

Sectoral approaches to climate action What role in a future mitigation regime?

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Outline

 Sectoral approaches: do we have a choice? An illustration.

 A look at countries' recent submissions to the UNFCCC

• How could sectoral approaches be integrated in the next UNFCCC regime?



"Sectoral approaches: Complementary or dead end?"

Sectoral approaches are likely to be an essential element of future international mitigation efforts

Hence, handle with care in run up to Copenhagen



Sectoral approaches: do we have a choice?



Illustration - CO₂ emissions in China

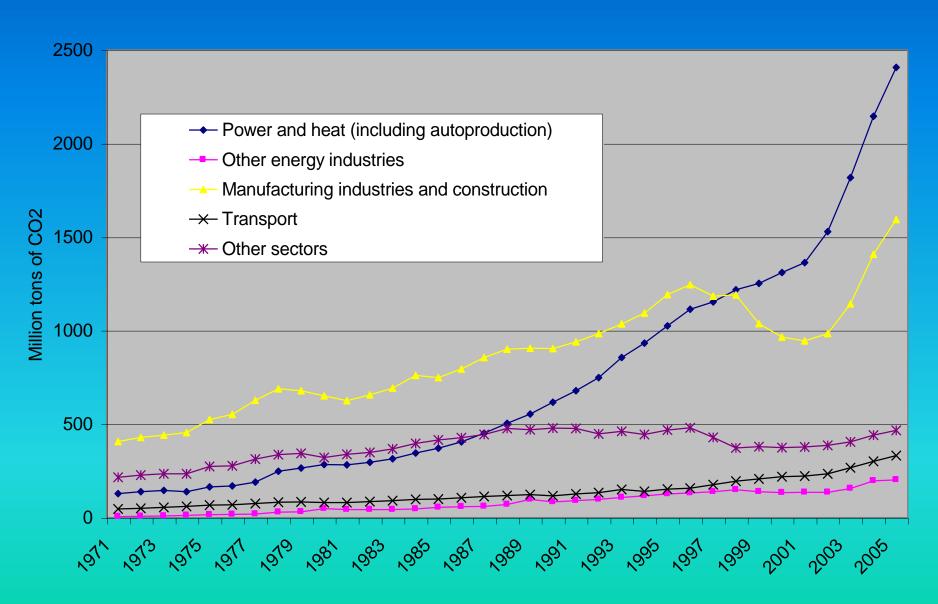
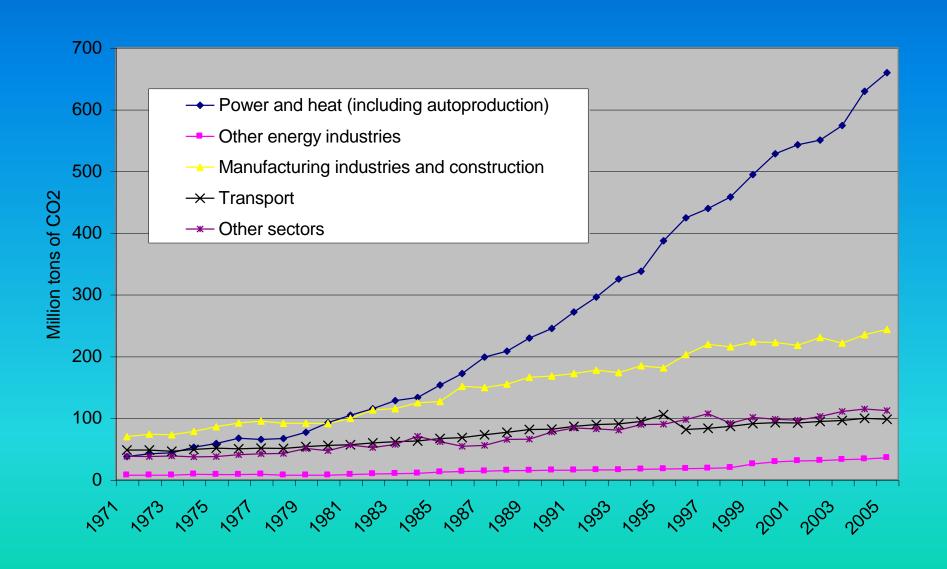
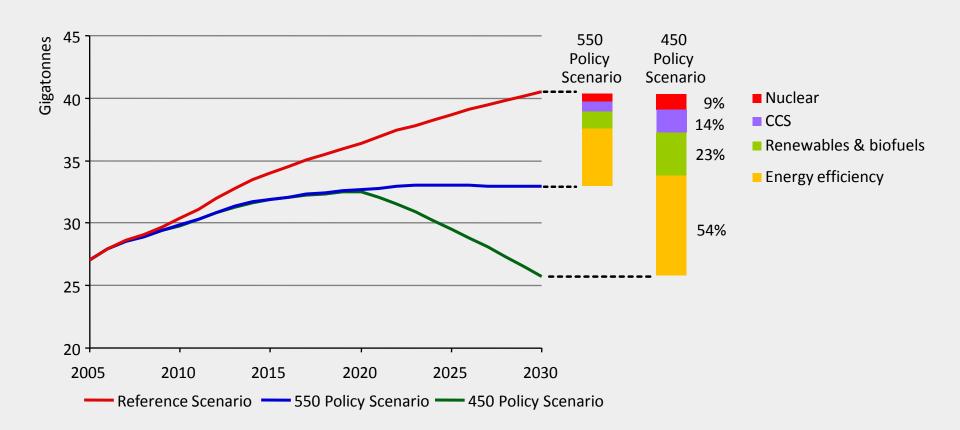




