



CDM EB 61 Press Highlights



CDM Executive Board, 61st Meeting: Bonn, Germany, 3 June 2011

At its 61st meeting, the CDM Executive Board took decisions expected to further enhance quality of emission reductions, efficiency, and access to the mechanism.

As part of a package of changes to streamline issuance procedures, the Board decided to adjust the level of scrutiny it gives to the various aspects of requests for issuance according to the expected level of damage from a potential erroneous assessment. This so-called risk-based approach is designed to give submissions the appropriate level of scrutiny.

“Taken together, these changes will streamline the process and improve the quality of assessment, by freeing up more time to concentrate on submissions,” said Board Chair Martin Hession.

To help project developers in lesser developed countries identify whether their projects meet the so-called additionality requirement — reductions must be in addition to what would have occurred in the absence of the project — the Board has allowed for the application of specific default factors for use in financial assessments of additionality. This will be especially useful in countries where financial data are scarce.

“This should give some developing countries a leg up when it comes to showing additionality, without compromising on the quality of emission reductions. It’s another step we’ve taken to make the CDM more efficient and help extend its benefits to underrepresented countries,” said Mr. Hession.

At the meeting, the Board considered the question of whether CDM’s rules and procedures ensuring stakeholder consultation are being followed and whether they are adequate. The Board asked the UNFCCC secretariat to prepare a note on the matter for consideration by the Board.

“We’ve initiated an assessment of procedures relating to stakeholder consultation, with a view to improving their implementation and enhancing the CDM’s ability to deliver sustainable development benefits,” said Mr. Hession.

The Board also took its first look at a draft revision of the baseline and monitoring methodology for projects that destroy HFC-23, a potent greenhouse gas and by-product in the manufacture of refrigerant HCFC-22. Following a report by its Methodologies Panel, the Board decided in December 2010 to put the methodology (AM0001) on hold and to enhance its stringency.

“There is clear consensus around the need to address potential perverse incentives through revision of the methodology, but before we adopt anything, we have to be sure it will do the job. The proposed revision is complex and ambitious, so we need to further assess its potential impact,” said Mr. Hession.

The next meeting of the CDM Executive Board will be held on 11–15 July in Marrakesh, Morocco. For the full report of the meeting see <http://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/index.html>. For further information contact cdm-press@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 CO₂. 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.

CDM factoids 3.06.2011	
Number of projects registered	3147
Number of projects with CERs issued	1062
CERs issued to date	629,758,037
Projects in pipeline (<i>Includes all projects from validation stage; includes registered projects</i>)	> 5600
CERs in pipeline (<i>CERs from projects at validation stage onward, to 2012, including registered projects</i>)	> 2,700,000,000
Top five countries by number of projects registered	
China	1418
India	668
Brazil	192
Mexico	126
Malaysia	93
Top five countries by CERs (<i>Expected average annual CERs from registered projects</i>)	
China	306,130,103
India	51,000,315

Brazil	22,290,653
Republic of Korea	17,280,321
Mexico	9,860,654

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