

## EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2015

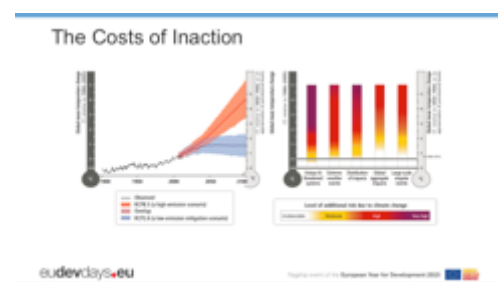
### Alliance2015 session « The Unbearable cost of Business as Usual »

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> – EDDs15 – Brussels

In front of a full house and after a brief introduction of Alliance2015 and its members and of the three panellists, **Rupa Mukerji**, from HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation presented the results of IPCC's scientific research on the cost of inaction.

She first highlighted the rigorous process followed by IPCC (6000 pages of evidence by over 800 authors and having processed over 100,000 review comments) to establish this scientific evidence.

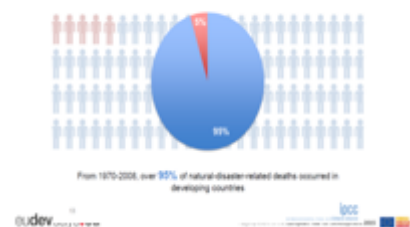
The findings show how small increases of temperatures will already bring irreversible impact on unique and threatened eco systems but will also have rapid consequences on extreme weather conditions etc. The graphic below (see powerpoint slides attached) indicates that we are now in the 'not noticeable' or 'moderate' consequences ' and how these consequences will rapidly increase to high or very high depending on the degree of temperature increase.



In conclusion, Rupa highlighted how the poorest countries and the poorest people within them bear the highest consequences of conditions they are the least contributing to.

Hence the work of HELVETAS to support communities to adapt to the current consequences of climate change, as shown in this video of the [PACC programme](#) in Peru.

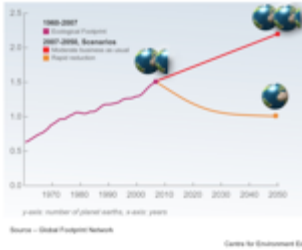
Fatalities are higher in developing countries



Mindful of this evidence, the Alliance2015 brainstorming session was keen to identify whether there are solutions and to see what **action** could look like.

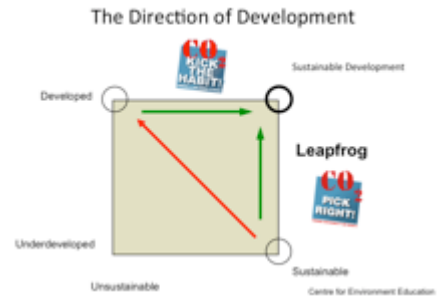
**Eco Matser**, from Hivos, explained how working on sustainable energy participates of this type of action. On the island of Sumba, in Indonesia, where 70% of the people did not have access to energy, Hivos is working with government, private sector and communities to make sure that all inhabitants will have access to sustainable energy by 2023. The benefits of this approach are outlined in this video [link](#).

**Kartikeya V. Sarabhai**, from the Centre for Environmental Education in Ahmadabad, India, highlighted how the current situation is both a challenge but also an opportunity for developing countries.



Kartikeya’ illustration of our ecological **Footprint** helped articulate that the choices ahead of us.

He advocated for the opportunity that developing countries have to not go through the path of current developed and unsustainable countries but, as they are now doing it with the mobile phone technology, to **‘leapfrog’** to the right type of sustainable development.



Kartikeya spoke about the pride and energy that such ambitions would unleash. He advocated for all countries to learn from the best examples of others so the path to sustainable development could be accelerated.

In his conclusion, Kartikeya called for a stronger **‘Hand Print’** towards sustainability and for broad **alliances** under the slogan:



The same in 'graphic recording' :



Thank you to Alliance2015 colleagues who made this event a success:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Michael Kuehn (Welthungerhilfe) | Rupa Mukerji (HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation), |
| Pablo Dohms (Welthungerhilfe)   | Nicole Clot (HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation)   |
| Eco Matser (Hivos),             | Rita Poppe (Hivos)                              |
| Caroline Pasquier (ACTED)       | Martine Billanou (Alliance2015)                 |

And of course to Kartikeya V. Sarabhai (CEE) for accepting to join us and give his inspirational talk to this event.

Thanks also to Andrea Crasselt for her Communication support in Brussels and to all colleagues from Alliance2015 Communications and Advocacy Working Groups who publicised the event and (re-)Tweeted about it.