Illustration - CO₂ emissions in India



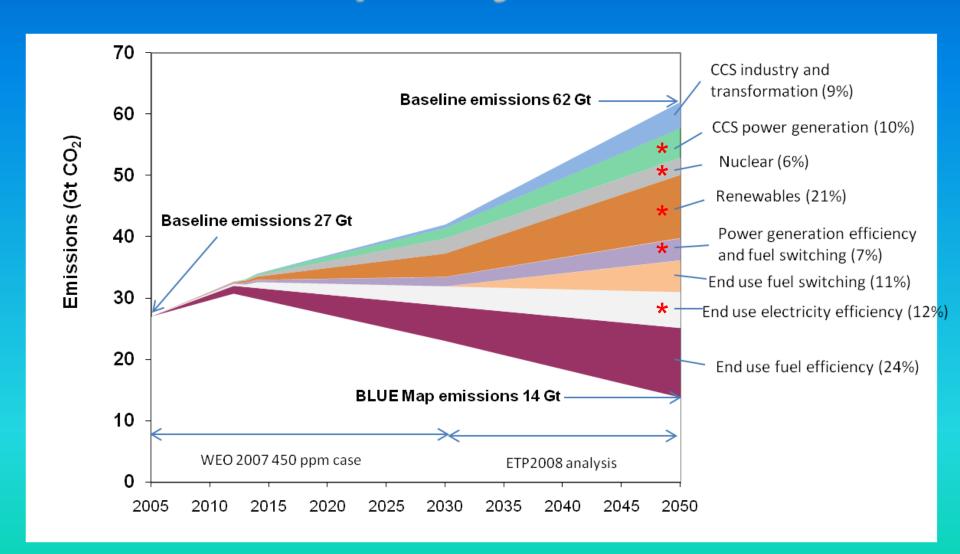
Reductions in energy-related CO₂ emissions in the climate-policy scenarios



Getting the power sector on track is essential
While technological progress is needed to achieve some emissions reductions, efficiency
gains and deployment of existing low-carbon energy accounts for most of the savings



Electricity (supply and use) should be a priority for action



Source: IEA(2008), Energy Technology Perspectives 2050.



Why are we, internationally, looking at sectors?

- Since Kyoto: from 'simple' country caps (-and-trade) to the actual complexity of specific mitigation policies
 - Whether market-based or else, useful lessons can be drawn from Annex I progress on various policy areas
 - See G8 best practice work and concrete recommendations on energy efficiency
- Most developing countries not ready for country-wide goals
 - In the meantime, GHG accumulate in the atmosphere
- Competitiveness concerns uneven carbon constraints
- Some will need sector-specific support to act early
 - Best policy practice
 - Training (see Asia-Pacific Partnership on efficiency of existing plants)
 - Targeted financial support
 - Carbon market



