



ACTION FOR A GLOBAL CLIMATE COMMUNITY

Why we need Copenhagen Plus

However strong the agreement at Copenhagen, it will not be enough. Global emissions will continue to rise even if America and Europe commit to 30% cuts by 2020.

To make progress on climate change, rich countries must help developing countries to raise living standards of the poor with clean energy. Rich and poor must work together to create a fair approach to climate and development.

Negotiations by almost 200 countries are simply too slow, as we have seen in the WTO, UN and other forums. What we need is a fast track to accelerate action by countries and companies willing to pioneer solutions for the rest of the world.

A lesson from history

The European Community was started by just six countries. Now most of Europe is united. By working together, poorer countries have grown richer and Europe is safer. But now Europe faces a greater threat, which it alone cannot defeat.

The European Union needs to work closely with developing countries to accelerate action for climate security within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

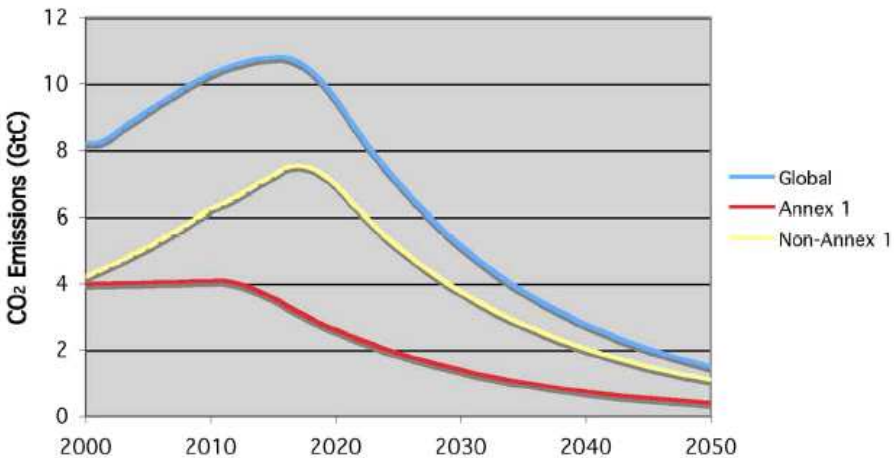
A plan for the future

Rich and poor countries can work together to cut poverty and slow climate change through **enhanced cooperation**. This means Copenhagen Plus – an agreement by Europe and developing countries to take accelerated action.

Fair shares to meet the climate challenge

What kind of climate regime can bring global emissions rapidly under control while enabling developing countries to reduce poverty and promote human development?

The blue line below shows the global emission path needed to keep the global temperature rise within 2°C. This requires global emissions to peak by 2015 and fall by at least 80% below current levels by 2050. Even this has a 20-35% risk of going above the 2°C threshold.¹



The critical question is how this carbon budget is shared. Even if industrialized countries (Annex 1) cut emissions to 90% below 1990 levels by 2050 (red line), the remaining space for developing countries (non-Annex 1) to increase emissions is limited. The yellow line simply shows what is left of the global carbon budget for developing countries. It peaks before 2020 and then falls at 6% a year.

This shows the dilemma of climate change: letting emissions rise above the blue line spells disaster, while limiting emissions of developing countries could perpetuate poverty. Neither path is acceptable.

This dilemma can only be solved by North and South working together.

¹ From Sivan Kartha, Bo Kjellen, Paul Baer, & Tom Athanasiou in Paper 4 on http://www.climatecommunity.org/PotsdamSeminar_researchpapers.html

Accelerate action for climate security

Europe can take three steps to accelerate action:

- Dramatically increase investment in clean energy for developing countries. At least €30bn a year is needed according to the World Bank and Stern Report²;
- Create a High Level Commission with India and other developing countries to build enhanced cooperation for climate security and clean development;
- Commit to equal per capita emission rights.

A zero carbon economy cannot be created with low funding, weak institutions and *ad hoc* cooperation between Europe and developing countries. We need strong institutions to take decisions, allocate resources, enforce commitments and manage the global emissions market under the rule of law.

A bold and generous commitment by the EU to increase funding for clean development will show that Europe recognises its responsibility and is willing to lead global economic recovery based on clean development.

Why enhanced cooperation?

A smaller group of countries, North and South, can work together better, solve problems quicker and cut emissions faster than 200 countries. They can try things out, learn from mistakes and create more effective institutions.

Europe has shown before how smaller group of countries can pioneer solutions. Now Europe needs to work with developing countries to pioneer global solutions through enhanced cooperation within the UNFCCC framework.

India and other developing countries would benefit from increased investment to cut poverty and carbon emissions.

² World Bank, *Investment Framework for Clean energy and Development*

Why a High Level Commission?

Progress on climate change and the Millennium Development Goals are lagging, despite countless international commitments. To secure real cuts in poverty and carbon emissions we need even greater political will and cooperation.

To achieve this, bilateral cooperation between the EU, India and other developing countries must be strengthened. A High Level Commission for climate security and clean development could solve problems faster and achieve better solutions.

The Commission would undertake practical measures, such as:

- Allocate EU funding for national climate action plans in India and other developing country partners;
- Secure safe, affordable and sustainable energy supplies, including clean coal and renewable energy technologies;
- Share expertise, research, innovation and intellectual property for clean development;
- Extend the EU Carbon Trading Scheme to specific sectors where appropriate, by agreement;
- Develop institutions for problem solving and cooperation;
- Create a long term framework for reducing emissions and promoting clean development which give business the confidence to invest for the long term.

