



Bridges Trade BioRes

Biweekly news, events and resources at the intersection of trade and biodiversity

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CLIMATE CHANGE

EC Wants Shipping in Copenhagen Agreement

European Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas wants shipping to be included in the climate change deal that succeeds the Kyoto Protocol. While global shipping is thought to contribute as much as 3 percent of overall carbon dioxide emissions, several complex factors forced its exclusion from Kyoto. Since then, shipping has largely been left out of climate change initiatives.

Organisations representing the industry, such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO), have resisted such an inclusion in the past, arguing that the current lack of mitigation solutions for the sector would make compliance difficult. Moreover, critics argue that the current nature of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) would place a disproportionate burden on Annex 1 (developed) countries.

The IMO has been moving ahead with its own plans for curbing emissions in the industry. However, stumbling blocks, such as how to account for the common yet differentiated responsibilities among countries – particularly between developed and developing countries – have made progress difficult (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 17 October 2008, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/31319/>).

Long-range transport ships are typically powered by large diesel engines using dirty 'bunker' or 'residual' fuel. While the European Commission has hired consultants to help find technical solutions to the problem, the 28 January proposal could compel agencies – such as the IMO – to help seek out new ways of reducing the high carbon dioxide emissions resulting from bunker fuels.

“It would still be left to IMO to find solutions,” said Alfons Guinier, secretary-general of the European Community Shipowners’ Association (ECSA). “The IMO would be expected to come forward with proposals.” The commission says that if the IMO fails to implement an acceptable plan by the end of the year, it will take regional action.

Background

The IMO estimates that the worldwide fleet of 90,000 ships transports 90 percent of the world’s goods. Shipping has grown by an average three percent annually over the last three decades, and shipping emissions are projected to grow as global trade expands. According to Intertanko, the global association of tanker owners, shipping emissions are set to rise by a further 30 percent by 2020, making shipping one of the main sources of greenhouse gases, following land transport, housing, agriculture and industry.

In the past few decades, the international community has taken steps to reduce emissions from other sectors, but the shipping industry has been left behind. Efficiency and environmental standards on shipping fuel have been largely ignored due to the distance between the ships and the noticeable impact on the environment on land.

Nature of industry presents unique challenges

Observers say that the nature of the international trade system makes the implementation of an industry-wide cap unlikely. “The amount of shipping required is simply a function of trade,” a spokesman for the International Chamber of Shipping told Reuters recently. “If the world population and economy continue to expand, shipping will need to expand too.”

Similar criticism over the inclusion of shipping into the successor to the Kyoto Protocol – to be hammered out when delegates meet in Copenhagen in December – lies in the nature of the shipping registry system, in which a mere 25 percent of the world’s merchant ships are registered in developed countries. Critics argue that selective registration provides a loophole if UNFCCC compliance remains voluntary for developing countries.

The current EC proposal includes an emissions trading scheme for shipping and the aviation industries, which also rely heavily on the use of bunker fuels. Some critics, including French ship-owners, say that a levy or fuel tax system would be preferable.

Dimas says he will ask EU member states to endorse the plan to include shipping and aviation into the Copenhagen agreement in March.

Copenhagen Talk Heating Up Early

Bunker fuel wasn’t the only climate change issue in the news recently.

Last week, news was leaked that the EU plans to propose a tax that would raise some US\$ 200 billion from developed countries to help pay for mitigation and adaptation initiatives in the developing world. The plan is set out in a paper that outlines the EU’s position on climate change in the lead up to Copenhagen.

Climate change was also under the spotlight at the annual World Economic Forum, held last week in Davos, Switzerland. While participants generally acknowledged that the obstacles presented by the global economic downturn could make reaching a deal in Copenhagen difficult, members released a statement calling for clean energy investments of more than US\$ 515 billion per year – three times current levels.

European Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs cited this, combined with a recent EU funding announcement for carbon capture and storage and Barack Obama’s backing for climate change initiatives, as proof that there is room for optimism. “There is a new chance for green growth,” Piebalgs told Reuters. “It is important to see the silver lining.”

