

CDM-EB73-AA-A12

Concept note

Monitoring guidelines for situations where project participants do not follow the requirements of methodologies

Version 01.0



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

1. Procedural background

1. Over the last two years, more than 80 per cent of the requests for deviation received by the secretariat have referred to monitoring issues. The requests have been related to various issues such as problems while measuring specific parameters, changes or malfunction of equipment, use of alternative methods to determine greenhouse gas emissions, monitoring frequency, problems archiving the information, etc.
2. The secretariat requires a certain amount of time to address the issues raised in the request, and the existence of guidelines could help project proponents to find cost-effective and simpler solutions to their specific issues while still ensuring environmental integrity and conservativeness in the determination of emission reductions without the need to make a request for deviation and therefore reducing the time needed to process their requests for issuance.
3. To address these issues, the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (the Board) agreed to give guidance in accordance with its management plan for 2013.

2. Purpose

4. The project will produce guidelines, which will comprise the best practices for dealing with situation that may result into a temporary deviation, when a project participant was not able to follow the requirements under applied methodology for the project activity for a short duration during a monitoring period.
5. The purpose of this concept note is to inform the Board of the scope of work the secretariat will perform in order to produce the guidelines, seek guidance from the Board on scope of work, and also recommend the Board to launch a call for public input to collect input from stakeholders on the topics the guidelines need to cover.

3. Key issues and proposed solutions

6. The secretariat has conducted an analysis of existing requests for deviation submitted to the Board since December 2010. As a result of the analysis, several issues that could be further analysed and incorporated in the monitoring guidelines were identified, mainly in the energy and waste management sector (municipal solid waste and wastewater) as these two sectors were the major contributor to the request for deviation cases. The secretariat will continue to explore other sources of information such as requests for revision of monitoring plan, to expand the list of issues to be analysed while implementing this project.
7. The secretariat proposes to work with the support of the Small-Scale Working Group (SSC-WG) and Methodologies Panel (Meth Panel) in two main work streams: one that could be applicable for any methodology and another that will work for issues mainly related to the energy sector and waste management sector.
8. The guidelines under the first work stream should focus on the issues which are applicable for any methodology.

9. The guidelines under the second work stream would focus on issues from methodologies under energy sector and waste management sector. These include for example:
 - (a) Energy sector:
 - (i) Issue related to “continuous” monitoring of biomass consumed for power and/or heat generation in boiler; whether the biomass consumed should be based either on direct monitoring, i.e. using an online meter, or indirect monitoring, i.e. using stock inventory records, the indirect monitoring is economical and accepted by financial auditors in lieu of online monitoring;
 - (b) Waste management:
 - (i) To allow use of alternative methods to measure methane concentration, for example measuring the concentration of carbon dioxide;
 - (ii) To provide safeguards when main parameters are monitored, i.e. methane flow and concentration, but others related to the operation of the project activity are not monitored.
10. Furthermore, the secretariat proposes to explore, with the support of the SSC-WG and the Meth Panel, additional areas of work that, although not fully related to monitoring issues, could provide clarity to project participants while implementing their projects:
 - (a) To use apportioning approach for calculation of emissions which is approved by local authorities or in any clean development mechanism (CDM) methodology, for example for the situation when a single power turbine uses steam from a CDM project and from a non-CDM project;
 - (b) To use default values when applying CDM methodologies, for example to determine efficiencies of equipment, benchmarks defined in the existing methodologies, etc.;
 - (c) To use a standardized approach in the data monitoring, for example the use of country-specific default values for emission factors, fuel consumption by vehicles, etc.

4. Impacts

11. The guidelines are intended as a tool to help project proponents individuate cost-effective and simpler solutions to the most common issues they face during the monitoring of their project activities while ensuring environmental integrity and conservativeness in the determination of emission reductions. The guidelines will streamline monitoring and reporting activities while reducing transaction costs which would benefit the designated operational entities while performing the verification task.
12. It would also benefit the work through enhanced effectiveness and efficient assessment of request for issuance cases as well as a prospected reduction in requests for approval of post-registration changes.

5. Subsequent work and timelines

13. The work will be performed from the first quarter of 2013 to the fourth quarter of 2013.

Table. Proposed workplan

Project		Product	EB73	EB75	EB76
195	Monitoring guidance (methodologies)	Monitoring guidelines on how to deal with measurement issues that appear during the monitoring of CDM project activities	Concept (Panel/ WG input)	Draft for public inputs(Panel /WG input)	Draft

6. Recommendations to the Board

14. It is recommended that the Board:
- (a) Agree on the proposed work to be performed;
 - (b) Provide guidance on scope of work;
 - (c) Launch a call for public inputs to receive further input from different stakeholders on the scope of work of the project.

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Document information

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