Welcome to the latest edition of our biannual newsletter. Please allow me to update you on the relevant developments at Climate Strategies since December 2014.

Two Initiatives Supporting Global Negotiations
Together with The Stanley Foundation we organised the second Global Climate Policy Conference in New Delhi in early May – resulting in many new and constructive proposals on how to make Paris and after Paris successful and sound (see some reflections on page 2). Also, in partnership with Taylor and Francis, we launched a dedicated section on our website where selected articles from the Climate Policy Journal covering issues relevant to the INDCs process, will be made available free of charge.

New Projects
We are inviting you to interact with and support us on two new projects that we are commencing now. One relates to the inclusion of consumption in emissions trading, the other will bring experience from peace and reconciliation processes into the climate debate to address the issue of historical responsibility. Please check the ‘Highlights on Projects’ section and contact us if you are interested.

Appeal to Young Scholars
We would like to appeal to all young scholars reading this newsletter. If you have new, innovative ideas for relevant research please do get in touch with us. Our network exists to help develop fresh and original approaches and match them with real needs of government and business stakeholders. Through our four strategic roles – inspirer, convenor, translator and analyser – we aim at maximising impact of research.

With best regards,

Andrzej Blachowicz
Managing Director
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2015 is a year of parties’ submissions of their INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions). If you want to gain better understanding of the INDCs by looking at domestic climate policies of countries – consult the Climate Policy Journal. We have assembled a list of recent ‘country studies’:

Examples of articles – country studies:

Marginal abatement cost curves and the quality of emission reductions: a case study on Brazil (2015), by Adrien Vogt-Schilb, Stéphane Hallegatte & Christophe de Gouvello

Challenges to the development of carbon markets in China (2015), by Alex Y. L.

Combining price and quantity instruments: insights from South Africa (2015), by Emily Tyler and Brent Cloete.

Examples of articles – new proposals for the negotiations:

Energy research within the UNFCCC: A proposal to guard against ongoing climate-deadlock (2015), by Jonathan Symons, Barry Brook, Kingsley Edney, Rafaela Hillerbrand and Rasmus Karlsson.

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REFLECTIONS ON THE GLOBAL CLIMATE POLICY CONFERENCE 2015

Climate Strategies (CS) ushered in the summer with the second edition of the Global Climate Policy Conference (GCPC) in warm Delhi on April 30 and May 1. The GCPC 2015, co-organised with The Stanley Foundation, with additional support from the Oak Foundation, had the thematic title of ‘New research for effective action at Paris and beyond: Strengthening the research-policy interface in international climate negotiations.’ A bit of a mouthful but it conveys the general idea!

The conference continued with the approach of the GCPC 2014 in soliciting innovative proposals from the research community on how to advance action on key issues in the climate arena. We received over forty abstracts, out of which we chose eight, which were then grouped into four themes (Climate and Development; Adaptation; Public-Private Partnerships; and Motivating and Enhancing State Action). We also added a second dimension to this edition by organising a set of panel discussions on key topics (Investment, Carbon Pricing and Technology; Adaptation and Loss & Damage; and Capacity-Building) that brought in experts from around the world to add to the discussions. Everything went smoothly, that brought in experts from around the world to add to the discussions. Everything went smoothly, with credit going to the excellent logistical support from colleagues from TSF and CS. The presentations were outstanding and catalysed vigorous and thoughtful discussions among the participants both within the meeting rooms as well as outside. We received comments from a number of participants afterwards, expressing their appreciation for the intellectual and the organisational aspects of the conference.

Overall, the GCPC is shaping up to be a flagship activity of Climate Strategies that achieves the multiple goals of providing a platform for innovative ideas (and for creative researchers) to explore ways to advance climate action, of bringing together climate-policy researchers from around the world, and to better understand how research can contribute to improved climate-policy making. These are useful and positive contributions of CS to the climate policy arena and, in turn, they also strengthen CS. Onwards and upwards!

Ambuj Sagar
Professor at the Indian Institute of Technology, Member of Climate Strategies and Chair of GCPC 2015

Click climatestrategies.org/call-for-abstracts-global-climate-policy-conference-2015/ to access the conference presentations and (once published) the post-conference publication.

Upcoming events

● Side event at the Bonn June session: Tuesday 9 June, 2015 at 18.30–20.00 Room: Kaminzimmern (113).
● Parallel session at the Paris Scientific conference ‘Our Common future under Climate Change’ Friday 10 July, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS ON PROJECTS

Follow @climatestrat for updates on events and projects

Inclusion of Consumption in Emissions Trading
This project explores whether inclusion of domestic sales of selected energy intensive commodities (e.g. steel) in domestic emission trading schemes is an effective and feasible approach towards restoring the carbon price signal in these sectors without damaging competitiveness. A scoping meeting was organised in January 2015 in Berlin, while the first project workshop will be held in Brussels early June 2015 focusing on the inclusion of consumption in the pulp and paper sectors.

PUBLICATIONS: Please visit the project webpage where you can download the introductory report, and the first Policy Brief on the inclusion of consumption of carbon intensive commodities in carbon pricing mechanisms.

WEBPAGE: climatestrategies.org/projects/inclusion-of-consumption-in-emissions-trading/

Mobilizing and transferring knowledge on post-2012 climate policy (POLIMP)
The 3rd POLIMP Stakeholder Workshop was held in February 2015 in Brussels and focused on market mechanisms, specifically the EU ETS. This workshop assessed cost-effectiveness of the EU ETS and its economic impacts, and discussed national stakeholders’ views on how the 2030 framework will influence the political support for the EU ETS.

WEBPAGE: polimp.eu

HIGHLIGHTS ON RECENT REPORTS

Follow: @climatestrat for updates on events and reports

Is a Market Stability Reserve likely to improve the functioning of the EU ETS?
The report was completed in February 2015 and published a few days before the European Parliament ENVI vote on the Market Stability Reserve. The report was launched through a media outreach campaign with the support of LSE communications team and was picked up by numerous media sources. It was later presented at a meeting organised by the EGF in Brussels. Further stakeholder engagement events were held in Warsaw, Poland; Prague, Czech Republic and Brussels during May 2015.

WEBPAGE: climatestrategies.org/projects/informing-the-eu-ets-options/

Evaluating peace and reconciliation to address historical responsibility within international climate negotiations
The grand research project, supported primarily by the KR Foundation, will build on international experience with peace and reconciliation processes in order to develop a new approach to climate equity that may be better suited to reconciling past-oriented concerns about historical responsibility and associated obligations with future-oriented desires for broader and deeper mitigation.

We intend to hold consultation meetings and develop policy proposals.

WEBPAGE: coming soon

The EU 2030 Framework for Climate Change Policy
The objective of this project is to provide robust policy analysis of the European Union’s 2030 climate and energy policy.

PUBLICATIONS: In late March we published a new report: €‘Enhanced flexibility in the EU’s Effort Sharing Agreement in Non-ETS’. The paper presents a discussion on how reducing emissions from sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) will be crucial to achieving Europe’s emissions reduction goals for 2030 and beyond. Another paper, on the role of the EU ETS, will be published in June 2015. WEBPAGE: climatestrategies.org/projects/the-eu-2030-framework-for-climate-and-energy/policies/