

**CDM-EB107-AA-A03**

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# Status of CDM MAP 2020–2021 implementation (1 January–30 June 2020)

Version 01.0



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

## COVER NOTE

### 1. Procedural background

1. The clean development mechanism (CDM) two-year business and management plan 2020–2021 was adopted at the 104<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Board of the CDM (hereinafter referred to as the Board) (EB 104).<sup>1</sup>

### 2. Purpose

2. The purpose of this document is to provide an update to the Board on the progress made towards achieving the goals, objectives, operational activities and project activities, as established in the CDM management plan (MAP) 2020–2021. The mid-year review of the first year of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 will allow the Board to assess the secretariat's implementation of the CDM MAP and offer guidance on refining the direction of future work, if needed.

### 3. Impacts

3. The Board's review of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 implementation at its 107<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board, and its subsequent guidance regarding the future direction and priorities of the secretariat's support of the CDM, will provide input to the work planned for the remainder of the year.

### 4. Recommendations to the Board

4. The Board may take note of the status of the CDM MAP 2020-2021 as at 30 June 2020 and advise any mid-course adjustments that may be required.

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<sup>1</sup> See CDM-EB104-A01-INFO <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.

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## 1. Introduction

1. The clean development mechanism (CDM) two-year business and management plan 2020–2021, adopted at the 104<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Board of the CDM (hereinafter referred to as the Board) (EB 104), documents the goals and objectives of the CDM and the approach, activities and resources required to support the effective execution of the goals and objectives in 2020 and 2021.<sup>1</sup>
2. This document describes the status of implementation of the CDM management plan (MAP) 2020–2021 for the period 1 January through 30 June 2020, the activities and projects underway and the financial and human resources of the secretariat's Mitigation Division, which supports the Board and operation of the CDM.
3. The mid-year and end-year status of implementation of the CDM MAP 2018–2019 review reports (and other prior years' review reports) are available on the CDM website.<sup>2</sup>

## 1. Progress report on operational activities, projects and resources utilized

4. The 2020 mid-year review reports on the 59 operational activities and 2 project activities included in the CDM two-year business and management plan 2020–2021. Of the total of 61 CDM MAP activities, 55 have volume data forecasts associated with them (e.g. number of expected cases, assessments, stakeholder queries, etc.). For these 55 activities, table 2 in the appendix lists both the projected annual volume data in the approved CDM MAP 2020–2021 and the actual volumes processed during the six-month reporting period under consideration (1 January to 30 June 2020).
5. The following section is a comprehensive reporting on the work performed, progress made and products delivered under each of the 59 operational activities and two project activities in the CDM MAP 2020–2021.

### 1.1. Goal 1: Enable the efficient and transparent implementation of mitigation activities to ensure the trusted certification of their outcomes

#### 1.1.1. Objective 1a: Operate efficient project and entity assessment processes

##### CDM registry

6. As shown in figure 1 below, during the reporting period 3,058 requests for forwarding and cancellation transactions for certified emission reductions (CERs) were completed against the 2020 annual forecasted volume of 8,200 transactions. This corresponds to 37 per cent against a linearly projected rate of 50 per cent for the six-month reporting period. Additionally, 719 changes to modalities of communication (38 per cent) were completed against the annual forecasted volume of 1,900 change requests.
7. The CDM registry operational volumes are lower than the linearly projected volumes (50 per cent) for the reporting period. Comparing the volume data for this six-month period

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<sup>1</sup> See CDM-EB104-A01-INFO <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.

<sup>2</sup> See for example: CDM-2019Q2-INFO01 (mid-year review report for 2019) and CDM-2019Q4-INFO01 (end-year review report for 2019) <[https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/index\\_2019.html](https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/index_2019.html)>.

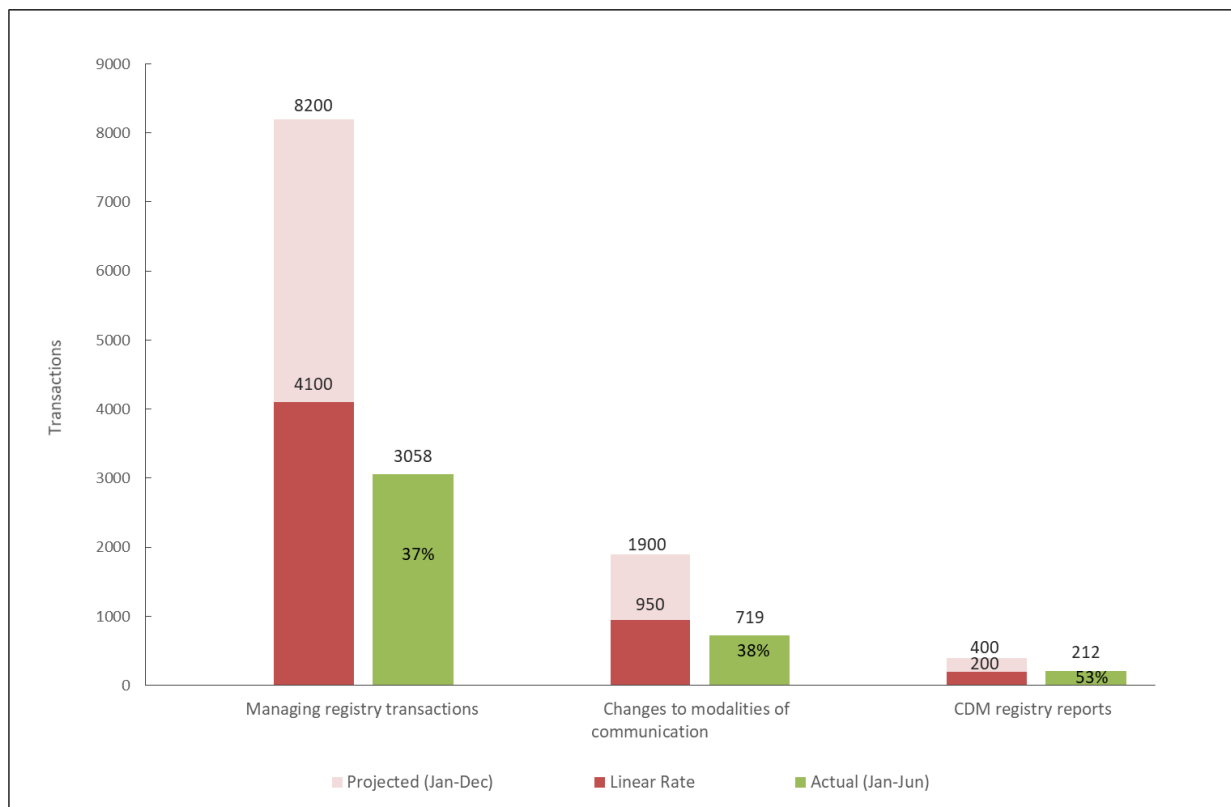
in 2020 against the same six-month period in 2019, there is a slight decrease in completed requests for forwarding and cancellation transactions for CERs (3,603 transactions by June 2019 versus 3,058 transactions for the reporting period) and a decrease in changes to modalities of communication transactions (969 transactions by June 2019 versus 719 transactions for the reporting period). Although the 2020 operational volumes are expected to more closely align with the 2020 12-month projections, the slightly lower trend is expected to continue in the second half of 2020.

8. In relation to the CDM registry reporting function, 212 reports (53 per cent), including designated national authority (DNA) reports, CDM Executive Board monthly reports and reports to the World Bank, were produced against the annual forecasted volume of 400 reports. Volumes for 2020 are expected to remain aligned with the forecasts.
9. During the first six months of 2020, three voluntary cancellation seller accounts were opened, and one seller account was reactivated, bringing the total number of accounts to 74 against a forecasted volume of 80 active seller accounts by the end of 2020. The CERs available for listing on the United Nations Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of CERS (VCP), through the 74 active accounts, exceeded 5.7 million at the end of the period, which is sufficient for the current level of operations. Supply-side activities are tailored according to short-term forecasts to ensure a stable supply of units.
10. Cancellations through the VCP reached 587,124 CERs during the first six months of 2020, as compared to 315,715 CERs for the same six-month period in 2019 (an 86 per cent increase).
11. Looking at all voluntary cancellations recorded during the reporting period through both tracks (CDM registry regular track and the VCP), a comparison against the same period in 2019 shows a decreasing number of cancellation requests (orders), while the total number of CERs cancelled has increased (from 4.7 million CERS in the first half of 2019 to 5.6 million CERs in the first half of 2020).<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Regular reports to the Board on the VCP are located at: <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/>>.

**Figure 1. CDM registry operation (January–June 2020)**



### Project assessments

12. The total CERs issued over the reporting period is 33,051,986, of which 5,369,126 CERs were issued for programmes of activities (PoAs) and 27,682,860 were issued for project activities.
13. In terms of caseload, details of the project assessments processed during the reporting period are included in table 1 and figure 2.

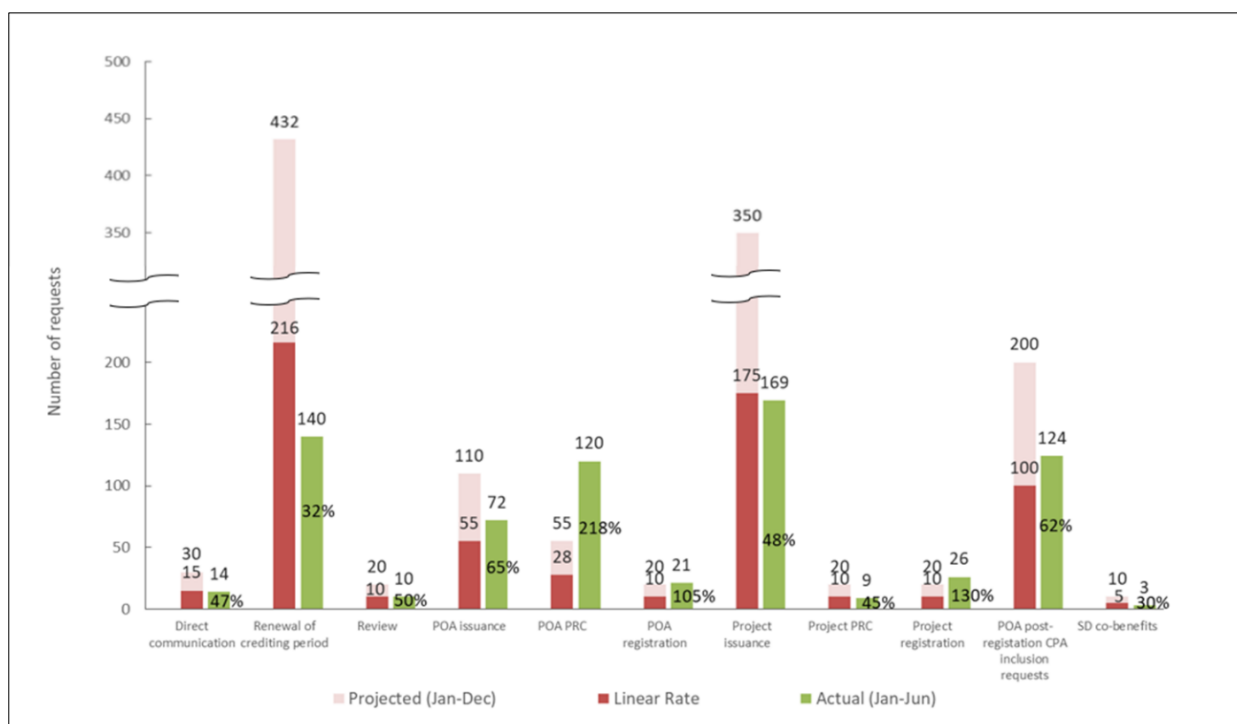
**Table 1. Project assessments (January–June 2020)**

Activity	Projected annual volume MAP 2020	Linearly Projected rate (Jan.–Jun. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Requests for project issuance	350	175	169
Requests for programme of activities (PoA) issuance covering component project activities (CPAs)	110	55	72 <sup>(a)</sup>
Request for project registration	20	10	26
Request for PoA registration	20	10	21
Requests for project post-registration changes (PRC)	20	10	9
Request for PoA PRC	55	27.5	120

Activity	Projected annual volume MAP 2020	Linearly Projected rate (Jan.–Jun. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Request for renewal of crediting period	432	216	140 <sup>4</sup>
Request for review	20	10	10
Request for direct communication	30	15	14
PoA post-registration CPA inclusion requests	200	100	124

(a) These included the processing of 387 CPAs.

