

# TERI in the news

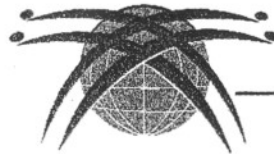
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## THEMES AT DSDS 2010



World Sustainable  
Development Forum

DSDS 2010

### Mainstreaming Climate Policies with Development

With an aim to have a categorical understanding on ways to enhance the areas of convergence between climate concerns and development policies as well as means to minimize the divergence between the two, this session will provide a platform to share relevant experiences, ideas and proposals from a wide range of actors.

### Climate Challenges in Africa

This session will discuss issues including the prioritization of challenges, needs for institutional mechanisms and nature of international support therein, adequacy of existing options and scope of improvement, the scale of resources required at the national and sub-national level to assist adaptation and mitigation efforts in Africa, and to facilitate long-term cooperative action among nations within and outside Africa to address identified climate challenges.

### Discussion on White Paper on Roadmap to Mexico

The Copenhagen outcome has introduced new debates in the international climate regime besides the existing burning issues being deliberated upon since Bali. The session will deliberate upon the new circumstances, which are expected to culminate in a white paper on the "road map to Mexico". The paper will bring forth the elements and issues under negotiations and ways to bring back trust and confidence of various Parties in UN process.

### Enhancing Financial Flows and Technology Access

Given the centrality of access to technology and availability of resources to climate strategy at global as well as national level, combined with an evident concentration of resources and technologies in advanced economies, the question of enhancing financial

flows and technology access is unavoidable. In this context, the challenge is not only in terms of designing mechanisms to enhance technological and financial flows between countries, it also includes the issues of magnitude and sources of resource mobilization (public & private), prioritization of developmental goals (technology road maps for mitigation and adaptation in context of development concerns), absorption capacity (capacity building), accountability and transparency in investment and policy decisions (monitoring, reporting and verification), nature and extent of international cooperation and sustainability of efforts and so on. This session would deliberate on these questions.

### The Urgency of Sustainability in Business

This session would deliberate on the need and ways to immediately deepen sustainable outlook in business, its economic feasibility, associated risks and benefits, preparedness of

business community, competitive environments and cooperative strategies, related policy infrastructure etc. The session will share experiences, initiatives and ideas and deliver guidelines to develop a blue-print of a strategy to make business more sustainable without compromising on economic viability.

### Ministerial Session - Creating a New Energy Future

Considering that most of the countries are interdependent for their energy requirements, energy sector at international level is very much a question of international cooperation. There is a need to visualize a transformation pathway for energy sector at national as well as global level. This session would deliberate on questions concerning such transformation including development, demonstration, transfer and deployment of technologies, mobilization of skills and resources, technology and investment choices, policy innovations, international cooperation, etc.

### Mobilizing Civil Society

Climate change talks are garnering increased public attention with civil society being at forefront. This session aims at initiating discussions on mobilizing the vital role of civil society in deepening public understanding of the challenge and suggesting the possible directions for the design and development of

climate change regime, thereby highlighting how effective civil society participation could facilitate an informed decision making process.

### Mobilizing Knowledge and Knowledge Institution

This session aims to conceptualize a blue print for policy on knowledge generation and strategy for knowledge institutions in new contexts. The deliberations during the session will span over a range of issues including knowledge management through synthesis, sharing, and improvement of knowledge in the field of climate change, development of knowledge networks, consortiums, North-South and South-South collaborations, sharing of best practices, state-academia-industry linkages etc.

### Building on the Copenhagen Accord

The outcome of CoP15 resulted in the Copenhagen Accord that has drawn mixed reactions. The very legality of Copenhagen Accord has been debated. It is therefore pertinent to take stock of what has been achieved by the Accord and what still remains to be done to ensure that the process can be taken forward in a manner that is ambitious, inclusive and progressive. The session will deliber-

ate on the shape of future negotiating process, importance of being proactive in identifying the unseen blockades towards Mexico and means to incorporate such factors to ensure that the intensity of negotiations is maintained.

### Lifestyles session

The session focuses on the challenges like increased consumerism, lifestyle choices that conflict with sustainable development requirements, and so on. The session also aims to stimulate discussions on the role of youth icons, social campaigns, media, art, culture etc. in bringing about a pragmatic shift in people's perception.

### Why do we need a legally binding agreement?

The outcome at Copenhagen identified the need for a legally binding agreement to steer ahead the climate regime. The session focuses on two elements of this necessity: one, how a "legally binding agreement" is essential for enforcing enhanced international action on climate change; and, two, relatedly, how a "legally binding agreement" can potentially reinstate mutual trust and confidence of all stakeholders not only in the UN process but also amongst each other. Importantly, the session aims to generate insights to efforts that can lead to a "legally binding agreement".