

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACTS

The institute also keeps a sharp eye on current impacts, particularly through partnerships with indigenous peoples and organizations. IISD's groundbreaking Inuit Observations on Climate Change project gained international attention from the climate change community and beyond. The project, which culminated in the production of a widely disseminated video, demonstrated conclusively that the impacts of climate change can already be felt. Perhaps most significantly, the project sought the experience, local knowledge and observations of an indigenous population. This methodology will contribute significantly to future work on understanding the impacts of climate change and promoting adaptation strategies.

IISD is also working with IUCN –The World Conservation Union and the Stockholm Environment Institute to identify the links between natural resource mismanagement and vulnerability to climate-related disasters. Through a series of case studies, IISD and its partners will make a compelling case for conservation as an adaptation strategy, providing benefits for addressing risk to human systems and preserving biodiversity. A tool kit of conservation strategies that can play a role in adaptation will also be developed.



Photo: Neil Ford

"We are seeing unusual fish and birds."

TOMORROW AND BEYOND

The keys to achieving progress on the climate change issue are:

- Reductions in greenhouse gas emissions;
- Increased reliance on renewable energies;
- Solid research;
- The sharing of knowledge;
- Effective promotion of creative policy-making;
- Encouraging adaptation strategies; and
- Building the capacity of all countries to address climate change.

IISD, through its various climate change projects and evolving energy agenda, is committed to progress that is beneficial to people, to business and to the planet.

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OUR VISION
BETTER LIVING FOR ALL—
SUSTAINABLY.

OUR MISSION
TO CHAMPION INNOVATION,
ENABLING SOCIETIES TO LIVE
SUSTAINABLY.

October 2001

In Communities and Corridors.

CLIMATE CHANGE
AND ENERGY TEAM

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CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY TEAM

Whether it's in the conference halls and corridors of international climate negotiations or in a community centre north of the Arctic Circle, IISD addresses climate change signs and solutions with strong analysis, zeal and focus.

In fulfilling its strategic objective of developing and promoting creative responses to climate change and its impacts, IISD has garnered international recognition for its range of activity, degree of influence and depth of profile.

The IISD Climate Change and Energy Team is an energetic and experienced group supported by a strong institutional infrastructure devoted to effective communications and meaningful change.

Global climate change is one of the most important challenges facing the international community. As the challenge intensifies, IISD is committed to effecting strong, credible mitigation strategies, with a particular focus on market mechanisms; working with developing countries to improve their capacities in addressing climate change; facilitating dialogue among key players; encouraging effective adaptive techniques; monitoring the progress of international negotiations; and sharing climate change knowledge.

OUR WORK

The world of international climate change is a multi-faceted intellectual and political landscape. IISD is a unique contributor to this fascinating issue, offering expertise in areas related to adaptation, mitigation and capacity building.

HELPING OTHERS PLAY A MEANINGFUL ROLE

IISD recognizes that sustainable development is a critical factor to be addressed in the international climate change debate. Addressing those priorities for developing countries calls for carefully informed strategies in the international negotiations and the development of national plans.



To that end, IISD hosts and coordinates the Climate Change Knowledge Network at <http://www.cckn.net>. The CCKN provides a forum for international dialogue, a venue



for cooperative projects and an exhaustive compendium of climate change resources.

IISD's capacity building agenda includes playing a leadership role in the CCKN's workshops and publications designed to enhance the skills of negotiators from developing countries.



TRACKING THE LATEST AND BEST INFORMATION

The Climate Compendium at <http://www.cckn.net/compendium/> channels, condenses and consolidates the latest and best climate change information. By addressing political, economic, scientific and legal issues, the Climate Compendium serves as a comprehensive guide for the climate change community and an effective starting point for people seeking to understand the issues better.

WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

A number of governments and businesses have turned to IISD's Climate Change and Energy Team for advice and consultation. IISD has supported government climate change studies and task forces as well as relevant industrial programs and business strategies. IISD's knowledge of the agriculture, mining and

forestry sectors and the institute's evolving presence in the energy sector facilitate meaningful contributions to clients and partners. By working with industry and government, IISD is able to view the climate change dialogue through the eyes of many. IISD believes that the road to sustainable development is paved with economic opportunity for businesses willing to accept the challenge.



Photo: Patricia Hardy

IISD representatives at COP-6, The Hague, The Netherlands.

ENERGY – A NEW FOCUS

Through partnerships with the energy sector and through the development of a draft continental energy strategy due in February 2002, IISD's climate change agenda now envelopes the important discussion about energy and energy policy. IISD endorses careful stewardship of finite natural resources as well as research and policy development that will optimize and promote the use of renewable forms of energy. IISD boasts strong relationships with gas, oil and mining interests and engages these partners in dialogue.