



1st CC-Newsletter

of the SDC Climate Change & Environment Network, September 2009

FOCUS

Interview with climate expert Professor Robert Watson:
Development cooperation plays a pivotal role in climate change:

“What is the role of development cooperation ? Is there not a risk that development aid is being diverted to fund climate protection efforts?”

“It was development cooperation, after all, that exposed the repercussions of climate change, revealing struggles over access to fertile land and water, the emergence of environmental refugees and potential sources of conflict. Development cooperation plays a pivotal role in finding solutions to these problems, bringing value-added to climate change adaptation programmes. The structure of the costs of climate protection are complicated, and these must be internalised, albeit with extra financial assistance, for instance from the World Bank. Adaptation efforts must be stepped up to ensure that poor countries are better prepared to cope with the effects of climate change.” [\(more\)](#)

The British-born US scientist, Professor Robert Watson - interviewed on the occasion of the [Annual development cooperation conference](#) (see news below) - is one of the world's leading climate researchers. From 1997 to 2002, he chaired the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). The panel found clear evidence that global warming is man-made and was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2007 in recognition of this work. Watson is currently the Chief Scientific Adviser to the UK government and works in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) in London.

devices in Brazil in a more environmental friendly way (4.3 million devices per year), 15 of this kind of recycling plants would be needed. The project therefore takes an important role as a triggering innovator for the building of further plants in Brazil and other development and developing countries. [\(more\)](#)

The Annual Conference of Swiss Development Cooperation was a success (very good echo from media, survey and colleagues). Have a look at the [dossier](#) and find exemplary programs and disseminate the [films](#) and presentations (the latter are downloadable under the schedule of the event).

The screenshot shows the SDC website interface. At the top, there are logos for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. Below the logos, there is a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'Site map', 'Contact', 'Events', 'Publications', and 'Deutsch | Français | Italiano | English | Español'. The main content area is titled 'Films - Annual Development Cooperation Conference 2009' and lists 'Film Nr. 1 - Intro: Climate and development (German)'. A video player is embedded on the page, with a red circle highlighting the play button and progress bar.

Since the event was only scheduled in this year and not part of GPCC's official annual planning, it absorbed a lot of unforeseen resources from the whole staff of the division Global Program Climate Change (GPCC). GPCC believes that the success was worth it and thanks all initiators and contributors for their fervent collaboration.

SDC and Swiss CC-News

Energy efficient Bricks in Latin America: The SDC intends to implement a program in Peru based on the experiences made in South Asia. This program is to further integrate models for a clean and efficient brick production. The program aims at strengthening the institutions and their economical and ecological management practices in countries like Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico. [\(more\)](#)

A new China-UK-Swiss (SDC) collaboration on Adapting to Global Warming - The new ACCC project aims to improve Chinese and international knowledge on the assessment of climate impacts and risks, and develop practical approaches to climate change adaptation. It will do this by helping China to integrate climate adaptation into the development process, to reduce its vulnerability to climate change, and by sharing the experience with other countries. [\(more\)](#)

SDC launched a new program for climate protection through Recycling in Brazil. With the planned recycling plant approx. 300 to 400'000 fridges can be recycled. The emission reduction potential of the project amounts to approximately 400'000 - 600'000 tons of CO₂e (per year - this is about 1 % of the Swiss annual emissions, which amounts to 50 Mio tons). In order to deal with the entire waste volume for cooling and freezing

New message on revised CO₂-Legislation (website only available in French, Italian & German):

The emissions of Switzerland are to be reduced by 20 percent until 2020 in comparison to the year 1990. Measures, i.e.: CO₂ tax of 36 CHF/t on fuel for heating (not for fuel transport), use of Tax-Incomes (max. 200 Mio) to finance measures for improved energy efficiency in buildings, binding emission-limit for new cars. Since industrial countries are asked to make bigger efforts to reach the climate objectives, Switzerland is ready to raise the reduction goal up to 30 percent in comparison to 1990. This will however depend on the result of COP 15 of the UNFCCC in Copenhagen. [\(more\)](#)

Forthcoming “Traverse” Friday, 25th September, 2 to 4 PM: Will the struggle against Climate Change lead to a Development Aid Crunch?

Prof. Dr. Katharina Michaelowa (CIS / UZH-ETH, Political Science), Dr. Benito Müller (Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, University of Oxford, UK), Dr. sc. nat. ETH, Othmar Schwank (Infras).

In climate policy, the scientific assessment of climate change is established and politically accepted. Now, some weeks before the Copenhagen Conference, the discussion about what should be done first, who should do it, and who should pay for it, is intensifying. [\(more\)](#)

Integrating Climate Change into the work of the Swiss Development Cooperation: The Global Program Climate Change informed the SDC Climate Change & Development Network on how GPCC sees the integration process that seeks to better integrate climate change responses into SDC programmes/projects. It is intended to come up with “**Operations Guidelines**” for the integration of climate change responses at different levels and the choice of the appropriate tools. [OECD-Guidelines](#) shall serve, at present, as an orientation frame for the development of the document. In that context GPCC reported on a [GTZ organised tool-workshop](#) climate change adaptation in Berlin, which presented/compared tools).

