



**Comments received on the paper:
“Development and Climate Change:
A Strategic Framework for the World Bank Group”**

Chapter 1

Sheila Page, Senior Research Associate Overseas Development Institute

General comments on the paper: The title of chapter 1 now clearly recognises the points made in the consultations (Table A2.1) that the Bank's focus is on accepting climate change as a constraint on promoting development. There are, however, still parts of the report treating development as a constraint on climate change. The focus on development needs to be clear throughout the report. And, as a corollary, the report needs to be more consistent in accepting that other organisations lead on climate change.

The discussion of regional problems and projects lacks serious analysis of the potential conflict with the country demand approach.

On style: it still reads like an internal document: too much arrogance and too much jargon.

David Brewer Organization: n/a

You attribute climate change to carbon dioxide emissions, without mentioning any other factor: "Most of the warming trend observed since the mid-20th Century is very likely due to an increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations, particularly of carbon dioxide (CO2) caused by activities such as fossil fuel use and land use changes." This is probably wrong. Since the last IPCC report appeared, several scientific papers have suggested that the impact of carbon dioxide on temperature has been substantially exaggerated, for example:

- www.ecd.bnl.gov/steve/pubs/HeatCapacity.pdf
- <http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2007AGUFM.A21H..04C>
- www.agu.org/pubs/crossref/2007/2007GL029698.shtml

The IPCC is an official UN body, and its pretensions to embody scientific consensus are overblown. If you are going to use its lines, you should take every opportunity to introduce them with "According to the IPCC report..." Otherwise it appears that you have independently confirmed their questionable claim to have firmly attributed past climate change to greenhouse gases, and their even more tenuous assertion that they know what will happen next and what to do about it, e.g.: "A delay in reducing GHG emissions significantly constrains opportunities to achieve lower GHG atmospheric concentration stabilization levels and is likely to increase the risk of severe (and possibly some irreversible) impacts and the cost of adapting to them."

Bill Smith Former Bank staff

Thank you for inviting my feedback on the SFCCD draft. During my many years in the Bank I was involved in both agriculture and energy. Over the past year or two I have taken an interest in the subject of climate change. I think what is lacking in the SFCCD draft is discrimination between actions that would contribute now to the health of the planet and those that respond to as yet uncertain predictions of long-term changes in



rainfall and the melting of ice caps and glaciers.

SFCCD proposes an offensive against climate change on all fronts. I suggest an approach that would discriminate between three target areas: (1) reduction of non-carbon GHG (especially methane) from existing sources, where possible with improved technical and economic efficiency; (2) promotion of renewable energy; and (3) infrastructure to cope with a higher incidence of floods, droughts, and sea level changes. It is Target 3 that has to be approached with care. The models that predict more droughts and floods give planners no quantitative guidance on the future frequency and magnitude of such events. Should, therefore, the likes of China, India, Pakistan embark on massive programs to raise flood embankments unless the climate scientists can give them credible new analyses of flood frequencies? If Pakistan is predicted to have low river flows in the dry season, would this be offset by building more reservoirs? The SFCC mentions the vulnerability of “small island states, and countries with long coastal lines”; obviously a reference to warming-related sea level rise. Would it be wise to invest in costly sea defense works until there are better estimates of the timing and scale of sea level rise? As regards the effect of temperature on agriculture: there is much to be learned from countries where 100-year temperature trends far exceed the IPCC global average temperature rise of 0.76 °C and yet have vastly increased production over the past 50 years.

The SFCCD draft is quite long and repetitious. If it were pruned a bit there would be room for a better treatment of such things as sea level rise, agriculture growth in the presence of higher temperatures, global disaster readiness, the case for renewables, glacier retreat and its effects on river flows, and many others. The aim would not be to challenge widely held views. Rather, it would discriminate between near-term and long-term initiatives and perhaps encourage better insights into predictions of long-term weather patterns.

Peter Croal

Canadian International Development
Agency

Dear World Bank, in the interest of limited time at my end, below is an aggregation of comments for the whole document:

- Need some statement to the effect about what real effects all actions in the framework will actually have in the reduction of GHG emissions and cc effects
- Need some attention in the doc on how the non Equator Banks can become part of the Equator Process
- Need more focus on how Strategic Environmental Assessment can be used as a tool to address CC in policy, plans and programmes
- Building on that need to weave in the OECD SEA Task Team work on SEA and CC
- Need to address how section 41 of the Paris declaration can be operationalized
- Need more discussion on how CC can cause and accelerate conflict, but also how CC negotiations/agreement signing over shared resources/ territories could reduce conflicts
- Need to address knowledge systems of local people as well as Indigenous peoples. Cannot exclude non-indigenous people who have lots of on the ground info re CC changes and how to adapt/mitigate



- On that same vein, issues re gender and could be strengthened

Dr. Venance O Zeba

Kalys Engineering

I agree and we all believe that Climate change is a development reality that people in developing countries and poorest communities are suffering the most. The problem is to search the "why/how" that's happening to a targeted part of the world. My experience in engineering projects implemented in Africa, in Europe and in the United states of America reveals to me a clear understanding of the climatically evolution of the world specifically of African continent. Hot and cold weather or high and low pressure and the relation between are the major elements governing the climate and their regulation in respect to country law determine their sustainability. In the United States, the Environmental Agency (USEPA) is very active in the protection of the environment because the USA government measures the influence of the environment setting on the life of people, animal and vegetation in the country. Many other agencies and Law enforcements and the State Highway Administration, as well give to the country a power for fighting against the natural disasters. Despite those efforts, the hurricanes keep the alarm on red. In Africa, the lack of the strict regulations in the land development, infrastructure projects and building generate a severe environment concern on the storm water, wastewater and sanitation, drinking water, solid waste pollution of lakes and lagoons. With the growth of the population and the expansion of big cities generates many hospital and medical centers that discharge the pharmaceutical and Personal endocrines in the water streams. Farmers for most of them, the use of fertilizers is known to be one of the cause of the cause of the eutrophication of the watershed. The hydraulically cycle is then limited due to oxygen depletion and an abundance of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere trivial sign of the climate change. If no action is taken by the UN in the organization and the implementation of the development activities with the participation of the local governments, the climate change will be worst for all in developing country. I do not believe the immediate observation of the upper sea, ice melting in the Antarctic be a major concern for climate change. Naturally, the sea is set to the transgression/regression phenomena and the volcanoes to erupt. Human being has to predict and to solve the problem as soon as it rises up.

Name

Organization

Comment