Environment, Development & Security: New Ideas, Fast Action 1st September 2010, European Parliament

Environment & Development:A new approach ahead of Cancun?

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Reasons for Pessimism?

- The EU failure in Copenhagen
- No action from the US Congress
- "Climategate" & the credibility of the IPCC
- The recession, electorates & the success of climate denial
- Climate chaos in 2010? Arctic sea ice, Russian fires,
 Chinese mud slides & Pakistani floods

BP – beyond Pessimism

- The EU failure in Copenhagen
 don't lead in Copenhagen; concentrate on specifics
- No action from the US Congress
 concentrate on relations with China, India, Russia & the developing world
- "Climategate" & the credibility of the IPCC
 write Parliamentary Report on the communication of science
- The recession, electorates & the success of climate denial make the employment case for climate policies

Do something different before Christmas?

- Re-frame climate issues as development issues
- Escape from the tyranny of exclusive focus on CO₂
- Go for "fast action" with pay back for developing countries
- Demolish silos think holistically
- Explore new 'carbon negative' technologies

Re-frame climate issues as development issues

- Climate change is "abrupt" not "linear"
- Abrupt climate change means more major climate induced events in the next five years
- The Indus floods show the order of magnitude of such events on development policy
- Abrupt climate change will also disrupt developed societies, leading to a reduction in development aid

Escape from the tyranny of exclusive focus on CO₂

- Co₂ is only 50% of the factors driving climate change
- Explore speeding up action under the Montreal Protocol
- Explore action on Black Carbon in both developed and developing worlds, including the health co-benefits

Go for "fast action" with pay back for developing countries

- Developing countries cannot be expected to wait for the conclusion of some grand deal at COP 18?
- Re-cast the "climate justice" argument in development terms
- Examine EU relations with Africa in this context

Demolish silos – think holistically

- Concentrate on the areas of overlap,
 ie can we link the reform of the CAP to EU climate policies by encouraging on-farm use of Biochar as a soil enrichment?
- Link environmentally driven migration to foreign & security policy. Is the EEAS fit for purpose on this issue?

Explore new 'carbon negative' technologies

- Encourage bio sequestration using Biochar
- Explore Calera cement
- Adopt a "carbon negative" mind set