

ENB on the Side

Coverage of Selected Side Events at the Bonn Climate Change Conference

Issue No. 6 - Monday, 15 May 2017

Events covered on Saturday, 13 May 2017

Visit our IISD/ENBOTS Coverage for Saturday, 13 May 2017, at:

<http://enb.iisd.org/climate/sb46/enbots/13may.html>

Marrakech Partnership: Building Trust and Inclusiveness in Non-Party Stakeholder Engagement

Presented by York University and Colorado State University

In this side event, researchers and practitioners discussed the role of multi-stakeholder dialogues under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, focusing on how forums for non-party stakeholders can help address the climate action ambition gap and link climate action to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Idil Boran, York University, moderated the panel. She emphasized the need to reflect on the criteria and principles that guide multi-actor engagement in the climate policy process.

Noting that the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) currently registers 12,000 non-state actor commitments to climate action, **Sander Chan**, Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), drew attention to the “enormous groundswell and enormous potential” of these actors. Observing that 70-90% of all climate actions are led by organizations based in the global North but implemented in the global South, Chan questioned why the international community is not acknowledging these disparities. He identified gaps in transnational climate governance, including: leadership, participation, implementation and performance.

Gamini Thilakasiri, Ministry of Agriculture, Agrarian Development, Irrigation, Industries and Environment, Western Province, Sri Lanka, stressed that every nation’s stability, security and prosperity is threatened by climate change. Describing the journey to a stable climate as “hard and long,” he emphasized that regional governments can make major contributions towards the achievement of climate goals and the SDGs at the grassroots level.

Aniruddh Mohan, Tandem Research and the Wuppertal Institute, concentrated on the crucial role that non-state actors play in fostering equity and trust in transnational governance after the Paris Agreement. Observing that climate change is now perceived as a “system-wide problem” but debates about equity remain stuck “in the old framework,” he called for new paradigms for discussing equity. Mohan also stressed the need for linkages with other transnational regimes, remarking that equity cannot be solely negotiated within the “silo” of the UNFCCC.

Kenneth Shockley, Colorado State University, asked how the international community can continue to develop the concept of “working together.” He pointed to transdisciplinary models in ecological restoration and suggested that building trust and inclusiveness requires “ongoing adaptive measures.” Shockley also recommended models of “collaborative problem formulation” that allow civil society to participate in the process of problem framing.

During the ensuing discussion, participants addressed, *inter alia*: the sustainability of grassroots programmes for climate action in light of capacity challenges; the role and challenges of monitoring in polycentric governance structures; and the underrepresentation of non-state actors in developing countries.

More information:

<http://www.yorku.ca/index.html>

<http://www.colostate.edu/>

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Global Status of Carbon Capture and Storage and the Progress Made over the Past Two Decades

Presented by the Global Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Institute

This side event, moderated by **David Hone**, Shell International, provided an update on the potential of CCS to help keep the global temperature rise to below 2°C above preindustrial levels. Hone highlighted CCS as “critical technology” to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement, noting that, for many people, “the penny hasn’t dropped yet.”

John Scowcroft, Global CCS Institute, introduced his organization and outlined the global status of CCS in 2016. Noting that fossil fuel demand, while diminishing in percentage terms, has been growing in absolute terms, he emphasized that CCS is an inherent part of a low-emissions future. He said that CCS is critical in a portfolio of low-carbon technologies, and warned that mitigation costs more than double in scenarios with limited CCS availability. Scowcroft also underscored the need for strong policy to drive investment as CCS “must be afforded policy parity.”

Ellina Levina, International Energy Agency (IEA), presented on an IEA report titled ‘20 years of CCS: Accelerating Future Deployment.’ She identified the need to push all available

technologies to the maximum potential, and noted that CCS “has come a long way despite opposition, and lack of support and understanding.” Among key lessons from the past 20 years, Levina highlighted that: policy support is critical for CCS development; early opportunities for CCS deployment exist but must be cultivated; CO₂ storage must come first; the role of CCS goes well beyond a “clean coal technology”; and community engagement is essential.

Arafat Al Yafei, United Arab Emirates (UAE), introduced Al Reyadah, the first carbon capture company in the Middle East. Noting that all of Al Reyadah’s projects are commercially viable, he presented on the company’s first project with Emirates Steel involving enhanced oil recovery through the injection of CO₂ underground. Al Yafei observed that, even though it is not a full carbon capture project, 60% of injected CO₂ remains underground. Among regional challenges to CCS deployment, he highlighted the need for a greater number of projects and for financial and policy support from governments.