A broad concept for the Integration of Climate Change into the work of the SDC will be ready **by mid October this year**. Entities within SDC that have an urgent demand for Integration tools are advised to you use the OECD Guidelines linked above, whose summary already gives a good overview (see also [Power-Point on OECD-Guidelines](#)). Training & the SDC Climate Change & Environment Network will be important instruments for the integration.

The SDC supports the Adaptation Learning Mechanism. [Click right here and learn about adaptation in the country of YOUR focus!](#) Explore and choose a location! The ALM will develop tools and resources to support Adaptation practices, the Integration of climate change risks and adaptation into development policy, planning and operations and Capacity building.



SDC realised the 1st Climate Change Briefing with Veena Joshi, Senior Program Officer Energy in COOF New Delhi on the Mitigation Program in India was realised. Veena Joshi informed about key factors for success. She noted that replication took long, but that now there are a few hundred firms, which adopted the technology introduced by the SDC program. [\(more\)](#)

Every staff member of SDC concerned by Climate Change can be a Climate Change Briefer! Would you like to offer a thematic Climate Change-Briefing to the SDC? Consult the document “[How to proceed for a good CC Briefing](#)”!

Globally innovative microfinance investment advisory firms (e.g. symbiotics) see good potential in **furthering the use of Solarpanels for small enterprises** in rural areas, in order to

contribute to local incomes, to ecological energy production as well as to business diversification of MFIs that focus on rural areas. Do you consider this an interesting **entry-point for a Public Private Development Partnerships (PPDP) between SDC** and excellent Partners from Switzerland or abroad? Here is the [PPDP contact for SDC!](#)

International CC-News

Time to Tap Climate Change-Combating Potential of the World's Ecosystems: Investing in restoration and maintenance of the Earth's multi-trillion dollar ecosystems - from forests and mangroves to wetlands and river basins - can have a key role in countering climate change and climate-proofing vulnerable economies. - This is among the central findings of a new climate issues update by [The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity \(TEEB\)](#), a project **launched by Germany and the European Commission (EC)** in response to a proposal by the G8+5 Environment Ministers (Potsdam, Germany 2007) to develop a global study on the economics of biodiversity loss. The study is hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme. [\(more\)](#)

Pre-Negotiations of the Conference of Parties (COP) 15 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in **August in Bonn** (no SDC presence) focused on the organisation of work and identified ways to proceed with the negotiation text (over 200 pages long). **Pre-Negotiations in October in Bangkok** (with SDC presence) will offer parties another opportunity to prepare Copenhagen. [\(more\)](#)

WCC-3: Working to make climate services available to all, Bern, 31.08.2009 to 4.09 2009 - Experts and politicians from around the world were meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, to ensure that current and future generations have access to climate predictions and information necessary for various socio-economic sectors to cope with climate variability and change. This will be done in particular by identifying the key components required for a Global Framework for Climate Services. SDC was present in Side-Events on Gender, DRR & CCA and participates in the formulation of a CC & Community Statements. [\(more\)](#)

SDC will participate in the Board Meeting of the [Adaptation Fund](#) in September of this year. The Board will be invited to adopt the draft provisional operational policies and guidelines and consider and approve the draft letter which will be sent to the Parties eligible for funding by the secretariat. [\(more\)](#)

The Joint OECD/DAC – EPOC Meeting (Development Assistance Committee - Environment Policy Committee) in May in Paris, was a new milestone that environmentalists and developers have already been trying to establish for a few years. The News ep@brief 3/2009 “Development and Climate Change: Painting Development Cooperation Green?” takes this meeting as an opportunity to discuss the following questions: How far are Climate Change (CC) adaptation and mitigation integrated into development cooperation, at SDC and elsewhere? What is the level of understanding and cooperation between the environment and development branches of government? What is our policy on development and climate change? [\(more\)](#)

This CC-Newsletter aims at distributing SDC internal, Swiss and International news related to Climate Change and Development Cooperation of relevance for the work of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The news contain links to sites or documents giving further information in the Internet, in the SDC Intranet and in the Data Management System (DMS). Don't hesitate to ask GPCC in **order to order something you don't have access to** ([click here!](#))!

[Send us](#) Climate Change related news you consider essential for the SDC for the next newsletter! However, please understand that in order not to exceed the size of 2 pages, we need to screen the news, make a selection and shorten them! Help us by making a pre-selection, by already translating to English, shortening, eventually simplifying text, adding links - you will have better chances to find your news here!

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