



Federal Foreign Office

**Centro de Estudios  
Internacionales  
CEI**

Escuela de Gobierno Alberto Lleras Camargo  
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales  
Departamento de Ciencia Política



**Universidad de  
los Andes**  
Colombia



**adelphi**

# **Climate Change and Security in the Andean Region**

## **Regional Dialogue**

**Climate Security Dialogue Series**

**23 January 2012**

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**Universidad de los Andes  
Edificio Julio Mario Santo Domingo  
(Sala de conferencias SD 1003),  
Calle 21 No. 1-20, Bogotá**



## Climate Change and Security in the Andean Region

### Regional Dialogue

The Universidad de los Andes Centre for International Studies (CEI), the Program on Armed Conflict and Peacebuilding (ConPaz) and adelphi, supported by the German Federal Foreign Office, are organizing a one-day regional dialogue in Bogotá on the interrelations between security and the impacts of climate change in the Andean Region.

#### Background

There is little doubt that climate change poses one of the key challenges for global economic development and human well-being and may put peace and security at risk. The debate on security implications of the impacts of climate change has gained momentum over the past years in the international sphere, most recently gaining special attention by the UN Security Council.

The countries in the Andean region have been identified among those that will be most severely affected by climate change, including precipitation variability, glacier retreat and sea-level rise. Key risks for the region include the exacerbation of existing environmental conditions such as water scarcity, droughts and soil degradation and related energy security, land use conflict and climate-induced migration. At the same time, these impacts occur at a time of increasing demands on the region's resources and economic infrastructure.

Climate change policies and measures offer potential pathways for regional cooperation and benefit sharing and can create new chances for economic and social development, e.g. through the implementation of sustainable solutions in the energy sector and, more generally, joint strategies for a low carbon economy.

#### Political Context

The Regional Dialogue in Bogotá follows up on the concerns raised by, among others, a 2009 United Nations report from Secretary-General Ban-Ki Moon on the possible security implications of climate change. In addition, the Security Council discussed the security implications of climate change under the German Council presidency in July 2011 with the result of a Presidential Statement emphasizing the importance of addressing the security risks. The German Federal Foreign Office supported this debate and is supporting further regional dialogues on this topic to move from risk analysis to preventive action.

#### Objectives of the Regional Dialogue

In light of these challenges, the Dialogue aims to share perspectives and identify options how to intensify regional cooperation and to minimize threats for development, livelihoods and peace, by bringing together decision-makers and experts from the region as well as from Europe.

#### Contact persons

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## Draft Agenda

**10.00 – 10.15 Registration and welcome coffee**

**10.15 – 10.30 Welcome**

Hon. Jürgen Christian Mertens, Ambassador, German Embassy Bogotá

**10.30 – 11.00 Opening remarks**

Introduction to the objectives and programme

**Angelika Rettberg**

ConPaz/CEI, Universidad de los Andes

**Alexander Carius**

adelphi, Germany

**Round of introductions**

**11.00 – 12.30 Session 1. Interrelations between Climate Change and Security in the Andes**

**Salomón Salcedo Baca**

Policy Director, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

**Luis Guillermo Brigitte Baptiste**

Universidad Javeriana, Instituto Humboldt, Bogotá, Colombia

**Pascal O. Girot**

Environmental risk advisor, UNDP Bureau for Development Policy, Panamá

**Open discussion**

**12.30 – 13.30 Lunch**

**13.30 – 14.45 Session 2. Domestic Approaches and Responses**

**Alberto Crespo Milliet**

Water Assessment and Advisory Global Network, La Paz, Bolivia

**Manuel Rodríguez Becerra**

Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

**Open discussion**

**14.45 – 15.15 Coffee Break**

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**15.15 – 16.30 Session 3. Regional and International Approaches and Responses**

**Stephen Bender**

Organization of American States, Washington D.C.

**Weert Börner**

German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, Germany

**16.30 – 17.30 Panel Discussion: Key messages and way ahead**

**Summary and discussion**

**Angelika Rettberg**

ConPaz/CEI, Universidad de los Andes

**Alexander Carius**

adelphi, Berlin, Germany

**Weert Börner**

German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, Germany

## Key Guiding Questions

### Session 1: Interrelations between Climate Change and Security in the Andes

- How do climate change impacts affect peace and stability?
- Which countries, 'hotspots' and societal groups are particularly vulnerable? Which specific conditions may be exacerbated by climate changes?
- Which structural, societal and environmental factors exist in the vulnerable areas that can aggravate future threats?

### Session 2: Domestic Approaches and Responses

- Is there a domestic or regional discourse on climate and security, and how is this discourse framed or labeled?
- Is climate change subject to domestic water, food, energy and migration policies?
- Which policies, methods and measures exist to address climate-induced vulnerabilities, risks, and social resilience, and which policies, methods and measures are needed?

### Session 3: Regional and International Approaches and Responses

- How can conflict constellations be transformed into opportunities for regional cooperation and benefit sharing, e.g. in the realm of water, food, and energy?

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- What are the key entry points for integrating climate change into the domestic and regional security infrastructure?
- What role can the international community play in providing support to Andean countries in this regard?

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