**Figure 2. Type and number of project assessments processed against annual forecasts and the linearly projected volume for the period under review (January–June 2020)**



*Note:* CPA = component project activity; PoA = programme of activities; PRC = post-registration changes, SD = sustainable development.

14. As seen in table 1, activities including requests for PoA issuance covering component project activities (CPAs), project registration, PoA registration, PoA post-registration changes (PRCs) and PoA post-registration CPA inclusions have a higher volume of data reported against the linearly projected volumes, whereas activities including requests for project issuance, project PRCs, review and direct communication have aligned or lower volume data reported against the linearly projected volumes.
15. During the reporting period, the waiting times for the commencement of project assessments for registration and issuance were below 15 days, as mandated by the Board and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto

<sup>4</sup> These included the processing of 29 PoA renewal requests.

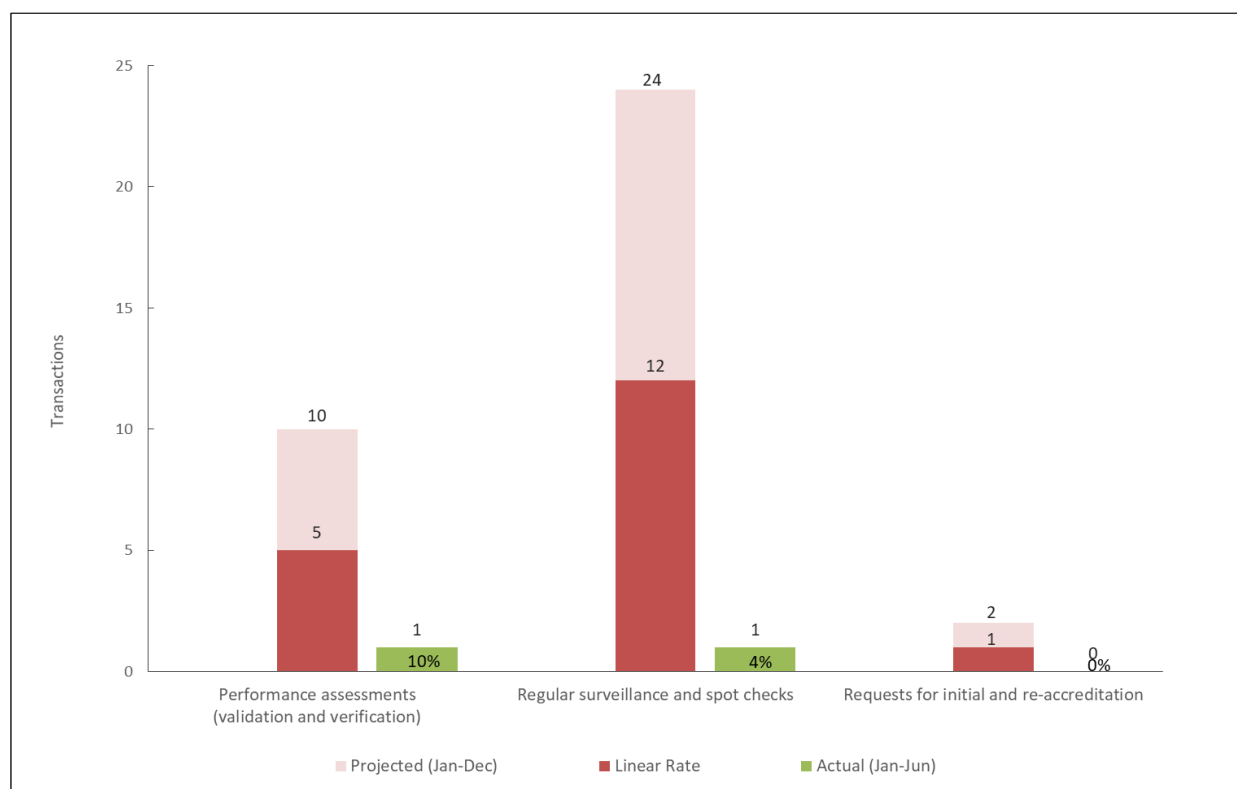
Protocol (CMP), except for a few weeks in January and June, owing to a sudden increase in the number of submissions and operational exigencies.

16. Three sustainable development co-benefit reports were received and published during the reporting period against the annual forecast of 10 reports.

### Entity assessments

17. There are currently 30 accredited designated operational entities (DOEs).<sup>5</sup>
18. As shown in figure 3, during the reporting period, one performance assessment was conducted<sup>6</sup> against the annual forecasted volume of 10 assessments (10 per cent). One regular surveillance assessment and spot check was conducted against the annual forecasted volume of 24 regular surveillance assessments and spot checks (4 per cent). No re-accreditation assessments were initiated during the reporting period against the annual forecasted volume of two requests. The lower volumes reported against the linearly projected volumes (50 per cent) reflect the travel restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of assessments and spot checks may increase during the second half of the year if the travel restrictions are eased.

**Figure 3. Type and number of entity assessments processed against annual volumes and the linearly projected volume for the period under review (January–June 2020)**



<sup>5</sup> Note that in the CDM MAP 2020–2021 (CDM-EB104-A01-INFO, table 4), the volume data indicates that 31 entities are to be supported in 2020. At the time of preparing the CDM MAP 2020–2021, there were 31 accredited entities. However, on 20 December 2019, one entity voluntarily withdrew, leaving 30 entities.

<sup>6</sup> Figure 3 includes one verification performance assessment.



19. During the reporting period, planning was initiated to organize a virtual workshop which was held from 31 August - 1 September 2020 on the calibration of the CDM accreditation roster of experts for lead assessors. The need to organize a virtual DOE calibration workshop will be explored after EB 107.
20. In summary, in relation to objective 1a, table 1 of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 allocates 22 per cent of the annual approved budget to the 17 operational activities delivering services and products in support of this objective.<sup>7</sup> Table 1 in the appendix shows that, as at 30 June 2020, 7 per cent of the annual budgeted resources were utilized against the activities associated with this objective, which is slightly lower than the linearly projected rate of 11 per cent for the six-month reporting period.

**1.1.2. Objective 1b: Operate an effective regulatory framework resulting in reduced transaction costs for participants in the mechanism**

**Communications**

21. Communications focused on showcasing the CDM as a functioning, still-evolving and improving tool available to Parties as well as non-Party stakeholders, for example as part of efforts to increase the use of CERs through the Climate Neutral Now initiative. Tables 3 and 4 in the appendix list the stories and information items created or sourced and published on the United Nations Climate Change main website and the United Nations Climate Change CDM website. These stories were further promoted using social media.

**External queries**

22. As shown in figure 4, during the reporting period, a total of 297 CDM-related queries from stakeholders were processed, including 26 communications addressed to the Board and 271 communications addressed to the secretariat. This corresponds to 74 per cent of the annual forecasted volume and is higher than the linearly projected volume (50 per cent) for the reporting period. An additional 487 queries of an administrative nature (e.g. log-in troubleshooting, updating the contact database) were processed by the secretariat.
23. Considering requests from stakeholders, the Board agreed at EB 106 to relax the mandatory site visits by DOEs for a period of three months (23 March to 23 June 2020) because of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>8</sup> The Board agreed on 23 June 2020<sup>9</sup> to further extend the period in which DOEs may apply alternative measures of validation/verification to mandatory on-site inspections until 31 December 2020.
24. Further, recognizing the difficulties that project participants and coordinating/managing entities were facing in the monitoring of registered CDM project activities and PoAs due to various restrictions under the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board, at EB 106, issued a

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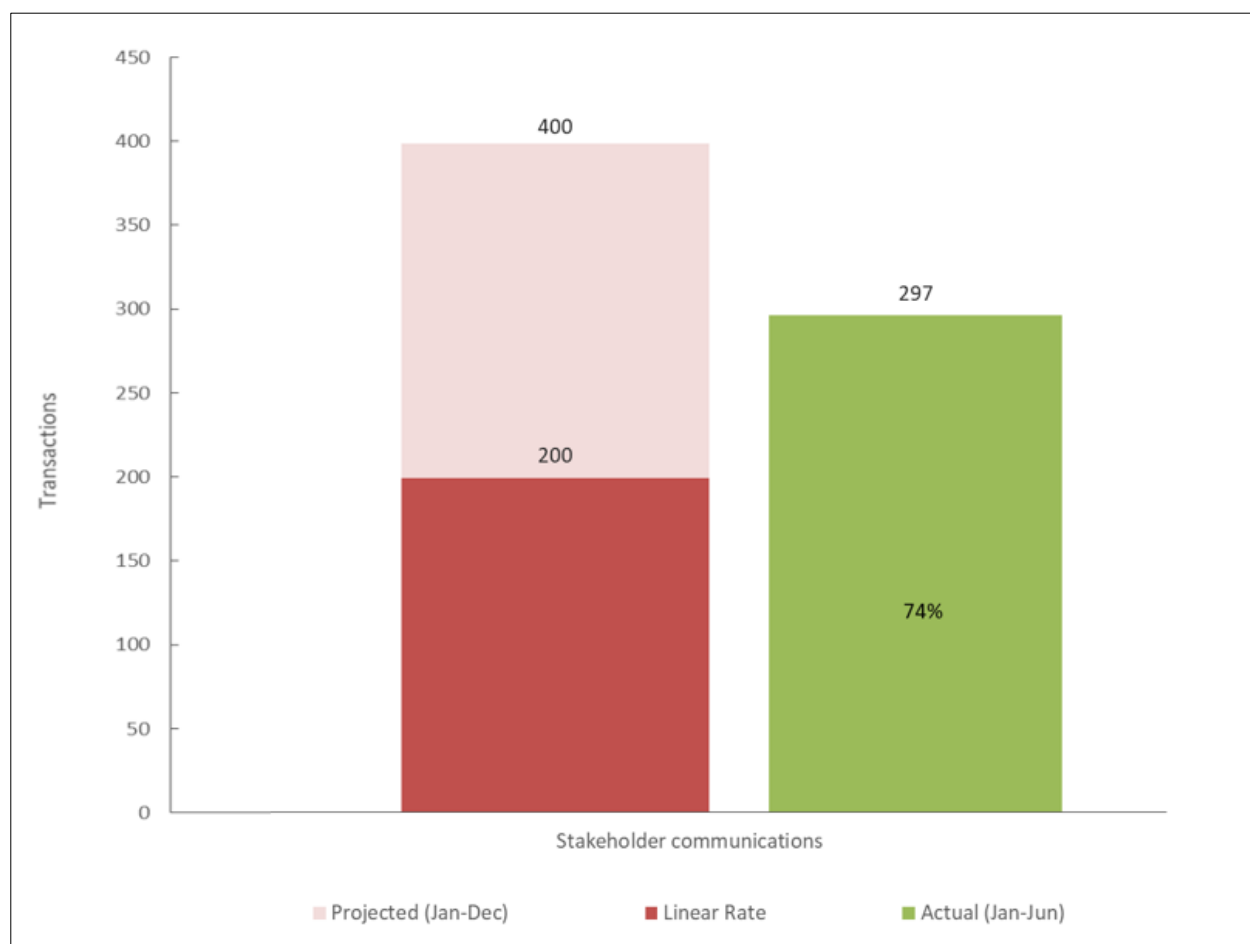
<sup>7</sup> For the indicative allocation of resources by objective, see CDM-EB104-A01, Appendix, tables 1 and 2 at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.

