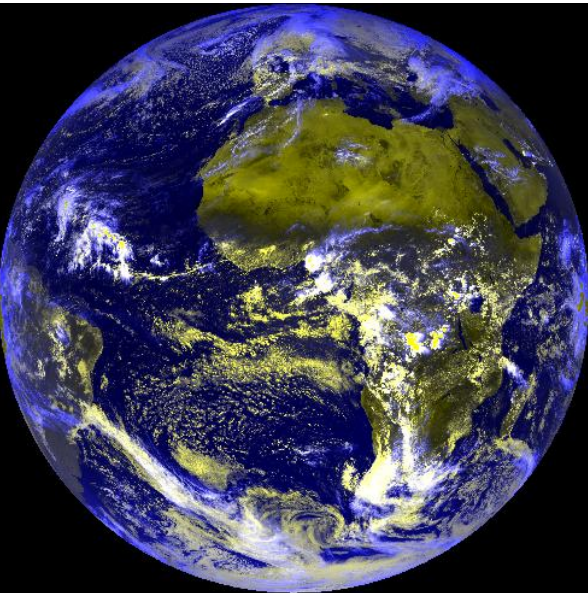




# What is at stake in Bali?



*Yvo de Boer*

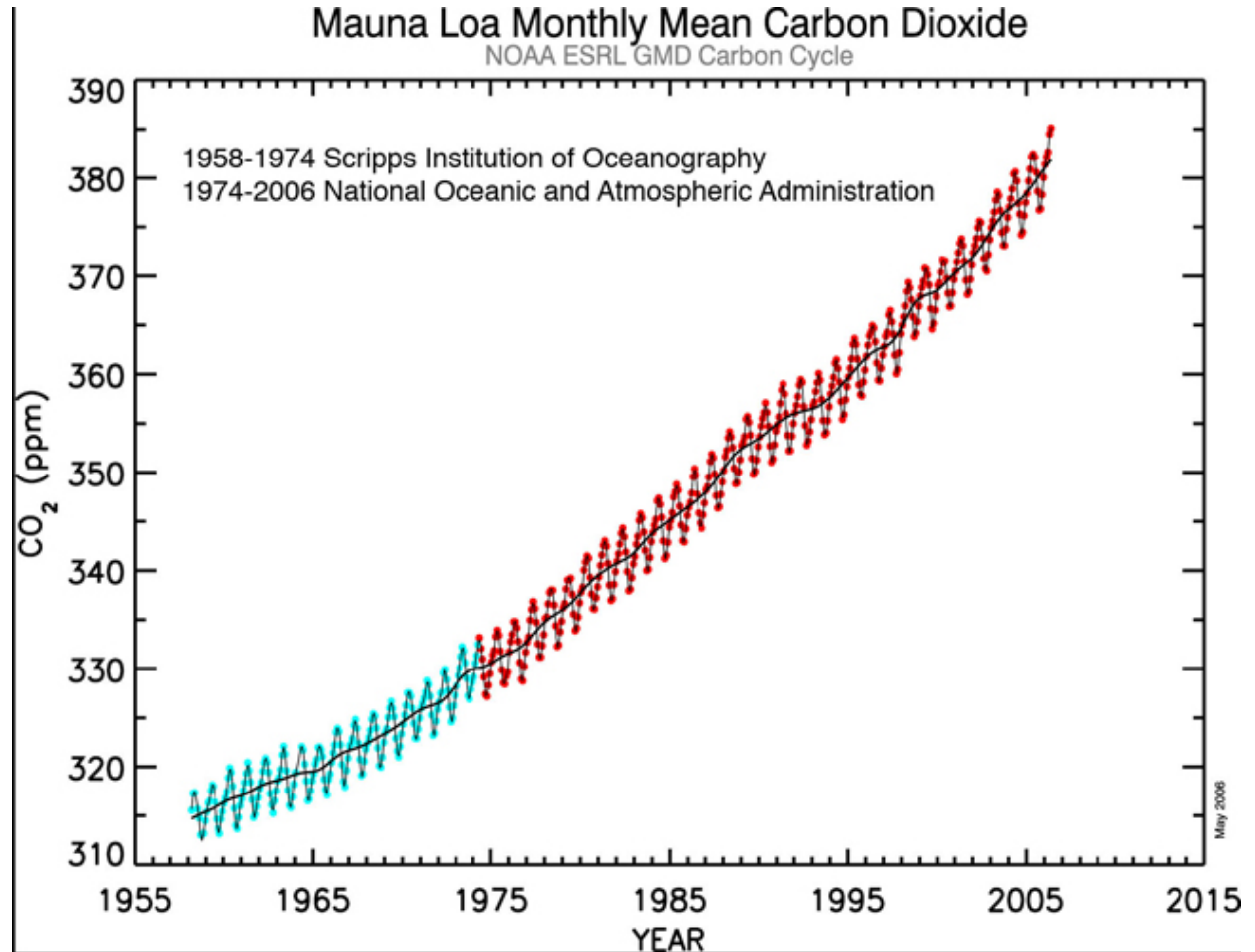
*Executive Secretary*

*UNFCCC*



# Atmospheric carbon dioxide measurements at Mauna Loa, Hawaii

**August 2007  
measurement  
at 385 ppm**



Source: NOAA



# Some effects of climate change

---

- Rise in temperature by between **1.8 to 4.0°C** by **2100**
- **Diminished food security**, drying of continental interiors
- Glaciers and ice caps continue to melt - **rise in sea levels**
- **Stress on water resources** – security implications
- **Health** impacts
- Increase of **intensity and frequency of extreme events**

**Climate change is no longer only “environmental” in nature**





# What are the two approaches in the international climate change process?

---

## Mitigation

Involves **human interventions to reduce the sources of GHGs** or enhance their sinks.

- Emissions need to be reduced by **well over 50% from current levels.**
- **IPCC: industrialised countries need to reduce emissions by 25 - 40% after 2012**
- **Emissions need to peak in the next 10 – 15 years**







# What are the two approaches in the international climate change process?

---

**Adaptation:** coping with climatic change – taking measures to **reduce the negative effects, or exploit the positive ones**, by making appropriate adjustments.

- Adaptation is **inevitable**
- **Developing countries will be most affected.**
- Adaptation needs to be **streamlined into development plans and sufficiently funded**
- **Strong adaptation policies** need to be **in place very soon**



# The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

---

- 191 Parties – near universal membership

## **The ultimate objective of the Convention:**

“... stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.” (Art. 2)



# The Kyoto Protocol

---

- Entry into force on 16 February 2005
- 174 Parties, 1 regional economic organisation (June 2007)
- Commitment period: 2008 – 2012

## Main features

- **Legally binding targets** for emissions of six major greenhouse gases in industrialized countries during first commitment period
- New **international market-based instruments** creating a new commodity: carbon
- **Facilitate sustainable development** and **additional support to developing countries** on adaptation



