multilateral basis.

A.3-2 (Marion Geiss): According to our experience, it is too complicated to try the same



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initiatives in a multilateral basis. It is more practical and direct to work in a bilateral basis. However, there are several success stories in initiatives such as trilateral cooperation that needs to be further analyzed.

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