

The Rome 2007 Initiative

“Investing in Emissions Reduction and Rural Development” Towards a Public – Private Partnership

♦ *The Working Group* ♦



<http://waicent.fao.org/testsite/rome2007initiative.html>

The collaboration of the public and private sector is required to combine skills and expertise, technologies and resources to identify, develop and implement appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures in the rural sector – this is also to be seen in the context of rural energy demand and supply. Promoting mitigation and adaptation activities to support rural development under a collaborative framework with public and private sector players will require a common understanding on key issues, shared views on expected outcomes and benefits for all involved stakeholders and related decision-making and implementation mechanisms.



The working group was created during the Expert Dialogue on 'Investing in Emissions Reduction and Rural Development' which took place in Rome on 14 November 2007 in conjunction with the World Energy Conference (11-15 November). This working group functions as a communication platform between the private and public sectors with a view to identifying, developing and implementing concrete climate change mitigation and adaptation projects in the agricultural, rural and land use sectors, stemming from the mutual interests of certain public and private sector actors in investing in emissions reduction and rural development. The working group consists of the participants of the expert dialogue in November 2007, including representatives of the Rome-based UN agencies and institutions, members of selected private sector companies and the European Investment Bank.

The [1st Meeting of the Public-Private Sector Working Group](#) was held in Rome on the 26th March 2008 at FAO headquarters, just before a private sector stakeholder consultation (27-28 March 2008) in preparation of the High-Level Conference on World Food Security and the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy at FAO in June.

The group reiterated the outcomes of the expert dialogue in November 2007, particularly stressing the willingness from the private sector to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation through financial resources, technologies and other means which was clearly expressed during the Expert Dialogue in November. What became apparent is the lack of underlying technical expertise related to mitigation and adaptation in the concerned sectors and very often the lack of local presence in the field, which could be provided by UN agencies. The need for a facility to bring actors from the two sectors together to promote mitigation and adaptation activities in the agricultural, rural and land use sectors at large scale was re-confirmed.

MEMBERS



[Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#)

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy.

	<u>CarbonRe</u> CarbonRe AG specializes in insurance products and risk management techniques catering for the entire risk spectrum of the carbon risk landscape within the context of the CDM and JI flexible mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol Agreements.
	<u>EcoSecurities</u> EcoSecurities played a groundbreaking role in the development of the market infrastructure, assisting governments and international agencies in market design and helping global corporations prepare for a carbon constrained world.
	<u>EcoMethane</u> EcoMethane is an integrated project development group dedicated to financing, constructing and operating projects that harness methane emissions from landfills and coal mines to provide sustainable power solutions.
	<u>European Investment Bank</u> The task of the European Investment Bank, the European Union's financing institution, is to contribute towards the integration, balanced development and economic and social cohesion of the Member Countries.
	<u>International Fund for Agricultural Development</u> The International Fund for Agricultural Development, a specialized agency of the United Nations, was established as an international financial institution in 1977 as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference. IFAD is dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries.
	<u>Japan Carbon Finance</u> Japan Carbon Finance is a company that uses the funds from Japan Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to develop greenhouse gas reduction projects and to purchase CERS/ERUs credits for the first commitment period, between 2008 and 2012.
	<u>The Global Mechanism</u> The Global Mechanism provides a range of specialized financial advisory services to the Parties, with the aim of increasing development finance for poverty reduction by promoting sustainable land management.
	<u>World Food Programme</u> The World Food Programme is the food aid branch of the United Nations, and the world's largest humanitarian agency. WFP provides food, on average, to 90 million people per year, 58 million of whom are children. WFP works to help people who are unable to produce or obtain enough food for themselves and their families.