Title: An overview of new work on climate and development linkages from the CD-LINKS project

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Statement: Climate and development agendas are inextricably linked: the transformation towards a low carbon world is expected to have notable impacts on other development goals. Poverty reduction and reducing inequalities (SDGs 1, 10, 5), food security (SDG 2), health issues (SDG 3), water availability (SDG 6), energy poverty (SDG 7), economic growth, innovation and employment (SDG 8, 9) can be linked, in either reinforcing or counteracting ways, to climate action (SDG 13).

To maximize synergies between the two global agreements and to support national policy making, the research project CD-LINKS brings together a consortium of nineteen leading research organizations from around the globe to explore national and global climate transformation strategies and their linkages to a range of SDGs.

Based on an analysis of the NDCs and pathways to achieve the 1.5 and 2°C targets, we assess implications for achieving the SDGs and analyze how more stringent climate action could foster a transformation with positive feedbacks with regards to the SDGs. The current analysis that aims at informing the 2018 facilitative dialogue under the Paris Agreement indicates that:

- Climate change mitigation generates significant synergies with air quality improvements, thus reducing negative health impacts of air pollution (SDG 3).
- Inclusive development and climate policies are key to reduce risk of hunger for simultaneous achievement of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).
- Options are available to pursue stringent climate mitigation without increasing water demand (SDG 6), e.g. through water-efficient cooling technologies or structural change in power generation, or by reducing energy demand.
- Inclusive policies which combine target emission reductions while also supporting low income households, allow stringent climate protection without deteriorating access to clean energy services (SDG 7).