<sup>8</sup> See CDM-EB106, paragraph 26 at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/UserManagement/FileStorage/AV836BOL4R5S9HTZEXYIW2NMQF10PJ>>.

<sup>9</sup> See Newsroom article at <[https://cdm.unfccc.int/newsroom/latestnews/releases/2020/01041\\_index.html](https://cdm.unfccc.int/newsroom/latestnews/releases/2020/01041_index.html)>.

clarification on the temporary deviation from the registered monitoring plan for a monitoring period affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>10</sup>

**Figure 4. External stakeholder queries processed against the annual forecast, including the linearly projected volume for the period under consideration (January–June 2020)**



### Market and policy analysis

25. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued to gather intelligence on developments in global carbon markets. The secretariat is using this intelligence to provide updates to the Board on developments in the UNFCCC process in relation to the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement, including updates on carbon-pricing mechanisms globally, recent policy developments in different regions and international sectors, and the potential role of the CDM. Regular updates are scheduled for EB 107<sup>11</sup> and EB 108. This information will allow decisions by the Board across its work programme to be informed by broader ongoing developments.

<sup>10</sup> See CDM-EB106, paragraph 26 at <https://cdm.unfccc.int/UserManagement/FileStorage/AV836BOL4R5S9HTZEXYIW2NMQF10PJ>.

<sup>11</sup> At EB 106, the Board agreed to consider the report on the carbon market and policy updates at its next meeting.

### **Secretariat interactions with stakeholders**

26. On behalf of the Board and its support structures, four calls for public input were sought on: (a) issues included in the annotated agenda and related annexes prepared for EB 106; (b) methodological issues; (c) DNA Forum Interaction at EB 106; and (d) Draft revised procedure: “Performance monitoring of designated operational entities”.<sup>12</sup>
27. The 2019 annual report on stakeholder communications providing feedback to stakeholders was published during the reporting period.<sup>13</sup>
28. The Board and its support structure met virtually with representatives of the DNA Forum and the DOE/Accredited Independent Entity (AIE) Coordination Forum at EB 106 and with the representative of the DOE/AIE Coordination Forum at the eighty-sixth meeting of the CDM-AP (CDM-AP 86), and took note of forums’ inputs.
29. The 21<sup>st</sup> Global DNA Forum, originally scheduled to take place in May 2020 in Barcelona, Spain, was postponed due to the travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The secretariat is examining the possibility of virtual meetings for global and regional DNA forums in 2020.

### **Servicing of the regulatory body and its panels and working groups**

30. At its first meeting of the calendar year,<sup>14</sup> the Board adopted its workplan and that of its panels and approved the calendar of meetings. During the 2020 reporting period, one meeting of the Board (EB 106), one of the CDM Accreditation Panel (CDM-AP 86) and two of the Methodologies Panel (MP) (MP 81 and MP 82<sup>15</sup>) were concluded. Table 6 in the appendix includes information on the number of documents under consideration by the Board during the reporting period.
31. During the reporting period, the Board considered and took decisions on three urgent matters through electronic decision-making (see paras. 23 and 24 above).
32. In addition to the activities in the approved CDM MAP 2020–2021, the workplan covers one additional mandate<sup>16</sup> to the Board provided by the CMP at its fifteenth session (see table 5 of the appendix). The additional CMP mandate was absorbed into the work streams approved in the CDM MAP 2020–2021.

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<sup>12</sup> See the archive of calls for public input at <[http://cdm.unfccc.int/public\\_inputs/index.html](http://cdm.unfccc.int/public_inputs/index.html)>. Note that one call for input was in relation to EB 106 (input on the annotated agenda). The other call for input was in relation to the approved methodology AMS-II. E, which was considered at MP 82 in June 2020 and will be considered at EB 107.

<sup>13</sup> See CDM-2019SC-INFO01 at <[https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20200309144945385/Regular%20report\\_Stakeholder\\_communication\\_Jan\\_Dec19.pdf](https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20200309144945385/Regular%20report_Stakeholder_communication_Jan_Dec19.pdf)>.

<sup>14</sup> EB 106, originally scheduled from 24 to 27 March 2020, was postponed due to travel restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, EB 106 was organized virtually from 11 May to 12 June 2020.

<sup>15</sup> MP 82 was organized virtually from 15 to 26 June 2020.

<sup>16</sup> See decision 2/CMP.15, paragraph 8.

33. As per the workplan approved by the Board at EB 106,<sup>17</sup> 54 products were forecasted to be delivered in 2020. No additional mandates were provided by the Board during the reporting period.
34. As shown in table 7 in the appendix, as at 30 June 2020 a total of 19 products (35 per cent) were delivered against the workplan. Work is proceeding as per the approved workplans.
35. At EB 106, the Board designated four Board members to serve as evaluators for the CDM registration and issuance team. At the same meeting, the Board decided that a new call for experts to serve on the CDM accreditation roster of experts was not required.

### **Accreditation system**

36. During the reporting period, 30 entities were supported.<sup>18</sup> The support included day-to-day activities related to the administration of the accreditation workflow.
37. During the reporting period, five assessments were launched, of which four were regular surveillance assessments and one was a performance assessment. Their corresponding workplans were processed in accordance with the “CDM accreditation procedure”.
38. The Board re-accredited one entity and will present this recommendation for endorsement by the CMP at its sixteenth session.
39. The Board took note of the notification by the CDM-AP on the completion of regular on-site surveillance assessments and performance assessments for six DOEs.
40. At EB 106, the Board adopted the revised procedure on performance monitoring of DOEs, which enables the effective monitoring of DOEs when submissions are low. The Board requested the secretariat to establish a workflow to implement the revised procedure and report back to the Board at its first meeting in 2021.
41. Also, at EB 106, the Board adopted (a) the revised “CDM accreditation procedure”, incorporating a previous clarification issued by the Board related to the mandatory number of performance assessments; and (b) the revision of the frequency and timing of the performance assessment, in alignment with the revised procedure on performance monitoring of DOEs.

### **Registration and issuance system**

42. Information system support for CDM activities/cycles, including the uploading of monitoring reports, summary notes, Board member objections, rejection rulings, updated documents related to direct communication, and queries from project participants, were carried out according to the established procedures.
43. The CDM information system continues to be enhanced with additional capabilities and workflows. Ongoing activities in this regard include: defining requirements; testing and handling of deployments; overseeing the implementation of change requests; and managing relations with the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) department.

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<sup>17</sup> See CDM-EB106-A01 at <https://cdm.unfccc.int/UserManagement/FileStorage/FSXP6GC9381QYBKIEENZ2RJVALD4T5W>.

<sup>18</sup> See footnote 6.

### **Regulatory framework management**

44. At EB 106, the Board issued the amendments to version 02.0 of the “CDM project standard for project activities” and the amendments to version 02.0 of the “CDM project standard for programmes of activities” to clarify the reference level for the capping of claimable CERs due to capacity increases through post-registration changes. At the same meeting, the Board also issued the amendments to version 02.0 of the “CDM project standard for programmes of activities”, introducing instructions on the consideration of possible cross-effects in a PoA in urban sectors.
45. At EB 106, the Board also considered a concept note on the revision of the regulatory provisions on standardized baselines and requested the secretariat to present a revised concept note at the next meeting with the addition of measures to facilitate submissions from the DNAs of proposed updated standardized baselines.
46. In summary, in relation to objective 1b, table 1 of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 allocates 25 per cent of the annual approved budget for 2020 to the 17 operational activities delivering services and products in support of this objective.<sup>19</sup> Table 1 in the appendix shows that, as at 30 June 2020, 9 per cent of the total budgeted resources for 2020 were utilized against the activities associated with this objective, which is slightly lower than the projected linear rate of 12.5 per cent for the six-month reporting period. The work under this objective is on track and progressing in accordance with the established timelines in the current Board-approved workplan.

#### **1.1.3. Objective 1c: Develop simplified and user-friendly standards and procedures that increase efficiency and ensure environmental integrity**

##### **Methodologies**

47. Figure 5 below provides data for the six-month reporting period<sup>20</sup> relating to methodologies work against the annual forecasted volume of 60 requests.<sup>21</sup>
48. During the reporting period, the following requests for clarification were processed:
  - (a) Twenty-one requests for clarifications were fully concluded;<sup>22</sup>
  - (b) Five requests for clarifications have been recommended for consideration by the Board;<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> For the indicative allocation of resources by objective, see CDM-EB104-A01, appendix, tables 1 and 2 at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.

<sup>20</sup> The data in figure 5 also includes submissions from earlier reporting periods that are still under process. This is because these items required additional work during the reporting period.

<sup>21</sup> The annual forecasted volume includes 30 requests for processing requests for clarification, deviation, revision and new submissions from stakeholders and 30 requests responding to methodological work mandated by the Board.

<sup>22</sup> For small-scale: SSC\_769, SSC\_770, SSC\_771, SSC\_773, SSC\_774, SSC\_775, SSC\_776, SSC\_777, SSC\_778, SSC\_779, SSC\_782 and SSC\_787; for large-scale: AM\_CLA\_0282, AM\_CLA\_0283, AM\_CLA\_0284 and AM\_CLA\_0285; and for methodological tools: CLA\_TOOL\_0033, CLA\_TOOL\_0034, CLA\_TOOL\_0035, CLA\_TOOL\_0036 and CLA\_TOOL\_0037.

<sup>23</sup> SSC\_780, SSC\_781, SSC\_784, SSC\_785 and SSC\_786.

- (c) Six requests for clarification were under process.<sup>24</sup>
- 49. During the reporting period, the following requests for revision of the methodologies and tools were processed:
  - (a) One request for revision of a methodology<sup>25</sup> and one request for revision of tool<sup>26</sup> were concluded;
  - (b) One request for revision of a methodology has been recommended for consideration by the Board.<sup>27</sup>
- 50. During the reporting period, a total of six new methodology requests were processed:
  - (a) One new methodology request was concluded,<sup>28</sup> while two requests have been recommended for consideration by the Board;<sup>29</sup>
  - (b) Three requests for new methodologies were under process.<sup>30</sup>
- 51. During the reporting period, details of the processing of standardized baselines were as follows:
  - (a) One standardized baseline submission was approved;<sup>31</sup>
  - (b) Fifteen standardized baselines were under process.<sup>32</sup>
- 52. During the reporting period, in response to mandates received from the Board, the following requests for revisions of the methodologies and tools were processed:
  - (a) One request for revision of a tool was concluded;<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> SSC\_788, SSC\_789, SSC\_790 and SSC\_791, and CLA\_TOOL\_0038 and CLA\_TOOL\_0039.

<sup>25</sup> AMS-III.AV: Low greenhouse gas-emitting safe drinking water production systems (SSC\_772).

<sup>26</sup> TOOL24: Common Practice (REV\_TOOL\_0004).

<sup>27</sup> AMS-III.AR: Substituting fossil fuel-based lighting with LED/CFL lighting systems (SSC\_783).

<sup>28</sup> AMS.III.BP: Emission reduction by shore-side electricity supply system (SSC-NM0104).

<sup>29</sup> NM0378 and NM0379.

<sup>30</sup> NM0377, NM0380 and SSC-NM0105.

<sup>31</sup> See approved standardized baselines ASB0047-2020 at [https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard\\_base/2015/sb4.html](https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard_base/2015/sb4.html).