Hone addressed the role of CCS in the energy transition and pathways to net zero emissions. Noting that the energy sector is comprised of fossil fuels, biomass and no-emission sectors, such as renewables, he explained that CCS can make the biomass sector a negative emissions sector, helping achieve net zero emissions by compensating for the fossil fuels sector. He called for catalyzing CCS through: targeted policy mechanisms; recognition of the value of CCS for society; and development of CO₂ storage.

In the ensuing discussion, participants addressed, *inter alia*: possible risks and uncertainties associated with CCS projects; knowledge sharing; the CCS value chain; the amount of energy used to capture and store a ton of CO₂ using various technologies; and the long-term role of CCS in achieving net zero emissions.

More information:

<https://www.globalccsinstitute.com/>

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The Role of Development Finance Institutions in Supporting Client Countries to Deliver on 1.5°C and Sustainable Development Goal Commitments

Presented by Christian Aid and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)

This panel heard discussions on the role of Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) in enhancing ambition towards the 1.5°C goal. **Alison Doig**, Christian Aid, moderated the event.

Gareth Phillips, African Development Bank (AfDB), highlighted that the Bank is seeking to address climate change at both the “strategic” and the project levels. The former, he noted, comprises macro-level planning in country strategy papers, while the latter includes tools for climate safeguards screening, greenhouse gas accounting, and climate finance tracing.

Said Chakri, Association des Enseignants des Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre – Maroc (AESVT Maroc), introduced Morocco’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which comprises both unconditional objectives and goals whose achievement is conditional on obtaining the necessary finance. He noted the key role of development finance institutions in realizing Morocco’s Ouarzazate solar project, and recommended that DFIs replicate this successful financing approach to support other mitigation opportunities identified in Morocco’s NDC.

Peter Betts, Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, UK, outlined his country’s overall approach to climate finance and its work with Multilateral Development Banks. He underlined the need to invest finance strategically to enable it to be “transformational.”

Mithika Mwenda, Secretary General, PACJA, expressed strong concerns about the “encroachment” of the private sector and banks on climate change work. Among other issues, he noted the fact that DFIs will not invest where there is no profit to be made and a disregard for the need for free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples when investment decisions are made. He called for standards and guidelines to ensure DFIs make a positive contribution to addressing climate change and reaching the most vulnerable.

Stephan Singer, Climate Action Network (CAN) International, underscored the need for public banks to take the lead in steering the world away from fossil fuels if the private sector is to follow. He said that, by 2020, all financial public institutions should cease any support for fossil fuels and nuclear energy, and redirect investment to renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy access for the poor.

In the ensuing discussion, participants raised, *inter alia*: the fact that there are different types of “green bonds,” some of which support “clean coal”; how to differentiate between development and adaptation finance because “good development finance takes into account adaptation needs”; how to address the social implications of large-scale hydropower projects, including the fact that funding goes to “big industry” instead of local communities; and the fact that the AfDB is technology-neutral, and “responds to demand.”

More information:

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/images/financing-our-future-sept-2016.pdf>

<http://www.pacja.org/index.php/en/>

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The *Earth Negotiations Bulletin on the Side (ENBOTS)* © enb@iisd.org is a special publication of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). This issue has been written by Suzi Malan, Katherine Browne, Elena Kosolapova, Ph.D., and Cleo Verkuijl. The Digital Editor is Ángeles Estrada. The Editor is Leila Mead leila@iisd.org. The Director of IISD Reporting Services is Langston James “Kimo” Goree VI kimo@iisd.org. The *Earth Negotiations Bulletin on the Side* is published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development. The Sustaining Donors of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* are the European Union (EU) and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. General Support for the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* during 2017 is provided by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, Japanese Ministry of Environment (through the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies - IGES), New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Switzerland (Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), and SWAN International. Funding for translation of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* into French has been provided by the Government of France, Québec, and the International Organization of La Francophonie/Institute for Sustainable Development of La Francophonie (IOF/IFDD). The opinions expressed in the *Bulletin* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IISD or other donors. Excerpts from the Bulletin may be used in non-commercial publications with appropriate academic citation. For information on the Bulletin, including requests to provide reporting services, contact the Director of IISD Reporting Services at kimo@iisd.org, +1-646-536-7556 or 300 East 56th St., 11D, New York, NY 10022 USA. The ENBOTS team at the Bonn Climate Change Conference - May 2017, can be contacted by e-mail at suzi@iisd.org.

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