“Brussels calls for shipping to enter new climate change pact,” LLOYD’S LIST, 28 January 2009; “EU wants airlines, ships in post-Kyoto pact,” REUTERS, 21 January 2009; EU to propose \$200 bln climate tax on rich nations,” REUTERS, 22 January 2009.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

US Stimulus Package to Shore up Biofuels Sector

The Obama administration is reaching out to the struggling US ethanol industry with its new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The stimulus package, which is designed to shock the US economy back into the black, includes several provisions for renewable energy and biofuels industries.

Ethanol producers have been struggling with unpredictable corn prices, resulting from market volatility since the onset of the financial crisis in September. The economic turmoil has also forced cash-squeezed consumers to look for cheaper options when it comes to purchasing fuel. As a result, US ethanol producers have had to reduce capacity, which has caused profits to plummet.

This contraction in the market has caused trouble for several American biofuels producers including Cascade Grain Products, Northeast Biofuels, and Panda Ethanol. After filing for bankruptcy protection in October, VeraSun Energy Corp – the country's second-largest ethanol producer – has closed 12 of its 16 plants. In fact, a recent report by US ethanol producer and grain processor Archer Daniels Midland Co estimates that weak demand and poor margins have caused a 21 percent contraction in US ethanol production capacity.

In addition to the provisions in the stimulus package, the US Agriculture Department has said it will help bolster the industry by seeking out more efficient means of production. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack says that his department should research, develop, and promote 'best practices' to improve efficiency at corn-based ethanol plants. "We need to make sure that the biofuels industry has the necessary support to survive the recent downturn," Vilsack said recently.

Domestic contraction could boost imports

But consumer demand may not dwindle much longer, as lawmakers are looking for new ways to jump-start domestic biofuels production.

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 – a measure designed to ensure that gasoline sold in the US contains a minimum volume of renewable fuel – mandates the country to use 15 billion gallons of corn ethanol and 1 billion gallons of biodiesel per year by 2015.

The government plans to increase initiatives that will help increase production of cellulosic ethanol derived from non-food crops such as switchgrass and woodchips. The Act requires the US to use 16 billion gallons of such non-food derived ethanol annually by 2022.

These ambitious targets stand in contrast to the widespread closures of American biofuels producers. And if the capacity of US industry is unable to keep pace with the mandated demands of the 2007 act, the country would be forced to look for ethanol elsewhere – possibly Brazil.

No Word from Brazil

Brazil already exports approximately 50 percent of its ethanol to the US, although Brasilia has long been at odds with Washington over subsidies it provides domestic producers and the tariffs it slaps on competing imports. Brazil and the US together account for 75 percent of world ethanol production and over 50 percent of biodiesel output.

After the breakdown of world trade talks at the WTO in July, a Brazilian trade official indicated that Brasilia was likely to initiate dispute proceedings at the WTO with the US over its ethanol import tariffs. However, a biofuels collaboration project between the two countries announced in October suggested that the tension was cooling off (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 3 October 2008, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/30311/>).

More recently, though, the highly anticipated US economic stimulus package has triggered outrage among some US trading partners – particularly the

'Buy American' provision included in draft versions of the bill, which some say could trigger a trade war (see Bridges Weekly, 4 February 2009, <http://ictsd.net/news/bridgesweekly/>). Brazil has not yet responded to the new initiatives meant to buoy struggling ethanol producers.

US\$ 18.5 billion available for renewables, energy efficiency

The legislation under the new stimulus package includes several provisions relating to the renewable energy and biofuels industries. Initiatives include extending the production tax credit for biomass energy to 2013 and the provision of as much as US\$ 18.5 billion for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Biofuel projects using technologies that are in the 'pilot' or 'demonstration' stage would be eligible for the new initiative if these technologies are determined to be bound for commercial success. Lawmakers hope that the projects might ultimately lead to substantial reductions in non-industry related greenhouse gas emissions.

