



Climate Vulnerable Forum
Foro de Vulnerabilidad Climática
Forum de la Vulnérabilité Climatique



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



IOM International Organization for Migration

PROGRAM & BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Post-2015 Climate Change Regime We Need: SIDS working together with other vulnerable groups

Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) Side Event at the Third UN Conference on Small Island Developing States

09:00AM – 10:30AM

02 SEPTEMBER 2014

CONFERENCE ROOM ONE (CR1), FALEATA SPORTS COMPLEX, APIA, SAMOA

Info & Registration: info@thecvf.org

THE CLIMATE VULNERABLE FORUM (CVF) BRINGS TOGETHER HIGHLY VULNERABLE COUNTRIES FROM AFRICA, ASIA, THE CARIBBEAN, LATIN AMERICA AND THE PACIFIC. SIDS HAVE GREAT STAKES IN THE SUCCESS OF THE GLOBAL RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION FOR THE POST-2015 PERIOD. MANY OTHER HIGHLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES ARE EQUALLY CONCERNED, INCLUDING DEVELOPING NATIONS FROM ALL KEY REGIONS OF THE WORLD.

IS THERE SCOPE FOR VULNERABLE COUNTRIES OF ANY PROFILE TO WORK MORE ACTIVELY TOGETHER TO PROMOTE SHARED INTERESTS IN A NEW CLIMATE REGIME? WHAT IS THE COMMON GROUND ACROSS THESE DIVERSE GROUPS? IN RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE AT HOME, CAN LESSONS ALSO BE DRAWN FROM THE NATIONAL POLICY EXPERIENCES OF OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS? GIVEN THE PROMISING RISE IN SOUTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION AND THE INCREASING SERIOUSNESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS, COULD PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SMALL ISLANDS AND OTHER CATEGORIES OF AFFECTED COUNTRIES PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BETTER SECURE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ALL CONCERNED?

SIDE EVENT FOCUS

The CVF Side Event supports the objectives of the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through exchanges on the promotion of partnerships in support of the sustainable development of SIDS – it is specifically focused on:

- Reviewing shared concerns on climate change policy issues for vulnerable developing countries of all profiles, including a specific focus on environmental migration
- Exploring initiatives for collaboration among different vulnerable groups in the context of the post-2015 Climate Change regime (Durban Platform negotiations of the UNFCCC)
- Discussion of the scope of opportunities for exchange and cooperation between small islands and other vulnerable groups on climate change policy responses
- Analysis of means required to promote more active South-South (and triangular) cooperation among SIDS and other vulnerable countries for enhanced sustainable development outcomes and climate change action

PROGRAM

TITLE: "CLIMATE VULNERABLE FORUM: THE POST-2015 CLIMATE CHANGE REGIME WE NEED - SIDS WORKING TOGETHER WITH OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS"

VENUE: 3RD UN CONFERENCE ON SIDS, CONFERENCE ROOM ONE (CR1), FALEATA SPORTS COMPLEX, APIA, SAMOA

TIMING: 09:00AM – 10:30AM, TUESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2014

AGENDA:

09:00am

Introductory Presentation by the CVF Chair

Mr. William Calvo, Head of the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica to the Third UN Conference on SIDS, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations, New York

09:15am

A SIDS Viewpoint: Smart Ideas for Small States

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Hussain Shareef, Hon. Minister at the President's Office, Republic of the Maldives

09:25am

Experience from Responding to Climate Change with the Caribbean States

Dr. Kendrick Leslie, Executive Director, CARICOM Climate Change Centre

09:35am

South-South Collaboration on Climate Change and the future Sustainable Development Objectives of SIDS

Mr. Jo Scheuer, Coordinator Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

09:45am

Cooperation Addressing Climate Change and Migration Challenges

Ms. Susanne Melde, Global Project Coordinator, Migration, Environment & Climate Change: Evidence for Policy, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

09:55am

Discussion and Question & Answers

With participation from delegates in attendance

10:25am

Closing Remarks

10:30am

Closure of Side Event

BACKGROUND

THEMATIC TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Climate change has been recognized as one of the most significant of all threats to the sustainable development of small islands. While responding to it may also provide important new opportunities for driving the prosperity of SIDS, the commitment of major emitters and the shape of the post-2015 climate change regime will also be vital determining factors for future policies. At the same time, many vulnerable countries, whether small islands, arid, mountainous, land-locked, storm-prone or otherwise, are already rising to aspects of the climate challenge with great success. The formula for effective adaptation and mitigation programs, for securing resources and technology, or leveraging private finance varies greatly from one context to another. However, success across the breadth of the climate policy spectrum for wide-ranging countries with similar capability and risk profiles does differ, suggesting a certain degree of scope for learning, exchanging and supporting each other's efforts.

