RECOMMENDATIONS ON MOBILISING FINANCE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

Today at the CSD, discussions will focus on enhancing the contributions of the private sector and other stakeholders in addressing air pollution and atmospheric problems, combating climate change and promoting industrial development. The following is a summary of key recommendations for CSD 14, developed during Stakeholder Forum’s Energy and Climate Change Roundtable Series, which was hosted in London in preparation for the Energy Cycle.

Research and Development

The focus of new research and development should be on both renewable energy and energy efficiency. While investment in developing renewable energy is paramount to increase its cost competitiveness with more carbon intensive energy sources, the cost saving possible from increased energy efficiency, both through more efficient technologies and stricter regulations on energy use should be at the forefront of policy development on energy. Further work needs also to be done to make investments in energy efficiency more attractive.

Research and Development needs to influence policy as well as technology development. This would provide a better enabling environment for future renewable energy projects, and would act to spur to long-term growth in the sector.

Developed country governments and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) should provide grants for demonstrations of new technology to further encourage investment and innovative programmes, especially at the local level, to encourage the development of locally owned, and therefore more secure, renewable energy technologies.

Technology and Information Transfer

Current global policies and regulations can create barriers to the transfer of technologies, particularly North to South. Incentives need to be developed at intergovernmental, regional and national levels to increase the flows of such technologies where possible at the lowest cost.

South to South transfers should also be encouraged. Transfers between countries at similar levels of development can assist technologies to achieve successful commercialization and integration. Barriers to North-South trade of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and products should also be assessed and removed.

Capacity Building

Capacity building is required at all levels – global, regional, national and local – to both encourage and direct investment in renewable energy.

There is a need for joined up policy, incorporating mechanisms and instruments such as targets, taxes and incentives. These mechanisms and instruments need to be meaningful, measurable and transparent. And they need to
be well publicised by governments at all levels, with help from NGOs and other stakeholders. This will produce a stable economic environment for investment. Without such stability, the long-term viability of investments cannot be guaranteed.

**Making Markets Work Effectively for Sustainable Development**

Current energy subsidies provided to fossil fuel industries do not reflect the true costs of producing that energy. Governments agreed at the World Summit for Sustainable Development to take action where appropriate to phase out energy subsidies that inhibit sustainable development. This is critical to redress the balance to allow renewable energy to become financially competitive.

The positioning of some non-renewable energy industries, such as clean coal and nuclear power, as ‘next generation’ solutions to climate change and CO2 emissions problems is acting as a further barrier for investment in renewables. A recent UK Sustainable Development Commission publication on the UK need for nuclear power concluded that the UK could reach its CO2 targets and provide energy through renewables and energy efficiency alone.

The present centralised energy infrastructure model is at odds with a decentralized renewable energy system. There is a requirement for a move away from this old model to allow for real growth in renewables.

The current trend whereby obsolete products or appliances and technologies are sold to developing countries further entrench the problems surrounding renewable energy. There is a need for investment in more energy efficient appliances for developing countries. Enforced redundancy of inefficient products or appliances and technologies will allow more efficient products to fill the gap.

The full report *Obstacles and Constraints to Mobilising Finance for Renewable Energy* is available at [www.stakeholderforum.org](http://www.stakeholderforum.org)

**An International Sustainable Energy Agency NGO Coalition Proposal**

The NGO coalition is promoting the creation of an International Sustainable Energy Fund.

In order to speed up the increase of the share of sustainable forms of energy in the global energy mix, the NGO coalition believes, decisive financial policies and measures are called for. Anticipating CSD 15, the setting up of an International Sustainable Energy Fund would be an important step. An ISEF would give assistance and financial support to all UN member states for the development, promotion and accessibility of sustainable forms of energy. It would use funds from moneys saved by phasing out of subsidies for unsustainable forms of energy, especially by governments of developed countries. During the transition period, the ISEF would be important in facilitating and alleviating a global shift from unsustainable to sustainable forms of energy.

For more information about an ISEF, see *International Sustainable Energy Agency: Proposed Model Statute* available at [www.gracepolicyinstitute.org](http://www.gracepolicyinstitute.org)
By Michael Kelly  
ICC Commission on Environment and Energy

Energy is a vital ingredient of modern life and progress. It has the power to heat and cool our homes, cook our food, drive industry operations, and transport people, goods and information. A source of energy can make the difference between poverty and hopelessness, and taking the first steps to education, building a livelihood and providing essential healthcare services. However, the increasing impacts of energy use, particularly in combination with the steep population and economic growth we are now witnessing, include air pollution, climate change, unbalanced ecosystems and resource availability and affordability.