"U.S. House stimulus package includes biomass, biofuels provisions," BIOMASS MAGAZINE, 3 February 2009; "More US ethanol producers file for bankruptcy," BIOFUELS INTERNATIONAL, 4 February 2009; "USDA To Help Ethanol Plants Look For Efficiencies," REUTERS, 27 January 2009; "ADM says 21 percent of U.S. ethanol capacity idle," REUTERS, 3 February, 2009.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Madrid Agriculture Meeting Tackles 'Forgotten' Food Crisis

A meeting of the heads international organisations and representatives from 126 countries was convened in Madrid by the Spanish government to address ongoing problems caused by high food prices in the developing world. The crisis, which drew significant media attention over the summer, has recently been overshadowed by the turmoil in the global economy.

The gathering was one of a series of meetings on the global food crisis, including a prominent meeting hosted by the FAO in Rome last year, which focussed heavily on the impact of biofuels production on the cost of food (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 13 June 2008, <http://ictsd.net/i/environment/12236/>).

Spain pledges €1 billion to fight hunger

At the conclusion of the meeting last week, the government of Spain pledged to provide €200 million per year over the next five years "for the fight against hunger."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Spanish Prime Minister Rodriguez Zapatero emphasised that they "will work together with nations and other stakeholders to explore options for a global partnership that sustains a movement against hunger and promotes smallholder agriculture."

Reactions to the meeting were mixed. Some participants were critical of the fact that, although the gathering put a strong emphasis on the need to support smallholder farmers in alleviating poverty and addressing the food crisis, few of these farmers were present at the meeting.

Anne-Laure Constantin of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy noted that "no substantial discussion took place" and there was "no real confrontation of the problem" of the current model of agricultural production. However, she welcomed an initiative to build a new global partnership on agriculture.

Discussions on the role that trade has played in the food crisis were limited, although the final statement that emerged from the meeting called for "eliminating all forms of competition-distorting subsidies in order to stimulate and conduct agricultural trade in a fair way."

New EU subsidies under fire

In recent weeks, the EU has faced strong criticism from WTO Members for reinstating a policy of providing export subsidies, one of the most controversial trade-distorting subsidies, for dairy products and increasing the payments on some poultry exports (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 23

January 2009, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/38523/>). Some observers have blamed subsidies for agricultural production in developed countries for destroying the economic incentives for investment in and production of farm goods in developing countries.

A session on monitoring short- and long-term measures to ensure food security addressed trade issues directly. Background documents for the meeting were uncritical of the role that tariffs and export taxes may have played in influencing food prices. Instead, the documents detailed how some countries that have eliminated or reduced food tariffs in an effort to bring price reliefs have suffered a loss of revenue as a result.

WTO Deputy Director General Harsha Singh, in his intervention in the session on trade, sounded a positive note on trade liberalisation, pointing out that “from 2008 and January 2009...the number of countries adopting trade liberalisation policies [to address the global food crisis] were more than those resorting to trade restriction.”

To ease the concerns of those seeking domestic food security, Singh elaborated on the existing flexibilities in the WTO Agreement and the safeguard mechanisms included in the most recent draft modalities on agriculture at the WTO.

One of the ‘biggest achievements’ of the meeting, according to Oxfam representative Jenny Heap, was that “it instilled a participatory approach to the process.” Meeting participants agreed that “the South should be given a strong voice” in the food crisis response, Heap noted.

But Heap underlined the importance of maintaining international attention on the food crisis and fulfilling funding pledges made at the FAO meeting in Rome last year. Only about 20 percent of the monetary commitments made in Rome have been met so far, she said.

ICTSD reporting.

IN BRIEF

EU Considers New Approach in Illegal Logging Fight

EU lawmakers met in Brussels last month to discuss potential new measures aimed at curbing the import and sale of illegal timber in the 27-nation bloc. The proposed legislation, which has been criticised as both too harsh and too lax, would oblige European timber traders to “seek sufficient guarantees” that the products they sell have been legally harvested.

The draft rules are intended to provide new incentives for legal and sustainable forest management, the EU Environment Commission said in a statement. The EU is the world’s largest importer of African timber products and a significant purchaser of Asian and Russian wood as well. Environmental group WWF has estimated that nearly 20 percent of all European timber imports have been illegally harvested.

