



IHDP Open Meeting 2009

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Science Conference on the
Human Dimensions of
Global Environmental Change

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World Conference Center Bonn
UN Campus
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The Social Challenges of Global Change

IHDP Secretariat | Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10 | D-53113 Bonn | P +49 (0)228 815 0600 | F +49 (0)228 815 0620
www.openmeeting2009.org | openmeeting@ihdp.unu.edu

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Realising Urban Development through International Partnerships - Good Practice Examples from German R&D and German Develop- ment Cooperation

Organised by: Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Venue: Bundesrat Plenarsaal

Cities play an important role in this scenario. Cities not only advance climate change, they also take the full brunt of its consequences. Therefore, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) set up its programme on "Future Megacities". Technical and non-technical innovations in urban areas could pave the road to better climate protection and increase the quality of life of the citizens. Thus, bilateral research teams form new alliances with city administrations, practitioners and civil society. Together they develop and implement strategies for energy- and climate-efficient structures in urban growth centres. Also the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) attaches great importance to both 'mitigating' the causes of climate change and 'adapting' to present and future climate change impacts. In the field of mitigation the German Development Cooperation is already supporting many and diverse activities; this work ranges from improving energy efficiency, fostering renewable energy to building capacity to emissions trading. In the field of adaptation the aim is to move from concept to practice in helping developing countries set priorities for action and cooperate in their implementation. Moving from theory to practice means understanding how poor people's livelihoods are actually affected by climate change. This includes the promotion of integrated municipal adaptation strategies, advice on climate change resilient and climate-friendly urban planning, building and infrastructure development and services.

Meet the practitioners and researchers and discuss first results and good practice examples from on-going projects in Vietnam and China, and further examples from Egypt, Mongolia and the Ukraine.