

## INTERCOOPERATION

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## Climate change as a crosscutting theme in Intercooperation

Climate change poses a serious challenge to sustainable development, given that it has significant impacts on both biophysical and socio-economic assets. Developing countries are especially vulnerable because of their high dependence on natural resources and their limited capacity to cope with the impacts of climate change. Furthermore, the citizens of developing countries, especially the poor, are often badly placed to face the challenges and use the opportunities offered by the two climate change strategies - adaptation and mitigation.

Intercooperation began activities in climate change adaptation and mitigation in 1999. In early 2006, Intercooperation adopted a strategy on the cross cutting theme of climate change, addressing adaptation and mitigation activities as key elements for sustainable development, focusing particularly on the poor and marginalized.

Every year in August, Intercooperation organises a forum discussion. This is part of a week in which IC assembles head office and field staff in Switzerland to discuss development issues as well as institutional questions. The Forum Day of Intercooperation focuses on a topic of specific interest to development practitioners, including staff from SDC, IC's foundation members, NGO's, consultants and other interested parties active in international cooperation.

inter  
cooperation

## Climate change and developing countries

### Local experiences in mainstreaming the climate change strategies into development cooperation



Friday, August 18, 2006  
Kongresszentrum Allresto  
Effingerstrasse 20, 3008 Bern

INTERCOOPERATION  
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Stamp

## Climate change: Challenges and Opportunities for Development Cooperation

Climate change is one of the current major environmental threats. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the key policy instrument for dealing with the human-induced changes in the global climatic system, was ratified in 1994. The Convention outlines two major strategies: mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation is regulated through the Kyoto Protocol, which was ratified in 2005.

Implementing mitigation and adaptation activities requires not only political will and policy agreements, but also concrete activities in the field, where the impacts of climate change are already being felt. This is especially relevant in developing countries. Are these countries prepared? Do we have experiences to guide cooperation with these countries under a holistic approach that includes climate change as well as the improvement of the living conditions of the poor?

Over the last 6 years, Intercooperation has been formulating and implementing projects which address both climate change and the reduction of poverty.

The IC Forum Day provides a timely opportunity to share experiences and to reflect on the role of development cooperation in supporting local change processes that contribute to achieving the UNFCCC goals.

## PROGRAMME

**Morning: 09.15 – 13.00**

### **FORUM DAY INTERCOOPERATION Addressing climate change in developing countries from a local perspective**

International and national speakers will present their experiences on mainstreaming climate change issues into development cooperation.

Which are the key elements?  
Where are the major challenges?  
What lessons have we already learnt  
from ongoing activities?

Buffet lunch

**Afternoon: 14.00 – 17.30**

### **IC's Climate Change Network Meeting (Optional)**

***New discussions on old challenges:  
How to deal with avoiding deforestation  
in the UNFCCC negotiations?***

This will be the first meeting of the Climate Change Network of Intercooperation, an informal exchange platform on issues relevant to climate change in the context of development cooperation. This is open to all interested institutions or individuals in Switzerland.

The detailed programme will be put on the IC website and mailed to participants in early August.

**Registration Form  
FORUM DAY INTERCOOPERATION  
Friday, August 18, 2006**

**Please confirm  
your participation by email to  
[foren@intercooperation.ch](mailto:foren@intercooperation.ch)  
or post this form **before August 11, 2006****

**Last name**

**First name**

**Organisation**

**E-mail address**

I will participate in the **morning**  
FORUM DAY  
INTERCOOPERATION

In will participate in the **afternoon**  
Meeting of the Intercooperation  
Climate Change Network

I am not able to participate this year,  
but would like to be invited in the  
future