Feedback on how to improve the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) for the future.

Comments, suggestions and proposals by Monday 16 January 2012

Frame of reference: External forces affecting the CDM, future challenges and opportunities and possible directions for its future use and development.

Ref: CDM-EB-64
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM
SIXTY-FOURTH MEETING

Comments made in particular reference to:
IV. Baseline and monitoring methodologies and additionality points 16 – 24 and VI. Regional and subregional distribution and capacity-building points 31 a), b) and c)

Summary
As the spectre of climate change is realised globally the role that external forces such as human aspirations and behaviour play as influences driving human contributions to climate change in billions of homes around the world we recognised. It is also understood that as societies develop they increase the activities that impact the environment and in turn, as people are educated about climate change they expect change to be driven by Government regulations in response to these times.

Prepared By:
Ms Kim Andrews
Carbon ReDress
The CDM can use the external forces created by the growing middle classes around the world as economies refuse to limit growth and contribute to future challenges. The CDM is the most effective tool for inspiring innovative design requiring technologies to increase efficiencies with materials and processes to alter the behaviour of billions of people. By dealing with a major reason for carbon production, the designs that create carbon as a by-product through the methods and activities of design and manufacturing related industries. These energy and material intensive industries extend to resource extraction processing, production processes and manufacture of goods and continue through to their distribution, consumer use and end of life issues making it an ideal next phase for CDM future directions.

The CDM can instigate the deep change required for mitigation and adaptation in a time of climate change. Expanding the CDM framework to include design and manufacturing would cut into the CO2 produced and also deal with a broad range of environmental pollution and issues of sustainability and human rights.

As growing populations in newly developing countries aspire to better standards of living and fulfilling lives, it is these industries that fulfil their demands. The demand for CDM projects generated by designers or initiated by companies for designers to follow can ensure additionality requirements are met. CDM requirements can be met throughout the design process guiding the design decision making process which in turn improves the end result for the environment by reducing Co2 emissions. Using an LCA can provide one method to demonstrate the evaluation of the project for certification. A new labelling system could be developed to increase consumer awareness and drive demands for these certified products in the marketplace.

Application of the CDM may require an additional set of guidelines for these industries in particular. The CDM stimulus would create the opportunity to forge deep change in design and manufacturing industries as the incentive of the CER makes it viable in all types of markets. The end result would significantly change the nature of design generation and process, materials used, manufacturing processes and the outputs, all measured by life cycle analysis.

CDM incentives will ultimately change consumer choices and their subsequent behaviours thus reducing CO2 production in creating, use and maintenance of products.

The effectiveness of the CDM is evident even though it passes through this ‘teething’ phase as definitions and processes are defined and refined. Opportunities for its application are limitless in the design and manufacturing industries. Major projects to date have rightly focused on the first wave of CDM development – renewable energy projects that drive new technology uptake and resource production processes. Other forms of innovation are fostered through a number of groups such as the Blue Economy and the 100 innovations project: http://www.community.blueeconomy.de/.

The CDM would provide incentives to employ these innovations against old technology to make significant impact globally and provide incentive for scaling up not just for energy technologies but all technologies across all industries. The web of impact could be built into the conditions ensuring the supply chains must also be involved.
I would like to propose that the Committee explore the possibilities of expanding the CDM framework to include design, resource extraction and processing for product manufacture, use and end of life issues. To do so would take the benefits of the CDM directly into the lives of billions of people on the planet that aspires to consume a vast array of products. As China is the largest user of the CDM and also the largest textile producer, it presents a broader range of opportunities across the manufacturing sectors.

In my research I have been drawn to the potential of the CDM as the most effective incentive of the Kyoto Protocol to instigate change at a grass roots level with positive global consequences while adding benefits to economies. The CDM can extend its effectiveness to the design and manufacturing industries for creative and educational projects. The textile area – a problematic area is an excellent industry to trial the framework. Through these industries the CDM delivers not only real results but impacts deeply into cultures by promoting communication and cross cultural appreciation, build capacity and it is from these new conditions that business opportunities emerge, improving quality in production and reducing toward elimination of environmental degradation.

Writers Background:

Currently completing a Masters in International Law and International Relations at the University of New South Wales Law Faculty in 2012. I completed a Masters in Design (Sustainability in the Textile Industry -HD) at UT S (University of Technology Sydney) in 1996.

My current research is working toward a PhD proposal to investigate how the potential of the CDM in creative design and textile manufacturing industries including educational projects.

Yours sincerely

Kim Andrews

Kim Andrews

Unit 1

26 Eaton St

Neutral Bay, 2089

NSW, Australia.