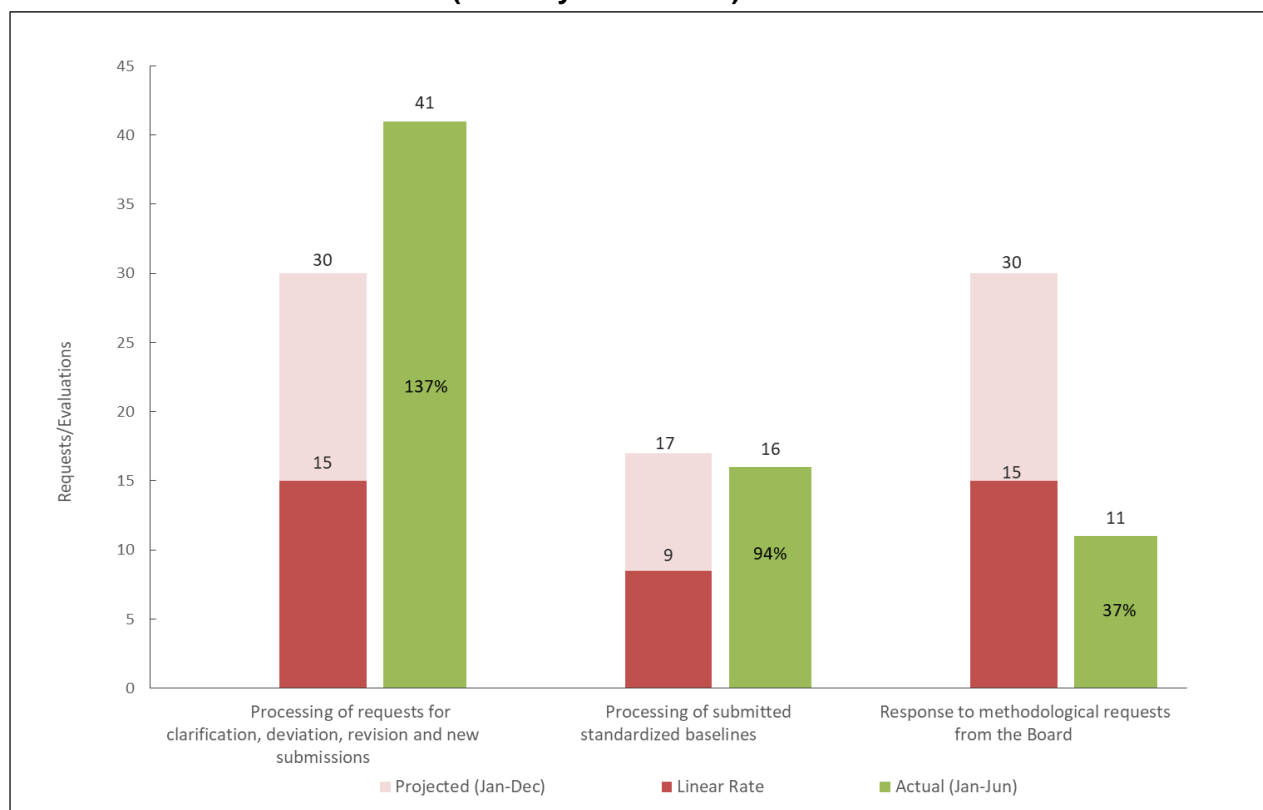
<sup>32</sup> See standardized baselines under process:

- (a) Bottom-up: PSB0013, PSB0021, PSB0031, PSB0050, PSB0051, PSB0052, PSB0053, PSB0054 (submitted during previous reporting periods and under process) and PSB0055 (submitted during the reporting period) at [https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard\\_base/2015/sb2.html](https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard_base/2015/sb2.html).
- (b) Top-down: TSB0002, TSB0006, TSB0008, TSB0013, TSB0014 and TSB0015 (submitted during previous reporting periods and under process) [https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard\\_base/2015/sb5.html](https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard_base/2015/sb5.html).

<sup>33</sup> TOOL09: Determining the baseline efficiency of thermal or electric energy generation systems.

- (b) Two requests for revision have been recommended for consideration by the Board;<sup>34</sup>
- (c) Seven requests for revision of methodology<sup>35</sup> and one request for revision of a tool<sup>36</sup> were under process.

**Figure 5. Methodology requests and processing of standardized baselines against annual forecasts (January–June 2020)**



53. At EB 106, the Board took note of an update on the approved project under objective 1(c) (“Digitization of methodologies for the web-based generation of project design documents and monitoring template”) and requested the secretariat to present an outcome of the road testing at EB 107. Progress on products associated with this project is shown in table 2.

<sup>34</sup> ACM0003: Partial substitution of fossil fuels in cement or quicklime manufacture and AMS-II. E: Energy efficiency and fuel-switching measures for buildings.

<sup>35</sup> AM0036: Fuel switch from fossil fuels to biomass residues in heat generation equipment; ACM0006: Electricity and heat generation from biomass; ACM0018: Electricity generation from biomass in power-only plants; AM0031: Bus rapid transit projects; ACM0016: Mass Rapid Transit Projects; AMS-I.E: Switch from non-renewable biomass for thermal applications by the user; and AMS-II.G: Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass.

<sup>36</sup> TOOL30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass.

**Table 2. PROJ256: Digitization of methodologies for web-based generation of project design documents and monitoring template (January–June 2020)**

Product title/short description	% complete	Forecasted delivery
Road testing <sup>37</sup>	50	EB 107
Revision of project 256 <sup>38</sup>	10	EB 108

54. At EB 106, the following actions were taken by the Board:
- (a) The Board approved a methodology for using electricity generated from renewable energy sources at shore-side to ships docked at berths, displacing electricity produced from ships' fossil-fuel auxiliary power generators;
  - (b) In response to decision 2/CMP.15, paragraph 8, the Board considered a concept note on methodological approaches for calculating emission reductions from project activities, resulting in the reduced use of non-renewable biomass in households. The Board requested the MP and the secretariat to facilitate and streamline the application of TOOL30 "Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass", and, in a view of facilitating the work of the stakeholders to develop projects and PoAs in the area, requested the secretariat to identify information related to the baseline of methodologies for clean cooking and present it on the CDM website;
  - (c) The Board adopted the guideline "Development of PoA applicable to buildings";
  - (d) The Board mandated further work by the MP and the secretariat on:
    - (i) The revision of the definition of biomass, biomass residues and renewable biomass in the "Glossary CDM Terms";
    - (ii) The assessment of the regulatory provision related to the change and/or addition of technologies/measures to a registered project activity or PoA;
  - (e) The Board agreed to extend the validity of the standardized baseline ASB0034 "Grid emission factor for West African Power Pool" by one year from the date of expiration.
55. In relation to objective 1c, table 1 of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 allocates 5 per cent of the 2020 approved budget to the three operational activities and one project delivering services and products in support of this objective.<sup>39</sup> Table 1 in the appendix shows that, as at 30 June 2020, 2 per cent of the total budget resources for 2020 was utilized against the activities associated with this objective, which is slightly lower than the projected linear rate of 2.5 per cent for the six-month reporting period. The work under objective 1c is on

<sup>37</sup> See CDM-EB104-A01-INFO, table 5, footnote (b), which states "The Project 256 titled, Digitization of methodologies for web-based generation of project design documents and monitoring templates, as approved in the CDM two-year business and management plan 2018–2019, continues until closure."

<sup>38</sup> See CDM-EB104-A01-INFO, table 5, footnote (b), which states "0.5-person month allocated to prepare a concept note for revising Project 256, for the Board's consideration at the mid-year of the first year (2020) of the management plan implementation".

<sup>39</sup> For the indicative allocation of resources by objective, see CDM-EB104-A01, appendix, tables 1 and 2 at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.



track and progressing in accordance with the established timelines in the current Board-approved workplan.

## **1.2. Goal 2: Nurture demand for, and participation in, the clean development mechanism**

### **Partnerships and engagement activities**

56. During the reporting period, activities relating to partnerships and engagement activities in support of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 goals and objectives included:

- (a) Strategic missions, prior to the travel restrictions imposed due to the COVID- 19 pandemic:
  - (i) Aviation sustainability summit organized in Brussels, Belgium, by the Airport Council International to explain how the CDM may be used to encourage voluntary action and climate neutrality among airports and airlines;
  - (ii) Climate Neutral Now stakeholder consultations in Seville, Spain, to take stock of lessons learned and discuss ways of enhancing climate action, including using CDM;
  - (iii) Carbon-pricing workshop for West Africa in Lomé, Ghana, to explore and promote carbon pricing, including the use of the CDM, for supporting climate action;
  - (iv) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation workshop on climate action in Jakarta, Indonesia, with a focus on how the CDM methodological framework can be deployed to support the implementation of nationally determined contributions.
- (b) Telephone and video calls; and
- (c) Other exchanges with intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, governments, financial institutions and businesses.

### **Nairobi Framework coordination and regional activities**

57. During the reporting period, Nairobi Framework<sup>40</sup> coordination and regional activities continued focusing on building and enhancing the capacity of DNAs to become fully operational, building capacity in developing CDM project activities, promoting investment opportunities for projects, improving information sharing, outreach and training, and strengthening inter-agency coordination, and included:

- (a) Two coordination meetings held online to address possible disruptions of planned activities of the Nairobi Framework Partnership (NFP) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. NFP partners discussed and agreed to create a repository of online meetings being organized by the partners, which otherwise would have taken place during the four climate weeks (now postponed to 2021) forecasted in the CDM MAP for 2020;

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<sup>40</sup> See Nairobi Framework Partnership at <<https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/nairobi-framework-partnership>>.

- (b) The publishing of the NFP Annual Report 2019, documenting the activities completed by the partner agencies and cooperating organizations of the NFP during 2019.<sup>41</sup>
58. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all regional climate weeks scheduled for 2020<sup>42</sup> were postponed to 2021. The secretariat is working with the host governments, who are in the process of confirming their commitments to host the regional climate weeks in 2021. The NFP is discussing the schedule for the regional climate week meetings in 2021, and new dates will be announced on the UNFCCC website.<sup>43</sup>

#### **Support to stakeholders/capacity-building (designated operational entities)**

59. During the reporting period, the post-EB 105 conference call with the DOE/AIE Coordination Forum took place on 4 March 2020.
60. A total of four interactions (see paras. 28 and 59 above) were recorded during the reporting period against the annual forecast of 12 interactions with stakeholders. This corresponds to 33 per cent against a projected linearly rate of 50 per cent for the six-month reporting period.

#### **Public policy development**

61. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued to gather and analyse reports and information regarding the evolution and direction of carbon-pricing instruments globally. These will be used as a basis for future updates to the Board and as inputs for strategic decision-making by the Board relating to how the CDM may best respond to the evolving post-Paris context, including supporting the potential use of the CDM in emerging emission-trading systems and in the aviation and maritime transport sectors. As part of this work, the secretariat continued to develop its contacts with policymakers and relevant experts globally to ensure that the Board is informed of the latest developments impacting the operation of the CDM. At EB 106, the Board decided to postpone the consideration of an update on the latest carbon market and policy developments to its next meeting.

#### **Operation and further development of the United Nations Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of CERs**

62. The VCP has been visited by most of the countries in the world, with contributors from 99 countries completing cancellations. The total number of CERs cancelled through the platform since its launch in September 2015 is 1,928,016. The average historical price per tonne purchased on the platform remains close to USD 1.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> The report is available at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/sunsetcms/storage/contents/stored-file-20200303184828321/NFP%20Annual%20Report%202019.pdf>>

<sup>42</sup> Africa Climate Week 2020, scheduled to take place from 20 to 24 April 2020 in Kampala, Uganda; Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2020 planned to take place from 6 to 10 July 2020 in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic; Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2020, planned to take place from 24 to 28 August 2020 in Yokohama, Japan; Middle East and North Africa Climate Week 2020 planned to take place later in 2020 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

<sup>43</sup> For new dates, consult the UNFCCC website at <<https://unfccc.int/about-the-regional-climate-weeks>>.

<sup>44</sup> For information on the operations of the VCP, see the regular bi-annual reports published at: <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/>>.

