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## **Carbon Tax: A Catalyst for Regional Integration in Southern Africa?**

Subject            Project Developer Forum Side Event  
Date                10 December 2015, 12-1:30 PM  
Place               Africa Pavillion, Salle 1  
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While increasing international cooperation is a fundamental element of cost effective global climate change mitigation, the benefits of regional cooperation are not only broader, but also more evident. Regional cooperation can accelerate early action, attract immediate support and prepare the region for participation in more comprehensive global market mechanisms that are expected under the post 2020 regime.

South Africa, with its innovative Carbon Tax proposal, provides for the use of carbon credits from qualifying existing and new investments. And so it has the capacity to catalyze early action and stimulate economic development. The proposed tax scheme is still making its way through the legislative process but it is already sending price signals, stimulating investor appetites and creating a budding domestic carbon market.

Other countries in the region, such as Swaziland, have made great strides in the area of renewable energy, which is essential to tackle power scarcity, one of the region's most severe challenges on the road to sustainable development.

The Project Developer Forum brings together a distinguished panel, presenting public and private sector perspectives from several Southern African countries. The panel will examine the South African Carbon Tax Scheme and the Swaziland Renewable Energy Plan and compare them to other regional initiatives and engage the audience in a discussion about the opportunities and obstacles that these Southern African approaches present.

### **Confirmed Panelists:**

Mr. Phillip Hauser  
Catherine Lee, esq.  
Ms. Shaazia Bhailall  
Ms. Khetsiwe Khumalo  
Mr. Cecil Morden (or another representative from National Government of South Africa)  
Additional participants in the discussion as audience members:  
Washington Zhakata and Richard Lungu