

CDM/JI/AAU

Thailand approves seven CDM projects

Published: 01 Feb 2007 01:04 AM JST

The Thai government has approved seven greenhouse gas reduction projects that could generate carbon credits under the terms of the Kyoto protocol, while eight other projects that were considered are still waiting for a stamp of approval from the authorities in Bangkok.

Among the projects to be approved by Thailand's cabinet - which is headed by military leaders who overthrew former Prime Minister Thaksin in a coup last October - are projects that began before the Kyoto Protocol came into force in February 2005. These can claim retroactive carbon reduction credits.

Such 'prompt-start' projects include the Korat waste-to-energy project, the AT Biopower rice husk project and the Dan Chang and Phu Khieo agricultural waste projects.

The executive board of the clean development mechanism (CDM), the United Nations-appointed body that has administrative control over emissions reduction projects under the Kyoto Protocol, last year extended the deadline for which prompt-start projects could submit requests for registration.

The extension to the deadline was a boon to developers of prompt-starts in Thailand, as they were able to argue that the overthrow of the previous government delayed the approval process for CDM projects.

The seven CDM projects approved in the last week are the first batch to be sanctioned by the Thai government.

London