Business recognizes both the challenges and opportunities connected with energy use and is committed to helping address them, from both the supply and demand side. These issues are too big for a single player to tackle alone, however, which is why business calls on governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community stakeholders to work together for sustainable solutions.

The CSD 14 Day of Business & Industry to be held on 9 May from 13.30 – 20.00 in the Dag Hammarskjöld library and co-organized by the UN and Business Action for Energy (BAE) - invites you to debate the gaps and ways forward with regard to shaping a sustainable energy future in three panels, focusing on technology, climate change and development. The day will also feature presentations from the ten winners of the 2006 World Business Awards in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

Companies are working proactively through industry sectors and associations, as well as public-private partnerships, to address local and global energy dilemmas on the ground. The CSD 14 Day of Business & Industry invites you to debate the gaps and ways forward with regard to shaping a sustainable energy future in three panels, focusing on technology, climate change and development.

The business community anticipates that this event will bring together and engage business, governments, and civil society in a constructive dialogue to discuss energy related topics thereby contributing effectively to the review process of UNCSD 14 and setting the stage for concrete measurable progress in CSD 15 when business will once again play a major role in the proceedings.
Development Goals. This year’s ten Awardees epitomize the very high quality of the project nominations received, totalling 73 from 33 different countries and exemplify the wide range of projects from large and small business enterprises, in all regions, and which substantially contribute to the development goals defined in the UN Millennium Declaration.

This year’s winners include business-sponsored projects that provide low-income housing in Mexico, comprehensive HIV/AIDS treatment in Botswana, venture capital for small businesses in India, and health education in Turkey’s primary schools. Corporate partners involved in the projects include The Merck Company Foundation, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CEMEX Mexico, GlaxoSmithKline and Tetra Pak.

Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and current Chair of The Ethical Globalization Initiative, will present the awards at a public event in New York on 10 May at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Ballroom A starting at 18.00. On 9 May during the CSD 14 Day of Business and Industry, the winners will present their projects to the gathered audience of business, public sector and NGO representatives.

Organized by the ICC in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and The Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF), the World Business Awards are the first worldwide business awards to recognize the crucial role of the private sector in implementing the UN’s Millennium Development Goals of reducing poverty by half around the world by 2015, as agreed to in 2000. It is the fourth time the awards will be given.

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IEA ENERGY TECHNOLOGY DAY

By Alexandra Niez,
Project manager of the IEA's Networks of Expertise in Energy Technology (NEET)

The International Energy Agency (IEA) held the “IEA Energy Technology Day” on Wednesday, May 3rd 2006 at the UN Millennium Plaza Hotel, during which the “Networks of Expertise in Energy Technology” (NEET) Initiative enjoyed a very successful launch.

G8 leaders invited the IEA to help activate dynamic worldwide networks for energy technology research and development as part of their July 2005 pledge of concerted action to secure a “clean, clever and competitive energy future”. The NEET Initiative is the IEA’s response to this request.

Building on existing IEA technology collaboration programmes (so-called “Implementing Agreements”), the NEET Initiative’s aim is to link policy makers, the international business community, researchers and other stakeholders of emerging energy consuming countries that are not members of the IEA. The NEET team will work to enhance awareness of existing research, development and deployment networks and facilitate further involvement of these countries in technology collaboration.

The Initiative received very positive support from key stakeholders such as the World Bank, the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), the International Science Panel on Renewable Energies (ISPRE), the World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD), as well as from the IEA’s technology collaboration programmes, who were present at this event. The valuable exchange that took place during the IEA Energy Technology Day opened a new path towards reaching possible future partners through this very promising initiative, and to raising the profile of the existing networks.

During the upcoming 2 to 2 ½ years, the NEET Initiative will hold workshops in emerging energy consuming countries such as India, China, Brazil, Mexico and South Africa, while also planning high profile presence at major international events.

