

Africa-wide Civil Society Climate Change Initiative  
for Policy Dialogues

- ACCID -

FANRPAN  
Food, Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Policy Research Institute



The Position of African Civil Society

Africa-wide Civil Society Climate Change Initiative for Policy Dialogues - ACCID

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Week ending 27 November 2009

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### Editor's choice

#### **Climate Frontline: African communities adapting to survive**

*Climate Frontline*

International concern about climate change is rising rapidly, but international action lags behind. Other reports demonstrate clearly the scale of the problem at the global and regional level. This report is different: it allows the voices of men and women in vulnerable African communities to be heard directly...

[Report](#) (7.8MB file)

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#### **Meles Zenawi: Africa at Risk**

*Project Syndicate*

Addis Ababa: Climate change will hit Africa - a continent that has contributed virtually nothing to bring it about - first and hardest. Aside from Antarctica, Africa is the only continent that has not industrialized. Indeed, since 1980's the industrialization that had taken place in Africa has by and large been reversed...

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#### **India and the United States: Partnership for a better world**

*Ministry of External Affairs*

Washington: Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and President Barack Obama reaffirmed the global strategic partnership between India and the United States, and launched a new phase in this partnership. Commending the deepening bilateral cooperation between the world's two largest democracies across a broad spectrum of human endeavors [including climate change], the two leaders recognized...

### EU Council conclusions on climate change and development

*Swedish Presidency of the European Union*

Brussels: The Council recalls its Conclusions of March 2009, June 2009 and October 2009, and the European Council Conclusions of March, June, and October 2009, and reaffirms the EU's determination to reach an ambitious and comprehensive agreement in Copenhagen in December 2009 in line with the Bali Action Plan...

### Global body needed to direct green technology, G77 says

*The Guardian*, 23 November 2009

Tangier: A green technology body with powers to direct a worldwide transition away from a high-carbon economy is needed to combat climate change, according to the world's developing nations. While most negotiations ahead of the UN's climate change summit in Copenhagen next month have been concerned with which nations should slash greenhouse gas emissions and by how much, the method in which these cuts will be achieved has received far less attention...

### Ghana should cash in on climate change business opportunities - banker

*GhanaWeb*, 23 November 2009

Accra: Ghana stands a better chance of making economic gains in strategic areas that evolve around climate change, a leading member of the Ecobank International Organisations Department has said...

### Tanzania: Private sector challenged to invest in CDM projects

*ThisDay*, 23 November 2009

Dar es Salaam: The private sector in Tanzania has been urged to invest in clean development mechanism projects to increase income as well as assist in mitigating the impacts of climate change. The acting executive director of the Tanzania Investment Centre, Raymond Mbilinyi, made the call when officiating at a meeting to promote investments in CDM...

### Computer model predicts future deforestation in Congo Basin rainforest

*DNAIndian*, 23 November 2009

Scientists have come up with a computer model that predicts future changes in the world's forests, which has forecasted deforestation in the Congo Basin rainforest in the future...

### Gabon to ban export of unhewn timber 'from 2010'

*AFP*, 23 November 2009

Libreville: Gabon will ban the export of unhewn timber from the beginning of 2010, in line with a decision taken by the cabinet early this month, government and other sources said Thursday. "The measure will be effective. It has been confirmed," a consultant in the ministry of water and forests told AFP...

### 'EU farms give off too much gas'

*The Times*, 23 November 2009

Johannesburg: Greenhouse gas emissions from European livestock and fertilisers exceed the carbon absorption of all the region's trees and soils, underlining the need to cap farms' contribution to climate change, a study shows...

### Climate change could boost incidence of civil war in Africa

*EurekaAlert*, 24 November 2009

Berkeley: Climate change could increase the likelihood of civil war in sub-Saharan Africa by over 50 percent within the next two decades, according to a new study led by a team of researchers at University of California, Berkeley, and published in yesterday's online issue of the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*...

### Global warming to have heavy impact on Arab states

*AP/COP15*, 24 November 2009

Beirut: Global warming will have a severe impact on Arab states where water is already scarce, a regional report warned ahead of next month's Copenhagen environment summit. Some of the most feared effects include depletion of agricultural land, spread of disease and endangerment of many plant and animal species, the [2009 Report of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development](#) said...

### Should agriculture pay the climate price?

*EurActiv*, 25 November 2009

Food is strategic and agricultural production is a vital sector of many national economies. Yet, discussions are shifting from how to adapt farming to climate change to how to make agriculture contribute to climate change mitigation. In a recent interview with *EurActiv*, outgoing EU Agriculture Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel even backed the possibility of an emissions trading scheme for agriculture...

[World Bank to start agriculture fund with \\$1.5 bln](#)

*Reuters*, 25 November 2009

Washington: The World Bank will start a trust fund to boost agriculture in poor countries with an initial \$1.5 billion, its president Robert Zoellick said on Tuesday, warning of the risk of another food price crisis...