63. During the reporting period, a major technology upgrade of the VCP was completed by the service provider to reflect the version changes of the underlying software (Microsoft nopCommerce). The new version of the VCP was successfully released on 1 July 2020, providing higher performance and security standards in the operation of the VCP as well as capacity for greater scalability.

#### **Improvement of the CDM to make it attractive for results-based finance**

64. During the reporting period, work was undertaken to make the CDM more attractive for use in result-based finance beyond the Kyoto Protocol by:
- (a) Further broadening its applicability with (i) the development of new methodologies (three requests for approval of new methodologies were processed); (ii) the approval of a new standardized baseline; and (iii) the processing of 15 other standardized baselines; and
  - (b) Conducting further work with a view to simplifying the use of its infrastructure, including by making progress in the digitalization of methodologies, including the road testing of ACM0002.

#### **Use of the CDM in climate finance**

65. At EB 106, the Board agreed to consider the report on financing the use of the CDM by international finance institutions at EB 107.

#### **Nurturing demand for CDM and voluntary cancellation of certified emission reductions**

66. During the reporting period, activities to nurture demand for CDM and the voluntary cancellation of CERs included:
- (a) Continued outreach to companies and organizations to invite them to estimate their climate footprint, reduce it and compensate for the remainder with CERs. More than 95 companies and organizations were contacted in the first half of 2020;
  - (b) Exploration of partnerships with organizations to integrate the use of the VCP in their business models, offering offsetting to their clients in business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) applications. Several such partnerships are under discussion;
  - (c) Engagement in several working groups on the topic of climate neutrality/net zero emissions to recommend the integration of compensation of unavoidable emissions through use of CERs.
67. A total of 69,732 CERs were cancelled through the VCP by individuals (1,063 orders) and 502,154 CERs were cancelled by organizations (555 orders).<sup>45</sup>
68. At EB 106, the Board agreed to postpone to its next meeting the consideration of a concept note on further proposed activities to promote the voluntary cancellation of CERs on the VCP.

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<sup>45</sup> For information on the United Nations platform for voluntary cancellation of certified emission reductions during this reporting period, see CDM-2020VC-INFO02 at <[https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/index\\_html](https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/index_html)>.

### **Regional Collaboration Centre operations**

69. The Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs) continue to prioritize the work in least developed countries (LDCs) and underrepresented countries in the CDM (i.e. with 10 or fewer registered CDM projects as at 31 December 2010).<sup>46</sup>
70. During the reporting period, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a regional virtual platform<sup>47</sup> was launched providing a repository of links and information to recently held or upcoming meetings in the six RCC regions, including CDM-related virtual meetings for DNAs and project participants organized by the RCCs, the UNFCCC secretariat and their partners.

### **Regional Collaboration Centre on-site support to projects**

71. During the reporting period, direct technical support was provided at the regional level to increase participation in the CDM. As at 30 June 2020, the RCCs had supported 123 CDM projects/PoAs against the annual forecasted volume of 210 projects/PoAs. The support resulted in four CDM project activities and PoAs progressing at least one step in the CDM project cycle. In addition, the RCCs responded to 109 queries received from stakeholders requesting clarifications on CDM requirements.
72. From the beginning of the RCCs' operations in 2013 until 30 June 2020, the RCCs directly supported 1,414 CDM project activities and PoAs, contributing to 238 CDM project activities and PoAs progressing at least one step forward in the CDM project cycle. In addition, through the provision of technical advice and capacity-building, 123 new CDM project activities and PoAs were identified and their notification of CDM prior consideration submitted.

### **Regional Collaboration Centre on-site site support to bottom-up standardized baselines**

73. During the reporting period, RCCs supported the development of 13 bottom-up standardized baselines against the annual forecasted volume of 19 requests,<sup>48</sup> of which approximately 67 per cent originated from DNAs of underrepresented countries in the CDM. As a result of the support provided by the RCCs in the previous years, two proposed standardized baselines<sup>49</sup> were successfully submitted to the secretariat and the Board approved one standardized baseline (ASB0047-2020).
74. In addition, the RCCs continued to support two top-down standardized baselines for which work commenced in 2019. From the beginning of the RCCs' operations in 2013 until 30 June 2020, the RCCs directly supported the development of 265 standardized baselines, of which 47 were approved by the Board.

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<sup>46</sup> See the regular biannual report on RCC operations at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/>>.

<sup>47</sup> <<https://unfccc.int/about-us/partnerships/current-calls-for-partnerships/regional-collaboration-centres/regional-virtual-platform>>.

<sup>48</sup> In addition, support was provided to 47 standardized baselines that were continuations from the previous reporting period.

<sup>49</sup> PSB0054 (second submission) and PSB0055.

75. During the reporting period, the secretariat began preparatory work under the project entitled “Overview of CDM regulatory development: how CDM regulations have changed over the years and lessons learned”. At EB 106, the Board decided to postpone the consideration of the project’s concept note to EB 107.
76. In summary, in relation to goal 2 and its three objectives on nurturing demand for, and participation in, the CDM, table 1 of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 allocates 26 per cent of the 2020 budgeted resources to the 11 operational activities and one project delivering services and products in support of this goal.<sup>50</sup> During the reporting period, 11 per cent of the 2020 budgeted resources were spent on the activities associated with this goal, which is slightly lower than the linearly projected rate (13 per cent) for the reporting period. Work under this goal is on track and progressing in accordance with the established timelines in the current Board-approved workplan.

### 1.3. Cross-cutting activities

#### Communications engagement and marketing

77. In addition to stories being published on the United Nations Climate Change main website and United Nations Climate Change CDM website (see tables 3 and 4 in the appendix, respectively), all CDM-related stories published on the main site were promoted via the secretariat’s main social media account, and select advisories were promoted on the UN\_CarbonMechs social media accounts.
78. The secretariat’s main social media accounts and website are the major online assets used to promote the CDM, principally the work on raising demand and promoting CDM in the context of promoting climate neutrality. It does so using the message: Measure, Reduce, Compensate, Repeat. The UN Climate Change social media accounts comprise Facebook, with 474,000 followers; Twitter, 725,000 followers; Instagram, 475,000 followers; LinkedIn, 70,000 followers; and YouTube, 9,400 followers. The UN CarbonMechs social media channels are maintained for those with a special interest in the CDM, including media. As at the end of June 2020, UNCarbonMechs had 7,840 Twitter followers and 10,440 Facebook followers (called “likes” in previous CDM MAP reports).
79. News items relevant to the work of the Board were collected and incorporated in the daily news email compiled by the secretariat’s Communications and Outreach Programme.
80. During the reporting period, communications work was carried out in support of key events, including the June Momentum for Climate Change. Communications work in support of the Regional Climate Weeks was initiated and will be tailored to the postponement and virtual nature of these events taking place at future dates in 2021.
81. Communication engagement and marketing carried out by the RCCs, including through their regular e-newsletters, webinars, workshop support and capacity-building related to the CDM, are described elsewhere in this report.
82. In 2011, the secretariat launched Momentum for Change,<sup>51</sup> an initiative to recognize and promote climate action. Since 2017, under the Momentum for Change Climate Neutral

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<sup>50</sup> For the indicative allocation of resources by objective, see CDM-EB104-A01, appendix, tables 1 and 2 at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.

<sup>51</sup> Momentum for Change <<https://unfccc.int/climate-action/momentum-for-change>>.

Now initiative, organizations, companies and governments achieving real results in transitioning to climate neutrality, including through use of offsets, have been invited to submit their work for consideration.<sup>52</sup> The most inspiring, innovative and successful activities are selected as Momentum for Change Lighthouse Activities and are recognized and celebrated during the COP and at other key events, such as the Regional Climate Weeks.<sup>53</sup> Communications work in the first half of the year centred on encouraging eligible submissions to the 2020 edition of the Momentum for Change initiative and on drawing attention to the 2019 winners, for example through production and promotion of videos and the online Momentum for Change annual report.<sup>54</sup>

83. During the reporting period, a total of 13 communication products were developed against the annual forecast of 24 products. This corresponds to 54 per cent against a linear projected rate of 50 per cent for the six-month reporting period.

#### **Human resources, skills development and learning**

84. During the reporting period, and in line with secretariat practice, a staff training plan was developed. The training plan includes capacity-building in the areas of:
- (a) Hosting, moderating and managing virtual meetings;
  - (b) Climate and renewable energy finance;
  - (c) United Nations country team leadership course: maximizing synergies for greater impact;
  - (d) Mobilizing financing for sustainable development;
  - (e) Results-based management, monitoring and evaluation;
  - (f) Women Transforming Leadership Programme;
  - (g) CQI and IRCA-certified ISO 9001:2015 lead auditor training course;
  - (h) Energy efficiency in buildings.
85. To maximize the outcomes from capacity-building programmes, the secretariat focused on areas where a number of staff skills could be enhanced through small group training, as opposed to concentrating on individual capacity-building learning opportunities (fifteen staff undertook specific virtual training related to their job descriptions in areas of secretarial support, organizational development, leadership, communications, climate finance, SharePoint, Microsoft Visio and taxonomy development).
86. During the reporting period, a total of 73 contracts were managed against the annual forecast of 115 contracts managed. This corresponds to 62 per cent against the linearly projected rate (50 per cent) for the reporting period.

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<sup>52</sup> Climate Neutral Now <<https://unfccc.int/climate-action/momentum-for-change/climate-neutral-now>>.

<sup>53</sup> For a list of winning activities in this category, please visit <<https://unfccc.int/climate-action/momentum-for-change/climate-neutral-now>>. See a short video of last year's winners here: <<https://vimeo.com/305472800>>.

<sup>54</sup> Momentum for Change annual report 2019 <<https://www.momentumforchange.net/2019/>>.

**Finance (including budget, expert payments, fee payments and procurement)**

87. The finance administration team processed 197 financial and procurement-related transactions against the annual forecast of 315 transactions, corresponding to 62 per cent against the linearly projected rate (50 per cent) for the reporting period. Additionally, 16 monitoring reports<sup>55</sup> were produced against the annual forecast of 25 reports, corresponding to 64 per cent against the linearly projected rate (50 per cent) for the reporting period.
88. During the reporting period, 91 travel-related cases and expense reports related to the operations of the CDM were processed against the annual forecast of 640 travel cases. This corresponds to 14 per cent against the linearly projected rate (50 per cent) for the reporting period, reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel of staff, the Board and funded-participants.

**Intra-secretariat information technology engagement agreements**

89. During the reporting period, information technology (IT) operational activities supported under the IT engagement agreement included:

**(a) CDM systems application, maintenance and support:**

- (i) Authoring tool - used for preparing and cataloguing the documentation of the Board and its panel and working groups (three issues supported);
- (ii) CDM registry - operational maintenance, software maintenance and security (five issues resolved and several change requests related to reporting and registry functionalities and the assessment of the VCP Application Programming Interface);
- (iii) CDM Information System - manual interventions, operational change requests for the CDM, and roster of experts system support (2 business process activities, 2 change requests, 17 content management updates, 231 manual interventions, 37 user administration requests, 47 user help requests, 25 reported problems and 33 requests for other types of support);
- (iv) Simplified Processing Tool - application service management for support testing of activities with external users, oversight of development work for improving functionalities and reducing technical debt, overall support and maintenance plus minimal cost for oversight from UNFCCC ICT;
- (v) Sustainable Development Tool - minimal maintenance;
- (vi) Stakeholder Interaction System - change and maintenance, including minor bug fixes;

- (b) Meeting and workshop support:** support was provided to in person and virtual meetings of the CDM-AP (one meeting), MP (two meetings) and the Board (one meeting);

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<sup>55</sup> Includes six CDM financial monthly reports, six core & supplementary budget financial reports, two audit reports and two ICT quarterly reports.

