



**United Nations**  
Climate Change Secretariat

**Nations Unies**  
Secrétariat sur les changements climatiques

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#### Virtual Participation Center at COP17 / CMP7

Party delegates and representatives of observer organizations are invited to participate in various activities in the Virtual Participation Centre that will be in place at COP 17/CMP 7 in Durban. These include the:

1. Digital Media Lounge
2. Bloggers' Loft
3. Climate Change Studio

The **Digital Media Lounge**, located in Hall 1 of the Durban Exhibition Centre, provides a central point for participants at the conference to engage with on-line reporters and communications professionals on issues of concern. At the Lounge, participants will be able to present their ideas, tell their stories and interact with "Digital Media" and others while also engaging with civil society around the world through blogs, websites and social media, such as Facebook and Twitter.

**PROGRAMME:** The Digital Media Lounge offers a daily programme of mini-events, each 30 minutes in duration. An open area location allows for presentations with TelePresence/video conferencing to an audience of 10-20 persons. The event slots are offered on first come first served basis and are booked via the contacts below.

Presenters have the possibility to:

- Speak to the audience personally or with a small group (max. 4)
- Use the installed TelePresence/video conference technology to connect to an external speaker
- Present a PowerPoint
- Conduct a discussion or Q&A with the audience

Booking requests to: [lounge@unfccc.int](mailto:lounge@unfccc.int)

Introduced at COP 16 in Cancun, the **Bloggers' Loft** is an on-line work area for bloggers and online communicators from the observer community. The Loft is located in the Durban Exhibition Centre, Hall 1 and is comprised of some 50 work spaces; each equipped with table work space, chair, electrical power connection, and a hard-wired Internet connection (RJ45) to the "participants" branch of the conference IT network. In addition, an open wireless network is available. Bandwidth is provided off a GB backbone and can be used for uploading.

The Loft features both Cisco TelePresence, video conference facilities and a demonstration community call centre put in place by TechAmerica Europe with the support of Skype and Microsoft.

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**ACCESS AND USE:** Use of the Bloggers' Loft is prioritized for designated online communications professionals e.g. bloggers, etc. from approved observer organizations. All others may use the computer centres. Special secondary badges will be issued to up to 100 prioritized users. Requests for these badges should be made to: [cool@unfccc.int](mailto:cool@unfccc.int)

The **Climate Change Studio**, an innovative collaboration between the UN Climate Change Secretariat and Climate-Change.tv, provides for one-on-one videos with a wide array of stakeholders from the civil society and inter-governmental organizations to Party delegates, discussing the effects of climate change, causes of global warming and possible solutions. It has run over the last two years, at the Conference of the Parties (COP15/CMP 5 in Copenhagen, and COP16/CMP 6 in Cancun).

All interviews at the Studio are video recorded and are posted to the Climate Change TV website: <http://www.climate-change.tv/cctv-videos/unfccc-inside>

Interviewee's videos are listed alphabetically by first name, by COP, or can be searched via the search tool above.

Booking an interview can be done through the UNFCCC secretariat at: [climatechangestudio@unfccc.int](mailto:climatechangestudio@unfccc.int)

Thank you.

For: 

Kevin Grose  
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Communications and Knowledge Management