



# Strategic Collaboration under Joint Commitments

A Framework for Enhanced Large-scale Collaboration  
(to Reduce Emissions in Developing Countries)

Delhi High Level Conference on Climate Change:  
Technology Development and Transfer

Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, October 22-23, 2009

**Benito Müller**

Director Energy & Environment, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies;  
Managing Director, Oxford Climate Policy; [benito.mueller@philosophy.ox.ac.uk](mailto:benito.mueller@philosophy.ox.ac.uk)

Oxford Institute for  
Energy Studies



## From Sovereign Targets ...

- There is a *fundamental conceptual difference* between the problem of sharing the burden of reducing the emissions of developed and that of developing countries.
- Traditionally, the problem of reducing global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions has been couched in terms of whether or not countries should take on (legally binding) ***sovereign commitments*** to reduce ‘their’ emissions (i.e. the emissions emanating from their sovereign territories).
- This conception is appropriate to developed countries, but –for reasons of historic responsibilities and current capabilities– *not* to developing countries



## ... to Conditional Commitments, ...

- Developing countries have consistently insisted on such a fundamental distinction, leading to numerous formulations of *conditional commitments*.

**UNFCCC (1992) : Article 4.7** states that the extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under the Convention *will depend* on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments under the Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology.

**Bali Action Plan (2007):** Nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties in the context of sustainable development, *supported and enabled* by technology, financing and capacity-building, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner.

- Conditional Commitments have so far not worked, primarily due to lack of political will.

## ... to Joint Commitments

*It is not a question of what **you** will commit or what **I** will commit.  
It is a question of what **we** will commit **together** to meet that challenge!*

Mr Kapil Sibal, Bali Climate Conference

*the fundamental guiding principle by which the Alliance works is that of **common commitment and mutual co-operation** among sovereign states in support of the indivisibility of security for all of its members.*

Para 8 of the 1999 revised NATO Strategic Concept

***Joint Commitment Framework Agreements** for Strategic Collaboration as instruments to address developing country emissions*





## Sino-European Joint Commitment Framework Agreement on Large Scale Wind Power Collaboration

- The Chinese government and the European counterparty/ies commit themselves to create an *additional x percent of wind power* (over and above the domestic target) in the Chinese power sector through targeted Sino-European collaborative wind farm operations.
- The *Chinese government* provides the required *regulatory environment* to incentivize such collaborations between European and Chinese wind farm operators (i.e. through *feed-in tariffs*).
- The European counterparty government(s) provide the required *feed-in tariff subsidies* for the targeted Sino-European wind operations, either directly, or through the carbon market instruments (e.g. by issuing ‘CER Put-Options’)