

**Civil Society from the north and south joining forces to tackle climate change:
Economic and social councils of Africa and Europe speak with one voice.
11:15am - 2:15 pm.**

Main point: Government Leaders Endorsed Forests as a Key Climate Solution

Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom announced their objective to provide \$5 billion from 2015 to 2020, or \$1 billion per year by 2020, if countries pursue ambitious REDD+ programs, and they aim to significantly increase pay-for-performance finance if countries demonstrate measured, reported and verified emission reductions.

Session 1

Agriculture (and food security) is the most sensitive sector in the context of climate change. The main constant challenge is to improve yields and land surfaces where our economies are presented with discrepancy between population growth and food supply. One of the key and less complex solutions is to introduce tax on fertilisers (without political manipulations). The more resilient agricultural models become, the more large scale experimentation is necessary and the key objective is to facilitate ownership of civil society. **Revolution of Agricultural models** - Senegal is calling for a fair and ambitious commitment to compensate for historical emissions - this is an ethical matter!

Challenges, experiences and how to look forward (representative from the World Farmers' Organization)

Intake of protein is more likely to increase, arable land is degrading due to industrialisation, and agricultural yields would suffer by 2050. What can we do? Produce more with less - Danish agricultural produce more while reducing emissions. It is possible. What is the driving force? Innovative entrepreneur farmers and we need to be inspired by them. How? Take farmers seriously and see the role/relationship between food security and climate change. Farmers need the right tools (research and development, cross cultural collaborations and exchange of lessons learnt).

Three recent publications on Danish strengths

Family farming is resilient because it adapts better than cash crops and maintains life and culture in many rural communities. Global competition and intensifying of industrialisation (upstream and downstream) thwart small scale farming.

What are some practical solutions? Know various forms of farming (both macro and micro); secure access to land, water and seeds (rights to land and usage) - which is opposite to capitalization; give farmers the right to choose appropriate technologies to fight globalised competition. Create a belonging through unions to give local farmers decent trading opportunities and recognise the rights of peasants and indigenous communities too.

EU's presentation

Civil society - people on the ground, those mostly affected by EU legislature (workers, NGO's, etc). Agriculture and forestry are closely linked. If we shift emission production on the other side (to many developing countries), we will not be solving the problem. Further, the decision to integrate land-use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) in the

post-2020 policy is still not clear - there is uncertainty. What is the solution? Reducing per kilo produced as opposed to the global emission is being realistic. Positive social impact is important in rural areas! There is no sense in investing in new roads if there is no economic activity there in the surrounding in return. This is regarded as active forestry. Concentrating on 2020 and 2030 is very short term. Rather we should focus on maybe 2050 and 2100. The EU promotes gradual transition from fossil fuels.

Economic and social councils (Morocco).

Integrating climate change in policies - Methodology: Actively listen (grassroots, bottom up approach). Results: there has been a lack of food supply, health, vulnerability, biodiversity degradations and trans-border migrations. What are the stakes: safety and security, sensitive economic security and poverty (and guides our negotiations). Solutions? Translate scientific language to ordinary language. Lessons learnt: Collective efforts bring success; civil society understand climate change impacts; change in agricultural model = behaviour change; need to have long term planning to be more resilient and sustainable.

Governance, global mobilisation, experts in climate change, making territories more resilient and all these contribute towards a robust and holistic model. Vulnerability studies are necessary to determine where we are going (be more vigilant - we can't wait and see). We need a better understanding of the risks and how to respond with necessary resources, proactively) - more like the military approach.

Q&A:

Efficiency is not about the economy but also the climate. Who is responsible? It is the **consumers** and the final production price needs to reflect the climate impacts. We need to increase their awareness and engage in a dialogue if they are willing to pay a bit more money to include this value. Denmark claims to produce the most ham/meat and the production process is most efficient.

Session 2

Need for a fair transition

Prioritising social and environmental considerations is not a common practice, yet they remain important pillars to a just and fair transition. The subject of Environmental inequality has been the US's forte for quite some time and thus have a wealth of experience. There have been various movements where production had negative health impact on population and this links to civil rights. Our populations are not always equally (globally and locally). What are the inequalities? For instance, income, access to education and health care, environmental inequalities (exposure to pollutants and pollution as well as the benefits of nature). Some of these facts will be increased by climate change.

Proposal: **Environmental health** - we can expect more issues (potential vulnerabilities from individuals of all ages). Therefore, we need additional knowledge and preventative measure. **Urbanism and habitat** - extreme weather catastrophes can make people more vulnerable. **Civil society input** is necessary. **Access to energy** - believe in a right to energy because there is too much energy poverty [need to enforce the right to energy]. Energy pricing is important to a just transition. We can't run away from the fact that climate justice goes hand in hand with historical responsibility!

