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International Network for Sustainable Energy

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## **Climate Summit Must Change North-South Cooperation and CDM**

**Today, the Climate Summit - COP16 starts in Cancun, Mexico.**

It is the highest forum, where global climate issues are regularly negotiated, and even though the results from COP15 last year in Copenhagen were disappointing, *decisions from the COP are crucial for climate policies and ultimately for the global climate.*

While we hope for a new, ambitious climate agreement, at least what the countries can do at the COP16 is to improve the current system. *The present Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is in the urgent need of improvements.* It is the largest climate financing mechanism for developing countries, but its ability to reach the poor and the vulnerable, such as women and indigenous people is minimal. In addition, many of the projects that receive support are much less effective to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases than the reductions they offset in the industrialised countries.

Therefore, *International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)*, a network of NGOs from North and South, *proposes a new CDM that shall be efficient to reduce greenhouse gases and that shall be clearly tied to development for some of those that needs it most.* The new CDM mechanism must follow a new set of criteria, including:

- Projects must lead to poverty reduction, and fulfilling of the Millennium Development Goals (ODM).
- Projects must directly target poor people and increase their welfare and/or income via the projects.
- Only reductions of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> emissions can be included.
- Project organisers must be non-profit, to avoid exploitation of the mechanism for profit.
- Project administration and verification must be proportional to the project size.
- Projects must be additional, but verification can be simpler for smaller, standardised projects.
- Project bundling should be allowed.
- CDM credits and eventual other external credits must only fulfil up to 10% of the total reduction target of a country.
- CDM income should be available for upfront investments, for instance via a fund and/or via a possibility to sell a part of the certified emission reductions (CER) early in the project.

This change of CDM shall not change the historical responsibilities of developed countries and international institutions of past emissions as well as of dissemination of high-emission solutions. A fair, global climate regime shall also include a mechanism for support for emission-reductions of developing countries, based on historical responsibilities and on abilities to support.

During COP16, INFORSE representatives will promote this new CDM, to gather support for replacing the current, inefficient CDM system as soon as possible. See the CDM proposal, background and contacts etc. at [http://www.inforse.org/europe/conf10\\_COP16.htm](http://www.inforse.org/europe/conf10_COP16.htm).  
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