

# COBENEFITS



## Mobilising the Co-benefits of Climate Change Mitigation through Capacity Building among Public Policy Institutions

### From burden sharing to opportunity sharing

Climate protection measures are largely discussed in the light of *burden sharing* whereas important benefits in areas such as value creation, employment, health, water use, energy access and energy security are frequently overlooked.

In collaboration with national knowledge partners in **India, South Africa, Vietnam and Turkey**, the project elaborates country specific

co-benefits of climate policies, with emphasis on the opportunities presented by renewable power generation. With its political partners in government departments and agencies **COBENEFITS connects the social and economic opportunities of renewable energies to climate change mitigation strategies.**

The project aims at building strong alliances and lowering political barriers to revisit and effectively implement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change.



**Starting situation in COBENEFITS' partner countries: at the crossroads between climate opportunities and fossil path dependencies**

Climate and energy policies in **India, South Africa, Vietnam and Turkey** are currently at the crossroads – necessary investments in power generation capacities, if directed to prevailing fossil energy sources, would create path dependencies for domestic greenhouse gas

emissions for decades to come. At the same time, recent climate and energy policies in the partner countries are increasingly considering renewable energy production to meet domestic energy demand.

**Ambitious and effective climate policies depend on seizing the social and economic co-benefits of renewable energies**, thereby simultaneously meeting projected increases in energy demand as well as development targets.



### WHAT ARE THE CO-BENEFITS OF CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION?

The global transition to renewable sources of energy, as a key action area for climate change mitigation, is in full swing. The renewable energy sector is now attracting substantially greater investment flows than its fossil-based counterpart, with half of all related investments flowing to the global South. The social and economic opportunities presented by renewable energies, such as **public health, accelerating access to electricity, improved investment opportunities resulting from plummeting costs for renewable electricity, and local value-creation**, are becoming important co-benefits of this climate-friendly transition.

### Consortium

- Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS, Lead)
- Renewables Academy AG (RENAC)
- Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU)
- International Energy Transition (IET)



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Project Duration: 03/2017 – 02/2020



## COBENEFITS Impact

The project strengthens governmental departments and agencies in charge of climate and energy issues in the target countries in their ability to advise their ministerial clients on the co-benefits of renewable power generation, to spur ambitious as well as effective NDC implementation.

Understanding and seizing the co-benefits of climate change mitigation, in particular those with immediate effect or to occur within a conceivable time horizon, enables policy makers to formulate, promote and implement ambitious climate policies by encouraging cross-sectoral support. In this respect the project contributes in particular to

- Effectively implementing NDC in the target countries and activating the Paris Ambition Mechanism in these countries by backing cross-sectoral support to increasing the NDC ambition levels
- Integrating and mainstreaming co-benefit assessments in national and international MRV (Measurement, Verification, Reporting), related to UNFCCC
- Further activating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and financing mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF)



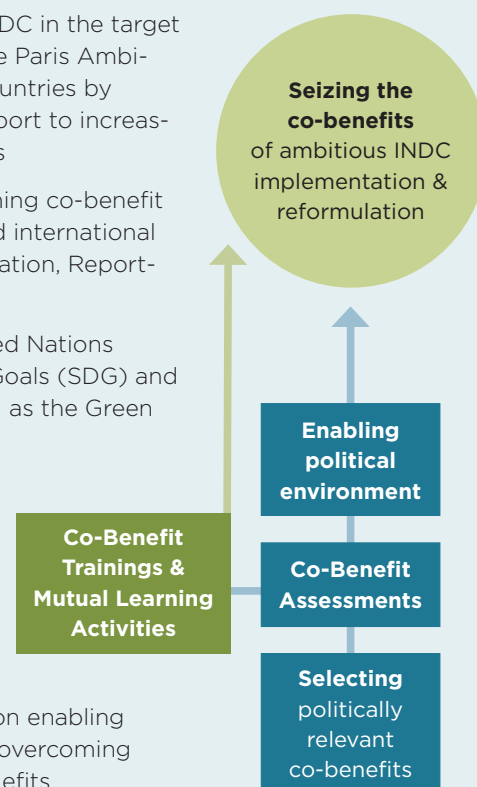
## COBENEFITS Work

COBENEFITS enables international mutual learning and capacity building among policy makers, knowledge partners and multipliers on seizing the social and economic co-benefits of climate change mitigation, through

- Country-specific assessment reports of social and economic co-benefits of renewable power generation
- Training materials, online courses and face-to-face trainings on seizing co-benefits of renewable power generation

- Political dialogue sessions on enabling political environments and overcoming barriers to seize the co-benefits
- Strategies to connecting co-benefits of climate change mitigation with climate action plans, the Paris Ambition Mechanism and MRV schemes to support national NDC implementation

## COBENEFITS Design



## Partnership

The COBENEFITS project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.

The project is conducted in close collaboration with ministries, government agencies, research institutions and think tanks as political partners and knowledge partners in the target countries.



Supported by:



INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE (IKI)



based on a decision of the German Bundestag