[South Africa: Business misses climate change boat](#)

*Business Day*, 25 November 2009

Johannesburg: Local business has failed to develop a consolidated position on climate change in time for crucial international negotiations in Copenhagen next month, which could see business being left out of crucial policy decisions, observers on environmental issues are warning...

[Norway, SA need to pool climate efforts](#)

*Business Day*, 25 November 2009

Johannesburg: It is Norway's view that the increase in global mean temperature must be limited to a maximum of 2°C compared with the pre-industrial level. In order to avoid serious damage, greenhouse gas emissions will have to be reduced by 50%-85% by 2050. This is a complex challenge, because the International Energy Agency (IEA) forecasts that global energy demand will almost double by 2030...

[Kenya lauded for geo-thermal energy production](#)

*Kenya Broadcasting Corporation*, 25 November 2009

Nairobi: African countries should endeavour to harness clean, green and renewable sources of energy to meet its growing demand in the continent and the world. World Bank Vice President (Africa), Ms. Obiageli Ezekwesili has lauded Kenya for embracing geo-thermal energy production...

[Lights out - world's poor remain in the dark](#)

*Inter Press Service*, 25 November 2009

United Nations: With the flip of a switch, a light comes on or an electric toothbrush revs to power. If service is cut, either for repairs or because of a natural cause, there will most likely be much fuss about how quickly power is restored - to people who live in the developed world. But ask a person living in any of the least developed countries (LDCs) and they would be glad to have even at least a few hours of electricity each day...

Women make case for climate change

*Vanguard*, 26 November 2009

Ughelli: The Niger Delta Women's Movement for Peace and Development has suggested that global climate change could be addressed through human security lens and said it ... was determined to strengthen the bridge between women, poverty and climate change...

Public health benefits of strategies to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions: food and agriculture

*The Lancet*, 26 November 2009

Agricultural food production and agriculturally-related change in land use substantially contribute to greenhouse-gas emissions worldwide. Four-fifths of agricultural emissions arise from the livestock sector. Although livestock products are a source of some essential nutrients, they provide large amounts of saturated fat, which is a known risk factor for cardiovascular disease...

Nigeria: Senate to hasten work on climate change bill

*234Next.com*, 26 November 2009

Lagos: The Climate Change Commission Bill before the Nigerian senate will address all issues connected with climate change and provide an institutional and legal framework for climate change governance in the country, senate committee chairman on Environment and Ecology, Grace Folashade Bent, said...

Rwanda: Cost of climate change high - experts

*The New Times*, 26 November 2009

Kigali: A report by Stockholm Environment Institute on the economics of climate change in Rwanda has revealed that climate change has had a significant setback on the economy, especially in the past four years. The research which was funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) assessed the impact of the various climate change conditions such as carbon emissions, droughts and floods...

Uganda's temperature to rise by 1.5 degrees

*New Vision*, 27 November 2009

Kampala: Uganda's average temperature will increase by up to 1.5 degrees Celsius in the next 20 years as a result of global warming, according to the State of the Uganda Population Report, released yesterday by finance minister Syda Bbumba...

### Forest area bigger than Canada can be restored

*Reuters, 27 November 2009*

London: Only one fifth of the world's forests remain but an area bigger than Canada could be restored without harming food production, a global alliance dedicated to restoring forests said on Thursday. A study by the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR), which includes the WWF, Britain's Forestry Commission and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), said a billion hectares of former forests, equivalent to six percent of the world's total land area, could be restored...

### India in a fix as China pledges big emission cuts

*The Times of India, 27 November 2009*

Beijing: China has announced that it will cut emissions by a drastic 40-45 per cent compared to 2005 levels by the year 2020. The pledge, which is far ahead of the promises made by the United States, is also expected to cause jitters in New Delhi and raise questions about the efficacy of the India-China deal on the issue...

### 'Organic farming may counter climate change,' report says

*The Independent, 27 November 2009*

London: Organic farming can play an important role in countering climate change, a new report suggests. Use of organic methods means that the soil takes up much more carbon, which would otherwise be released into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide to boost global warming, according to the report from the Soil Association, the organic food and farming charity...

### 'Innovation cooperation' to meet climate challenges

*SciDev.Net, 27 November 2009*

New Delhi: Climate talks must move from technology transfer to 'innovation cooperation' to develop and deploy technologies effectively, says Ambuj Sagar: For developing countries, the challenges of climate change come on top of existing - and urgent - sustainable development needs...

### The cost of adapting to climate change

*The Guardian, 27 November 2009*


London: The gap between rhetoric and reality, the developed and developing worlds, is cruelly illustrated by the huge promises and meagre results of successive global gatherings on providing funds to help less developed countries adapt to the changing climate. On Tuesday, Farm-Africa, one of the Guardian's partners in the Katine project, helped launch Climate Frontline, a collection of African voices reflecting on how their climate has already changed, and how they are adapting to it...

## **Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)**

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