

BBVA Bancomer Foundation and North American Environmental Information and Communication Centre (CICEANA) organise talk on “Global Climate Change: a subject that affects us all”

On 5 June BBVA Bancomer Foundation and the North American Environmental Information and Communication Centre (CICEANA) organised a lecture in the Centro Bancomer auditorium entitled: "**Global Climate Change, Reflections on World Environment Day**". The talk, given by Luis Roberto Acosta, MSc, director of the Climate Institute for Mexico and Latin America, was designed to explain the current situation of the environment and heighten awareness on the major issues of climate change and global warming.



The lecture is one of a number of events being run by BBVA Bancomer Foundation to contribute to environmental education, in conjunction with organisations such as CICEANA, which has programmes focusing on enhancing environmental awareness.

The lecture, organised to coincide with World Environment Day, set out the challenges and opportunities we face as people and organisations in the face of global climate change. Climate change is probably the most important threat for biological diversity and is largely a result of the greenhouse effect, acid rain and a reduction in the ozone layer. Like other years, as well as highlighting some of the work being carried out to deal with global environmental problems, the day had a central theme: **CO₂, Kick the habit!**

Our planet is currently warming up as a result of increased concentrations of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, ozone, methane and halocarbons). These are a consequence of human activity and are closely related to the burning of hydrocarbons. This warming is altering the circulation of air and sea currents, causing changes in climate zones and melting glaciers.

According to the experts, the human influence on global warming is greater today than ever, and the time has therefore come to take the actions needed to halt climate change. It is important for each of us to assume our responsibility, find out what is happening and contribute to the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to close to zero.

The following are some of the things you can do the help stop global climate change.

- 1. Practice the 3 Rs of the environment: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.**
- 2. Turn off any electronic appliances you're not using.**
- 3. Use your car less and share trips with friends and workmates.**
- 4. Make the most of the natural light and switch on your headlights only when needed.**
- 5. When cooking, concentrate the heat by putting lids on pots, thus using less gas or electricity.**
- 6. Keep your car tyres properly pumped up; this reduces fuel consumption.**
- 7. Reduce the number of plastic bags you take home from the supermarket by bringing a cloth or other bag with you.**
- 8. To reduce the heat, use less hot water when you have a bath and wash your clothes in lukewarm or cold water. Whenever you have a chance, dry your clothes in the sun instead of using a drier.**
- 9. Buy products that you can re-use and avoid those that come with lots of wrapping.**
- 10. Eat fresh products: as well as being healthier, they need less energy for processing, packing and transport.**
- 11. Replace print-outs of drafts and memos with electronic versions. For every 280 kg of paper used, 4 mature trees are felled.**
- 12. When you leave the office, turn off lights, computers and other accessories.**
- 13. Copy/print on both sides of the page. Use e-mail instead of regular mail.**

All of these tips just mean putting the good of the planet ahead of your own personal convenience. Take the challenge today!