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Climate Change and Energy

*Providing sustainable solutions
in turbulent times*



Climate change is a fundamental challenge to achieving global sustainable development

While our understanding of this challenge is growing, progressive responses and concrete change remain elusive. Global levels of greenhouse gas emissions continue to rapidly rise and, disturbingly, the impacts of climate change are being witnessed far earlier and more intensely than first projected.

Today, there is an urgent need to move from words to action. Policies, regulations and programs must be implemented—both to achieve deep reductions in our greenhouse gas emissions, and to prepare for the likelihood of increasingly devastating climatic changes.

In these turbulent times, the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) provides access to the authoritative knowledge, astute analysis and innovative tools that support finding the solutions the world vitally needs.



In a world of dynamic economic, social and political change, IISD promotes creative policy responses based on solid research, shared knowledge and strong partnerships

By pursuing dynamic solutions to complex problems, the Institute has adopted an approach that integrates climate change considerations across the full range of policy spheres, including international diplomacy, energy security, trade and investment, and development cooperation.

Working at the interface between policy and practice, IISD is helping to implement solutions that will move economies towards a low-carbon energy future and help people adapt to an increasingly unpredictable climate. IISD's work reflects the need to balance the diverse interests and circumstances of communities, and countries that increasingly must act together.



IISD is recognized as an international and national leader in climate change policy research

IISD facilitates the exchange of ideas and perspectives. Our Climate Change and Energy team engages key decision-makers and policy influencers in critical, constructive discussions nationally and internationally. By working with relevant actors at all levels—from corporate CEOs to subsistence farmers and from municipal councillors to biologists—we are able to bring the knowledge, expertise and experience of practitioners to those developing effective climate policies and strategies.

Our work encompasses the many dimensions of the global climate change challenge

Our research links together mitigation and adaptation strategies; corporate and social needs; developing and developed country issues; and economic, social and environmental well-being. Our team is helping to develop policy levers that will drive deep, long-term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in North America and worldwide by:

- ▶ Developing well-designed, market-based mechanisms—such as effective emissions trading systems—to reduce the costs of emissions reductions, incentivize the deployment of low-carbon energy technologies, and encourage technology transfer to less developed countries
- ▶ Identifying ways in which trade policy can effectively contribute to climate mitigation efforts and areas of potential conflict between the global climate and trade regimes
- ▶ Promoting sustainable agriculture and forestry practices to simultaneously enhance carbon storage and reduce vulnerability to the impacts of a changing global climate
- ▶ Providing intelligence, advice and analysis to governments and the private sector on the continual evolution of national and international climate policy

IISD provides the policy advice, strategies and tools needed to counter climate change

Our team works with communities, non-governmental organizations, businesses and governments to design and implement the appropriate tools, actions and policies needed to prepare for and respond to the impacts of climate change. Our work in the areas of adaptation and risk reduction includes:

- ▶ Developing, testing and sharing approaches for integrating adaptation considerations into development planning and management
- ▶ Understanding the potential for climatic changes to exacerbate social tensions and violent conflicts—including the role that adaptation actions may play in either promoting or undermining peace-building efforts





The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

is a non-partisan, charitable organization specializing in research, analysis and information exchange, established in 1990. Through our head office in Winnipeg, Canada and our offices in Ottawa, New York and Geneva, we apply human ingenuity to improve the well-being of the world's environment, economy and society.

The Institute champions sustainable development around the world through innovation, partnerships, research and communications. It is dedicated to ongoing communication of its findings as it engages decision-makers in business, government, non-government organizations and other sectors.

OUR VISION:

Better living for all—sustainably.

OUR MISSION:

To champion innovation, enabling societies to live sustainably.

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