

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION WORKING GROUP

UNFCCC Headquarters, Bonn, Germany

10 - 12 November 2008

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE A/R WORKING GROUP TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. The Chair of the Afforestation and Reforestation Working Group (A/R WG), Mr. José Domingos Miguez, opened the meeting.
2. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

B. Consideration of proposed new methodologies

3. The A/R WG considered the proposed new A/R methodologies for the following cases as well as desk reviews and public inputs received, where applicable.
4. The final recommendations, proposed by the A/R WG for the consideration by the Board, are made available on the UNFCCC CDM website at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARpropmeth>>.
5. In accordance with the procedures for submission and consideration of a proposed new methodology, project participants may submit, via the DOE, technical clarifications to preliminary recommendations. Preliminary recommendations for which project participants have not provided any clarifications within the four (4) week consultation period shall be considered as final recommendations and will be forwarded to the Executive Board and made available on the UNFCCC CDM website at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARpropmeth>>.
6. The A/R WG agreed on the following recommendation:

Cases	A/R WG Recommendation¹
ARNM0036: Rubber outgrowing and carbon sequestration in Ghana (ROCS-Ghana)	C

C. Clarifications and revisions of approved methodologies

7. The A/R WG considered a request for clarifications related to the application of approved baseline and monitoring methodologies. The requests submitted to the A/R WG are made publicly available on the UNFCCC CDM website at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARclar>>.

¹ Recommendations to the proposed new methodologies from the meeting of the A/R WG, where: A (recommended for approval) and C (recommended for non-approval), are final recommendations to the Board.

8. The A/R WG recommended that the Board take note of the response to the request for clarifications related to the application of approved baseline and monitoring methodologies, as presented below.

Clarification number	Approved Methodology	Title of the request for clarification	A/R WG recommendation
AR_AM_CLA_0005	AR-ACM0001	“Project boundary of CDM A/R projects”	Clarified (see paragraph 9)

9. The A/R WG considered the request for clarifications, AR_AM_CLA_0005, regarding the application of the definition of the project boundary to CDM afforestation and reforestation projects that are implemented on lands owned by communities and small or marginal farming households. The A/R WG considered the input on the issue of allowing a degree of flexibility in the application of the definition of project boundary to A/R CDM project activities and agreed to respond noting that guidance is still under consideration by the Executive Board.

D. New draft small-scale methodologies for A/R CDM project activities

10. As requested by the Board (paragraph 30 of the report of the thirty-eighth meeting of the Board), the A/R WG developed the draft SSC A/R methodologies for A/R CDM project activities:

(a) agroforestry implemented on croplands; and (b) afforestation and reforestation implemented on lands having low inherent potential to support living biomass, as contained in annexes 1 and 2, respectively. The A/R WG agreed to recommend both methodologies to the Board.

(a) The first methodology is applicable to croplands. The methodology assumes that under its applicability conditions there are no net changes in carbon stocks in the baseline scenario, and that the GHG emissions by sources within the project boundary, as a result of the implementation of an A/R CDM project, are insignificant. Further, it provides guidance for the estimation of actual net GHG removals by sinks (including changes in the soil organic carbon pool), and leakage from sources relevant to small-scale A/R CDM project activities on croplands.

(b) The second methodology is applicable to selected categories of lands with low inherent potential to support biomass without human intervention. The methodology assumes that under its applicability conditions there are no net changes in carbon stocks in the baseline scenario, and that the GHG emissions by sources within the project boundary as a result of the implementation of an A/R CDM project and the leakage emissions are insignificant. Based on the above-mentioned assumptions, it provides guidance for the estimation of the sum of changes in carbon stocks in living biomass of trees, which represents the net anthropogenic greenhouse gas removals by sinks under such conditions.

E. Draft guidance on the significance of GHG emissions from selected sources related to A/R CDM project activities

11. The A/R WG agreed to recommend guidance that the GHG emissions from the following sources related to A/R CDM project activities:

- (i) Fossil fuel combustion in A/R CDM project activities;
- (ii) Collection of wood from non-renewable sources to be used for fencing of the project area;
- (iii) Nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions from decomposition of litter and fine roots from N-fixing trees

are insignificant in A/R CDM project activities and can therefore be neglected in A/R baseline and monitoring methodologies.

12. The A/R WG further agreed to request the secretariat to prepare draft revisions of affected approved A/R CDM baseline and monitoring methodologies in order to apply the above guidance for consideration by the group at its twenty-third meeting, such that:

- o For the source (i) - all approved A/R CDM methodologies will be revised;
- o For the source (ii) - AR-AM0004, AR-AM0009 and AR-ACM0001 will be revised;
- o For the source (iii) - AR-AM0006 and AR-AM0008 will be revised, while for AR-AM0004, AR-AM0005, AR-AM0007, AR-AM0009, AR-AM0010 and AR-ACM0001 an applicability condition will be removed.

F. Revision of approved A/R CDM baseline and monitoring methodologies

13. The A/R WG noted that some approved A/R CDM baseline and monitoring methodologies differ in approaches applied for similar issues (e.g. the approach for uncertainties and conservative estimates applied in AR-AM0001, AR-AM0002, AR-AM0004, AR-AM0006 *versus* AR-ACM0001) and requested the secretariat to make these methodologies consistent with each other, when preparing the draft revisions following application of guidance on significance of GHG emissions from selected sources related to A/R CDM project activities.

G. Draft guidance on application of definition of the project boundary in A/R CDM project activities

14. The A/R WG considered a draft proposal on "Guidance on the application of the definition of project boundary to A/R project activities" as contained in annex 2 to the annotations of the forty-second meeting of the Board. The group agreed to recommend the guidance, as contained in annex 3. The recommended guidance allows for limited flexibility in application of definition of the project boundary in A/R CDM project activities if at the validation all areas of land planned for A/R CDM project activities are expected to be subject to A/R CDM project activities under control of PPs and comply with A/R CDM modalities and procedures requirements for validation and registration.

H. Schedule of meetings

15. The A/R WG reminded project participants that the deadline for the twenty-first round of submissions of proposed new methodologies is 12 January 2009. The A/R WG also reminded project participants that new baseline and monitoring methodologies could be submitted at any time prior to this deadline.

16. The A/R WG agreed to hold its twenty-third meeting from 25–27 February 2009.

I. Roster of experts

17. The A/R WG noted the satisfactory completion of the desk reviews of proposed new methodologies for A/R project activities submitted at round 19.

External annexes to the twenty-second meeting of the A/R WG

Annex 1: Draft small-scale A/R methodology AR-AMS000XX: “Simplified baseline and monitoring methodology for small-scale agroforestry - afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism”

Annex 2: Draft small-scale A/R methodology AR-AMS000XX: “Simplified baseline and monitoring methodology for small-scale afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism on lands having low inherent potential to support living biomass”

Annex 3: Draft "Guidance on application of the definition of the project boundary to A/R CDM project activities"
