

Climate and Energy

Minutes of the Workshop

Steve Sawyer, GWEC:

- heavy investment in renewable energies is expected (120 billion USD until 2010)
- hundreds of thousands jobs will be created
- IEA says: 20 trillion USD is needed to secure energy supply
- G8 came up with a good report on energy which says we need long, loud and legal signals (long = minimum of 15 years to secure investment security; loud = a clear, simple and unambiguous political will; legal = legally binding)
- successful policy frameworks for renewable energy needed: well –designed payment mechanism, grid access and development of grids, good governance, public acceptance
- we need to get the banks to focus on creating these conditions rather than investing in power plants
- 47% of future energy demand could be saved by efficiency measures

Katherine Watts, CAN:

- with every degree of temperature raise the risk rises rapidly
- 550 ppm does not fit the 2 degree goal
- post-2012 regime has to be strengthened with more ambitious goals for the developed countries (-80% GHG until 2050): adaptation help for developing countries, decarbonise the industry, phasing out nuclear and fossil energy, develop energy efficiency, renewable energies, support developing countries in adaptation and capacity building
- +5 must commit themselves to efficiency

Katya Pérez Guzmán, CEMDA

- Renewable energy in Mexico is only possible when you have foreign investment
- a paradigm shift in investment policy would be a revolution
- we need an international framework
- as we have doubt that the carbon market will work in southern countries we need a pilot project to find out
- we need to priorities our politics
- energy efficiency could be a priority

Carsten Sach, BMU

- growth should be possible but it has to be put into a framework that makes sustainability possible
- we should not blame the market, when the mechanisms fail, than we just need a better framework
- there is a lot of economic argument for our societies to develop urgent climate action – this is innovation policy
- G8+5 is a club which excludes others and we have to come to a framework which includes everyone

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25./26 April 2007
Beethovenhalle
Bonn

- if we want to set a price to carbon dioxide, we need an international framework
- those who have the power and capability need to be frontrunners
- adaptation is of utmost importance, it is not an add on
- G8 should work on the issue of climate proofing (all investments have to be checked on the impact on climate)
- we can not only focus on public money but have to think of possible private engagement
- the adaptation fund has to get running

Annie Sugrue, Cures South Africa, www.cures-network.org

- Africa is not always going to be a non-emitter
- there are already countries that emit a remarkable amount of greenhouse gases (e.g. South Africa and Nigeria)
- access to energy is vital for the African countries
- World Bank is not going to be the best way to get financing to Africa
- we need technology exchange
- micro-finance instruments are important
- empowering women is important (and they are very good in using micro-financing instruments)
- decentralized renewable energy systems are needed
- most of the poor can't afford energy supply
- we can't afford to have energy supply on large scale hydro, fossil fuels, nuclear)
- climate justice: if Africa should not follow the Northern path, than we need to put money in
- the private sector is not prepared to share technology knowledge
- certification is not necessarily a good solution for biomass

Discussion

- access to energy has not necessarily to be based on renewable energies (as some development countries have fossil resources)
- climate change and biodiversity are interlinked
- we have to think of ways to reduce emissions from deforestation
- access is associated with affordability (even where electricity is there, it might not be affordable)
- schools and hospitals can often not access modern electricity supply
- providing energy services to public institutions would result in multiple effects
- three solar panels for one hospital would mean very much
- energy efficiency for end-use-devices is crucial
- in Africa over 80% depend on biomass (wood), if this could be reduced, women and girls could spend a lot less time on collecting wood
- northern countries show interest to support nuclear power in developing countries
- investments in nuclear is slowing down renewable energy
- biomass has to be used in a more sustainable way (in Africa), the poor have to benefit from exporting biomass, the benefits have to outreach the damages

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- Russia is one of the biggest polluters (11 T/person/anno) and is doing nothing to solve the problem (no renewable policy, no body to check on sustainability)
- Russia has a 40% potential in energy efficiency, 30% potential in renewable energies
- Russia wants to export gas and oil and ten new nuclear power plants are going to be build
- as other countries buy fossil resources from Russia, Russia goes on to build nuclear power and as Russia has this technology, it sells it to other countries
- Russia declared it would as well export electricity produced by nuclear power to Finland and Sweden
- we have to communicate climate in all policy fields: e.g. droughts are effecting hydro power plants, heat and floods are related to Malaria
- front runners don't profit from being front runner
- the renewable technology is not the property of governments but private industry; maybe a fund for technology could help to bring the property rights to dv
- we need capacity building in the development countries (especially LDC)
- we need different approaches for +5 and LDCs

What should civil society do?

1. set long term, middle term and short term targets
2. focus, e.g. on energy efficiency
3. we should concentrate on the countries that we can push forward
4. raise the expectations
5. topics of summit are: growth & responsibility, Africa, climate change; it is a strong market failure to not concentrate on climate change, civil society should concentrate on transparency and ? (? = is to be discussed)
6. NGOs should educate journalists and politicians
7. public actions should bring the message: there is the chance to act, the world is watching