SA under the UNFCCC at present



What Parties talk about, when they talk about sectoral approaches

- Evaluate mitigation potentials / help to set mitigation objectives / not replace targets for Annex I Parties
- Enhance UNFCCC article 4.1.c (incl. technology transfer)
 - Sector-specific technology information, technology assessment
- Enhance mitigation in developing countries through bottom-up approach
 - Binding or non-binding sectoral goals
 - Transfer of best policy practice
- Link to, scaling up of, the carbon market
 - Sectoral crediting, no-lose sectoral targets
 - Baselines: standardisation (but no to a global standard)
- Trade-related aspects
- And mention specific sectors



Views on SA from Accra submissions

- China: no to benchmarks, standards, etc. but calls for larger finance incl. via carbon markets. Review of EST on basis of cost, reliability, obstacles
- India: no common standards, cooperative R&D, IPR cost, standards on certain products and practices, voluntary energy efficiency programmes (pledge)
- S. Africa: Register of actions. Toolbox of support instruments, SD-PAMs → No-lose
- S. Korea: Registry for NAMA (nationally appropriate mitigation actions): crediting to provide finance

Options for integrating sectoral approaches into the UNFCCC

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ANNEX I EXPERT GROUP ON THE UNFCCC

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Sectoral approaches to mitigation under the UNFCCC

- Raise issues, and study opportunities for integration of SA in UNFCCC regime (by COP 15)
- Three angles to explore integration
 - Domestic sectoral approaches
 - Technology issues
 - Transnational initiatives, agreements?
- Analysis considers:
 - UNFCCC legal texts
 - Coverage / eligibility
 - UNFCCC implementation issues
 - > Suggestions for minimum elements for COP 15



Domestic sectoral approaches

- Options on the table
 - NAMAs (1bii and iv) / sectoral crediting (AWG, 1biv) / non-binding no-lose target (AWG, 1biv) / sector-wide commitments with trading (1bii,iv,v)
- Suggested elements for COP 15 decisions
 - Trading: what type (offsets? credits? caps), how much, for whom (countries/sectors), for how long?
 - Eligibility: selection criteria for sectors/countries?
 - Link to NAMAs, esp. for crediting?
 - Pilot phase: data, gearing up for target setting
 - Process:
 - Set a date for submission of sectoral objectives
 - Or work on an institutional framework to review sectoral proposals as they come (à la CDM executive board)



Sector-based technology cooperation

- Starting point: a sectoral framework to address technology cooperation (1biv of B.A.P.)
 - How to organise sector-specific technology support (i.e. funding and other forms of support)
 - Convention funds, new ones, World Bank CIF?...
 - Selection of activities: should Parties decide to prioritise technological support based on:
 - GHG mitigation potential size, risk of carbon lock-in ...
 - Cost-effectiveness (seek more or less similar cost of CO₂/GHG mitigation)
 - Existence of market barriers (win-win outcomes)
 - Geographical balance
 - Sectoral expert groups (e.g., Technology and Economic Assessment Panels of the Montréal Protocol)





Transnational sectoral approaches

- Options? Performance goals / common baseline methodology / international technology cooperation
 - **→** Some common methodology applying to sectors?
 - → Some international negotiation over a sector's emission trajectory or policy?
- Embedded in UNFCCC, or negotiated elsewhere?
 - Effective negotiation with a critical mass ≠ all UNFCCC Parties

Can existing initiatives help in discussions of SA?

- Industry groups: aluminium, cement, iron & steel
- Performance data (energy and CO2)
 - Elaboration of CDM methodology based on int'l data (Cement Sustainability Initiative)
- Bring data and identify data gaps / mitigation potentials / build support for SA from bottom up.





Transnational sectoral approaches (2)

- If Parties were to move towards transnational discussions on sectors, short-term decisions on integration could include:
 - Short-list relevant sectors
 - Organisation of sectoral expertise (TEAP)
 - Core elements for negotiation (baselines, technology cooperation, ... trade aspects)
 - Nature and reach of agreement (% of global output)

