

REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION WORKING GROUP

UNFCCC Headquarters, Bonn, Germany
10–12 October 2011

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE A/R WORKING GROUP TO THE CDM 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), Ms. Diana Harutyunyan, opened the meeting.

2. The agenda was revised to include the following agenda item:

Amendment of the approved methodology AR-ACM0001 “Afforestation and reforestation of degraded land” in order to include accounting of carbon stock in shrub biomass. The revised agenda was agreed by the group.

B. Revision of approved methodologies and tools

3. **Amendment of AR-ACM0001 “Afforestation and reforestation of degraded land”.** The group agreed to recommend to the Board a draft amendment of the approved methodology AR-ACM0001 “Afforestation and reforestation of degraded land”, as contained in annex 1. The amendment provides an option to account for carbon stock in shrub biomass.

4. **Amendment of the approved tool “Estimation of non-CO₂ GHG emissions resulting from burning of biomass attributable to an A/R CDM project activity”.** The A/R WG considered a revision of the draft tool “Estimation of non-CO₂ GHG emissions resulting from burning of biomass attributable to an A/R CDM project activity” and agreed to recommend to the Board to approve the draft revised tool, as contained in annex 2. The revision of the tool allows for accounting of non-CO₂ emissions resulting from forest fires occurring within the project boundary of an A/R CDM project activity.

C. Clarifications to approved methodologies and tools

5. The A/R WG considered submissions requesting clarifications to approved A/R methodologies. The detailed responses provided by the A/R WG are made publicly available at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/ARmethodologies/clarifications>>. The responses can also be accessed by clicking the hyperlinked submission numbers in the table below.

Requests for clarifications		
AR_AM_CLA_0016	Parameters of older methodologies and project emissions	Clarified (See paragraph 6)

6. The A/R WG considered the request for clarification AR_AM_CLA_0016 regarding monitoring of parameters in older methodologies and accounting of project emissions. The A/R WG agreed to clarify that:

- (a) Data and parameters used in a methodology or in a tool applied in an A/R CDM project activity, or listed in the monitoring plan of a registered A/R CDM project activity, are required to be monitored only if these are obtained from field measurement; that is, data and parameters are not required to be monitored

if these appear as intermediate values in calculation steps or are taken from existing sources (e.g. published literature);

- (b) The project emissions due to: (i) fertilizer application, (ii) removal of herbaceous vegetation and (iii) transportation shall be verified following guidance contained in the “Guidelines on application of specified versions of A/R CDM methodologies in verification of registered A/R CDM project activities” (EB 63 report, annex 26).

D. Other issues

7. “Tool for demonstration of appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities” and “Tool for demonstration of appropriateness of volume equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities.”

The A/R WG considered the two draft tools and agreed to recommend to the Board to approve the draft tools, as contained in annex 3 and annex 4. The draft “Tool for demonstration of appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities” enables project participants to demonstrate whether an allometric equation is appropriate for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in an A/R CDM project activity. The draft “Tool for demonstration of appropriateness of volume equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities” enables project participants to demonstrate whether a volume equation, in combination with selected biomass expansion factor (BEF) and basic wood density, is appropriate for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in an A/R CDM project activity.

8. Work in progress.

The A/R WG agreed to request the Board to take note that the A/R WG will continue the consideration of the following issues:

- (a) Revision of AR-AM0005 “Afforestation and reforestation project activities implemented for industrial and/or commercial uses”;
- (b) Developing guidelines on standardized baseline to be applied in A/R CDM project activities;
- (c) Alternative approaches for demonstrating additionality in SSC A/R CDM projects;
- (d) Possible approaches in developing an electronic interface and/or desktop utility for approved methodologies;
- (e) Simplified approaches to eligibility of land and determination of project boundary for A/R CDM activities;
- (f) Revision of the (i) “Tool for the Demonstration and Assessment of Additionality in A/R CDM Project Activities” and the (ii) “Combined tool to identify the baseline scenario and demonstrate additionality in A/R CDM project activities”.

E. Schedule of meetings and round of submissions

9. The A/R WG agreed to continue its thirty-fourth meeting in the form of an electronic meeting on 1 November 2011 (from 12.00 to 13.00 Bonn time) in order to consider a draft document on framework for development of standardized baselines in A/R CDM project activities.

10. The A/R WG agreed to request the Board to remind project participants that the deadline for the thirty-third round of submissions of proposed new A/R methodologies is 09 January 2012. The A/R WG also informed project participants that the deadline for submission of requests for revision and requests for clarification to be considered at the thirty-fifth meeting is 23 January 2012.

The A/R WG also reminded project participants that new baseline and monitoring methodologies could be submitted at any time prior to this deadline.

11. The A/R WG tentatively agreed to hold its thirty-fifth meeting on 5-7 March 2012.

Annexes to the report of the 34th meeting of the A/R WG

- Annex 1: Amendment of AR-ACM0001 “Afforestation and reforestation of degraded land”
- Annex 2: Amendment of the approved tool “Estimation of non-CO₂ GHG emissions resulting from burning of biomass attributable to an A/R CDM project activity”
- Annex 3: Tool for demonstration of appropriateness of allometric equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R CDM project activities
- Annex 4: Tool for demonstration of appropriateness of volume equations for estimation of aboveground tree biomass in A/R DM project activities