- (c) **Data centre hosting services:** business-as-usual and recovery services for the CDM Information System (CDM-IS) content management system, CDM registry and CDM mailing lists;
  - (d) **Licenses:** business-as-usual services in support of desktop and specialized software;
90. During the reporting period, two IT projects were initiated under the engagement agreement as follow:
- (a) **CDM activities lifecycle project** - to further enhance the CDM-IS capabilities. The project is a follow up to the POA Lifecycle Project to implement changes to the CDM-IS as mandated by the Board or required for business continuity, including: changes resulting from the revised DOE performance monitoring procedure, related workflows, e-mail capabilities and usability improvements. Enhancing the CDM-IS will provide a workflow framework which is flexible and adaptable to other CDM business processes and will include a user interface portal that features additional process areas and related tools to be easily integrated in the future. The following deliverables are in the project scope and will be developed and delivered during the last two quarters of 2020 and the first quarter of 2021:
    - (i) DOE performance monitoring procedure – upgrade of the workflow to capture and provide the results of DOE performance monitoring;
    - (ii) Erroneous inclusion and exclusion of CPAs, including voluntary exclusion of CPAs;
    - (iii) Addition of options to make editorial changes in the completeness check stage;
    - (iv) Automated workflow to process withdrawal requests;
    - (v) De-registration workflow;
    - (vi) CDM webpages clean-up with a focus on the project search section of the CDM website and on extending it to include a PoA search capability;
    - (vii) Modalities of Communication /Customer Relationship Management database upgrade.
  - (b) **Development of a centralized RCC IT portal and tool project** - to consolidate the information and data on the six RCCs, allowing for improved planning and reporting against the work of RCCs. The project will improve information consistency through a centralized data repository, providing efficiency gains in data entry, and simplify the production of various reports. The reports generated will help manage the support provided through the RCC to CDM stakeholders and further strengthen the alignment of the RCC work with the guidance provided by the Board. During the reporting period, the requirements for the project have been identified and information has been collected to develop the portal and tool. Major work on this project will be conducted in the second half of 2020.
91. Table 3 indicates the expenditure for services received under the IT engagement agreement during the reporting period.



**Table 3. Information technology services expenditure for the six-month reporting period (January-June 2020)**

Services received	Expenditure (USD)
<b>Operational</b>	
Application, maintenance and support to CDM systems	280 658
System infrastructure services (data hosting services)	117 055
Service desk support for workshops/meetings	5 843
Licenses	24 893
<b>Total*</b>	<b>428 449</b>

\*Includes obligations.

### Internal communications

92. During the reporting period, six internal newsletters were prepared and published, informing staff of the progress under operational activities and projects, including important milestones, achievements and goals related to the CDM MAP 2020–2021. In addition, sixteen secretariat-wide news articles were prepared and published to ensure information-sharing and cross-programme collaboration, for a total of 22 communication products against the annual forecasted volume of 40 communication products. This corresponds to 55 per cent against the linearly projected rate (50 per cent) for the reporting period.

### Information, knowledge and records management

93. During the reporting period, the cataloguing and indexing of the Board's regulatory documents, including the documentation of its supporting meeting bodies, included the indexing of 106 documents, which ensures transparency and access to the regulatory decisions via the public Catalogue of Decisions database.<sup>56</sup>
94. The secretariat is increasing its use of SharePoint technology, and to date the Mitigation Division, supporting the CDM work programme, has a total of over 90 internal sites with almost 500 subsites. Each site contains libraries and lists which comprise records and information relating to work supporting the Board, its working groups and the CDM. Management of these platforms and information is done using a robust taxonomy with CDM-specific keywords, which enables user-friendly search and retrieval. The secretariat continues to migrate content to the cloud (servers that are accessed over the Internet), which will ensure the long-term preservation of material and, over time, safeguard CDM records and information.

### Management of programme/units

95. Several active internal processes and meeting bodies contributed to the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of the operational activities and projects supporting the two goals and six objectives included in the CDM MAP 2020–2021.

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<sup>56</sup> Searchable catalogue of CDM-EB decisions available at <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/catalogue/search>.

### **Planning, monitoring and reporting**

96. The Board receives regular reports relating to the implementation of its CDM MAP for consideration on a regular basis. These reports provide information on progress made in specific areas and are considered in between meetings. The following reports, delivered during the reporting period, are available on the UNFCCC CDM website:
- (a) Status of CDM MAP 2018–2019 implementation (1 January to 31 December 2019);<sup>57</sup>
  - (b) Annual key performance indicators (2019);<sup>58</sup>
  - (c) RCC 2019 end-year and 2020 mid-year reports;<sup>59</sup>
  - (d) United Nations platform for voluntary cancellation of certified emission reductions 2019 end-year and 2020 mid-year reports;<sup>60</sup>
  - (e) Annual report on stakeholder communications (2019).<sup>61</sup>

### **Secretariat-wide responsibilities**

97. During this reporting period, the Mitigation Division, being an integral part of the secretariat, fulfilled its secretariat-wide responsibilities including contributions to several UNFCCC internal processes and meeting bodies.
98. In summary, in relation to the cross-cutting activities, table 1 of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 allocates 22 per cent of the budgeted resources for 2020 to the 11 cross-cutting operational activities delivering services and products across the two goals and six objectives.<sup>62</sup> During the reporting period, 14 per cent of the annual budgeted resources were spent on the activities associated with this objective (see table 1 in the appendix), which is higher than the linear rate of 11.5 per cent for the six-month reporting period.

## **2. Financial update**

### **2.1. Status of income from 1 January to 30 June 2020**

99. Table 4 shows the balance brought forward from 2019 and the income received in the period from 1 January to 30 June 2020.

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<sup>57</sup> See CDM-2019Q4-INFO01 <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report>>.

<sup>58</sup> See CDM-2019KPI-INFO01 at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report>>.

<sup>59</sup> See CDM-2019RCC-INFO02 at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report>>.

<sup>60</sup> See CDM-2019VC-INFO02 at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report>>.

<sup>61</sup> See CDM-2019SC-INFO01 at <<https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report>>.

<sup>62</sup> For the indicative allocation of resources by objective, see CDM-EB104-A01, appendix, tables 1 and 2 at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/Notes/index.html>>.

**Table 4. Income received in 2020, including carry-over from 2019 (in USD)<sup>(a)</sup>**

Carry-over figure from 2019 (A)	76 157 278
<b>Income received in 2020</b>	
Accreditation fees	15 000
Fees from the accreditation process	36 429
Registration fees <sup>(b)</sup>	100 405
Share of proceeds (SOP) <sup>(c)</sup>	7 609 404
<b>Subtotal – Income: 1 Jan.–30 Jun. 2020 (B)</b>	<b>7 761 238</b>
<b>Current balance of 2019 carry-over and 2020 income (A + B)</b>	<b>83 918 516</b>

Note: USD 45 million held in reserve (EB 45, 2009) are not included in the above figures.

- (a) The data presented in this report are subject to change, as the financial period remains open at the time the report is being finalized.
- (b) This fee is based on the average annual issuance of certified emission reduction (CERs) over the first crediting period and calculated as a share of proceeds (SOP) to cover administrative expenses, as defined in decision 7/CMP.1, paragraph 37. Projects with annual average emission reductions of less than 15,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent are exempt from the registration fee, and the maximum fee applicable is USD 350,000. This fee is a prepayment of the SOP to cover administrative expenses;
- (c) The SOP, payable at the time of issuance of CERs, is USD 0.10 per CER issued for the first 15,000 CERs for which issuance is requested in each calendar year, and USD 0.20 per CER issued for amounts in excess of 15,000 CERs.

100. The total fees received as at 30 June 2020 amounted to USD 7.8 million (see table 4). This is 86 per cent of the projected income of USD 9.0 million for 2020.<sup>63</sup> The total fees received during the same period last year (January–June 2019) were USD 6.3 million (70 per cent).<sup>64</sup> Projected income is expected to be exceeded by year end.
101. CERs held in the CDM registry at the end of June 2020 amounted to 420.2 million. The secretariat has already performed all related tasks (with the exception of forwarding) for the corresponding project issuances. The share of proceeds (SOP) from administration remaining due for CERs held in the pending account of the CDM registry amounts to approximately USD 52.4 million. This is a decrease of USD 8.5 million in comparison to August 2018 when the outstanding SOP reached its peak of USD 60.9 million for issuances that were submitted under the old rule. The new rules approved by the Board for partial payment of SOP on already approved issuances and upfront payment of SOP on new issuances were implemented in 2018. These rules are intended to enable some of the outstanding SOP amount to be recovered or to prevent it from growing further.

## 2.2. Expenditure from 1 January to 30 June 2020

102. Table 5a shows the expenditure incurred and the utilization rate against the 2020 reporting period (12 months). Table 5b shows the expenditure incurred and the utilization rate against the 2020–2021 budget period (24 months).

<sup>63</sup> As per the CDM MAP 2020–2021 (CDM-EB104-A01-INFO, table 12).

<sup>64</sup> As per Status of CDM MAP 2018–2019 implementation (1 Jan.–30 Jun. 2019) document (CDM-2019Q2-INFO01, table 7).

**Table 5a. Comparison of budget and expenditure for the period from 1 Jan. to 30 Jun. 2020 (in USD)**

<b>Expenditure classification</b>	<b>Budget 2020  a</b>	<b>Expenditure (Jan.–Jun. 2020)  b<sup>(q)</sup></b>	<b>Difference to 2020 budget (a – b)  c</b>	<b>% Rate of expenditure vs. 2020 budget (b/a)  d</b>
Staff <sup>(a)</sup>	10 469 682	4 919 758	5 549 924	47.0
Consultants <sup>(b)</sup>	257 950	47 666	210 284	18.5
Expert fees <sup>(c)</sup>	153 100	80 300	72 800	52.4
Expert travel <sup>(d)</sup>	199 200	48 177	151 023	24.2
Travel of representatives <sup>(e)</sup>	408 550	49 164	359 386	12.0
Travel of representatives Executive Board (EB) <sup>(f)</sup>	363 000	43 589	319 411	12.0
Travel of staff <sup>(g)</sup>	290 800	15 255	275 545	5.2
Training <sup>(h)</sup>	18 000	21 143	- 3 143	117.5
Operating expenses <sup>(i)</sup>	481 300	49 466	431 834	10.3
Regional Collaboration Centres operations <sup>(j)</sup>	528 800	333 090	195 710	63.0
Total cost of ownership <sup>(k)</sup>	1 364 978	607 041	757 937	44.5
Engagement agreement (Information Communication and Technology) <sup>(l)</sup>	953 659	428 450	525 209	44.9
Mobile telecommunications <sup>(m)</sup>	7 200	3 120	4 080	43.3
Supplies and material <sup>(n)</sup>	76 500	14 228	62 272	18.6
Grants (EB) <sup>(o)</sup>	350 000	330 460	19 540	94.4
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>15 922 719</b>	<b>6 990 908</b>	<b>8 931 811</b>	<b>43.9</b>
13% programme support <sup>(p)</sup>	2 069 953	908 818	1 161 135	43.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 992 672</b>	<b>7 899 726</b>	<b>10 092 946</b>	<b>43.9</b>

**Table 5b. Comparison of the biennium budget 2020–2021 and expenditure for the period from 1 Jan. 2020 to 30 Jun. 2020 (in USD)**

