



For Climate Equity

International Climate and Energy Policy

The Role of the Heinrich Böll Foundation

Where we stand

Pitfalls and challenges of global environmental governance

Never before in the history of humankind has there been such an accumulation of global problems. Today, we face climate change and resource depletion, poverty and malnutrition, and additionally, the global economic and financial crisis. As a Green-allied political foundation with a presence in all of the world's regions, the Heinrich Böll Foundation puts climate and energy policy at the top of the priority list.

Realities of climate change: New scientific evidence raises alarms that climate trends such as rising sea levels and increases in global temperature are more pronounced than anticipated. Without immediate action, risks of irreversible climatic shifts are increasing.

Impacts of climate change: The effects of climate change on a location are determined to a large deal by its specific social, ecological, cultural and political structures. Particularly poor societies and ecosystems do not avail of coping capacities to sustain a temperature rise above 2°C.

Vulnerability to climate change: In the end, it is always the poor and the poorest who suffer the most from these crises. Women, children, elderly belong to the group of marginalized people that are the most exposed to climate change and the less capacitated to take action. Without a global accord on climate protection, adaptation and financing, it will be impossible to prevent dangerous climate change. But, a global



Flooding in Ethiopia Foto: Christian Berries

accord will only be achieved if it both protects the climate and guarantees development opportunities for the majority of the world's population. We, as the Heinrich Böll Foundation, have a role to play as actor shaping international climate and energy policy, governance structure and agency.

Who we are

The Foundation as actor in international climate and energy policy

Through our worldwide regional positioning with 28 offices covering more than 60 countries, we have great political reach in all regions. The international network of the Heinrich Böll Foundation consists of partner organizations and individuals such as Green-allied movements, non-governmental organizations, think tanks and academic institutions, parliaments and ministries all of whom share our values – sustainability, democracy and human rights, self-determination, justice, and gender-equity.

Self-understanding of the Heinrich Böll Foundation is based on four guiding principles:

A global energy policy transformation: The global temperature rise must be limited as far below 2°C warming as necessary, compared to pre-industrial levels, to avoid catastrophic climate change.



The Heinrich Böll Foundation maintains offices in 28 countries and works together with project partners in over 60 countries.

Just effort-sharing in the climate regime: Responsibility for climate protection needs to be strengthened. Efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change must be shared among countries on a fair and socially sustainable manner.

Comprehensive support to the vulnerable: Population groups and countries worldwide already suffer from the consequences of climate

change. Particularly the disproportionately-affected poor require not only support to adjust to climate change but also chances for human development.

Mainstreaming the gender dimension: We work actively for a gender-equitable coherent financial architecture and sustainable adaptation policy to achieve climate objectives.



More information: www.boell.de/ecology

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What we do

The Foundation's activities in the field of global environmental governance

As policy actor on its own ground:

— We give impetus to and orientate ourselves around climate policy action, for example for greater justice in the climate regime. The Greenhouse Development Rights Framework is one such innovative concept. It attempts to bring together climate protection, justice, and the right to development. First introduced in Bali, this publication has since found great resonance and is discussed in the UN climate negotiations.

— With the European Community for Renewable Energy (ERENE), the Foundation put forth its own proposal for the implementation of the necessary energy policy transformation in the North. The proposal has become the subject of broad-based political discussion and been positively received.

— We analyze and comment on research and policy: our website and especially the blog www.klima-der-gerechtigkeit.de (www.climatequity.org) have become leading sources for background information and current commentary on national as well as international climate policy decisions. Additionally, with the website www.ClimateFundsUpdate.org, the Foundation offers a unique source of information monitoring the many new climate funds as well as sound analysis.

— As policy actor, we promote clear stances on issues such as nuclear energy: the publication «Nuclear Power – Myth and Reality» provides a widely sought reference work that contains arguments against a dangerous nuclear trajectory.



Publication Series on Ecology

The Greenhouse Development Rights Framework: The Right to Development in a Climate Constrained World

A report by Paul Baer, Tom Athanasiou, Sivan Kartha and Eric Kemp-Benedict, Berlin, 2008

As supportive policy network:

— We facilitate knowledge transfer and information flow, for example through regional analyses and perspectives on climate change. One such example is «Africa Speaks Up on Climate Change», supported by Nobel Peace Prize Winner Wangari Maathai: in an appeal and film addressed to governments in Africa and the North, African activists affected by climate change demand a greater voice for Africa in international climate policy.

