

COTE D'IVOIRE DNA WINS THE BEST COMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR AFRICAN REGION



Rachel Boti-Douayoua, Head of the DNA, Côte d'Ivoire with Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC

The DNA of Côte d'Ivoire was announced the winner of the Best Communicator award for Africa region in 2011.

In August 2011, DNAs were asked to create a flyer promoting themselves and the CDM. Four regions of Africa, Asia, South America and Europe were in competition. The DNAs developed a communication and distribution strategy for the flyer and

composed a short reflection on the process. Scores were awarded by a panel of UN and NGO judges and the top four finalists from each region were selected for recognition at the Climate Change conference in Durban. The winning prize consisted of a participation certificate and a trophy, and the award was given by Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Climate Change.

The EC-ACP- MEA project has allowed Côte d'Ivoire in enabling partners to acquire technical knowledge regarding CDM. The project has contributed to both the DNA and partners of development, and project proponents. Côte d'Ivoire engaged in raising awareness through mass media tools such as television and radio, which also encouraged some people to contact the DNA of Côte d'Ivoire in order to develop their CDM projects.

The project started in Côte d'Ivoire in February, 2010 and since its inception, the project has enabled the DNA of Côte d'Ivoire to perform activities such as the implementation of workshops and capacity building of stakeholders.

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This update provides information on some of UNEP and URC's Carbon Finance activities. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the EU UNEP, Risø National Laboratory - DTU. To receive an electronic or printed copy of the newsletter, please register on our website www.uneprisoe.org. For all other information or comment, please contact the editor, Mette Annelie Rasmussen (meta@dtu.dk). For URC Energy and Carbon Finance Programme please contact Miriam Hinostroza, Head of Programme, milh@dtu.dk

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Group discussion at a workshop participants in Cuba

NEW INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK IN CUBA: FROM IMPLEMENTATION TO SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

In Cuba, the institutional framework for CDM in the country has been redefined and two organization levels having distinctly different functions established. This involves the CITMA as CDM-DNA responsible for management, policy, approval and control and CUBAENERGIA responsible for coordination, promotion, training, information, support in the CDM project's formulation and negotiation, and project assessment.

Several actions were implemented for the Designated National Authority (DNA) to be operational in the country. Firstly, the CDM national team was constituted and approved in the country as agreed by the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers. The five empowered decision-making bodies in the field of CDM are part of the Central State Administration. Two working groups at each level were established. Secondly, the CDM Technical Office was created. This office coordinates a Technical Working Group created to implement the CDM formed by agencies which have more potential of generating and submitting CDM projects, such as Ministries of Basic Industry, Agriculture, Sugar Industry, Construction, Transport, Metallurgical Industry and Tourism. This group enables the exchange of experiences, and coordination of actions to implement the mechanism at the technical level.

The ACP-MEA project has also witnessed several achievements and impacts in the country. Organizational strengthening through the creation of CDM Technical Office has served to support the DNA in the management of the CDM project lifecycle. The legal framework for the implementation of CDM projects has been created and tailored to meet present needs, and procedures for the submission of PIN and PDD have been established. Eighteen national, sectoral and regional workshops have been held wherein more than 450 experts and officials from the main institutions, economic branches and from all regions of the country have been trained on CDM issues. In addition, 2 CDM projects have already been registered, 2 PDD are in the validation phase and 8 PIN were approved by the Designated National Authority. Finally, in synergy with the UNDP led Carbono 2012 project, 6 potential mitigation studies have been developed in different sectors- biogas, forest waste, rice waste, energy generation, and energy efficiency, which are an important technical basis for selecting and developing future projects in these sectors.

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ENERGY, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

AN UPDATE ON THE ACP- MEA CDM PROGRAMME MAY 2012

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LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD FOR THE CDM AND CARBON FINANCE

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) created as part of the Kyoto protocol has been successful in promoting project based green house gas emission reduction activities and sustainable development in developing countries. Currently the global carbon market is characterized by an increase in the number of emissions reduction procurement programmes which has resulted in high demand for CDM projects and specifically well-designed projects that are able to pass the regulatory procedures of CDM, as well as the need to secure the necessary underlying financing.

