



## Lessons from and for evaluation

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**Abstract:** A major new study from the Independent Evaluation Group draws lessons for development and climate change mitigation from the World Bank Group's far-reaching portfolio of projects in energy, forestry, transport, coal power, and technology transfer. It does not directly evaluate the still-new Strategic Framework on Development and Climate Change. Instead, it looks at pre 2008 efforts with potential climate mitigation benefits. The focus is how to improve the Bank Group's impact on both current development and on greenhouse gas mitigation.

Some of the questions addressed include:

- What kinds of projects offer the highest returns in development, and in reducing greenhouse gas emissions?
- What kinds of financial instruments are most effective in promoting clean energy?
- How effective has carbon finance been in catalyzing new energy investments?
- What approaches have been effective in promoting the transfer and diffusion of clean technology?
- Are protected areas mere 'paper parks', or do they reduce deforestation?
- To what extent have World Bank projects promoted efficiency in coal-fired power generation?
- How do World Bank and IFC approaches to off-grid solar power compare?

The Evaluation concludes with recommendations on how to increase the Bank Group's effectiveness in promoting development with climate mitigation benefits.

**Summary:** A major new study from the Independent Evaluation Group assesses the World Bank Group's activities related to climate change mitigation. Reviewing what has worked and what hasn't, the evaluation identifies specific measures that offer attractive local benefits while fighting climate change, within five areas of action: energy efficiency; forest protection; project finance; technology transfer; and accelerated learning.