“Developed and developing nations must unite to protect the world’s remaining forests,” EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas said. “We must also send a firm message to timber suppliers that illegal timber or timber products will not be tolerated on the EU market.”

But some European ministers complained at the Brussels meeting that the measures would put too heavy a burden on smaller timber operations.

“Many parts of the regulation are unclear...the proposal and its consequences require more in-depth scrutiny,” Swedish agriculture minister Eskil Erlandsson said.

Dutch agriculture minister Gerda Verburg concurred. “Good enforcement is essential if this proposal is to have any teeth. As it stands now...it is insufficiently clear. Nor is it clear which activities should be regarded as breaches of regulation.”

From across the Atlantic, though, a Canadian forest industry official welcomed the proposed legislation. “We’re absolutely supportive,” said

Andrew Casey of the Forest Products Association of Canada. Cracking down on such contraband, which is usually cheaper than legally sourced woods, would level the playing field for Canadian timber in the EU market, Casey said.

For some green groups, however, the proposed measures do not go far enough. Several environmentalists say they would prefer an outright ban on the import and sale of illegal timber, rather than the 'guidelines' included in the measures now on the table.

"EU member states must strengthen the Commission proposal if they want to ban illegal timber from the EU market," Sebastien Risso, Greenpeace EU forest policy director, said recently. "Weak legislation will only favour companies that break the law. It will drive responsible companies that source sustainable wood out of business," he said.

ICTSD reporting; "European Union plan to hit illegal logging said unclear, costly," 19 January 2009; "Canadian firms pleased with EU logging crackdown," CANWEST, 20 January 2009.

Record Wildlife Contraband Seized in Vietnam

Hanoi authorities have made their largest-ever seizure of illegally-harvested wildlife products. After detaining a man found transporting a set of tiger bones and 10 kilograms of serow – a small antelope-like mammal found in Asia – bones and horns by motorbike, investigators were led to a stockpile of some two tonnes of tiger bones, bear paws and gall bladders, and heaps of bones from various other increasingly rare wild animals. Three people have been arrested in connection to the incident.

"We continue to be impressed and encouraged by the good work that the Environmental Police are doing," says Nguyen Dao Ngoc Van of international wildlife monitoring network TRAFFIC. "The presence of the Environmental Police in Vietnam will change illegal wildlife trade for the better."

Van concedes that this case underscores the threat of illegal trade to Vietnam's endangered wildlife. But he points out that a recent string of seizures shows improvements in enforcement capacity since the establishment of the Environmental Police in 2007.

TRAFFIC estimates that up to 4,000 tonnes of live animals, meats, skins, ground bones, and other animal products are trafficked into and out of Vietnam each year, generating about 67 million dollars in sales. Authorities say that the sheer volume of trade – an estimated 2,500 kilograms per day – and creativity of smugglers – one investigation turned up a bear dressed as a patient in the back of an ambulance – can make enforcement difficult.

Vietnam's wildlife habitat, previously shut off from the world by war and politics, has been described by some biologists as home to some of the greatest wildlife discoveries over the last decade. Since 1992 researchers have documented 63 vertebrates, 45 previously unknown fish, and discovered the saola – the world's largest mammal found in over half a century.

Studies say that illegal trade in wildlife products rivals habitat loss in the threat of extinction to many species. Eric Coull of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) says that wildlife populations in Vietnam in particular are decreasing at alarming rates. "Vietnam has become famous over the past 15 years for the discovery of new species," says Coull. "It could become famous for their extinction."

"Vietnam becoming Asia's illegal animal, 'Supermarket'" MARYANN MOTT (National Geographic) 13 September 2006; "Illegal wildlife trade takes heavy toll in Vietnam," FRANK ZELLER (Yahoo News), 14 August 2006; "Hanoi Environmental Police seize tons of illegal wildlife parts," ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS SERVICE, 21 January 2009; Hanoi's Environmental Police record largest-ever seizure, LISA KELLEY (TRAFFIC), 19 January 2009

No Such Thing as Global Warming says Czech President

Climate change does not exist according to Czech President Václav Klaus. The controversial comments emerged at a 31 January meeting that was held on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Klaus has long been a harsh critic of environmental activism. In an op-ed in the Financial Times in 2007, the Czech president said that 'ambitious environmentalism' constituted "the biggest threat to freedom, democracy, the market economy and prosperity." But because Klaus' government now holds the rotating EU presidency, these latest comments are causing consternation among many environmental groups.