Economic and social councils - Guinea

Transition should allow a period to pause and take stock of the previous processes and consider the right ones to allow the transition to take place. This process needs to be holistic to be fair. How? Develop legal institutions to protect the earth. Why? It promotes peace in the world.

COP 21 - SGDs: Groupes Femmes et Feministes (UNWomen)

Promotes 1.5 degrees and should be embodied in the Paris agreement in its real sense of CDR&C. If temperature increases, we will have more inequalities. Restore balance in the decision making process, at the highest levels. This is because the climate dimension with regards to climate impacts shows that it's mostly about 80 to 90% of climate victims are women (e.g., more violence). **Should enforce human rights** (for gender equality, indigenous communities, etc). In other words, don't promote the situation where if you have more money you could still have a licence to produce more carbon emissions (even in other countries). **Transfer of technology** - empower developing countries in a transparent way. They should decide what is right for them. Do people understand the consequences of climate technology? We need to understand the impact before accepting any technology (including the costs of nuclear). Any new technologies need to create jobs for local communities.

Opinion on COP 21

What kind of an agreement? The Paris agreement needs to be ambitious, global and fair. Green fund will play a key role in the transition. We all share a common responsibility and that is the price we should pay for prosperity. The south is right about operational mechanisms for the fund. More funds are good but there is still a lot to be done to raise awareness. 100 million dollars per year is not a huge amount but political leaders have not measured how much education needed for the northern countries.

Governance is important and NGO's are key (more specifically, it is representatives of civil society that are key). Challenges: the rules of the fund are not clear. We need robust reporting rules. Some OECD report said that 6 billion is available - they were looking at subsidies and other loans. We need to speak in operational terms. Green fund can help private sector under certain circumstances. Finally, amounts involved in corruption and tax evasion (some of the main reasons many developing countries why they lack resources). Conclusion: Carbon taxing will affect consumers (especially the underprivileged).

DRC Congo

There is a lot of injustices. Most of our forests are disappearing (no due to local use only but most of our timber is taken to China for European use). We need to think about future generations! Whatever you do, for me, without me is injustice! Without changing behaviour and mind-sets, it is impossible to have a just transition. What is important is better water management to reduce climate change impacts. A lot of our crops consume a lot of water and a still shipped to Europe, where there is land. Land promise absolutely essential (fight against desertification). Reinforce food supply to vulnerable communities. Food waste of about 1.3 billion tons occurs each year, globally. This need better management. Finally, change to role of civil society by giving them more voice. It is

necessary! **Morocco is hosting COP 22 next year.** Civil society needs to be more aware and active.

International Energy Agency - 2:30-5:30pm

Session 1

Welcome and Introduction

Energy prosperity? Big issue is moving from business as usual to emissions consistent with the 2 degrees. Efficiency is about doing more with less energy (reducing consumption). Need to also consider doing more with more through RE. I.e., how to increase wealth and social well-being. In March 2014, the local (newspaper) show a foggy Paris picture, which led to government making the metro free for public use. Good to see the levels of energy consumption (on lighting, air conditioner, etc) and then see these levels diminishing as well as improving the quality of life. Energy efficiency investment is also increasing over time. Efficiency in domestic production substitutes for fuel imports and it also increases fiscal spaces for other expenditures like on education. Small and medium sized economies need to receive attention. Multiple benefits of energy efficiency

National level perspective (India)

Information dissemination (communication) and public participation is essential. India distributed thousands of LED light bulbs across the country. ILEDTHEWAY Campaign show live readings of energy saving, which allows people to see their contributions. It is about investing in efficiency for their own benefits.

Energy commission, Ghana

Energy saver bulbs distribution in Ghana. They also launched a rebate scheme to allow consumers to buy new refrigerators through coupons (savings for consumers and the country). Lessons learnt: documentation and statistics of efficiency measurements are key in the presentation, which is often a challenge for many organizations including SAFCEI.

Energy efficiency in China

China shared its energy perspective and plans that showed 600 thousand jobs that were created in the process. In this session, speakers only focused on energy consumption than directly addressing demands and the types of energy sources that could lead to sustainable and ethical energy choices. They also failed to answer a question on energy efficiency metric regarding baseline as a tool to measure efficiency.

Session 2

India - green building makes good business sense not only in commercial but also in residential areas. It is the energy audits and energy efficiency that makes this possible!

Conclusion

The agricultural and forestry as well as the energy sessions were insightful in that I could learn more about the practical challenges and solutions that both developing and developed countries experience. The trick is to act, remain vigilant (by understanding the risks involved and responding accordingly), develop robust and holistic approaches, that development and sustainability cannot occur without cross-border collaborations and good governance, and civil society (or consumers) are key stakeholders!