

Fact Sheet: World Bank and Climate Change

Context:

Climate change and increasing variability are already affecting many development sectors – agriculture, water, health, and infrastructure – and will continue to do so in the coming decades.

Under the United Nations climate negotiations, governments have agreed to keep the average global temperature rise below 2 degree Celsius. However, there is increasing scientific evidence that this target will be missed without sustained policy action. *Turn Down the Heat*, a snapshot of the latest climate science prepared for the World Bank by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and Climate Analytics, says we are on a path to a 4 degree Celsius¹ (4°C) warmer world by the end of this century under current greenhouse gas emissions pledges².

Poorer nations and communities are likely to suffer the most as they often are dependent on climate sensitive activities, located in drier and warmer, or coastal areas and have the least economic, institutional, scientific, and technical capacity to cope and adapt.

Recent World Bank work on [Inclusive Green Growth](#) shows that it is possible to grow cleaner without growing slower, through addressing the many market and govTETB6(ent)5(i)-4 0 1 95.064 532.15 T3(xi)

The World Bank has made a clear choice in favor of supporting developing and emerging market countries investing in [renewable energy](#) and energy efficiency.

In 2012, the World Bank Group approved a total of \$3.6 billion in financing for renewable energy, a record 44% share of its annual energy lending of \$8.2 billion.

The energy efficiency portfolio rose from \$3.0 billion over 2006-08 to \$5.0 billion in 2009-11.

The World Bank Group has been closely involved in the [Sustainable Energy for All initiative](#). The Bank committed to doubling the leverage of its energy financing, providing technical assistance to several opt-in countries. These include the Global Geothermal Development Plan,