

Trade and climate change NGO thoughts on a complex relationship

Matthias Duwe Climate Action Network Europe http://www.climnet.org



European Parliament hearing, 27th June 2007



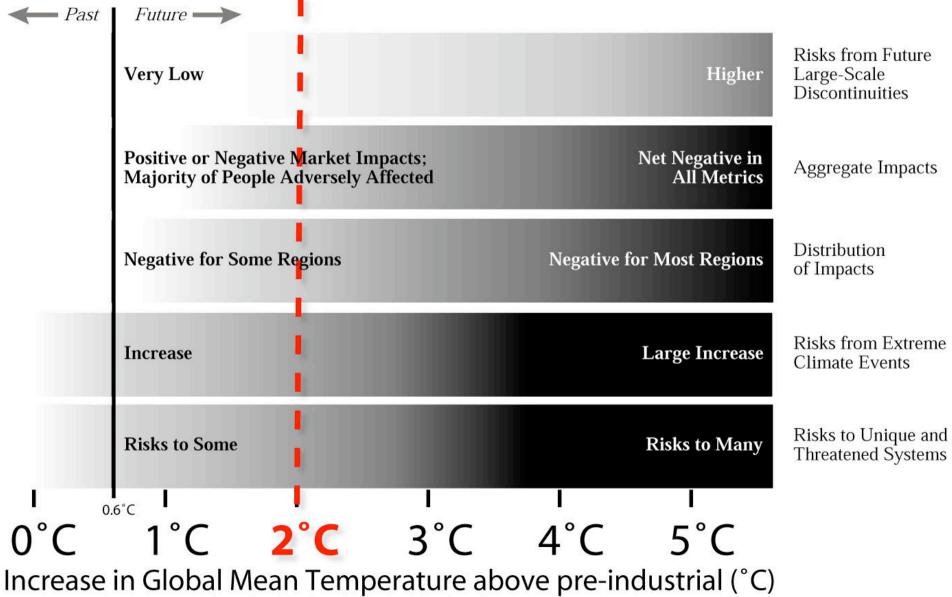


Who we are

- Climate Action Network (CAN) is an international coalition of over 400 NGOs united by the common goal to stop dangerous, human-induced climate change
- CAN-Europe represents more than 100 member organisations in the EU27 and beyond
- CAN-Europe and its members have been following the formulation and implementation of EU climate change policies and act as observers at the UN negotiations
- The Brussels office aims to act as a bridge between the national groups and the European institutions.

Dangerous climate change > 2°C



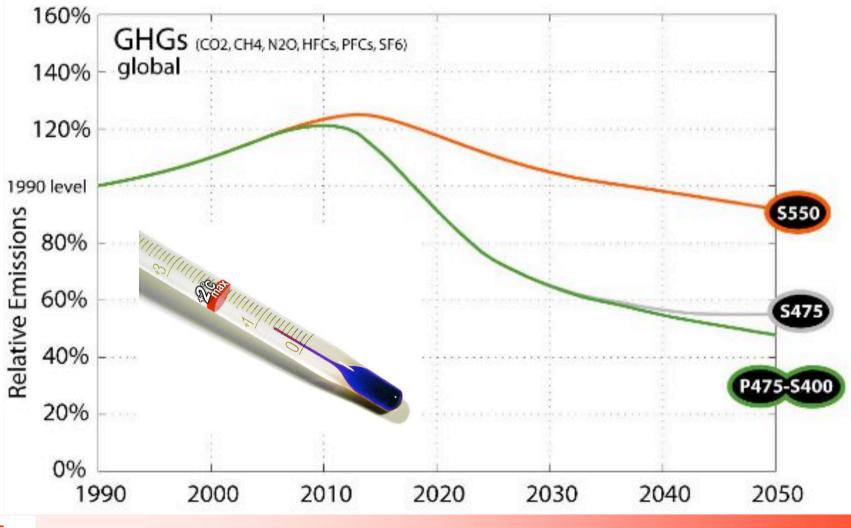


Source: IPCC TAR WGII, Figure 19-7, page 958, adapted to pre-industrial temperature scale (shifting by 0.6°C) by Malte Meinshausen, ETH Zürich, 2004





 $2^{\circ}C$ = global emissions to peak by 2015, -50% 1990 by 2050



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Where do we need to go?



Delaying action even by a decade will make meeting the

+40%**Kyoto-gases** +30% 10 year delay +20% with same risk to overshoot 2°C **Reduction rate in 2025:** +10% Relative Emissions (baseyear, 1990=100%) Default: -20%/5yrs base year 5-year delay: -26%/5yrs -10% EU-25 10-year delay: -46%/5yrs -20% Note: reductions rates not relative to 1990, but to current (2025) emissions -30% -40% -50% -60% -70% 400-80% -90% Note: As the default stabilization profiles, the delayed \$400Ce profiles have been created with the EOW method (Meinshausen et al). It has been assumed that Annex I countries start reductions in 2015 and Non-Annex I countries by 2020, instead of 2010 and 2015 as in the default scenarios, respectively To determine the subsequent reduction rates, the pathways have been constraint by equal peak temperatures. Thus, the default and the delayed pathways have approximately the equal risks to overshoot the 2°C target. Not, however, that the delayed pathways peak at higher CO2 equivalence level -100% 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2055 2060 2015 2025 2035 2040 2045 2050 2020 2030

challenge ever more difficult

Inventory data (red, solid) and projections (orange; dashed /dotted) for Annex A gases and sources from 'Common Reporting Format Tables 2003;ghg unfccc.int', if available. Allocation scheme results for 2025 and 2050 were derived in collaboration with Michel den Eizen using the FAIR 2.0 model Kyoto targets and potential additional (sink) emission allo wances according to Marrakech Rules (see Yamin & Depledge "The International Climate Change Regime: A Guide to Rules, Institutions and Procedures" Cambridge University Press, forthcomin g).

