

## **US and Mexico agree clean energy bilateral action**

US President Barack Obama and Mexican President Felipe Calderon have announced plans to strengthen and deepen their bilateral cooperation by establishing the US-Mexico Bilateral Framework on Clean Energy and Climate Change. During their first conversation in January 2009, then President-elect Obama and President Calderon discussed the need for joint efforts to reach their common goal of achieving a low carbon future and a clean energy economy. The two leaders have agreed on the importance of promoting low and zero emission energy and combating climate change, and the value of joint and practical collaboration in achieving these goals. The Bilateral Framework establishes a mechanism for political and technical cooperation and information exchange, and to facilitate common efforts. The Bilateral Framework will focus on: renewable energy, energy efficiency, adaptation, market mechanisms, forestry and land use, green jobs, low carbon energy technology development and capacity building. The framework will also build upon cooperation in the border region, promoting efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to the local impacts of climate change in the region, and strengthen the reliability and flow of cross-border electricity grids by facilitating the ability of neighbouring border states to work together to strengthen energy trade. Senior officials from both countries will be working over the coming weeks to further elaborate the framework. Both countries stress that a financial architecture to mobilise investment in climate-friendly technologies is crucial to a successful agreed outcome in Copenhagen.

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