

Background

Theme D: Accelerating Appropriate Deployment

Summary

Theme D focuses on developing routes to improved linkages between technological innovation (Themes A, B and C) and enabling social, economic and policy dimensions. It deals with the evaluation of existing options for energy provision and GHG abatement, the management and communication of risk and opportunity, and seeks to develop routes to adjust business and academic practices to promote innovation and rapid deployment of low carbon fossil energy technologies. It does this by the design of suitable policy and regulatory regimes and the examination of processes to promote the development of public understanding, discussion and decision-making. Economic, social and policy issues are often the most important barriers to deploying wide-scale innovation, and establishing appropriate frameworks for managing change are of critical importance in the drive towards achieving a low carbon emission energy future. This theme underpins the whole CMC network approach and will link technology developers and social scientists in integrated projects.

Leadership

Dr. James Meadowcroft, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Governance for Sustainable Development, Carleton University

Dr. Meadowcroft is a Professor in both the School of Public Policy and Administration and in the Department of Political Science. He has a BA in Political Science from McGill University, and a Doctorate from the University of Oxford.

His research is focused on the ways in which governments are adjusting their practices and policies in order to cope with the emergence of problems of the environment and sustainable development.

Round 1 Funded Projects

In 2010, CMC funded 17 Canadian research projects. Theme D funded projects were:

- Assessing the potential of low carbon fossil-fuel/derived technologies: A life cycle environmental and techno-economic evaluation of the oil sands
- Assessing the potential of low carbon fossil fuel/derived technologies: Developing modeling and analytical tools for assessing the potential contribution of carbon management to Canadian GHG emission reduction
- Governance innovation and the transition to a low carbon economy
- National and international legal and regulatory framework for carbon management