

“PROMOTE LOCAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS TO END POVERTY”



MAY 2018

Local Actions for Poverty Reduction & Village Development in NDCs & Paris Agreement WP - Africa & Asia

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POLICY BRIEF

Local Climate Actions that Reduce Poverty are Key to Climate Action Successes and must be supported by the Paris Agreement Work Programme

In the ongoing negotiations on the development of the Paris Agreement Work Program (PAWP), it is important that the “rules” are set in order for the resulting NDCs and climate actions to mitigate climate change, build climate resilience, enhance sustainable development, and reduce poverty in developing countries. This will help to solve a major development problem. It will also increase popular support for the climate actions, and thereby the likelihood of their success.

Key Messages

- The many countries that are committed to climate action and the Paris Agreement must find common ground on the main issues, at negotiations in Bonn during the May intersessionals (SB48) and elsewhere. Only then can they reach the deadline set for COP24 on the PAWP.
- NDC guidelines must help the development of climate plans that are integral parts of national development plans, that focus on poverty reduction, including many local solutions that combine climate mitigation and adaptation with poverty reduction and local development.
- The transparency framework and the global stocktake of climate actions must recognise the local actions that are harder to count than large-scale solutions.
- Additionally, poverty reduction should be counted as a success criteria for action.
- And the climate financing must go up, following the pledge by developed countries of 100 billion \$ by 2020.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ISSUES AROUND THE PARIS RULE BOOK FROM COP23, BONN

Negotiations in the session on the PAWP (the Paris Rule Book) in Bonn last November centred around attempts to make significant progress on developing the Paris “rulebook”. This will establish rules and procedures needed to fulfill the Paris Agreement’s ambition.

These negotiations are taking place in the Ad-hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) which oversees these discussions that has a central role in the finalisation of the PAWP.

Parties (countries) now have a set of informal papers for all the key issues for the PAWP (i.e. NDC guidelines, finance, transparency framework, global stocktake, etc) and have the task of turning these lengthy documents into formal negotiating text – with the aim of adopting the final rulebook at COP24 in December 2018. The informal nature of these documents, however, means they are open-ended. They have no agreed content and Parties can continue to add, subtract or disagree with any part of the text. This was not an unexpected outcome from COP23, but it means that negotiators have set themselves up for a busy and intense 2018.

Therefore, the negotiations during May intersessional will provide an indication of whether the Paris Rule Book will be finished at COP24 in December. Progress is key to meet this deadline, and to make the Paris Agreement work in practice.

While we urge the countries to work hard for progress in negotiations, we also urge for specific improvements that will make the PAWP a better vehicle for meeting the climate targets and combine it with development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

NDC Guidelines

- I. Sustainable development and poverty reduction should be included as features or context of the NDCs, in the NDC guidelines (APA agenda item 3a), as well as in the transparency framework (APA agenda item 5) as non-GHG benefits. It can be included with references to the Paris Agreement art. 2.1 and/or art 4.1 (4.1 states that Parties aim for greenhouse emission peaking and reductions in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty). In the co-facilitators informal note (outcome of COP23), poverty eradication is mentioned in a proposed reference to Paris Agreement art. 2.1, and as a possible new feature “...NDCs to be in line with domestic development or poverty eradication strategies”. We propose to choose one of these options.

