

## Mitigation in agriculture and rural areas

### – SIDE EVENT –

Wednesday, 3 December 2008 13:00 - 15:00 hrs  
Fox room

Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture contribute over 30 percent of the current annual total emissions. Agriculture occupies some 1.9 billion hectares, of which a third is arable, and the rest is under permanent pastures and meadows. These large land area offers potential of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by both changing agricultural practices and soil conservation measures.

Most of the world's poor live on agriculture in developing countries. They are not major contributors of GHG, but they are undoubtedly hit hardest by climate change. Promoting mitigation through efficient agricultural practices and access of small farmers and rural communities to both ecosystem and carbon markets could provide important ways in reducing vulnerability as well as enhancing the value of their landscapes.

This side event is organised jointly by FAO and IFAD and is aimed at creating awareness about the mitigation potential of agriculture, and its implications for small farmers and rural communities of the poorest countries.

#### AGENDA

- 1. Welcome and Introduction**  
**Peter Holmgren - FAO**
- 2. Mitigation practices from Agriculture**  
**Jorgen Olesen - University of Aarhus**
- 3. Mitigation practices for small farmers in Latin America**  
**Mohammad Ibrahim - CATIE**
- 4. Mitigation options and Payments for ecosystem Services for rural communities in Africa**  
**Brent Swallow - ICRAF**
- 5. Concluding remarks**  
**Atiqur Rahman - IFAD**
- 6. Open discussion chaired**  
**Wendy Mann - FAO**

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For more information on IFAD's work on climate change visit: <http://www.ifad.org/climate/>