# Example of a Kyoto mechanism: Clean Development Mechanism

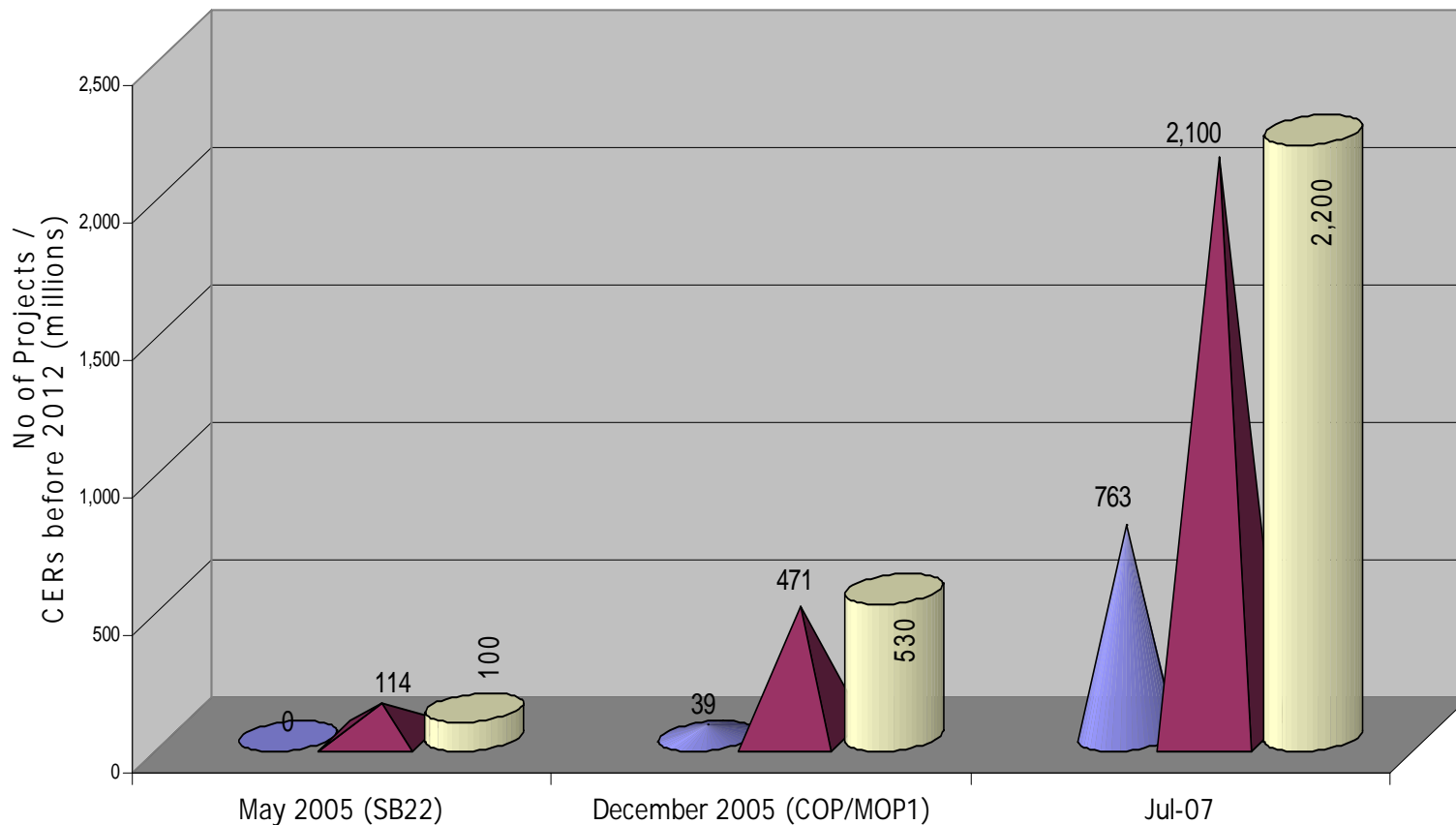
---

- Industrialized countries pay for projects that **cut or avoid emissions in poorer nations**
- They earn certified emission reduction (CERs) credits that can be applied to meeting their own emissions targets
- Recipient countries benefit from **sustainable development initiatives**





# Exponential growth of the CDM



■ Registered project activities ■ Projects in the pipeline ■ Projected CERs





# From now to COP13/CMP3 in Bali: 3-14 December 2007

---

## Key events up to Bali:

- (G8 outcome)
- General Assembly thematic debate on climate change: 31 July – 01 August 2007
- Preparatory meetings – UN Climate Change Conference: Vienna 2007 (Dialogue & AWG): 27 - 31 August 2007
- Secretary General's High Level Event on climate change: 24 September 2007
- Launch of the IPCC's synthesis report of its fourth assessment report: 12 November 2007



# Expectations for COP13/CMP3 in Bali - *public*

---

Public pressure for COP13 to provide **political answers to IPCC AR4**

The momentum for the next steps is building up:

- **Increased media interest**, especially in developing countries
- IPCC AR4
- The **SG** has made climate change a priority
- **Security Council debate**
- **G8** focus on climate change
- **Pressure from private sector** for long-term, well-defined strategies





# Expectations for COP13/CMP3 in Bali - *substance*

---

- Report on the dialogue
- Work of the AWG
- Financial flows project
- Reducing emissions from deforestation
- Adaptation (Nairobi Work Programme; Adaptation Fund)
- CDM (Nairobi Framework)
- Technology transfer







# Key expectation for COP13/CMP3 in Bali - *future*

---

**A comprehensive agenda for a future regime needs to be launched at COP13.**

- **A strong framework needs to be in place by 2009/2010** to ensure that there is **no gap** between the end of the first commitment period in 2012 and the **entry into force of a future regime.**
- An enhanced future climate change regime within a **multilateral framework** under the auspices of the UN.
- All countries need to be included



# Aspects: a future climate change regime

---

- **IPCC AR4**
- **Long-term global response;**
- **Deep emission cuts by industrialised countries;**
- **Further engagement of developing countries;**
- **Incentives for developing countries to limit their emissions, assistance to adapt,** while safeguarding socio-economic growth and poverty eradication;
- **Flexibility through an enhanced carbon market**





# The role of the UN

---

## **Policy committee:**

The **response to climate change** needs to be firmly positioned in the **sustainable development agenda**

- Climate change should be a **strategic focus area** for UN **public outreach and publicity**
- Climate change should be **mainstreamed** into all **UN programme and work streams**
- Increased support for **action on adaptation**
- Further improved **scientific research**