To learn more about the NEET Initiative:
http://www.iea.org/neet/

Announcement of Workshop
“Sustainable Use, Supply and Production of Biomass in Africa”

Nairobi, Kenya: 4 - 6 October 2006

Joint project between the IEA and the African Development Bank FINESSE Africa Program

Outcome will serve as an input to CSD-15.
More information: www.iea.org - jan.tronningsdal@iea.org
On 8 and 9 February 2006, ministers and heads of delegation attending the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum discussed the subject of international environmental governance, including the question of universal membership of the Governing Council, within the overall context of follow up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

**Introductory statements**

Mr. Adnan Amin, Executive Director, Secretary-General’s Panel on United Nations system wide coherence, referred to the Outcome of the 2005 World Summit and in particular the significance of those aspects related to the environment as well as United Nations system wide coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment. He reported on the current status of arrangements for the establishment of the Secretary General’s high-level panel and the high expectation among United Nations Member States concerning the panel’s role in the United Nations reform process. He also announced that the ambassadors of Mexico and Switzerland to the United Nations had been named co-chairs of the informal working group of the General Assembly established by the President of the General Assembly to undertake the follow up to the World Summit Outcome related to reform of the international environmental structure.

Ms. Nelly Olin, Minister for Ecology and Sustainable Development of France, was the second keynote speaker. She explained that global environmental challenges had grown to such an extent that there was wide recognition of the interrelationship between environmental concerns and development policies. It was an anomaly, she said, that specialized organizations existed that dealt with trade, labour and health, while the environment was being overseen by an under-funded UN programme. She argued for the eventual creation of a specialized agency, built on existing institutions, with UNEP as the basis. The proposal, she said, would result in the formation of a United Nations environment organization, tasked with addressing the wide range of environmental problems facing the world. She said that the proposed organization would be located in Nairobi and could include in its mandate a more coherent coordination of multilateral environmental agreements, as well as environmental capacity building. She stated that the proposal had the support of approximately 90 countries, including those of the European Union, the Francophonie and the Indian Ocean Commission. She also called for adequate funding for the organization, observing that while UNEP had over recent years been tasked with more responsibilities, it did not receive sufficient financing.

**Reactions by ministers and heads of delegations**

**Follow up to the 2005 World Summit**

In the ensuing discussion, the representatives who spoke addressed ways and means to strengthen UNEP and to increase coherence and efficiency in the United Nations system in addressing environmental issues, bearing in mind the 2005 World Summit Outcome and in the context of the ongoing reform of the United Nations.

Some representatives shared the view that, bearing in mind ongoing United Nations reform efforts, it was important to strengthen the role of the environment in the United Nations system, as well as international cooperation more broadly. The view was also expressed that it was urgent to reinforce the prominence of natural capital in poverty reduction strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Another representative stressed that enhanced environmental governance was essential for eradicating poverty, as well as for peace and security.

Some representatives were of the view that all the three components of sustainable development should be advanced and that measures for protecting the environment should not be undertaken at the expense of development. Another representative called for new and additional resources for achieving goals for sustainable development.

Many representatives stressed that the implementation of all the components of Governing Council decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance – often referred to as the Cartagena package – remained a priority. They underscored, among other things, the need for immediate and full implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity building.
strengthening the scientific base of UNEP, the importance of enhancing coherence and coordination within the United Nations system, enhancing synergies among multilateral environmental agreements and improving the financial footing of UNEP.

Some representatives, emphasizing the need for strengthening the international institutional framework in the field of the environment, expressed their support for the transformation of UNEP into a Nairobi-based United Nations environment organization having the status of a specialized agency.

Some other representatives addressed the strengthening of specific elements of international environmental governance, such as consolidation of multilateral environmental agreements and strengthened capacity building capabilities for UNEP, especially through the Bali Strategic Plan. Another representative emphasized that UNEP should fulfil its original mandate.

One representative, noting the increasing environmental challenges that UNEP faced, suggested that there should be a careful assessment, bearing in mind scrap and building within the United Nations system, of effectiveness and efficiency of the current institutional structure, including possible consolidation of existing multilateral environmental agreements, in the light of which the question of universal membership or the need for a United Nations environment organization should be examined.

Some representatives opposed the establishment of a United Nations environment organization, as they believed that utilization of the existing institutional arrangements would be adequate to address environmental issues and the establishment of a new organization was not necessary. Another representative, noting that UNEP had improved its governance, although further improvement of international environmental governance was needed, stressed that it was premature to establish a United Nations environment organization.

One representative pointed out that any discussions on a United Nations environment organization should wait for an analysis to be conducted by the Secretary-General’s panel on United Nations system-wide coherence.