The Third International Conference SIDS' zero draft outcome document already highlighted the promotion of intra-regional and inter-regional SIDS-SIDS cooperation on sustainable energy that might fruitfully be supplemented by further partnerships. Indeed, from energy solutions to adaptation responses, many SIDS have pioneered innovative measures that could be helpful for wider groups. A number of challenges are broadly shared: migration pressures brought about in part through climate change are, for instance, a serious concern for developing countries on all continents, with community displacement risks especially acute for low-lying SIDS. From among vulnerable countries that are not SIDS, there are leaders, for instance, in Clean Development Mechanism or REDD implementation, public-private partnerships, disaster risk reduction policies, and payment for ecosystem services schemes that could inspire and inform national actions in areas of value to the special case of SIDS. With an increasing share of development assistance delivered in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation, taking advantage of these opportunities could help enhance both the sustainable development of SIDS and expand implementation prospects under a new post-2015 climate change regime.

The importance of securing an ambitious new climate change agreement by 2015 also calls for an intensification of international collaboration. In this context, many SIDS-specific concerns – on adaptation, technology, mitigation ambition, loss and damage – converge with those of other groups of vulnerable countries where cooperation across regions and conventional negotiating clusters has the potential to promote higher ambition UNFCCC outcomes on areas of shared interest. Expanding transregional collaborations could therefore strengthen the pathway towards the Paris UNFCCC Summit (COP21) for all groups of vulnerable countries and the world. The leadership shown by many SIDS in the response to climate change could additionally help to stimulate new champions in the context of the post-2015 regime.

ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

South-South cooperation has been defined as: "A broad framework for collaboration among countries of the South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains. Involving two or more developing countries, it can take place on a bilateral, regional, subregional or interregional basis. Developing countries share knowledge, skills, expertise and resources to meet their development goals through concerted efforts" (Knowledge from the South). Triangular cooperation moreover, involves assistance from a traditional foreign aid donor in support of South-South cooperation initiatives. As the Third UN SIDS conference considers contributions to the future sustainable development progress of small islands, South-South cooperation is likely to play an increasingly important complementary role to other forms of partnership in the years ahead.

According to the World Trade Organization, developing countries accounted for approximately 40% of all international trade already in 2010, with South-South trade at nearly 30% of all trade in 2011 as estimated by UNDP. On the basis of International Monetary Fund data,

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The era of one-way cooperation has become outdated, as countries of the South are engaging in collaborative learning models to share innovative, adaptable and cost-efficient solutions to address their development challenges.

emerging and developing economies surpassed 50% of world GDP (PPP) in 2013. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has also pointed out that from 2011 to 2012, as OECD foreign assistance fell, aid contributions from key developing countries rose by 36%. The European Centre for Development Policy Management estimated South-South aid to represent around 10% of traditional development assistance flows and highlighted its appeal as anchored in the strong shared experience and common background of problems and challenges faced by developing countries of diverse income levels. These advantages also contribute to the attractiveness and effectiveness of the South-South modality, including for the special development experience of SIDS.

ABOUT THE CVF

THE CLIMATE VULNERABLE FORUM (CVF)

The CVF is an international partnership of countries highly vulnerable to a warming planet that serves as a South-South cooperation platform for participating governments to act together to deal with global climate change. The Forum was founded by 11 governments at the initiative of the Maldives in 2009 to enable a stronger voice for vulnerable groups at the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit (UNFCCC COP15). The Forum has continued to serve as a climate change focused cooperation platform for developing countries from all key regions of the world. Major CVF meetings in Maldives, Kiribati and Bangladesh have helped to build consensus, highlight needs and concerns, and advocate on shared interest areas. The CVF has also commissioned research (the "Climate Vulnerability Monitor" series), convened expert panels and conducted multi-lateral dialogues.

THE CVF TRUST FUND

CVF activities are primarily funded by the CVF Trust Fund that benefits from generous contributions from Bangladesh, Norway and Switzerland. The Forum's work has been supported by a range of partners, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that hosts a dedicated CVF Support Unit and, via its Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, administers the CVF Trust Fund. The International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) are also participating agencies in the CVF Trust Fund.

<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/CVFOO>

CVF FUND PARTNERS



MORE INFORMATION

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