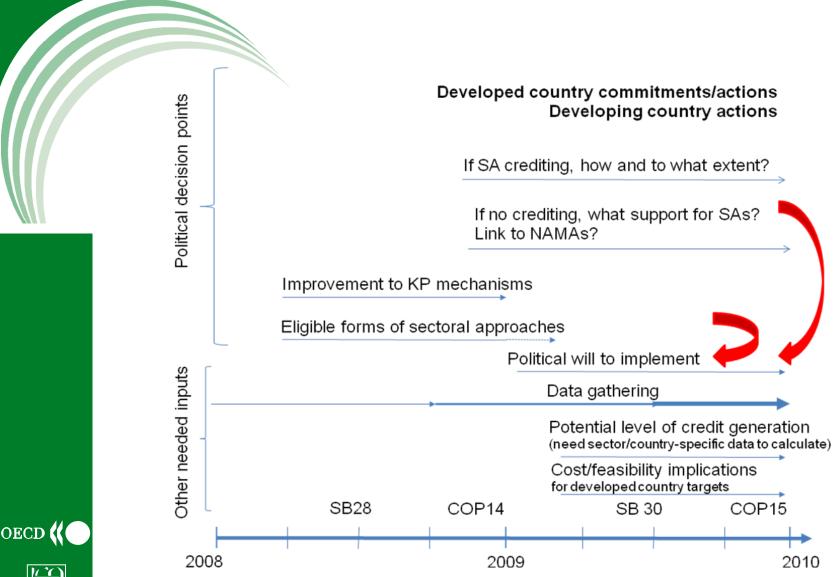
Notes:

- 1. *IAI* (aluminium) and *worldsteel* have expressed doubts about multilateral negotiations over their sectors.
- Cement (CSI) is more positive about a transnational approach.
- 2. Competitiveness concerns linger on.





Cross-cutting issues







Role(s) of the carbon market

- Options abound on how to harness the carbon market:
 - Sector-wide CDM, sectoral crediting, no-lose, sectoral caps, intensity-based or not
- Offsetting vs. crediting: how to evolve away from CDM?
- How do the options bring incentives to countries / domestic agents?
 - CDM → project developers/installations have a clear incentive (CDM project cycle notwithstanding...)
 - Sectoral targets: sector-wide performance is the sum of efforts by individual installations: free-riding problem.



Role(s) of the carbon market (2)

- Uncertainty on supply (CDM + sectoral + ... ?)
 and demand (developed country commitments) –
 and back
 - Merely a political issue ('show me the level of your ambition, I'll show you mine')
 - ...or also about details of instruments/incentives.
 Magnitude and nature of incentives should matter.
- Limited (or lack of) data / eligibility / likely timing of entry of various sectors/countries in the market?



SA: beyond carbon markets

- Share policy best practice to improve energy efficiency
 - IEA's 25 concrete recommendations on EE to G8
 - What support could be provided to enhance energy efficiency policies
- Share best practice in industry as well
 - Asia Pacific Partnership task forces on aluminium, cement, steel
- Pool technology R&D resources: easier to partner over a (much needed!) technology evolution
 - World Steel Association CO₂ breakthrough programme
- → 450 or 550 ppm are out of reach without a CO₂ price
 - SA as a transitional step / bringing an incentive / broaden the price signal, building on emerging global carbon market



Going forward: Integration in an agreement by Copenhagen?

- Numbers on sectors / countries by COP15?
 - Unlikely for most esp. w/o agreement on precise format of SA, or differentiation of actions
- Areas for decisions by COP15?
 - Principles for SA?
 - Role of carbon market, other support, eligibility sectors/countries?
 - Processes?
 - A registry structure (format) to record 'pledges'?
 - ◆ Pilot phase → data gathering
 - ◆ Deadline for submissions of SA pledges/goals by developing countries?
 - Process for evaluation of submissions, as they come? Sectoral expert groups?
 - ◆ Role of technology support?
- Political factor still unknown: developing countries' interest in pledging clear action at sector level?



Thank you



Other possible considerations on SA in UNFCCC negotiations

- Differentiation of countries or actions What implications for a sectoral approach to mitigation?
 - Differentiate by type? SD-PAMs → ... → Sectoral targets
 - Differentiate by level of international support?
- Support mitigation in developing countries / sectors via carbon market or other means?
 - Economically attractive for 'donors'
 - Verification = Intrusiveness
 - Countries to pledge actions: will they go beyond these pledges with SA?
- Competitiveness/leakage issues: 'elephant in the room' or can be handled with ad-hoc measures?