Universal membership

The question of universal membership of the Governing Council of UNEP was considered within the broad context described above. There continued to be different views among member States on the matter, and there was no consensus among them.

Some representatives supported the introduction of universal membership, as they believed that it would strengthen the decision-making functions of the Governing Council and UNEP as a whole.

Others, without expressing their positions on the matter, indicated that it deserved further consideration and reflection. One expressed the view that it was necessary to identify additional value and benefits to be attained by introducing universal membership.

Others, however, opposed the introduction of universal membership, stating that the existing structure was adequate.

One representative, not convinced of the need for universal membership, was concerned that it might involve higher administrative costs, and requested further analysis of the costs and benefits that could be expected.

The view was expressed that the question of universal membership should be addressed by the Secretary-General’s panel on United Nations system-wide coherence as well as at the relevant consultations to be carried out by the General Assembly.

Country Women Association of Nigeria (COWAN) Invites you to a Round Table Strategy Session on

The way forward with women... Linking Energy and Poverty Eradication issues Tuesday May 9th, 1:00pm-3:30pm DHL-12th Floor, Church Center for the UN (Corner of 44th St. & 1st Ave.)

- Energy, poverty and gender inequality are linked.
- In order to eradicate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals we must see energy access as human rights based and not market based.
- We must link changes in the energy matrix to women’s empowerment, employment, generation and community based business opportunities.
- New working relationships with policy makers are also needed to ensure that decision-making at all levels.
- We must examine ways to develop resources to ensure not only access but ownership of the new energy technology.
The next generation of CSD activists has arrived. Born two years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Makala Forster, Sabina Smith-Morelaud, and Iris Parker Pavitt are now 12 years old. They are here as members of the Youth Caucus at the CSD to learn more about issues related to energy and how they affect communities around the world.

The girls come from Orcas Island, a small island located about one hour from mainland Washington State on the US western coast. They describe their home as a very special place, abound with natural beauty. They know they are lucky to live in such a protected environment, but understand that people living in other communities are not so fortunate. Back home, they used the highly creative fundraising mechanism of hosting a dinner and a bake sale in order to raise enough money to travel to New York and attend the CSD.

Makala, Sabina and Iris aim to take the messages being promoted at the CSD back to their community. Upon returning to Orcas Island, they will give a presentation to the community about their experiences here. They hope to influence people to make more environmentally responsible choices about energy, such as driving hybrid cars or using solar energy. “We think that because our community is small, it will be easier to start renewable energy projects. We hope that this will inspire other communities to do the same,” Sabina explained. The girls also want to raise awareness about how other communities are affected by climate change and environmental degradation. They feel it is important to encourage other youth to raise their awareness about environmental and social issues.
The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD) held an event entitled “Renewable Energies- Policies, Projects and Challenges for Regions” at the Partnerships Fair on Friday, May 5th. The event aimed to present the activities of the Network in these fields, as well as to explore methods of collaboration with organisations such as the Small Grants Programme of the Global Environment Facility and the Clean Energy Group-Clean Energy States Alliance in the United States.

The Basque Minister for the Environment, Ms. Esther Larrañaga, chaired the event and introduced the activities of nrg4SD that are relevant to the current CSD cycle. Ms. Larrañaga mentioned that, in addition to taking part in the CSD process since 2003, nrg4SD has been active at the Conferences of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, also since 2003. She also made reference to a report produced by nrg4SD called “Regional Sustainable Development Addressing Climate Change” (available at www.nrg4sd.net). Furthermore, she explained that nrg4SD was directly involved at the first international Conference on Renewable Energies held in Bonn in 2004 and subsequently, is now a member of the Steering Committee of the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21). An important outcome of this involvement is a website devoted to renewable energies in different regions.

Mr. Ernst-Christoph Stolper of the Ministry of Environment and Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of North Rhine-Westphalia, and member of the Steering Committee of nrg4SD, presented the Worldwide Regional Portal for Renewable Energies (www.regional-renewables.org), an initiative led by North Rhine-Westphalia under the framework of nrg4SD. He explained that the objectives of the portal are to facilitate communication on best available technologies, to establish networks among regional experts and decision-makers, and to increase regional co-operation and partnership. Mr. Stolper elaborated on the contents of the Portal, which contains information on best practices, regional experiences, strategies and support programmes; and data on the different aspects of renewable energies. In addition, the portal contains links and contacts of regional governments, experts and institutions. Finally, he extended an invitation to all regions to contribute information to this portal.

