

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION WORKING GROUP

UNFCCC Headquarters, Bonn, Germany

7 - 9 November 2007

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. Philip Gwage, 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 Executive 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 recommendations:

Cases	A/R WG 17 Recommendation¹
ARNM0032-rev: "San Carlos" Land Restoration Through Silvopastoral Systems	WIP²
ARNM0033: Reforestation of grasslands using fast-growing species in Brazil	C

C. Clarifications and requests for revisions of approved methodologies

7. The A/R WG considered the following requests for clarifications and requests for revisions related to the application of approved baseline and monitoring methodologies. The requests submitted and the recommendations provided by the A/R WG are made publicly available on the UNFCCC CDM web site at <http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARclar> and <http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARrev>, respectively.

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.

² Work in progress implies that the deliberations on these methodologies could not be concluded at the meeting of the A/R WG. These cases will be further considered before providing a recommendation to the Board.

Clarification number	Approved Methodology	Title of the request for clarification	A/R WG 17 recommendation
AR-AM_CLA_0001	AR-AM0004	“Candidate areas and boundary definition”	Clarified (see paragraph 8)

Revision number	Approved Methodology	Title of the request for revision	A/R WG 17 recommendation
AR-AM_REV_0001	AR-AM0004	“Reforestation or afforestation of land currently under agricultural use - revised / amended version”	Not to revise (see paragraph 9)

8. In response to the request for clarification from the DOE regarding interpretation of an A/R CDM project boundary to allow the inclusion of land parcels not under the control of the project participants at the start of the project activity, the A/R WG clarified that, in accordance with the CDM A/R modalities and procedures, the project boundary is set at the time of validation of the A/R CDM project and it delineates the A/R CDM project activity that is under the control of the project participants.

9. The A/R WG noted that the submission AR-AM_REV_0001 requested revision to AR-AM0004 to include a component allowing estimation of GHG emissions caused by livestock activities in the project boundary. The A/R WG agreed not to revise the methodology and sought further clarification from the project participants.

D. Revision to AR-AM0009

10. The A/R WG agreed to revise the approved methodology AR-AM0009 to broaden the applicability conditions, further clarify application of the definition of the project boundary and include several editorial changes. The draft revised AR-AM0009 is contained in annex 1.

E. Guidance on application of the definition of the project boundary

11. The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board the following draft guidance on the application of the definition of the project boundary in A/R CDM project activities, according with decision 5/CMP.1:

The “project boundary” geographically delineates the afforestation or reforestation project activity under the control of the project participants. The A/R CDM project activity may contain more than one discrete area of land. At the time of validation, the following shall be defined:

- Each discrete area of land shall have a unique geographical identification.
- The project participants shall describe legal title to the land, rights of access to the sequestered carbon, current land tenure, and land use for each discrete area of land.
- The project participants shall justify, that during the crediting period, each discrete area of land will be subject to an afforestation or reforestation project activity under the control of the project participants.

12. The A/R WG agreed to recommend that the guidance in paragraph 11 above shall replace the current description of the application of the definition of the project boundary in approved methodologies. In this regard, the A/R WG revised AR-AM0004 as contained in annex 2. The A/R WG recommended to request the secretariat to revise accordingly the following approved methodologies: AR-AM0003, AR-AM0007, AR-AM0008 and AR-AM0010.

F. Draft tool: "Estimation of GHG emissions related to displacement of grazing activities in A/R CDM project activity"

13. The A/R WG agreed to recommend a draft tool for estimation of GHG emissions related to displacement of grazing activities in A/R CDM project activity, as contained in annex 3. The tool provides for: (i) Conditions under which the leakage from displacement of grazing animals can be considered as zero, and (ii) An approach for estimation of leakage when displacement of animals increases GHG emissions.

G. Draft tool: "Estimation of GHG emissions from clearing, burning and decay of existing vegetation due to implementation of a CDM A/R project activity"

14. The A/R WG agreed to recommend a draft tool for estimation of GHG emissions from clearing, burning and decay of existing vegetation due to implementation of a CDM A/R project activity, as contained in annex 4. The tool provides two approaches to estimate GHG emissions caused by site preparation: (i) A simplified approach based on default data; and, (ii) An advanced approach allowing for time dependent estimation of GHG emissions.

H. Schedule of meetings

15. The A/R WG agreed to hold its eighteenth meeting from 11 to 13 February 2008.

External annexes to the seventeenth meeting of the A/R WG

- Annex 1: Draft revised AR-AM0009: “Afforestation or reforestation on degraded land allowing for silvopastoral activities”
- Annex 2: Draft revised AR-AM0004: “Reforestation or afforestation of land currently under agricultural use”
- Annex 3: Draft methodological tool: “Estimation of GHG emissions related to displacement of grazing activities in A/R CDM project activity”
- Annex 4: Draft methodological tool: “Estimation of GHG emissions from clearing, burning and decay of existing vegetation due to implementation of a CDM A/R project activity”