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The 2°C challenge



Near-term challenge

 Political: Reaching consensus on international agreement continuing the UNFCCC/Kyoto regime after 2012, requires critical mass and regional champions

Mid term challenge



• Economic/technological: a framework that allows emissions reductions globally, shifting investments away from carbon intensive products and processes

Both challenges linked, interdependent, not sequential

Theme 1



Climate change is not (just) an environmental issue

- All sectors of the economy contribute to the problem
- All policy areas need to come together to create a viable long-term solution equal to the scale of the problem
- Solution will require all types of actors working together
- But: many connections presently missing
- ⇒ Increasing level of complexity, furthers policy incoherence and governance problems if unaddressed

Theme 2



EU claims leadership on climate change

- Kyoto Protocol, 2020 targets
- EU credibility essential to UN progress

Credibility challenges exist

- Domestically: failure to make reductions
- Externally: policy coherence issues

⇒ Credibility challenges threaten progress internationally if unaddressed



Commission President Barroso in January 2007

Negative links



• Trade is part of the problem: emissions from transport



• High levels of consumption in rich parts of the world lead to emissions elsewhere COMING CLEAN: Revealing the UK's true carbon footprint

• Trade policy can be turned against climate- friendly products







Negative links



- EU imports (cattle feed, (illegally logged) timber) can further tropical deforestation, increase emissions
- Equity and diplomacy: WTO talks collapsed over North-South divide, impact on climate talks?
- Disenchantment with globalisation impacts
 > protests over negative social impacts
- Climate change impacts could disrupt trade severly, hit poorest countries/economies worst (but also EU)



Negative links



- Negative reports over emission credit projects give trading mechanisms bad reputation
- IPR issues/arguments can prevent technology transfer



- Investments through IFIs have high carbon impacts
- Business concerns over carbon constraint impacts on their international competitiveness - impede policy, but unclear to what extent these are real issues
- Carbon leakage due to climate policy similarly unclear

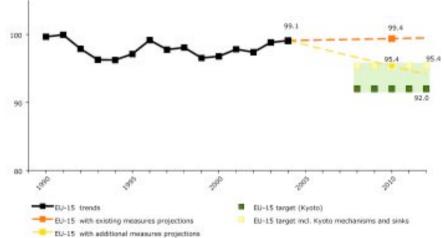
Positive links



- Attempts are being made to connect trade and climate policy - this hearing is proof
- Trading mechanisms are being used for climate policy (EU ETS global carbon market driver), improvements made recently show that reductions are coming

GHG emissions (base year = 100)

 Kyoto trading mechanisms (eg CDM) have engaged developing countries - this connection needs expanding, while addressing sustainability



Positive links



 Climate friendly technology transfer happening through eg. EU wind power deployment; also through CDM



- Carbon based BTA being considered for exports by China to avoid lock-in into high carbon production facility for rest of the world - domestic and external reasons
- IPR issues being addressed in e.g. China in a way that could do away with current arguments

Evaluating the links



Initial conclusions

- Present disconnect is obvious: EU trade policy currently not aligned with declared climate change agenda
- Some (obvious?) conclusions:
 - 1. Foreign policy, development cooperation, trade policy: all need to be connected with each other and climate, also with energy and industrial policy (and incl EU lending and other investment flows)
 - 2. avoid/limit negative linkages & support positive ones, but complexity of the issue complicates this
 - 3. Trade measures at EU level and Intl must allow for these (where necessary, make changes to the instruments)

Recommendations



Economic policy & climate diplomacy: priority to equity and social cohesion

- Economic feasibility and benefits of climate policy clear
- Benefits of innovation and efficiency gains
- Equity issues loom large in climate debate, justified
- Competitiveness debate around climate change also evidence of misguided understanding of globalisation impacts
- Climate policy as well as trade policy need to be serving social cohesion globally to be justified

Recommendations



Economic policy & climate diplomacy: e.g. Border tax adjustments discussion

- Differentiate: validity of competitiveness impact claims?
- Differentiate: Kyoto and non-Kyoto Parties
- Improve ETS: full carbon cost not included yet
- Beware of sending the wrong signals:
 - danger of undermining EU towards developing countries
 - "smacks" of protectionism



Recommendations



Economic policy & climate diplomacy: standards, sectoral agreements

- Many positive options for connecting trade and climate change, around what is known as EGS, e.g.
 - Vehicle fuel efficiency
 - White products
- Concrete collaboration with other countries could bring about shifts in world markets, and bring down emissions through trade





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Concluding remark



- Large part of the problem: current EU policy approach still dominated by approach that focuses on EU interest:
 - access to markets and resources
 - protecting EU companies
- Need a new paradigm that combines climate change concerns, social issues and economic interest in a way that is globally beneficial

