

Development and Climate Days 2014
Zero poverty. Zero emissions. Within a generation.
6-7 December 2014
Lima, Peru



Zero poverty.
Zero emissions.
Within a generation.

Climate change threatens to reverse hard-earned gains to end extreme poverty. But sustainable development has the potential to lift people out of poverty and protect the environment. For the first time in history, there is the opportunity to integrate global efforts to tackle climate change and poverty, and set the world on a path to achieve zero extreme poverty and zero net emissions within a generation. The frameworks to be agreed in 2015 must work together to this end. But how can the climate and poverty agendas best be connected?

Join the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre, the International Institute for Environment and Development, the Overseas Development Institute and Climate Development Knowledge Network at COP20 in Lima for two days of debate and dialogue, focused on bringing zero-zero within reach.

In 2010, 700 million fewer people lived in extreme poverty than in 1990. We are now able to envision the end of extreme poverty — people living on less than \$1.25 (PPP) a day — within a generation. At the same time, the International Panel on Climate Change 5th Assessment has advised that we must achieve zero net greenhouse-gas emissions by 2100 (offsetting any remaining emissions by removing an equivalent amount from the atmosphere) in order to keep the world within an average 2°C rise in global mean temperature. This is necessary to avoid nearly all catastrophic climate change scenarios.

So why should the zero-zero targets be connected?

We know that some effects of climate change are inevitable and others highly likely. Far-sighted and far-reaching adaptation to increase people's resilience should therefore be a fundamental component of any poverty-eradication strategy.

We will also need to fight poverty in a way that will lead us to zero net emissions, or we will lose the ground we have gained on poverty reduction as the earth's climate spins increasingly out of control.

Furthermore, some pathways to reducing emissions by 2100 could result in an abrupt economic slowdown that could hinder the eradication of extreme poverty unless appropriate measures are taken.

We are at a pivotal moment: an international agreement on climate change (under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change or UNFCCC), the post-2015 sustainable development goals (under the United Nations Open Working Group) and a future framework on disaster risk reduction (under the Hyogo-Framework for Action II or HFA2) will all be finalised in 2015.

Strong and coherent links between these agreements could ensure that the sustainable development goals and disaster risk-reduction efforts are climate-smart and acknowledge that effective mitigation and adaptation strategies are pivotal to meeting poverty-eradication objectives. Without integration, these agreements will fail to address the development possibilities for the poorest and most vulnerable in a changing climate.

Development and Climate Days 2014 will bring stakeholders engaged in climate talks together with those developing the sustainable development goals, during the middle weekend of COP20 in Lima, Peru — a critical time as the UN hosts key negotiations in the lead-up to 'Paris21'.

Representatives from government, civil society, the private sector, multilateral agencies, media outlets and more will gather to:

- discuss the interdependence of climate goals with development goals for the post-2015 agenda, and offer fresh thinking on shared challenges and possible actions
- explore and discuss a strategy for the integration of climate and poverty targets
- influence the UNFCCC negotiations and the broader set of international processes, including the formulation of the sustainable development goals and the HFA2
- identify and generate climate and development agreements that could lead the world towards zero-zero within a generation.

Discussions will include the following key topics.

- 1) How do the inevitable and likely impacts of climate change, including extreme climate and weather events, affect poverty-eradication priorities?
- 2) How far-reaching, far-sighted and radical does adaptation need to be to make poverty eradication resilient to climate tipping points?
- 3) How does a pathway toward zero net emissions shape development priorities to eradicate global poverty? How can poverty-eradication strategies be made climate-smart?
- 4) What will a strategy to attain zero net emissions look like for countries fighting poverty? What are the implications of mitigation and adaption strategies for goals to bring greater shared prosperity to all?
- 5) What political scenarios will result in ambitious action for both agendas?
- 6) How can the international system of development finance, humanitarian assistance and climate finance be improved to address zero-zero objectives more effectively? How does the rest of the financial system, from the banking system to capital markets, need to change to meet the targets?
- 7) How will major systems of resource consumption, for energy, food and human habitat, need to change to meet both goals?
 - a) Which pathway will help achieve zero-zero: global redistribution of fossil-fuel benefits or hard limits on its expansion? Is combustion of fossil fuels necessary to defeat energy poverty and income poverty? If so, where will that combustion come from and how will it work?
 - b) What does pro-poor, sustainable agricultural intensification look like? Where will humanity get protein from 50 years from now? Is localisation or increased global integration of food systems the way to meet the two objectives?
 - c) How can unplanned cities be transformed into planned spaces and how might the resilience of urban areas be increased in climate-vulnerable environments?
- 8) What are the existing tools to achieve zero-zero and what new innovations are required?
- 9) How are development agencies integrating climate into their programs and what lessons are they learning?

Sessions will feature highly interactive and dynamic approaches to discussion, including participatory game sessions, speed geeking, lightning talks, scenario-based role-play discussions, world cafés and more, along with high-level panel and plenary discussions featuring a diverse mix of speakers.