The benefits would be great. Bringing together Europe, India and other countries in a concerted effort would unleash talents and resources to tackle poverty and climate change together. It will show the world that the time for haggling is over and these two great democratic powers are determined to create prosperity and a low carbon future for all. An agreement between EU and India to form a High Level Commission for enhanced cooperation on climate and clean development could be described as **“Copenhagen Plus”**.

A four phase process

The current phase involves Europe and India as key Strategic Partners, deepening cooperation through working groups.

In the second phase, India and Europe strengthen their partnership through a High Level Commission with executive authority to allocate resources for accelerated action on climate and clean development. Other countries may join at this stage, which could start as early as 2009 (“Copenhagen Plus”).

This creates the kernel of a Global Climate Community (GCC) with the necessary objectives and institutions to ensure their achievement: this is phase three. As the Climate Community develops within the UNFCCC, phase four sees the progressive association of other countries.

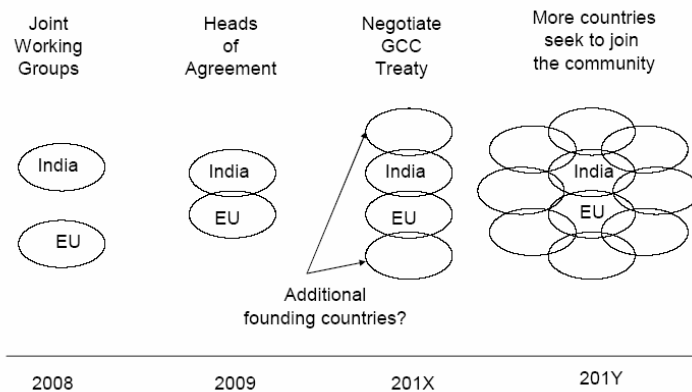


Figure 1: A North South way forward, within the UNFCCC

This political initiative unites countries, North and South, led by India and the European Union, in a shared commitment to avoid dangerous climate change and enable the world's poor to leapfrog their economies with clean energy and environmentally sustainable technologies.

This process has already begun. The pace at which it develops depends on political will. The \$4 trillion bailout of the international financial system shows what is possible when political leaders see the need for action. We now need a “Green New Deal” for climate and clean development.

High-Level EU-India Process

In May 2008 a high level India-Europe seminar in Potsdam opened the way for a new North-South initiative for enhanced cooperation and the long term global contraction of carbon emissions based on principles of equity.

The seminar brought together 71 distinguished Indians and Europeans, including members of both President Barroso's Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change and Prime Minister Singh's High Level Advisory Group on Climate as well as participants from science, administration, politics, business and civil society. It was jointly organised by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Research (PIK) and Action for a Global Climate Community (AGCC) with support from the European Environment Agency and the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

The seminar examined ways in which India and Europe might lead the world in tackling sustainable development and climate change through a '**community of the willing**' based on equity.

A working party under the joint Chairmanship of Sir Crispin Tickell and Nitin Desai, former UN Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs, was created to examine:

- Models to show alternative time paths for equal per capita emissions entitlements by 2050;
- Possibilities of linking India with the EU ETS and associated technical issues;
- The potential for major investment in solar thermal, sustainable biomass, black carbon soot reduction and other technologies for India's clean energy programme;
- A road map to a global emissions trading system and the institutions required to implement such proposals;
- A network of European and Indian research institutes on climate-related issues such as sustainable biomass, energy, black carbon, solar thermal, desalination, monsoon dynamics, health, and economic impacts, and other issues;

- Options for financing adaptation and clean development;
- Local and sectoral cooperation including technology transfer, eco-innovation and intellectual property rights issues.

The conclusions were communicated to Foreign Ministers of all EU Member States.

Many of these issues were also discussed by the EU-India Summit in Paris in September 2008, which adopted an ambitious programme of joint work.

We believe India and Europe can show leadership by setting up a High Level Commission to accelerate these plans through enhanced cooperation.

These proposals will be taken further in Delhi in February 2009.

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For a report of the seminar go to:

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Progress towards enhanced cooperation

The EU and India are determined to reach “an ambitious and comprehensive agreed outcome” at Copenhagen, “in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities” (Government of India 29 Sept 2008).

The EU and India are working together in many areas, such as the

- EU-India Joint Action Plan
- EU-India Initiative on Climate Change
- EU-India Energy Panel
- EU-India Science and Technology Steering Committee
- EU-India Coal and Clean Technologies Working Groups
- International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Co-operation
- Cooperation in Fusion Energy Research
- EU Action Plan Support Facilities for capacity building on climate change in India
- EU-India regulatory dialogue on financial services
- EU-India Working Group on engineering
- Support for business-to-business and research cooperation through a European Business & Technology Centre (EBTC)
- Dialogue on agriculture to improve productivity
- Agreement on civil aviation
- EU-India Civil Society Round Table
- EU-India Business Summit

These measures offer a basis for enhanced cooperation through a High Level Commission on climate security and clean development as proposed in this paper on “**Copenhagen Plus**”.

For more details go to: www.climatecommunity.org