

# AGENDA

*Many Strong Voices:*  
**A Stakeholder Workshop on Climate Change Impacts and  
Adaptation in the Arctic and Small Island Developing States**

27-30 May, 2007

**Best Western Biltmore Plaza  
Belize City, Belize**

**Organizers:**

**UNEP/GRID-Arendal  
Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo (CICERO)  
CARICOM Climate Change Centre  
Organization of American States/Department of Sustainable Development**

**Objective**

The objective of this workshop is to design a five-year Action Plan for the Many Strong Voices programme that addresses:

- Capacity building in the Arctic and SIDS
- Targeted research on vulnerability and adaptation and the establishment of comparative case studies in the two regions
- Communications and outreach activities, including the design of target materials and activities
- The establishment of networks, partnerships and fundraising goals for the programme

Approximately 40 key stakeholders and partners will attend the planning workshop in Belize City in May. Participants have been drawn from communities and organizations in the Arctic and Small Island Developing States to represent their regions' respective interests. The goals of the stakeholder workshop are to enable participants to discuss the latest research and assessments on climate change vulnerability and adaptation in their respective regions, with a focus on case studies, and to solicit input from participants in order to design an effective five-year Action Plan for the MSV programme.

## **Anticipated Results**

The development of the Many Strong Voices programme will rely strongly on input from partners in the Arctic and SIDS to identify the salient needs and interests of their respective regions as they confront climate change and its direct and associated impacts. Specific actions for the programme will be identified through discussions among Arctic and SIDS stakeholders in Belize. The key result of the workshop will be a five-year MSV Action Plan that lays a foundation for effective capacity building, research, communication, fundraising, and policy and engagement strategies in the two regions. The participants at the workshop will help to move MSV forward by contributing their ideas, insights, discussions, and recommendations, through thematic groups and plenary discussions, to the Action Plan. A drafting team for this work will be assembled at the workshop.

The Action Plan will include:

1. An outline for an Arctic/SIDS coastal impacts assessment scoping study, including:
    - Stakeholders' recommendations regarding the appropriate focus and content of an assessment study
    - A list of key persons and organisations involved in impacts, vulnerability and adaptation work in the Arctic and SIDS
    - An assessment of the state of knowledge and of relevant current and past projects, programmes and policies on vulnerability, adaptation and impacts in the two regions
    - Identification of important gaps in the literature and in practice
    - A Plan of Action for how to proceed with this work in the initial phase
    - A strategy for engaging local stakeholders in the assessment and for identifying relevant communities for the assessment
  
  2. Methods to assist in developing, strengthening and implementing adaptation strategies at the local, national, regional and international levels through
    - Analyzing institutional arrangements for public participation and developing means for making improvements;
    - Producing a report on best practices on adaptation within the context of this programme;
    - Planning meetings with stakeholders and experts (including insurance sector, civil engineers, infrastructure designers) and conducting field tours; and
    - Looking at work that has been done to address adaptation mainstreaming (including through UNDP-led initiatives).
  
  3. Priorities for the development of a joint communications/outreach strategy to promote the MSV programme, garner funding, support mutual and individual efforts at global climate change negotiations and to provide information at local levels. As part of this task, a list of outreach and education opportunities taking place over the next year will be compiled. Specific activities under this task could include:
    - Special meetings for Arctic and SIDS stakeholders in advance of negotiations
    - The design of strategies to improve effective communication in international processes
    - Exchange of knowledge and information between the two regions
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- Producing a “State of Negotiations” report focused on the Arctic and SIDS
- Hosting side events, making presentations and providing displays at COPs and relevant international meetings highlighting MSV
- Developing an information package to be used at regional meetings to promote the programme and attract stakeholders and sponsors.
- Developing a list of potential demonstration projects. This could include twinning Arctic and SIDS communities to raise local and regional awareness and work on adaptation strategies; it could also involve organizing exchanges of people, such as students, interns, and professionals working in regional and municipal organizations

### **Acknowledgements**

**UNEP/GRID-Arendal, CICERO and the OAS Department of Sustainable Development would like thank Dr. Kenrick Leslie, Maryann Sutherland, Ethlyn Valladares and the rest of the staff at the CARICOM Climate Change Centre for their hard work in setting up and hosting the MSV workshop.**

**The organizers would also like to thank the Norwegian Ministry of Environment, the U.S. National Science Foundation, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for their financial support.**

## Workshop Schedule

### Saturday 26 May

Participants arrive and check into hotel.

