

Development and Climate: Integrated development and climate policies

Rural development and land use session

**Jeff Tschirley
Chief Environment & Natural Resources**

**20-22 September 2006
Paris, France**



Rural development, land use context

A multi-functional role in rural areas:

- Food, Fibre, Shelter
- Bioenergy
- Watershed protection
- Biodiversity conservation
- Medicinal, other cultural goods

Plus, in Lifdc's and Sids:

- Agriculture dominated economies
- Daily land use decisions regarding nutrition and wellbeing

Rural development, land use ecosystem issues

<i>Arid and semi-arid</i>	<i>Humid</i>	<i>Coastal and islands</i>
Problems		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food insecurity • Water scarcity • Accelerated loss of vegetative cover • Prolonged droughts • Transformation of rural livelihoods, pastoral economies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food insecurity • Storm damage, flooding risks to settlements, productive infrastructure • Temperature extremes, lower agricultural productivity • Human, animal health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food insecurity • Flood, storm risks to coastal settlements, public infrastructure, human life • Loss of agricultural land • Salt water intrusion in aquifers, rivers (water quality) • Changes in freshwater fisheries, marine resources
Priorities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved crop, grassland livestock management • Research, dissemination of improved crop varieties, breeds • Community grain storage for food distribution • Weather-related crop insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to dams, infrastructure specifications • Storm, flood resilient building codes • River defences • Watershed management • Development restrictions in high risk (flood, mudslide) zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal defences: hard – groynes, revetments, embankments; soft – mangroves, coral reefs, wetland conservation • Relocation of settlements, roads, other infrastructure • Integrated coastal area mgmt • Desalination plants

Conditions under which development / climate initiatives can be successful

- Building from existing national and local understanding, practices, technologies related to food security, natural resources management
- Sustainable investment of human and financial in rural areas
- Effective inter-ministerial policy formulation mechanisms
- Harmonized rural / urban policies -
- Good governance

Role of international organizations

- Existing national and local understanding, acceptance of practices, options, technologies
- Cost-effective approaches, available resources for investment
- Reliable data, practices, guidelines
- Practical standards, methods, models
- Capacity building