

A photograph of a lush green field of grass, possibly a rice paddy, under a dramatic, overcast sky with heavy, grey clouds. The grass is in the foreground, slightly out of focus, and stretches towards the horizon. The sky is filled with large, dark clouds, with some lighter patches where the sun might be breaking through.

# CLIMATE GAME CHANGE

Innovations and Solutions for Climate Change Adaption. Bangkok 22 January 2009.



# CLIMATE GAME CHANGE

Human activities are driving changes in the world climate at an accelerating speed. The consequences pose one of the greatest challenges humanity has ever faced. The impacts of climate change are a massive threat to development – especially for poor countries, which are hit first and hardest.

Adapting to climate change is a necessity, not a choice – the world must pick up the pace. We must adapt our economy, infrastructure and environment to function according to the climatic changes we are inevitably facing. New solutions are required. Business and governments need to work together to produce real change, to help create a sustainable “green” economy, with low climate risks.

How can business actors, development organisations and governments come together and support sustainable development at all levels?

How can developing and developed countries create new solutions together?

How can development partners influence and accelerate change?

These are the main themes for the seminar, which is aimed at private and public financial institutions, companies, international organizations and civil society representatives from Southeast Asia and Sweden. Around 150–200 delegates are expected to attend. One goal is to use the result of the seminar as input to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009.

## PLACE

Bangkok, Thailand.

## DATE

22 January 2009.

## ORGANIZED BY

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

Climate Game Change is a joint initiative between Sida Development Area and ESCAP's Asia Pacific Business Forum. The Sida Development Area ([www.sida.se/area](http://www.sida.se/area)) is a series of meetings for the development of new ideas and approaches to advance development cooperation.

## WHO SHOULD COME?

- CEOs and representatives of major companies from across Asia.
- Senior government officials.
- Representatives of international and regional organizations and international development partners.
- Academics, media representatives and opinion leaders.

## FOUR REASONS TO ATTEND

- Learn how progressive businesses deal with climate change related risks and opportunities.
- Share your views on how governments can facilitate business adaptation to climate change.
- Meet key environmental decision-makers and doers.
- Provide an Asian business perspective as input to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in 2009.

The Asia Pacific Business Forum ([www.unescap.org/apbf](http://www.unescap.org/apbf)) is an ESCAP initiative to stimulate dialogue and partnerships between the private and public sectors in support of inclusive and sustainable development.

## MODERATOR

Mr. Rico Hizon, Business News Anchor BBC World News.

## OBJECTIVE

- Discuss and outline how business actors, governments and development partners can come together to support sustainable development at all levels in the face of climate change.
- Provide input to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in 2009.

### Did you know?

- South and Southeast Asia are climate change “hotspots,” at particular risk from cyclones, flooding, and drought.
- Climate change will likely kill around 30% of Asia’s coral reefs in the next 30 years, making coastlines more vulnerable to storm surges.
- Insect populations will thrive in warmer weather, making crops more vulnerable and carrying diseases like dengue to new locations.
- With a 1 meter rise in sea level, 2 500 km<sup>2</sup> of mangroves in Asia are likely to be lost, increasing storm damages.
- The United Nations predict that the global cost of adaptation will be \$86 billion per year by 2015.
- Insurance companies worldwide are already raising premiums and changing policies to reflect new risks from climate change.

# TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

22 January 2009 (Thursday)

07:30-08:45	Registration
<b>08:50-09:50</b>	<b>Opening session and keynote speech</b> Introductory remarks and welcome addresses: <b>Mr. Anders Nordström</b> , <i>Director-General of Sida</i> <b>Dr. Noeleen Heyzer</b> , <i>Executive Secretary of ESCAP and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations</i>  Keynote speech: <b>Mr. Achim Steiner</b> , <i>Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations</i>
<b>09:50-10:15</b>	<b>Coffee/tea</b>
<b>10:15-11:15</b>	<b>Executive Panel 1: Pioneers of the New Market</b> New innovative market mechanisms are emerging as the finance sector and governments are mobilizing to meet the climate challenge. Is this the beginning of a new paradigm? How can investor communities provide incentives for companies to reduce their carbon footprint? How can we increase financing for clean growth and adaptation in the region? How can we ensure a market-based climate change regime?
<b>11:20-12:20</b>	<b>CEO Panel 2: Business Opportunities for Climate Action</b> New, innovative green businesses are an important part in the solution to survive climate change. Asian companies are already looking at climate related challenges with new eyes. What are major companies in the region doing to address climate change? Does climate change bring new business opportunities? What are the major risks? Where should the public and private interface be?
<b>12:30-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>