1800 – Orientation meeting, Biltmore Hotel, beside the pool. Evening is free time.

### Sunday 27 May

**Day Excursion** – A visit by bus and boat to sites that show terrestrial and coastal climate change effects in Belize. Participants will be able to choose between outings.

0900-1700      Marine tour: This tour takes participants to one of the largest offshore cayes (islands) that is the heart of tourism activity. However, it is vulnerable due to the fact that it is practically on the barrier reef itself, and due to the fact that the intensive development has resulted in the loss of most of the nature's protection features with which it was originally endowed. This highly developed caye and tourism centre with seasonally fluctuating populations depends on a desalination plant for potable water supply.

0700-1800      Inland tour: This tour travels across the entire width of the country and exposes participants to a transect that changes from the low-lying coastal area at sea-level, into low rolling hills, then into the western part of the country with pine and broadleaf forests. The main features will be the visits to Xunantunich, one of the largest Mayan sites in the country, before observing the damage wrought by Southern Pine bark beetles in a natural pine forest that previously generated considerable employment and income for the country.

1930            **Reception at the hotel**

**Introduction:** Kenrick Leslie, Director, CARICOM Climate Change Centre

**Speaker:** Albert Binger, University of West Indies – “Reducing Emissions: the Importance of Renewable Energy in the SIDS”

**Monday 28 May**  
***Perspectives on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Needs***

The first day will be a plenary session consisting of presentations and roundtable discussions designed to highlight key climate change issues and concerns in the Small Island Developing States and the Arctic. The sessions will elicit feedback from the participants regarding the latest scientific findings and efforts on adaptation in their respective regions.

**Morning Session Chair:** Cletus Springer, Sustainable Development, OAS

- 0900-0915      **Welcome and Introduction:** UNEP/GRID-Arendal and CICERO  
Purpose of the workshop, expected outcomes
- Joan Eamer, UNEP/GRID-Arendal
  - Grete Hovelsrud, CICERO
- 0915-0930      **Opening Address:** The Honourable John Briceno, Deputy Prime Minister and Environment Minister, Government of Belize
- 0930-1010      **Keynote Addresses: Climate Change in the Small Island Developing States and the Arctic**
- Dr. Kenrick Leslie, Director, CARICOM Climate Change Centre
  - Patricia Cochran, Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council
- 1010-1030      ***Break***
- 1030-1115      **The Latest Scientific Results and What they mean for Adaptation Planning**
- Leonard Nurse, IPCC Lead Author, Small Island Developing States
  - Grete Hovelsrud, Research Director, CICERO, The Arctic
- Discussion*
- 1115-1200      **Adaptation and Mitigation – Links to International Conventions**
- Paul Desanker, Capacity Building and Outreach Unit, UNFCCC Secretariat – “Progress on Adaptation under the UNFCCC”
  - M.J. Mace, Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD) – "Links to other international convention processes"
- Discussion*
- 1200-1300      **Lunch at the hotel**

**Afternoon Chair: Stephanie Meakin, Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada**

- 1300-1400      **What needs to be considered in developing an adaptation strategy?**
- SIDS Perspectives: Neville Trotz, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
  - Arctic Considerations: Terry Fenge, Fenge Consulting, Ottawa

