



## CMP6 Press Highlights

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### CDM and JI at CMP6: Cancun, Mexico, 11 December 2010

Parties to the Kyoto Protocol have agreed a wide range of improvements to the clean development mechanism (CDM) aimed at scaling up and extending its reach. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cmp6/eng/l08.pdf>

Parties also adopted a decision that, among other things, is expected to help the joint implementation mechanism to be financially viable. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cmp6/eng/l09.pdf>

Parties asked the CDM Executive Board to consider proposals from project participants and others for standardized baselines and to also assist in the development of such baselines, especially those applicable to least developed countries, small island developing States, and Parties with 10 or fewer registered projects. Standardized baselines can make assessing the merits of a project and calculating its resulting emission reductions more straightforward and thus should lead to scaling up and simplification of the mechanism without compromising the quality of the emission reductions achieved.

In another move to enhance the regional distribution of project activities, Parties approved a loan scheme for countries with fewer than 10 registered project activities to cover development of project design documents, validating projects and verifying first request for issuance of certified emissions reductions.

The Parties also came to agreement on several matters aimed at improving the governance and efficiency of the CDM. Among other things, Parties:

- requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to make recommendations on a procedure to appeal decisions taken by the CDM Executive Board;
- requested the Executive Board to enhance direct communication with stakeholders and project proponents;
- endorsed terms of reference for Executive Board members, which include details on expected time commitments of members;
- requested the Board to revise the registration procedures to make the effective start date of a project the date on which a complete request for registration was received;

- requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to consider the issue of materiality with a view to recommending a draft decision on this matter for adoption at CMP7.

In a separate decision, Parties decided that carbon capture and storage in geological formations is eligible as project activities under the CDM, provided issues, such as permanence, boundaries and safety, are addressed and resolved. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/sbsta/eng/124.pdf>

Regarding the joint implementation (JI) mechanism, Parties decided to establish provisions for the charging of fees for activities under JI Track 1 – that part of JI administered by national governments – in order to contribute to the administrative costs of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee and its supporting structures. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cmp6/eng/109.pdf>

All documents relating to CMP6 are available on the UNFCCC website: [unfccc.int](http://unfccc.int)

**About the Kyoto Protocol’s clean development mechanism**

The CDM allows emission-reduction projects in developing countries to earn certified emission reduction (CER) credits, each equivalent to one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>. CERs can be traded and sold, and used by industrialized countries to meet a part of their targets under the Protocol. The CDM assists countries in achieving sustainable development and emission reductions, while giving industrialized countries some flexibility in how they meet their emission targets.

**About joint implementation under the Kyoto Protocol**

Through the JI mechanism, a country with an emission-reduction limitation commitment under the Kyoto Protocol may take part in an emission-reduction (or emission removal) project in any other country with a commitment under the Protocol, and count the resulting emission reduction/removal towards meeting its Kyoto target.

JI projects earn emission reduction units (ERUs), each equivalent to one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>. All emission reductions must be real, measurable, verifiable and additional to what would have occurred without the project.

Under JI there are two “tracks” by which projects can apply for approval: Party-verification and international independent body verification (projects vetted through the JI Supervisory Committee).

<b>CDM quick stats, 10 December 2010</b>	
Number of projects registered	<b>2588</b>
Number of projects with CERs issued	<b>823</b>
CERs issued to date	<b>476,762,324</b>
Projects in pipeline <i>(Includes all projects from validation stage; includes registered projects)</i>	<b>&gt; 5600</b>
CERs in pipeline <i>(CERs from projects at validation stage onward, to 2012, including registered projects)</i>	<b>&gt; 2,700,000,000</b>
<b>Top five countries by number of projects registered</b>	
China	<b>1079</b>

India	578
Brazil	180
Mexico	124
Malaysia	86
<b>Top five countries by CERs (<i>Expected average annual CERs from registered projects</i>)</b>	
China	250,100,948
India	44,841,662
Brazil	21,459,697
Republic of Korea	17,057,527
Mexico	9,776,733

Photo Credit: "Welcoming the Xinjiang Dawn" by Chanyi Fu

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