

Make the Paris Rulebook Promote Poverty Eradication and Improved Climate Actions

Promote Local Solutions to Bridge Climate Action and Poverty Eradication

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At COP23, crucial decisions are to be made for the implementation the Paris Agreement. The Paris Rulebook must be advanced to a state, where it can be finalized in 2018, until COP24. It must also set the course for constructive climate actions that combine low-emission pathways with a sustainable development to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs), - not the least the SDG1: ending poverty. In combination with sustainable development and eradication of poverty, climate actions are meaningful for all, and the chances of success for low-emission developments are best.

A successful combination of climate action and poverty eradication must embrace the local solutions that have shown their ability to meet basic needs and reduce poverty of the many that are outside the reach of large-scale solutions, such as electric grids. While one local solutions, such as solar electricity, can help solve one problem, eradication of poverty require a set of solutions that can provide basic needs and also improve livelihoods. Some of these solutions reduces greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel, from unsustainable use of biomass for cooking, and from other dispersed sources while others improve adaptive capacity of rural communities to climate variability. Such local solutions must be the central focus of the Paris Rulebook and included in the implementation roadmap of Paris Agreement.

In the many parts of the Paris Rulebook, there are some key areas, where *focus on poverty eradication, sustainable development, and local solutions is especially important.* We have identified the following:

Further guidance on NDCs (negotiated under APA agenda item 3 “*Further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of decision 1/CP.21 and divided in subitem 3a “features of NDCs”, subitem 3b “information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of NDCs” and subitem 3c “guidance on accounting for NDCs”*”)

- **Transparency Framework** (negotiated under APA agenda item 5 “*Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support*”)
- **Guidance for Global Stocktake** (negotiated under APA agenda item 6 “*matters relating to the global stocktake*”)
- **Further guidance on adaptation communication** (negotiated under APA agenda item 4) in strengthening NAP Process.

In the following are our proposals for these parts of the Paris Rulebook.

Further guidance on features of NDCs (APA Subitem 3A)

For local, poverty reducing solutions to be part of NDCs, it would be helpful to have poverty reduction as a feature or context of NDCs, when relevant (this would probably be relevant for most developing countries). This will help countries to prioritize local solutions as EVD solutions in their NDCs.

To facilitate the combination of low-emission development and the strategies to reach the SDGs, it will be helpful the it is clear in the guidance for NDCs that they are made “in the context of sustainable and low-emission developments”.



It is also important for the long-term success with implementation and increasing ambitions of NDCs that civil society is included, to avoid negative effects, and to build public support.

Further guidance on information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of NDCs (APA sub-item 3b)

Transparency and broad stakeholder involvement is important in the development and implementation of NDCs, including involvement of the groups affected by the measures included in the NDCs. For information, it is thus important that the NDCs include information on stakeholder involvement including information on stakeholder consultations.

Guidance on accounting for Parties' NDCs (APA sub-item 3c)

Local solutions can reduce greenhouse emissions already covered by previous methodologies as well as emissions that are not fully covered, as reductions of black carbon emissions from improved cooking with biomass. To allow a full recognition of the climate mitigation effects of many of the local solutions, it is important that accounting is done with latest IPCC methodology, allowing new information on climate effects of emissions to be included, and that it is regularly updated.

Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support (APA item 5)

It is important for the recognition of local solutions and for the recognition of effects for poverty eradication that these issues are included under the respective heading and subheadings in the transparency framework.

This can be:

- Under the heading “National inventory report on anthropogenic emissions by sources....” to include emissions from local and dispersed sources, including emissions of black carbon particles and other emissions that are not covered by earlier methodology.
- Under the heading “Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its nationally determined contribution.....” must be included mitigation actions to reduce local and dispersed emissions. The methodology shall facilitate that these emissions are included in the national aggregation of emissions.

- Also under the heading “Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its nationally determined contribution...” should be included non-GHG benefits of mitigation actions, which will logically include poverty reduction of actions, where this is achieved.

Guidance for Global Stocktake (APA item 6)

It is important that the Global Stocktake becomes an open process with inputs many stakeholder, including from civil society. This will ensure that information on local solutions that reduce poverty are adequately included and will also allow civil society to play a constructive role in the process.

Guidance on adaptation communications and NAP process (APA agenda Item 4)

Adaptation communication forms an essential part of Global Stocktake. However, the content and modalities of communicating adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions is not ascertained. Developing guidelines in COP23 would support an integrated approach to communicate adaptation efforts (as reflected in NDCs, National Communications, SDGs and National Adaptation Plan). Inclusion of gender considerations in adaptation communications can makes them effective and reflective of community needs and wants.

Background

The authors of this document have worked together on promotion of local eco-village developments (EVD) solutions to reduce poverty and improve livelihoods with local, low-emission solutions. Based on our experiences and successes, we have developed these proposals for the negotiations in APA during COP23.

Read more on EVD at

<http://inforse.org/asia/EVD.htm>,

<http://www.cansouthasia.net/eco-development-village-edv-i-and-ii/>, and

<http://www.inseda.org/> .