*Discussion*

1400-1520      **Adaptation in Practice**

- Taito Nakalevu, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme – “Capacity Building for the Development of Adaptation Measures in Pacific Island Countries”
- Peter Larsen, Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage - "Estimating the Value of Alaska Public Infrastructure at Risk to Climate Change"
- Simon Milne, John Hull, New Zealand Tourism Research Institute – “Tourism and climate change: NZTRI's cases from the South Pacific and the North Atlantic”
- Darcie Matthiessen, Arctic Athabaskan Council – "Climate Change in Northern Canada"

*Questions*

1520-1540

***Break***

1540-1700

- Inger Marie Gaup Eira, Sami University College, Kautokeino, Norway – “Adaptation and Reindeer Herding in the Arctic”
- Joe Konno, Federated States of Micronesia – “Asian Development Bank (ADB) Climate Change Adaptation Project”
- Nick Illuaq, Adaptation Planning in Nunavut - "Climate change research and adaptation planning in Clyde River, Nunavut"
- Jyotishma Naicker, WWF South Pacific Programme – “The Climate Witness Programme: Adaptation Lessons from Fiji”

*Questions*

1700-1710

Housekeeping

1900-2200

**Conference dinner at the hotel (casual attire)**

**Introduction:** John Crump, UNEP/GRID-Arendal

**Keynote:** Barry Smit, Canada Research Chair in Global Environmental Change Department of Geography, University of Guelph – “Lessons on Adaptation Voices from Arctic and Small Island States”

**Tuesday 29 May**  
***Designing the MSV Five Year Action Plan***

**Chair: Teresa Manarangi-Trott, Cook Islands**

0900-0915      **Introduction and Summary of Key Issues and Concerns from Day 1**  
                    • Leonard Nurse

0915-1015      **Building a Five-Year Action Plan –**  
                    • Joan Eamer, UNEP/GRID-Arendal

We will have a discussion about key elements to be included in the action plan and establish three thematic groups. Part of the work of the theme groups will be to look at possible research and comparative case studies that can be developed through the programme and to assess opportunities for partnerships, fundraising, and networking.

**Participants will be invited to sign up to two (2) theme groups. The time division is outlined below.**

Theme Groups

1. Research needs and a proposed scoping study (Facilitators: G. Hovelsrud)
2. Communications and outreach (Facilitator: C. Springer)
3. Political strategies and lobbying (Facilitator: P. Crowley)

*Discussion*

1015-1030      **Break**

1030-1200      **Thematic group discussions on MSV strategy development – Choice #1**

1200-1300      Lunch at the hotel

1300 - 1430      **Theme Group discussions – Choice #1 (con't)**

1430-1445      **Break**

1445-1700      **Theme Group discussions – Choice #2**

1700-1710      Housekeeping

Dinner on your own

**Wednesday 30 May**  
***Assembling the Strategy***

**Chairs: Joan Eamer and John Crump**

0900-1030      **Reports from Theme Groups/Conference Synthesis**

Discussion

1030-1045      ***Break***

1045-1200      **Next Steps in Developing the Five Year Action Plan – John Crump, Grete Hovelsrud**

- Presentation and discussion of MSV Action Plan Zero Draft
- Nomination of drafting team
- Next Steps – including putting together a list of coming events, opportunities (Bali UNFCCC COP/MOP, regional meetings and workshop, etc.)

1200              **Lunch at the hotel**

Afternoon      **Free time**

1630 (time to be confirmed)      **Visit to Old Belize Cultural and Historical Centre**

We will board buses to go to Old Belize for a Belizean cultural performance. This wind up reception is sponsored by the CARCIOM Climate Change Centre.

Old Belize's web site says:

Because of the British influence, Belize became the only country in Central America whose first language is English. But speaking English is far from what makes Belize culturally and historically fascinating. The transformation from a settlement comprised of ex-patriots, to a dazzling inter-racial society that includes six major ethnic groups who among them speak 8 languages, has made Belize what it now is: A land of many cultures and interesting rich history. As well as the historical exhibit, the location is home to a full-service marina, a restaurant serving the best in local and international cuisine, a Belizean gift shop and a beach.