<b>Expenditure classification</b>	<b>Budget 2020  a</b>	<b>Budget 2021  b</b>	<b>Total 2020–2021 (a+b) c</b>	<b>Expenditure (Jan. 20 – Jun. 20)  d<sup>(q)</sup></b>	<b>Difference to 2020–2021 budget (c-d) e</b>	<b>% Rate of expenditure vs. 2020–2021 budget (d/c) f</b>
Staff <sup>(a)</sup>	10 469 682	9 489 307	19 958 989	4 919 758	15 039 231	24.6
Consultants <sup>(b)</sup>	257 950	233 475	491 425	47 666	443 759	9.7
Expert fees <sup>(c)</sup>	153 100	138 400	291 500	80 300	211 200	27.5
Expert travel <sup>(d)</sup>	199 200	187 800	387 000	48 177	338 823	12.4
Travel of representatives <sup>(e)</sup>	408 550	396 095	804 645	49 164	755 481	6.1
Travel of representatives EB <sup>(f)</sup>	363 000	326 700	689 700	43 589	646 111	6.3
Travel of staff <sup>(g)</sup>	290 800	263 960	554 760	15 255	539 505	2.7
Training <sup>(h)</sup>	18 000	16 200	34 200	21 143	13 057	61.8
Operating expenses <sup>(i)</sup>	481 300	434 455	915 755	49 466	866 289	5.4
RCC operations <sup>(j)</sup>	528 800	439 900	968 700	333 090	635 610	34.4
Total cost of ownership (TCO) <sup>(k)</sup>	1 364 978	1 242 978	2 607 956	607 041	2 000 915	23.3
Engagement agreement (ICT)) <sup>(l)</sup>	953 659	753 659	1 707 318	428 450	1 278 868	25.1
Mobile telecommunications <sup>(m)</sup>	7 200	6 480	13 680	3 120	10 560	22.8
Supplies and material <sup>(n)</sup>	76 500	68 800	145 300	14 228	131 072	9.8
Grants (EB) <sup>(o)</sup>	350 000	350 000	700 000	330 460	369 540	47.2
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>15 922 719</b>	<b>14 348 209</b>	<b>30 270 928</b>	<b>6 990 908</b>	<b>23 280 020</b>	<b>23.1</b>
13% programme support <sup>(p)</sup>	2 069 953	1 865 267	3 935 220	908 818	1 372 550	23.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 992 672</b>	<b>16 213 476</b>	<b>34 206 148</b>	<b>7 899 726</b>	<b>11 930 628</b>	<b>23.1</b>

- (a) Staff costs include staff salaries, general temporary assistance costs and staff-related costs such as dependency allowance, education grant, rental subsidy, home leave travel, travel on appointment and separation, and overtime payments;
- (b) Consultant costs include consultants and individual contractor fees and associated travel costs;
- (c) Expert fees refer to panel and working group attendance fees and case fees;
- (d) Expert travel refers to ticket costs and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) of panel and working group members;
- (e) Travel of representatives includes ticket cost and DSA for participants in the CDM meetings and workshops including the DNA Forum;
- (f) Travel of representatives (EB) includes ticket costs, DSA and 40 per cent additional DSA for members/alternate members attending meetings of the Board and the EB events at the UNFCCC sessions;
- (g) Travel of staff includes ticket costs, DSA, terminal expenses and miscellaneous expenses;
- (h) Training includes attendance and/or course fees, ticket costs and DSA;
- (i) Operating expenses include rental of equipment, shipping and transport costs, maintenance costs and other logistical costs;
- (j) RCC operations costs include costs related to administering the RCCs, RCC staff missions, including travel and mission substantial allowance costs, RCC Global Forum and RCC Roundtable;
- (k) TCO – Service programmes in the secretariat (ICT and Administrative Services) render services to all secretariat activities funded from both core and non-core sources of funding (such as the CDM Trust Fund). The purpose of TCO charges is to ensure the allocation of costs of these support services to the sources of funding to which they relate. In 2020, the TCO charge per capita of EUR 13,500 is applied;
- (l) Engagement agreement (ICT) includes information technology (IT) costs related to the support for the management plan projects and the maintenance of the operational IT infrastructure required to operate the CDM project activity cycle workflows (e.g. registry, project submission work flows);
- (m) Mobile telecommunications costs are official mobile telephone charges for mobile phone services and do not include the charges incurred on the regular office telephones (those are covered through TCO);
- (n) Supplies and material costs include the acquisition of hardware, supplies, software and subscriptions;
- (o) Grants (EB) include support to individual members/alternate members of the Board for: (i) secretarial/administrative support (temporary secretarial staff and related services, printing, stationery and consumable materials, telephone and internet costs, insurance to cover the loss or theft of laptops); and (ii) IT-related expenses (laptop and software, printers);
- (p) Programme support – In accordance with the financial procedures of the United Nations, 13 per cent of overhead charges are payable on all UNFCCC trust funds to cover administrative services provided by the United Nations Office at Geneva and the UNFCCC secretariat;
- (q) Expenditure includes obligations.

103. Column (d) in table 5a shows the rate of expenditure as a percentage of the 2020 budget for each cost category. The total rate of expenditure (43.9 per cent) is slightly below the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent) for the reporting period.

104. Column (f) in table 5b shows rate of expenditure as a percentage of the 2020–2021 biennium budget for each cost category. The total rate of expenditure (23.1 per cent) is slightly below the linearly projected rate of expenditure (25 per cent) for the reporting period.

105. Staff costs amount to 47.0 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is slightly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent) for the reporting period. Expenditure is expected to align with the projections as the year progresses.
106. Consultant costs amount to 18.5 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). Consultancies are planned based on work plans and delivery timelines established for the activities and projects included in the CDM MAP 2020–2021 and, as such, do not necessarily follow a linearly projected rate. In addition, some consultancies planned during the reporting period to support training and development were not on-boarded due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, several training and development activities were carried out virtually and are reported under the training object of expenditure (see paragraph 112 below).
107. Expert fees amount to 52.4 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is slightly higher than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). Expenditure is expected to align with the projected 2020 budget as the year progresses.
108. Expert travel amounts to 24.2 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This is because the total number of meetings for the regulatory bodies and their supporting panels and working groups is not equally distributed across the year but also reflects the travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic (panel meeting held virtually). Expenditure for expert travel in 2020 is expected to remain at a lower than projected rate of expenditure.
109. Travel of representatives amounts to 12.0 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). Travel of representatives includes ticket cost and DSA for participants in the CDM meetings and workshops, including the DNA Forum, and is expected to remain at a lower than projected rate of expenditure for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
110. Travel of Board members amounts to 12.0 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This is because the total number of meetings for the Board is not equally distributed across the year, and also reflects the travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Board meetings held virtually). Expenditure for travel of Board members in 2020 is expected to remain at a lower than projected rate of expenditure.
111. Travel of staff amounts to 5.2 per cent of the 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This reflects the travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The expenditure for travel of staff members in 2020 is expected to remain at a lower than projected rate of expenditure.
112. Training costs amount to 117.5 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly higher than the linear rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This reflects adjustments to the training schedule resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. On-site training by consultants (see paragraph 106 above) was exchanged for virtual training. In addition, some training initiatives were shifted to the first six months due to changes to the schedule of CDM meetings, including those of the Board and its panels.

Expenditure is expected to align more closely with the projected 2020 budget as the year progresses.

113. Operating expenses amount to 10.3 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This is because the total number of meetings for the Board and its panels is not equally distributed across the year, and also reflects savings in logistical costs associated with some meetings being held virtually during the reporting period. Expenditure is expected to align more closely with the original projections as the year progresses, but will likely remain at a lower than projected rate of expenditure.
114. RCC operations costs amount to 63.0 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is higher than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This is because the costs related to RCC activities are not equally distributed across the year. Expenditure is expected to align with the projected 2020 budget as the year progresses.
115. Total cost of ownership costs amount to 44.5 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). Expenditure is expected to align with the projected 2020 budget as the year progresses.
116. Engagement agreement costs (ICT) amount to 44.9 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). Expenditure is expected to align with the projected 2020 budget as the year progresses.
117. Mobile telecommunications costs are 43.3 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This reflects the lower cost of mobile communications as a result of staff travel restrictions during the reporting period due to the COVID-19 pandemic (staff did not travel to support meetings and events held outside of Bonn). Expenditure is expected to align with or remain slightly lower than the projected 2020 budget as the year progresses.
118. Supplies and materials costs amount to 18.6 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly lower than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). Expenditure is expected to align with the original projections as the year progresses.
119. The expenditure for EB grants amounts to 94.4 per cent of the projected 2020 budget for this object of expenditure, which is significantly higher than the linearly projected rate of expenditure (50 per cent). This is because almost all the 2020 grant requests have been processed in the system and funds have been fully committed against this item of expenditure.

## **2.3. Summary of financial position (income and expenditure status, as at 30 June 2020)**

120. Table 6 shows the balance of the CDM Trust Fund as at 30 June 2020.



**Table 6. Income and expenditure status, as at 30 June 2020 (in USD)**

Carry-over figure from 2019 (A)	<b>76 157 278</b>
<b>Status of funds for the period Jan.–Jun. 2020</b>	
Income: 1 January–30 June 2020 (B)	7 761 238
<b>Current balance of 2019 carry-over and 2020 income (A+B)</b>	<b>83 918 516</b>
Expenditure: 1 January–30 June 2020 (C)	7 899 726
<b>Balance available at 30 June 2020 (A+B-C)</b>	<b>76 018 790</b>

*Note:* USD 45 million held in reserve (EB 45, 2009) are not included in the above figures.

121. Table 7 shows the income and expenditure trend for the period January to June for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

**Table 7. Income and expenditure trend, as at 30 June 2020 (in USD)**

	As at 30 June 2018	As at 30 June 2019	As at 30 June 2020
Income	4 197 125	6 342 872	7 761 238
Expenditure	9 377 290	9 334 650	7 899 726
Income minus expenditure	<b>(5 180 165)</b>	<b>(2 991 778)</b>	<b>(138 488)</b>
Income as a rate of projected income of USD 9 million	<b>46.6%</b>	<b>70.5%</b>	<b>86.2%</b>
Expenditure as a rate of the annual budget	<b>47.7%</b>	<b>47.9%</b>	<b>43.9%</b>

### 3. Human resources

122. The secretariat has a skilled and flexible workforce, including 85 staff funded under the CDM Trust Fund, with a specialized focus on delivering results effectively and efficiently against the approved CDM-MAP 2020–2021 activities and projects.
123. As part of the planning of resource utilization and deployment, the priority continues to be to ensure the full use of available staff resources over consultants or temporary hires, considering the expertise required and the optimal use of staff-related expertise versus external resource use. Additionally, in efforts to prudently manage resources and bring new skills and experience into the secretariat, interns and fellows are being recruited in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations to support the work on the implementation of the CDM MAP 2020–2021.
124. The secretariat has systems in place to track and report on human resource deployment and closely monitors resource allocations against priority areas of work to ensure the full utilization of available staff in delivering high quality products on time.

### 4. Conclusions and recommendations

125. The mid-year review, as at 30 June 2020, indicates that approved operational activities and projects are being delivered in accordance with the CDM MAP 2020–2021.
126. The Board may take note of the status of the CDM MAP 2020–2021 as at 30 June 2020.