Mr. Ganapin, representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Global Manager of the Small Grants Programme (SGP) within the Global Environment Facility (GEF), presented the objectives, future plans and concrete outcomes of the Small Grants Programme. Mr. Ganapin emphasized the importance of cooperation between regional governments and the SGP to achieve common goals in the field of sustainable development, and referred to the innovative partnership developing between nrg4SD and the SGP. In conclusion, Mr. Ganapin stated that the promotion of renewable energy requires steps beyond ‘business as usual,’ and thus requires renewed links and partnerships that allow the flow of resources to those that are lacking.

Allison Schumacher, Project Director for Clean Energy Group, referred to initiatives taking place on the state-level in the U.S.A. She highlighted the role of the state-led programs, mentioning the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA), (made up of 14 US states cooperating on joint projects). CESA is now expanding to include other states that want to develop new public funds (Alaska, New Mexico, Vermont). She also referred to case studies on innovative clean-energy finance. Ms. Schumacher emphasized the importance of promoting international finance and technology collaboration through an international ‘sub-national’ network, citing nrg4SD as an example.
During CSD 13, the matrix received a lot of attention. Everyone seemed to have an opinion about it. The matrix? No, not the movie where Keanu Reeves - starring as Neo - saves Zion! We’re talking about the CSD matrix, prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the Bureau. This matrix contains information from Governments, Major Groups and UN agencies, together with outcomes of regional implementation meetings and Secretary General’s Reports.

At the moment it is still an informational tool aimed at facilitating thematic discussions during CSD-14. The matrix can be much more, however, and it is up to all of us to make the matrix a success.

If you have a look at the matrix, it will seem as if the document is merely used to show off good examples of western governments. The number of examples from developing countries and major groups is strikingly low. Of course it is very good that some western countries have submitted so much information, but we have to keep in mind that the matrix has to be a balanced document.

Having a closer look at the document, the list of ‘case studies’ and ‘best practices’ appears to be lot longer than the list with ‘barriers and constraints’.

If we are to use this year’s matrix as a strategic tool during CSD 15, good examples are not enough. Governments, Major Groups and UN agencies will have to present their vulnerable side as well, by revealing what kind problems they face in the implementation process. The goal of CSD 14 is to identify obstacles and constraints, therefore presenting only ‘fantastic examples’ will not lead to satisfactory policy options next year. By CSD 15, it should also include action owners; who will do what to overcome these obstacles?

We urge Governments, Major Groups, UN agencies, the Secretariat and the Bureau to consider the following points, when dealing with the matrix:

- The procedure to submit information for the matrix is unclear to many, this leads to the exclusion of certain groups.
- The matrix can help to increase the sense of ownership of problems concerning sustainable development.
- By identifying obstacles and constraints the matrix can become more than just information sharing, it can become a document that will really contribute to successful outcomes of CSD 15.
- CSD is a learning process. A transparent matrix helps us learn from previous experiences and to find solutions for the obstacles we are facing.

Back to Neo...there is however a similarity between the movie and the CSD matrix: we will have to make the change.

“The matrix can only show us the door. We are the ones who will have to walk through it.”
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DIARY - SIDE EVENTS
Energy Audit 2006. Finnish Ministry of Trade and Industry 6
Planning and Assessment of Sustainable Development at Regional Level - Sharing Experience. Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic A

6:15-7:45 Creating an International Bioenergy Platform. FAO/IBEP 2
Energy Access for the Urban Poor. UNHABITAT 6
The Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI) – A Concrete Outcome of the Producer-Consumer Dialogue. International Energy Forum Secretariat A

DIARY - PARTNERSHIPS FAIR
10:45-11:25 Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP) 6
11:30-12.10 Coalition for Rainforest Nations 6
12:15-1:00 Strategic Partnership Among Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica for Co-operation on Sustainable Development 6
3:00-4:25 Closing Session and “Partnerships in Practice” interactive discussion on Working in Collaboration: Partnership Networking and Relationship-building 6
9:00-6:00 Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles N.Area
Recovery of the Circuit of Four Lakes N.Area
USEA/USAID Energy Partnership Program N.Area

OUTREACH 2015
CONTRIBUTING TO THIS ISSUE:

• Izaskun Iriarte  • Gaby Spitz
• Michael Kelly  • Sanne van Keulen
• Alexandra Niez

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