

## FANRPAN CEO among 50 eminent thinkers at Climate Change global roundtable

The CEO of the Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN), Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, was part of a select group of 50 thought leaders and policy makers at the 2008 Brookings Blum Roundtable in Aspen, Colorado on 1-3 August 2008, to discuss ideas on addressing the challenge posed by climate change to global development.



**Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda**  
FANRPAN CEO

Climate change policy is a central issue in the advocacy work of FANRPAN. In partnership with the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), FANRPAN is promoting the establishment of a Carbon Fund that will enable African small holder farmers and investors to benefit from trading their carbon credits globally.

There is need for strong dialogue platforms that will use research evidence to advocate for the development of effective policies for climate adaptation. Good policies are a prerequisite for investor confidence and good stewardship by rural communities. Dr. Sibanda believes that discussions on climate change need to focus on poor communities and that the issue of a Carbon facility should be packaged and presented in a simple format for ordinary citizens in Southern Africa to use in advocacy.

“We need to communicate clearly to policy makers what Africa stands to gain from the Carbon finance agenda,” said Dr. Sibanda, adding that, “We have to ensure that Africa has a fair deal in the issues of climate change. We need a revised Kyoto that will bring Africa to the table as a beneficiary.”

At the Aspen Roundtable, Dr. Sibanda spoke on “*Building a strong platform for Carbon Financing in Africa – Opportunities for Poverty Alleviation*”. The 2008 Brookings Blum Roundtable also enabled international thinkers and practitioners to share concrete strategies on tackling the twin challenges of global poverty and climate change, which are key issues in Southern Africa.

The Brookings Institution co-hosted the conference whose theme was, “*Development in the Balance: How will the World’s Poor Cope with Climate Change*”. Walter Isaacson of the Aspen Institute and Mary Robinson of the Ethical Globalization Initiative were honorary co-chairs. The Brookings Global Economy and Development was launched in July 2006 to address the most pressing issues of our time: the drivers shaping the global economy and the rise of new economic powers. Previous Brookings Blum Roundtables have focused on America’s role in the fight against global poverty, the role of the private sector in development and the link between poverty and conflict. Key guests and participants for the 2008 Roundtable included US Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, former US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, Rice, former US Vice President, Al Gore and Mo Ibrahim, founder of the Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership.

For further information and interviews, please contact:

**Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda**, CEO, FANRPAN,  
141 Cresswell Street, Weavind Park 0184  
Private Bag X813, Silverton 0127, Pretoria, South Africa  
Tel: +27 (0) 12 845 9100  
Email: [lmsibanda@fanrpan.org](mailto:lmsibanda@fanrpan.org), Website: [www.fanrpan.org](http://www.fanrpan.org)