

**CTI Side Event Summary:
Incorporating Adaptation Issues in the Technology Needs Assessment Process**

**Friday, December 5, 2003
COP9, Milan, Italy**

The Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) side event was held on 5 December 2003 from 13:00 – 15:00 during the 9th Session of the Conference of the Parties in Milan, Italy. The workshop focused on incorporating adaptation issues in the technology needs assessment process and was organized by the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI). The event was attended by more than 60 participants, including representatives from national governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. The event was also transmitted on the COP9 website through their video web-cast service.

The main objectives of the workshop were to provide an overview of CTI and to highlight outcomes of the CTI's Technology Needs Assessment Workshop for the Caribbean Region led by Caribbean representatives of the EGTT, UNDP, and CTI.

The first half of the event focused on an overview of CTI and a description of Best Practices under CTI. Elmer Holt from the USDOE and the CTI Chairman, Shigetaka Seki, introduced the event and provided a background to CTI. Professor Kurushima of NEDO then discussed Best Practices under this program. He outlined the CTI/Industry Joint Seminar on Technology Diffusion Series, and provided examples from various countries of Best Practices under this process. As an example, Professor Kurushima described the Mitsubishi project in Mexico, a traffic improvement project in Thailand with Japan AMA, and a 30MW sugarcane bagasse project in Mauritius, all of which followed the CTI process of coordination among various organizations to develop a feasibility study, followed by an industry study in order to formulate the project to lead to project implementation.

It was noted several times throughout the side event that it is critical to include the private sector in the technology transfer process. It was also noted that it is important to pay attention to technology transfer in terms of the international agreements under the UNFCCC.

The second half of the event, led by Elmer Holt, focused on the outcomes of the Workshop on Technology Needs Assessment and Technology Information for the Caribbean Region followed by a panel discussion. Kishan Kumarsingh of the EGTT first presented the results of the Caribbean Region TNA Workshop, which was held in Port Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on 20-21 October 2003. His discussion focused on issues Small Island Developing States (SIDS) face as they place greater emphasis on adaptation technologies in their TNAs. The current TNA handbook does not focus specifically on adaptation; however this is emerging as a very important topic for SIDS. He discussed key recommendations that came out of the Caribbean workshop, such as water and pollution prevention technologies as obvious measures to be included as adaptation issues. He highlighted the importance in building capacity and public awareness, and that the Caribbean Climate Change center established this year could serve in assisting information dissemination and capacity building in this area. He mentioned that the next phase will focus on mainstreaming adaptation options for climate change, and that the TNA is an important part of the process. Mr. Kumarsingh also presented a chart that described cross-cutting issues in the TNA process. He discussed the need to establish a sequential process that includes:

identify vulnerable sectors, prioritize sectors, identify specific characteristics of prioritized sectors, and continue through the process to compile a list of responses to adaptation measures that can be implemented to address specific vulnerability issues, and then identify the implementation actions. He mentioned the great need to engage stakeholders in the entire process.

The panel discussion included a guest appearance by Dr. Ulric Trotz, Director of the Regional Project Implementation Unit of the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change (CPACC). Dr. Trotz discussed ideas about adaptation and how adaptation fits into the TNA process. He discussed environmental impacts and natural disasters as being very important considerations in the TNA process to this region, and that the ability to respond to these impacts is directly linked to the status of development in a given country. For example a hurricane in Key West has very different effects than a hurricane in Haiti. Money and poverty alleviation play a key role to the ability to respond to a disaster, and the ability to communicate to the population the need to move locations due to oncoming danger such as a hurricane. These near term considerations need to be taken account when carrying out longer term vulnerability and technology prioritization efforts. He also noted that information dissemination and the development of policy instruments and financial mechanisms for implementation are critical to the TNA process.

Other points discussed during the panel discussion included:

- The TNA Handbook and the international community may be able to support the TNA process when adaptation technologies are of particular importance;
- The Caribbean Climate Change Center was established this year and could serve a valuable role in enhancing the collection and sharing of information and experiences among the countries in the region as well as encouraging regional cooperation on adaptation issues;
- It is important to strengthen existing institutions in countries and incorporate indigenous technologies in the technology transfer process;
- It is critical to include the private sector in the technology transfer process
- Water conservation is a very important issue;
- Consumer awareness is another important aspect to the TNA process; and,
- CTI membership is open and parties are encouraged to join CTI. CTI is always interested in further collaboration. Parties are encouraged to check the website for more information.