



May 13, 2008

Towards a Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development (SFCCD) for the World Bank Group

MULTISTAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS PLAN

Background

Addressing climate change is central to the development and poverty reduction agenda. Climate change has the potential to reverse the development gains that have been hard-earned by developing countries over the past decades. It also threatens progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), such as eradicating poverty, combating communicable diseases, and ensuring environmental sustainability.

At the 2007 Annual Meetings, the Development Committee requested that a "comprehensive, strategic framework for World Bank Group engagement" be developed to help address development challenges in the context of climate change. Given the urgency of climate change, it was requested that a concept and issues paper be prepared in time for discussion at the April 2008 Spring Meeting so that a final Framework could be presented at the 2008 Annual Meetings.

The Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development (SFCCD) concept and issues paper was discussed and supported by the Board on March 20, and duly presented for information to the Development Committee for discussion at the April Spring Meetings.

The Consultations Process

Given how important this issue is and how much change it may bring into the life of every person, wide consultation is crucial. During the period October 2007 through March 2008 the World Bank Group engaged informally with multiple stakeholders during the preparation of the concept and issues paper. These informal contacts included discussions with UN agencies such as UNEP and UNDP, the GEF, and developing country governments through regular Bank business and missions.

The Bank created a climate change management group that has facilitated the flow of information regarding climate change. The group includes representatives from IFC and all regions, and has been functioning for several months. In addition, the Bank has created the climate change strategic framework team, which also includes representatives of IFC and MIGA. The climate change framework team is based in the Sustainable Development Network and includes members from all of the Bank regions and most networks, including the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network (PREM), the Public Economics and Development Research Group (DEC), the World Bank Institute, and the Treasury Department. This structure has allowed an effective exchange of information within a framework that: encompasses a variety of institutions within the Bank Group, and; allows for collaboration and exchange of



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Information regarding climate change with developing country governments and institutions and a range of other partners and stakeholders.

Formal Consultations

A wider consultations process began following the Board's endorsement of the concept and issues paper on March 20, and widened following presentation of the paper to the Development Committee. During this period the document was immediately translated into several languages. With the translated document available, the initial phase of formal, global consultations was able to begin in April and is running through June 30. Global consultations are being undertaken on the concept and issues paper to allow stakeholders to provide input from the earliest stages on the drafting of the full Framework. A "rolling process" is being employed to consider comments as they are received through the global consultations and share them internally, as elements of the full paper are being drafted and redrafted by internal working groups.

A global consultations website – www.worldbank.org/climateconsult - has been posted to allow as wide a range as possible of stakeholders to view and download the document (available in 7 languages) and other resource materials, provide comments, and monitor the consultations process as well as the comments that others have submitted. Visitors to the site are given the option of signing up to be notified when significant updates are made to the site.

Comments on the concept and issues paper will be accepted through June 30th, and taken into consideration in the finalization of the full paper. Those commenting on the paper should be aware that a draft version of the full paper will be prepared and circulated internally by early July. Stakeholders that are able to do so are encouraged to share comments on the concept and issues note by mid-June. However, all comments received through June 30 will be considered.

Arrangements for consultations on the full paper during the summer are being worked out and will be announced at a later date.

Audiences

This is a multi stakeholder consultation process, and views are being sought from a wide range of global constituencies. These include other international organizations, UN counterparts, government ministries (Finance, Planning, Environment, Agriculture, Energy, Infrastructure, etc.), parliamentarians, civil society including Indigenous Peoples, private sector, faith-based groups, youth, academics, think tanks, trade unions and others that will be affected by climate change, as well as those involved in responding to climate change challenges.



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Opportunities for Comment and Consultations

Given the very real time constraints created by the urgency of the world's climate change situation, the primary vehicle for global stakeholder input on the concept and issues paper is a Web-based platform. This platform should allow any individual or organization with reasonable internet access and an interest in making her/his views known time for reflection, and for obtaining views from others in any relevant organizations. Efforts are also being made to reach out to communities such as Indigenous Peoples who have limited access to the internet and/or who may not be comfortable in providing written comments.

The Bank will post session summaries and participant lists for all consultations, and also transcripts and photos when available. Individual comments may be sent to the website or via email for posting on the website as well. The electronic comment space will be widely publicized via e-mail and the web through the Bank Group's websites, as well as in cooperation with civil society platforms, private sector organizations, parliamentary associations, and other international organizations.

In addition to electronic input via the web and e-mail, face-to-face briefings and discussions are being arranged with a cross section of global stakeholders, particularly from developing countries. Given the limitations on the time available to the climate change team to travel, videoconferencing will also be used to extend the reach of the global consultations, both in terms of geographical reach as well as the representational distribution of stakeholders reached. There are plans for a series of videoconference consultations with a range of stakeholders in different regions through the Global Development Learning Network during the month of June, with the support of the World Bank Institute.

A Flexible Framework

The Strategic Framework on Climate Change and Development for the World Bank Group will remain flexible to accommodate new developments in the international climate change regime. Under the *chapeau* of the Strategic Framework, regions and networks within the Bank Group are beginning to develop strategies and business plans in response to demand from developing country clients and in close collaboration with other beneficiaries, partners and other stakeholders. All of these ongoing discussions are feeding into the development of the Strategic Framework and will provide – and benefit from – lessons learned as the Framework is implemented. Dialogue and opportunities for feedback will continue during the implementation of the Framework through the respective, specific strategies and business plans of the IFC, MIGA, regions and sectors, as new experiences and knowledge emerge.