— We enable selected partners to take part in climate negotiations, and we also promote such participation locally through capacity-building workshops. Additionally, we offer trainings on climate change and politics to increase public awareness. This applies to state as well as civil society actors. In advance of the climate summit in Poznan, for example, members of the Nigerian delegation received training in negotiating techniques.

— We organize dialogues: in our transatlantic climate work, we bring European experiences of renewable energy diffusion or the introduction of emissions trading into the current debates in the US. As regards new energy policy issues such as the large-scale expansion of energy networks or electromobility on the basis of renewable energies, exciting developments are taking place on both sides of the Atlantic. We are accompanying these with the Transatlantic Climate Policy Group.

— We assist new media through the local production of alternative film types and distribution channels as well as new forms of communication such as YouTube or blogs.

— We support organizations in their efforts to produce broad public awareness of the impacts of climate change and to create alliances against climate change.



Atomic power is no solution to the world's energy problems Foto: dpa/montage hbs

How we do it

Experiences from the Foundation's engagement

Message from the field...

— **Africa:** Our Regional Office in South Africa conducted a regional scientific study on «gender and climate change» in Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. This study made a relevant contribution to gathering reliable data about the concrete impacts of climate change on the livelihoods of women. Even though women belong to the most marginalized people, their day-to-day struggles are ignored in climate change debates by the sheer absence of data. This study provides valuable input to the design of adequate and locally-appropriate adaptation measures.

— **Russia and southeastern Europe:** Training journalists for climate politics was one important focus of activities in Russia organized by our

Office in Moscow. One workshop was offered to mainly Siberian journalists in the Altai. Another important training activity was a workshop in Kaliningrad shortly before the international climate summit in Poznan. The objectives were to raise awareness about climate change and politics. The focus of our activities in southeastern Europe is on energy efficiency and renewable energy. In this context, an important conference organized in Sarajevo brought together stakeholders to disseminate information and stimulate debates on the potentials of an alternative energy path.

— **Asia:** As one example of our wide-ranging activities in Asia, the widely-spread network established by our Indian Office facilitates the support of civil society actors in climate change activities. One activity is the participation in

the consultation and review of the World Bank's Climate Change Strategy in South Asia initiated by the Climate Action Network (CAN). The ambitions are to create public awareness and gain a common understanding among civil society representatives on the World Bank's activities in order to increase pressure to deliver on sustainable development activities and investment.

— **Latin America:** Forests are back on the agenda of international climate negotiations and debates about avoided deforestation have become increasingly complex. Our Brazilian office contributed to the stimulation of discussions among civil society to ensure equal participation through the organization of seminars and workshops. Together with our partner organizations Friends of the Earth Brazil, Terra de Direitos and FASE, we engage in activities on forest issues in the

Amazon and on agro fuels. One focus of activities in our Mexican Office was on gender-related impacts of adaptation. Meanwhile, the Chilean Office initiated and participated in a policy study and consultation on the potentials of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

— **Middle East:** Our regional office in Ramallah extends support to organizations and activists allied in Egypt, Bahrein, Jemen, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and the United Arab Emirates to jointly promote advocacy for significant emission reductions and

energy-efficient practices in the member states of the Arab League. Since then the Arab Climate Alliance has stood for a radical political change in national and regional energy policy as well as for a unified Arab position to meet the climate crisis.

— **European Union and North America:** In relation to climate change politics, energy issues are high on the agenda in the Central and Eastern European member states of the EU. For this reason, our Prague Office coordinates events on energy politics, sustainable development, and climate change across the region. Our Washington DC Office, together with the Brussels and Prague Office, will establish a Transatlantic Climate Network. It aims to build the framework conditions for maximizing policy exchanges and mutual learning and will allow for the development of new strategies for regulating the similar challenges that the EU and the US face on their way toward a low-carbon economy.



Wind wheels in South India

Foto: Susanne Mahrwald



Para Nut Trees in Brasil

Foto: Annette v. Schönfeld