"I don't think that there is any global warming...I don't see the statistical data for that," Klaus said at the Davos meeting. The president said he does not believe the findings of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which concluded in 2007 that there is a less than 5 percent chance that natural processes alone are causing the recorded rise in global temperatures.

Klaus specifically took aim at former US Vice President Al Gore, a prominent climate change campaigner. "Environmentalism and the global warming alarmism is challenging our freedom. Al Gore is an important person in this movement."

Klaus emphasized that he is concerned that climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives could prevent economies from bouncing back from the current financial meltdown. "I'm afraid that the current crisis will be misused for radically constraining the functioning of the markets and market economy all around the world," he said.

ICTSD reporting; "Le réchauffement climatique n'existe pas, affirme le président tchèque," LE MONDE, 31 January 2009; "Czech president attacks Al Gore's climate campaign," AFP, 1 February 2009; "Freedom, not climate, is at risk," THE FINANCIAL TIMES, 13 June 2007.

EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Events

Coming up in the next two weeks (6-20 February)

6-15 February, Lome and Sotouboua, Togo. CLIMATE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY WEEK. This event, organised by Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement, ENDA Tiers Monde, and the Togo Ministry of Mining, Energy and Water in partnership with Friends of the Earth-Norway (NNV), aims to popularise use of renewable energy products. Events include a Green Energy Exhibition Fair, solar festival, a photovoltaic training seminar and an exchange workshop on the post-2012 climate regime. For further information, visit <http://www.ong-jve.org/>.

12-13 February, Geneva, Switzerland. FUEL RULES – ENERGY, EMISSIONS AND THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION. This International Bar Association conference will offer an overview of the international legal regimes applicable to trade in energy products and services, with a particular focus on the WTO and the Energy Charter Treaty. Other topics include, the use of regional trade agreements to secure energy supplies and the ways in which international trade rules will need to be adapted in order to achieve global climate change goals. For more information please contact, the International Bar Association, tel: (+44) 20 7691 6868; fax: (+44) 20 7691 6544; e-mail: confs@int-bar.org; internet: <http://www.int-bar.org/conferences/conf266/>.

12-13 February, Geneva, Switzerland. MULTI-YEAR EXPERT MEETING ON TRANSPORT AND TRADE FACILITATION. This UN Conference on Trade and Development expert meeting aims to provide a platform for the exchange of views and experiences, both to improve understanding of the implications of climate change for maritime transport and to help contribute substantively to discussions on possible regulatory options under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate

Change process. For more information contact UNCTAD, tel: +41 22 917 2043; fax: +41 22 917 0050; e-mail: regina.asariotis@unctad.org or hassiba.benamara@unctad.org; internet: <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/meeting.asp?intItemID=1942&lang=1&m=15862>.

12-13 February, Brussels, Belgium. BIOPOWER GENERATION CONFERENCE. This conference will bring together key players involved in the entire value chain for bio power generation to learn, network, and discuss the issues shaping the bio power generation market. Topics to be covered include: policies, financing and investing in biomass power plants, biomass upstream and sustainable feedstock for biomass power generation. For further information, visit <http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/biofuelmarkets/bp0209bc.pdf>.

13-14 February, New Delhi, India. 6TH GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE MILLENNIUM SUMMIT: BIOTECHNOLOGY AND NANOTECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE. This event, organised by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) of India, will showcase different nanotechnologies and biotechnologies aimed at revolutionising agriculture and agro-based enterprises. For further information, visit <http://www.assocham.org/6thbionano2008/>.