**14:00-15:30**

**Parallel breakout sessions**

**Breakout A**

**Creating cities for the future**

Cities account for 75% of all energy use and 80% of all greenhouse gases emissions. Most Asian cities are situated along rivers or sea shores and are vulnerable to extreme climate events. Making cities cleaner, more energy efficient and resilient to climate change will be key to future growth and development. How can the public and private sectors work together for cleaner cities? How can water scarcity be addressed? What kind of mechanisms will need to be put in place? How can carbon financing be used?

**Breakout B**

**Ensuring food security**

Over the last century, technological advances have enabled dramatic increases in crop yields. This trend is now at risk of being reversed, as climate change may significantly affect food supply and food security, particularly in developing countries. Improved water management and innovations for more efficient agriculture will be needed to ensure adequate and sustainable food production. What are the present trends in Asia? What are the major challenges that need to be addressed? How can the public and private sectors work together to ensure sustainable food production and food security for all?

**Breakout C**

**Managing risks from climate change and disaster**

Climate change is expected to increase the severity and frequency of weather-related natural hazards such as storms, high rainfalls, floods, droughts and heat-waves. The risks posed to companies and the wider society by climate change will necessitate a new thinking as regards risk management. What are the commercial risks that need to be addressed, and what options are employed by the private sector? How has the insurance sector started addressing climate change? What can companies do to help mitigate the effects of disaster? What do governments need to do?

**15:30-16:00**

**Coffee/tea**

**16:00-16:30**

**Way Forward**

Outcomes and recommendations by moderators  
Concluding remarks

## SPEAKERS



**Keynote Speaker Achim Steiner**, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and UNEP Executive Director. Mr. Steiner's professional track record is in the fields of sustainable development policy and environmental management. He has first-hand knowledge of civil society, governmental and international organizations, as well as global experience spanning five Continents.



**Noeleen Heyzer**, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Ms. Heyzer has championed institutional change and development effectiveness positioning ESCAP as the regional hub assisting countries to build the economic and social foundations for inclusive and sustainable societies in the Asia Pacific region.

Moderator

**Mr. Rico Hizon**, Business News Anchor BBC World News.



**Anders Nordström**, Director General of Sida. Mr. Nordström has earlier worked as Deputy Director General for the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva and as a medical doctor, trained at the Karolinska Institute and the Red Cross.

A few of the other invited speakers

**Mr. Rohan Parikh**, Head – Green initiatives, Infosys Technologies Ltd.

**Mr. Octavio Peralta**, Secretary General, Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia & the Pacific (ADFIAP).

**Mr. Johan Rockström**, Executive Director, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI).

**Ms. Sunita Narain**, Director, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi.

**Mr. James Gifford**, Executive Director, Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).

**Mr. Sasja Beslik**, Head of Socially Responsible Investments, Banco

**Mr. Rae Kwon Chung**, Climate Change Ambassador, Republic of Korea.



## SIDA

Sida, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, is a government agency under the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Sida's goal is to contribute to making it possible for poor people to improve their living conditions. Climate change adaptation is a Swedish priority. The entire increase in the Swedish development budget 2009 is allocated toward Climate Change Adaption.



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
COOPERATION AGENCY

## ESCAP

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) promotes inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. Our work includes promoting Green Growth, [www.greengrowth.net](http://www.greengrowth.net), and Corporate Social Responsibility, including through our Asia-Pacific Business Forum meetings.

