



PRESS RELEASE

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DORIS DUKE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Environment Program

Foundation Announces First Six Grants From \$100 Million Climate Change Initiative

*Grants will support development of policy options
to address climate change in the U.S. and globally*

New York, NY – In the first round of grants from its \$100 million Climate Change Initiative, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) today announced support for six organizations that will evaluate and develop policies that put a price on greenhouse gas emissions and address other aspects of the regulatory frameworks needed to reduce the threat of global warming.

The foundation awarded grants totaling \$3.6 million to researchers from Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as four nonprofit organizations: Environmental Defense, the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, Resources for the Future (RFF), and the World Resources Institute (WRI).

“The organizations in this first round of grants will deliver high-quality analysis and recommendations on the advantages and disadvantages of different approaches to tackling climate change through government policy,” said Andrew Bowman, the director of the Climate Change Initiative. “This work will be critical for Congress and the international community as they step up the debate about how to address climate change and global energy problems, and we are pleased to be able to support it.”

Putting a price on carbon and developing a new international agreement that encourages nations like the U.S. and China to participate are the primary objectives in the first of three climate strategies DDCF will be supporting. The second strategy, which will receive the bulk of the funds from the initiative, will be to identify and promote policies that accelerate the development and deployment of clean energy technologies, particularly technologies related to energy efficiency, renewable energy and low-emission uses of coal. The third strategy will be to advance efforts to assess the likely effects of climate change and identify adjustments that can be made to lower the impact of those effects on people and the environment.

“In the immediate term, one of the most important things we can do to combat the threat of climate change is to design and implement the best possible pricing policies for carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases,” said Dr. Joan Spero, president of DDCF. “This type of analytical work matters not only for the domestic policy debate, but also is essential for constructing an international agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol when it expires in 2012.”

See pages 2-4 for a summary of each grant and contact information for each organization.

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child maltreatment, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.

GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES

Harvard University (www.harvard.edu)

A two-year grant of \$750,000 will support researchers in the Harvard Environmental Economics Program and at Resources for the Future (RFF) in developing an international policy regime to address global climate change after the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012. The project, called the Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements, will consist of three stages. In the first stage, researchers will discuss with key domestic and international policy constituencies the proposition that the nations of the world, including the United States, ought to seriously explore alternative frameworks for 2013 and beyond. This will be accomplished through a series of domestic and international policy discussions, including at the 2007 Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In the second stage, researchers will develop the most promising policy design that meets the three criteria of being scientifically sound, economically rational and politically pragmatic. This stage will be accomplished through a combination of scholarly, multi-disciplinary research and a series of meetings that will bring together the four relevant sectors for discussion: non-governmental organizations, the business community, government and academia. The third stage will feature a strategy for effective dissemination of the recommended international policy design, including participation in the 2008 Conference of the Parties.

The Harvard Environmental Economics Program (HEEP) is a research initiative that develops answers to complex environmental issues. HEEP provides a forum for policymakers, scholars and advocates to grapple with difficult questions. For additional information, please contact Sasha Talcott of Harvard University at Sasha.Talcott@harvard.edu or 617-495-7831.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (web.mit.edu/ceepr)

This two-year grant of \$500,000 will support researchers at MIT's Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR) to conduct research and analysis in three key areas that will help inform the U.S. policy process on climate change. The first is to assess the European Union's carbon dioxide Emissions Trading Scheme and lessons that can be gleaned for U.S. policy design. The second is to study options for limiting the economic burden of a federal regulatory regime. The third is to identify options for harmonizing federal climate policies with evolving state and regional policies such as those being developed in California and the Northeast (i.e., the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative).

CEEPR supports research at MIT on issues related to energy and environmental policy, and publishes the results of that research to support the decision-making processes of government and industry. For additional information, please contact Elizabeth Thomson of MIT at thomson@mit.edu or 617-258-5402.

GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Environmental Defense (www.environmentaldefense.org)

A one-year grant of \$500,000 will support Environmental Defense and the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in their work to produce an analysis of options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. and their associated costs.

Environmental Defense is a national nonprofit organization that links science, economics and law to create innovative, equitable and cost-effective solutions to society's most urgent environmental problems. For additional information, please contact Ed Mohylowski of Environmental Defense at emohylowski@ed.org or 212-616-1239.

Pew Center on Global Climate Change (www.pewclimate.org)

A one-year grant of \$395,000 will enable the Pew Center on Global Climate Change to produce Congressional briefing books on key design questions regarding U.S. climate policy. The first book will discuss design elements of a cap-and-trade system, including key decisions that must be made in crafting a system, and describe implications of various approaches to issues such as the allocation of greenhouse gas emission allowances. The second briefing book would outline other key, complementary policies such as those related to coal use, transportation, carbon taxes, and technology. For both products, the Center would draw from – and significantly expand upon – its extensive peer-reviewed published works, in-house analyses, and the work of others, including other organizations supported by DDCF. The materials will not recommend any specific design choices or support any legislation. Rather, the focus will be on elucidating implications of policy design choices.

The Pew Center on Global Climate Change is a non-profit, non-partisan and independent organization dedicated to providing credible information, straight answers, and innovative solutions in the effort to address global climate change. For additional information, please contact Katie Mandes of the Pew Center at mandes@pewcenter.org or 703-516-4146.

Resources for the Future (www.rff.org)

A two-year grant of \$750,000 will support work by the Climate and Technology Policy Program to undertake three lines of work to advance intellectually credible and politically sensible approaches to climate change. The first is to research and write papers on the attributes, strengths and weaknesses of various policy design elements (e.g., carbon offset programs and options for regulating greenhouse gases other than carbon dioxide) to help policymakers craft effective legislation. The second is to conduct an in-depth quantification of the costs of carbon-control policies on various industry sectors and an assessment of policy options for ameliorating those costs. The third is to assist in the development of a proposed post-2012 international framework for addressing climate change that will be acceptable to the U.S.

Resources for the Future (RFF) improves environmental and natural resource policymaking through objective social science research and pragmatic policy recommendations to decision-makers and stakeholders worldwide. For additional information, please contact Lesli Creedon of RFF at creedon@rff.org or 202-328-5016.

World Resources Institute (www.wri.org)

A two-year grant of \$750,000 will support WRI's Climate and Energy Program's work in three areas. The first is to demonstrate the need for a mandatory federal greenhouse gas registry that is consistent with global greenhouse gas accounting standards, because such a registry would provide the foundation for measuring and tracking major emission sources and will be the basis for a federal cap-and-trade program. The second is to inform the debate regarding various climate policy design elements, through the production of issue briefs and communication efforts similar to those to be undertaken by Resources for the Future (see above). The third is to identify ways to integrate climate impacts and opportunities into the national energy security debate.

WRI is an environmental think tank with a mission to move human society to live in ways that protect Earth's capacity to provide for the needs and aspirations of current and future generations. WRI provides independent, non-partisan expertise and guidance to policymakers on climate change technology, business engagement, policy design and international issues. For additional information, please contact Robin Murphy of WRI at rmurphy@wri.org or 202-729-7600.