16-18 February, Geneva, Switzerland. MULTI-YEAR EXPERT MEETING ON TRANSPORT AND TRADE FACILITATION: MARITIME TRANSPORT AND THE CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE. This UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) meeting will provide a platform for the exchange of views and experiences, both to improve understanding of the implications of climate change for maritime transport and to help contribute substantively to discussions on possible regulatory options under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change process. For further information, contact Wendy Juan: tel: +41 (22) 917-0050, e-mail: wendy.juan@unctad.org, internet: <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/meeting.asp?intItemID=1942&lang=1&m=15862>

16-20 February, Nairobi, Kenya. TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL/GLOBAL MINISTERIAL ENVIRONMENT FORUM. The twenty-fifth session of the Council / Forum will hold consultations at ministerial level on emerging policy issues under the themes of “Globalization and the Environment” and “International Environmental Governance” besides considering reports on important issues in the field of the Environment. For further information, contact Beverly Miller: e-mail: beverly.miller@unep.org, internet: http://www.unep.org/ecalendar/e_details_view_new.asp?EventID=1225

Other Upcoming Events

10-12 March, Copenhagen, Denmark. CLIMATE CHANGE: GLOBAL RISKS, CHALLENGES AND DECISIONS. This international scientific conference, hosted by the University of Copenhagen, will bring together a diverse array of international scholars and governmental leaders in cooperation with nine other universities. As part of the run up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP-15), this event will expound upon current and emerging thinking in science, technology and policy with the goal of developing strategies for long term sustainability. For more information and registration, please refer to <http://climatecongress.ku.dk>.

16-17 June, Belfast, UK. SUSTAINABLE OCEAN SUMMIT. This summit will bring together a wide range of industries that use marine space and resources around the theme of “Reducing Risk, Increasing Sustainability: Solutions through Collaboration.” Industry leaders will identify shared ocean sustainability priorities that will form the cross-sectoral collaborative programs coordinated by the World Ocean Council working with and through companies committed to Corporate Ocean Responsibility. For further information, contact Paul Holthus: tel: +1 (808) 277-9008, e-mail: paul.holthus@oceancouncil.org, internet: www.oceancouncil.org.

Resources

If you have a relevant resource (books, papers, bulletins, etc.) you would like to see announced in this section, please forward a copy for review by the BioRes staff to Andrew Aziz at aaziz@ictsd.ch.

REDUCING FISHING CAPACITY: BEST PRACTICES FOR DECOMMISSIONING SCHEMES. OECD Publishing, 23 January 2009. This paper argues that too many fishing vessels chasing too few fish is a persistent problem in many countries. To address this, governments often turn to vessel decommissioning schemes as a means of adjusting fishing capacity to match available fish resources. The report presents a set of best practice guidelines on the design and implementation of decommissioning schemes. By drawing on case studies of decommissioning schemes from OECD and non-OECD countries, it provides policy makers and fisheries managers with detailed analysis of the economic issues surrounding decommissioning schemes. Available for purchase at the OECD online bookshop. <http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?sf1=identifiers&st1=532009011P1%3C=EN>

ROLE OF DECENTRALIZED RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES IN ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. The South Centre, August 2008. One of the reasons of developing countries' vulnerability consists in energy poverty. This paper analyses the positive impact of Decentralized Renewable Energy Technologies on enhancing climate change adaptation capacity in developing countries facing climate change-related increasing hazards. The paper concludes with some recommendations for implementing decentralized renewable energy technologies for climate adaptation in developing countries. http://www.southcentre.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=857&Itemid=1

WINNERS ALL: HOW FORESTRY CAN REDUCE BOTH CLIMATE CHANGE EMISSIONS AND POVERTY - A PRO-DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. World Growth, December 2008. This study shows how the

expansion of forestry could produce much greater climate change dividends than the current, narrow focus of just stopping deforestation. That strategy – reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) – rests on the Stern mantra: deforestation in developing countries contribute nearly 20 percent of emissions. The paper shows how that bigger dividend could be achieved, producing larger economic growth for developing countries as well as a virtually cost-free reductions emissions without having to rely on the dubious and complex proposition of creating and trading credits. http://www.worldgrowth.org/assets/File/WG_Forestry_Report_FINAL.pdf