## Appendix. Reporting data (January–June 2020)

**Table 1. Resources spent against the two goals and six objectives in the approved management plan 2020–2021 during the six-month reporting period (January–June 2020)**

Objective	Title of objective	Staff months	Non-staff costs (USD)	% of resources allocated	% of resource usage	Linear rate for reporting period
1 (a)	Operate efficient project and entity assessment processes	69.5	47,500	22%	7%	11%
1 (b)	Operate an effective regulatory framework resulting in reduced transaction costs for participants in the mechanisms	65.3	477,906	25%	9%	12.5%
1 (c)	Develop simplified and user-friendly standards and procedures that increase efficiency and ensure environmental integrity	23.8	304	5%	2%	2.5%
2 (a-c)	Facilitate the acceptance of certified emission reductions (CERs) for compliance purposes; Enhance the use of the clean development mechanism (CDM) for voluntary purposes; Further develop the CDM as a key tool for monitoring, reporting and verifying the outcomes of mitigation finance	80.4	453,438	26%	11%	13%
Cross-cutting	Communications, information technology, finance, planning, monitoring and reporting	116.7	484,962	22%	14%	11%

**Table 2. Volume of operational activities and projects completed in comparison with annual forecasted volumes (January–June 2020)**

**Objective 1 (a) – Operate efficient project and entity assessment processes**

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Changes to modalities of communication and requests for registry transactions	Registry transactions	8 200	3058
	Changes to modalities of communication	1 900	719
CDM registry reports	Reports	400	212
Opening and maintaining VCP seller accounts	Accounts	80	74
Requests for: direct communication, renewal of crediting period, and review	Requests for direct communication	30	14
	Requests for renewal of crediting period	432	140
	Requests for review (registration and issuance)	20	10
Requests for PoA issuance	Requests	110	72
Requests for PoA PRC	Requests	55	120
Requests for PoA registration	Requests	20	21
Requests for project issuance	Requests	350	169
Requests for project PRC	Requests	20	9
Requests for project registration	Requests	20	26
PoA post-registration CPA inclusion requests	CPA inclusions	200	124
Sustainable development co-benefits including reporting and promotional activities	Reports	10	3
Performance assessments (validation and verification)	Performance assessment (validation and verification)	10	1
Regular surveillance and spot checks	Regular surveillance assessments and spot checks	24	1
Requests for initial accreditation and re-accreditation	Requests for initial accreditation and re-accreditation	2	0
Calibrate assessment team leads	Workshop	1	0
DOE calibration workshop	Workshop	1	0

(a) Figure includes the processing of 29 PoA renewal requests.

(b) Figure includes the processing of 387 CPAs.

**Objective 1 (b) – Operate an effective regulatory framework resulting in reduced transaction costs for participants in the mechanism**

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Media relations	Media contact	12	12
Stakeholder communications	Transactions	400	297
Policy analysis and reports	Reports	4	1
Calls for inputs and feedback to stakeholders	Call for inputs	40	4
	Annual report	1	0
Global and regional DNA Forums	Events	4	0
Accreditation Panel	Meetings	3	1
Methodologies Panel	Meetings	3	2
Roster of experts (CDM)	Notes related to selection of experts	2	1
Support to the Executive Board	Meetings	4	1
Entity administration	Entities	31	30
Entity assessment planning	Assessment	35	5
Entity performance monitoring system	System	1	1
Handling of complaints and requests for review	Report	1	0 <sup>66</sup>
R&I system support	Tasks	3 055	1713
Maintenance of the regulatory framework (i.e. forms, glossary, guidelines, checklists)	Amendments	12	3
Revision of the regulatory framework (VVS, PS, PCP) to allow for the road testing of the digitized methodology (ACM002)	Concept Note	1	0

**Objective 1 (c) – Develop simplified and user-friendly standards and procedures that increase efficiency and ensure environmental integrity**

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Processing of requests for clarification, deviation, revision, new submissions	Clarification requests	18	32
	Deviations requests	0	0
	New submission request	2	6
	Revision requests	10	3

<sup>66</sup> No complaint received during reporting period.

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Processing of standardized baselines	Evaluations	17	16
Response to methodological requests from the Board	Requests	30	5

**Objective 2 (a) Facilitate the acceptance of certified emission reductions (CERs) for compliance purposes; Objective 2 (b) Enhance the use of the clean development mechanism (CDM) for voluntary purposes; Objective 2 (c) Further develop the CDM as a key tool for monitoring, reporting and verifying the outcomes of mitigation finance**

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Partnership and engagement activities	Missions	8	4
Nairobi Framework coordination and regional activities with a specific focus on Africa, LDCs and SIDS	Coordination meetings	2	2
	Regional activities	4	0
Support to stakeholders/ capacity-building (DOEs)	Interactions	12	4
Public policy development	Countries engaged	15	12
Nurturing demand for CDM and voluntary cancellation of CERs	Organizations/individuals cancellations on VC platform	4 450	1 618
RCC operations	RCCs	6	6
RCCs: on-site support to projects	Supported projects	210	123
RCC support to bottom-up standardized baselines	Supported standardized baselines	19	13

#### Cross-cutting activities

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Communications engagement and marketing	Communication products	24	13
Human resources, skills development and learning	Contracts managed	115	73
Finance (including budget, expert payments, fee payments and procurement)	Reports; procurements	340	203
Intra-secretariat information technology engagement agreement	Agreement development; portfolio managed	1	1
Internal communication	Communication products	40	22

MAP 2020–2021 activity	Units	Projected annual volume in MAP (Jan.–Dec. 2020)	Actual volume (Jan.–Jun. 2020)
Information, knowledge and records management	Terabytes of CDM electronic files	2	2
Supplies and subscriptions	Subscriptions	10	10
Travel management	Travel cases	640	91
Planning, monitoring and reporting	Management plan	1	1
	Reports on status of implementation	2	1
	Effort tracking system	1	1

**Table 3. Stories promoted on the United Nations Climate Change website**

Story	Date (2020)	Link
1. Preparations Underway for Africa Climate Week 2020 in Kampala	24 Jan.	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/preparations-underway-for-africa-climate-week-2020-in-kampala">https://unfccc.int/news/preparations-underway-for-africa-climate-week-2020-in-kampala</a> >
2. Climate Neutral Now Welcomes First French Football Club	24 Jan.	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/climate-neutral-now-welcomes-first-french-football-club">https://unfccc.int/news/climate-neutral-now-welcomes-first-french-football-club</a> >
3. Postponed – Africa Climate Week in Kampala	6 Mar.	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/postponed-africa-climate-week-in-kampala">https://unfccc.int/news/postponed-africa-climate-week-in-kampala</a> >
4. Climate Neutral Now Initiative Passes 300 Participant Milestone	12 Mar.	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/climate-neutral-now-initiative-passes-300-participant-milestone">https://unfccc.int/news/climate-neutral-now-initiative-passes-300-participant-milestone</a> >
5. Applications for 2020 UN Global Climate Action Awards: Deadline extended until 11 May 2020	30 Apr.	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/applications-for-2020-un-global-climate-action-awards-deadline-extended-until-11-may-2020">https://unfccc.int/news/applications-for-2020-un-global-climate-action-awards-deadline-extended-until-11-may-2020</a> >
6. First Virtual Meeting of CDM Executive Board	11 May	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/first-virtual-meeting-of-cdm-executive-board">https://unfccc.int/news/first-virtual-meeting-of-cdm-executive-board</a> >
7. Climate Conversations: Climate Neutral Now (a story and link to an on-demand video of a Facebook Live event)	13 May	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/climate-conversations-climate-neutral-now">https://unfccc.int/news/climate-conversations-climate-neutral-now</a> >
8. CDM Adjusts to COVID-19 Challenges	16/06	< <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/cdm-adjusts-to-covid-19-challenges">https://unfccc.int/news/cdm-adjusts-to-covid-19-challenges</a> >

**Table 4. Stories and In-Focus advisories published on the CDM website**

Story	Date (2020)	Link
1. Reminder - Deadline renewal of crediting period	20/01	< <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/">https://cdm.unfccc.int/</a> > (sixth slide in In-Focus) < <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/newsroom/latestnews/releases/2019/01043_index.html">https://cdm.unfccc.int/newsroom/latestnews/releases/2019/01043_index.html</a> >

Story	Date (2020)	Link
2. CDM Executive Board 106th meeting dates announced	15/04	< <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/">https://cdm.unfccc.int/</a> > (fifth slide in In-Focus) < <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/Meetings/MeetingInfo/DB/UOTJ9DN2736GFQE/view">https://cdm.unfccc.int/Meetings/MeetingInfo/DB/UOTJ9DN2736GFQE/view</a> >
3. CDM Board elects Chair, Vice-Chair	11/05	< <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/">https://cdm.unfccc.int/</a> > (fourth slide in In-Focus) < <a href="https://unfccc.int/news/first-virtual-meeting-of-cdm-executive-board">https://unfccc.int/news/first-virtual-meeting-of-cdm-executive-board</a> >
4. CDM Executive Board to resume virtual meeting	12/06	< <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/">https://cdm.unfccc.int/</a> > (third slide in In-Focus) < <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/EB/index.html">https://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/EB/index.html</a> >
5. CDM Executive Board extends relaxation of requirements for mandatory site visits	24/06	< <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/">https://cdm.unfccc.int/</a> > (second slide in In-Focus) < <a href="https://cdm.unfccc.int/newsroom/latestnews/releases/2020/01041_index.html">https://cdm.unfccc.int/newsroom/latestnews/releases/2020/01041_index.html</a> >

**Table 5. Additional mandate provided to the Board by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at its fifteenth session**

<b>Mandate number</b>	<b>Mandate from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol</b>	<b>Related MAP 2020-2021 project or routine activity</b>
2/CMP.15, para. 8	Encourages the Executive Board to continue to review the methodological approaches referred to in paragraph 7 of decision 2/CMP.15, with respect to the default baseline assumptions applied	Activity Group: Response to methodological requests from the Board

**Table 6. Documents under consideration by the Board for the reporting period under review (January–June 2020)**

<b>Meeting body</b>	<b>No. of meetings</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>Total documents</b>
Executive Board of the clean development mechanism	1	Annotations, annexes, information notes, financial reports, synthesis reports and related regulatory documentation, etc. (standardized baselines, forms, etc.)	22
CDM Accreditation Panel	1	Meeting reports and annexes	3
Methodologies Panel	2	Meeting reports and annexes	10
<b>Total</b>			<b>35</b>

**Table 7. Products delivered as per the Board 2020 workplan (January–June 2020)**

<b>2020 Objective</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>Products delivered</b>
1 (a) - Operate efficient project and entity assessment processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration of cases for registration, issuance and other project and PoA related submissions – Final presented at EB 106</li> </ul>	1
1 (b) - Operate an effective regulatory framework resulting in reduced transaction costs for participants in the mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selection of Chair/Vice Chair for EB – Final EB 106</li> <li>Selection of Chairs/Vice Chairs for panels and working groups – Final EB 106</li> <li>Selection of members for RIT roster of experts' performance evaluation group – Final EB106</li> <li>Calendar of meetings – Final EB 106</li> <li>EB Workplan 2020 – Final EB 106</li> <li>CDM Accreditation Panel (CDM-AP) workplan 2020 – Final EB 106</li> <li>Methodologies Panel (MP) workplan 2020 – Final EB 106</li> <li>Panel meeting reports – Final EB 106</li> <li>Interaction with Co-Chairs of Global DNA Forum – Info EB 106</li> <li>Interaction with the Chair of the DOE/AIE Coordination Forum – Info EB106</li> <li>Revised procedure: "Performance monitoring of designated operational entities" – Final presented at EB 106 (with CDM-AP input)</li> <li>Revised procedure: "CDM accreditation procedure" – Final EB 106 (with CDM-AP input)</li> </ul>	14



2020 Objective	Product	Products delivered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amendment to the “CDM project standard for programmes of activities” – Final EB 106</li> <li>Revision of the regulatory provisions on standardized baselines – Concept presented at EB 106</li> </ul>	
1 (c) - Develop simplified and user-friendly standards and procedures that increase efficiency and ensure environmental integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methodological approaches for calculating emission reductions from project activities, resulting in the reduced use of non-renewable biomass in households – Concept EB 106</li> <li>Guideline: Development of a PoA-DD applicable to buildings – Final EB 106</li> <li>Various top-down revised/new methodologies and tools and best-practice examples mandated by the Board – Final (through MP report, preceded. by call)</li> <li>PROJ256: Digitization of methodologies for web-based generation of project design documents and monitoring templates – Road testing – Information presented at EB 106</li> </ul>	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>19</b>

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### Document information

Version	Date	Description
01.0	7 September 2020	Published as an annex to the annotated agenda of EB 107.
Decision Class: Operational Document Type: Information note Business Function: Governance Keywords: EB, MAP, work programme		