

**Elliot Diringer**  
**Director, International Strategies**  
**Pew Center on Global Climate Change**  
**COP 8 Side Event: *Climate Change Mitigation in Developing Countries***

- Good afternoon. Thank you all for joining us. My name is Elliot Diringer. I am director of international strategies for the Pew Center on Global Climate Change. We're very pleased to be able to share with you today a new Pew Center report that examines the topic of Climate Change Mitigation in Developing Countries. This report takes a comprehensive look at efforts that are helping to reduce the growth of greenhouse emissions in six developing countries – Brazil, China, India, Mexico, South Africa and Turkey.
- The report was researched and written by a team of experts from those six countries, and coordinated by Bill Chandler of Battelle Memorial Institute. Unfortunately, it was not possible to have all the authors here today. But four of the lead authors are with us, and in a few moments they will present their key findings.
- Before introducing the authors, though, I'd like to say a few words about the Pew Center and provide some context for this report.
- The Pew Center is an independent NGO based in the United States that is dedicated to providing credible information, analysis, and policy advice in the effort to address global climate change. Our goal is the development of fair and effective climate regimes at the national and international levels that work through the marketplace to deliver significant long-term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions as cost-effectively as possible.
- Many of you are familiar with our reports on climate science, economics and policy. In addition to our analytical work, we work closely with a group of leading corporations that are committed to addressing climate change. Our Business Environmental Leadership Council now includes 38 companies that believe climate change demands serious solutions to which business can contribute, both in the marketplace and the public policy arena. I should note here that the Pew Center receives no funding from these companies. We are funded entirely by foundations and other charitable donors.
- Our goal in undertaking the report we are presenting today is to contribute to a better understanding of the ongoing contribution of developing countries, and the potential contribution of developing countries, to climate mitigation.
- We believe it is important to explore these questions for a number of reasons. From an environmental perspective, understanding the role of developing countries is important because protecting the climate will in time require stronger efforts by all the major emitting countries – both developed and developing. We believe it is important politically as well, to address some of the perceptions or misperceptions that may exist, and, hopefully, to help move us toward an equitable sharing of the responsibility for climate protection.

- It should go without saying that, as a matter of fairness, the United States and other developed countries should take the lead in addressing climate change. That principle was accepted by all countries in the Framework Convention. Yet we all know that fairness is often in the eye of the beholder. Many of you will recall that the United States Senate, in the months leading up to Kyoto, strongly cautioned against any agreement that did not include developing country commitments. And President Bush, in rejecting Kyoto, declared the Protocol unfair because it does not mandate action by large developing countries like China and India.
- However, accepting emission limits is not the only measure of whether a country is contributing to climate mitigation. Efforts that have the effect of reducing or avoiding greenhouse gas emissions, whether or not undertaken in the name of climate protection, do nonetheless contribute to climate mitigation. We've seen this when looking at various efforts undertaken by companies and at the state and local levels in the United States. Often these efforts are undertaken for other reasons – to improve efficiencies, for instance, or to diversify energy sources – but their net effect is lower greenhouse gas emissions.
- This report demonstrates, not surprisingly, that a similar dynamic exists in developing countries. The authors will explain in much greater detail what they found, but I'd like to briefly highlight some of the report's key conclusions:
  - First, the authors found that efforts undertaken by these six countries have in fact significantly reduced the growth of their greenhouse gas emissions. While their emissions have grown substantially and will continue to grow, they likely would be about 18 percent higher than they are today if not for these efforts.
  - Second, while these efforts were motivated by a wide range of concerns, the authors found that certain common drivers operated across all six countries. In most cases, these efforts were undertaken either to achieve economic growth, to enhance energy security, or to protect local environments.
  - Finally, the authors found that there is significant potential for additional climate mitigation in these countries, particularly if they and the international community pursue strategies that capitalize on the natural synergies between climate protection and other development priorities to simultaneously advance both.
- I should note that in conducting their research the authors gathered far more material than could be included in the report. Some have incorporated some of that additional material in their presentations today, so please understand if there is not a perfect match between the case studies in the report and the presentations.
- Our first presenter is Bill Chandler, senior staff scientist and Director of Advanced International Studies at Battelle Memorial Institute's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Bill will present an overview of the report and the China case study, and following the other speakers, will briefly present the Brazil and Turkey case studies and conclusions.