Due to its regulatory nature and cyclical process, the mechanism has revealed itself to be full of complexities on modalities, procedures and technicalities in each step of the cycle. Capacity development support has been instrumental to help diminish these complexities by providing knowledge and skills to further understand and implement the CDM in participating countries.

Since 2002, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UNEP Risø Centre have been assisting a range of actors into the growing carbon market by providing targeted and comprehensive capacity

building programmes that help address and subsequently overcome knowledge and information gaps and barriers in order to enable access to the Carbon Market. Currently, UNEP and UNEP Risø Centre are supporting 14 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries (Angola, Belize, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Trinidad and Tobago, Fiji, Vanuatu, Tonga and Samoa) to engage in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). The Capacity Development for the CDM (ACP-CD4CDM) programme is a subcomponent of an umbrella project to enhance the capacity of ACP countries to implement Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). This initiative is funded by the European Commission and implemented by UNEP together with several other partners.

The ACP- CD4CDM is allowing participating countries to fully participate in the global carbon market by providing technical and financial support to identify, design, approve, finance, implement, monitor and promote CDM projects that both address their sustainable development priorities as well as offer a cost-effective option for carbon credit buyers to comply with their obligations under the Kyoto Protocol.

As part of the project activities, the UNEP Risø Centre supports the development of national CDM project portfolios. Currently, 91 Project Idea Notes (PINs), 32 PDDs, 14 POA-PINS and 5 POA-DDs have been developed in several sectors, including energy and waste sectors, in participating countries. As the end of the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol approaches at the end of 2012, eligible countries are diligently polishing national regulations and consolidating their national CDM project portfolios, which signals the continuation and growth of the carbon markets.

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Kinoya Sewerage Treatment Plant in Fiji where Biogas Capture and Flaring is being implemented

Region	Country	Pin	PDD	PoA-PIN	PoA-DD
Africa	Sao Tome and Principe	4	2		
Africa	Rwanda	3	7		
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire	14	2		
Africa	Botswana	6	2		
Africa	Malawi	4	2		
Africa	Botswana	10	2		4
Africa	Nigeria	8	2		
Africa	Angola	10	2		
Caribbean	Belize	4	1		
Caribbean	Trinidad & Tobago	7	2		
Caribbean	Cuba	9	4		
Caribbean	Regional			2	1
Pacific	Fiji	6	2		
Pacific	Vanuatu	6	2		
Pacific	Regional			12	4
Pacific	Fiji + Solomon Islands			6	2
Pacific	Tonga + Samoa			6	2
Total		91	32		
Total LDCs		27	15	14	5



Fiji's low-lying islands are at the mercy of the rising seas

THE ACP MEA PROJECT: A PERSPECTIVE FROM THE PACIFIC

As part of the 4 year initiative under EC-ACP-MEA capacity building project, the participant Pacific countries – Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands & Papua New Guinea, are being assisted to overcome challenges and barriers to fully participate in the international carbon markets. This is the case as, so far, only three projects from the Pacific have met the standards of CDM and have been registered. As a result, the Secretariat of Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has taken up the role of regional hub for the Pacific.

In Vanuatu and Fiji, the two focal countries in Pacific, the project has assisted in strengthening the local stakeholder capacity on CDM through series of in-country capacity building workshops. The initiative has helped improve awareness about CDM and countries are now including CDM in their national policy making. The CDM team of Fiji actively participated in preparing the new National Climate Change Policy and pushing it through to the cabinet for endorsement at the end of 2011. "I feel that a lot regarding CDM is reflected in the Policy under 'Mitigation' that will ensure that once

this project comes to an end this year, there is continuity of CDM activities at national level", noted Manasa Katonivaliku, the CDM coordinator at the Department of Environment, Fiji.

Several potential CDM project opportunities have been identified in Vanuatu & Fiji under the initiative in the energy, energy efficiency and waste management sectors. The initiative has provided technical hand holding to the identified project proponents on development of Project Idea Notes (PINs) and Project Design Documents (PDDs) for stand-alone CDM and Programme of Activities (PoA) both under the compliance and voluntary carbon markets.

Further activities for building capacities and operationalization of host country DNAs have included creating a CDM friendly regulatory and business environment through development of CDM investor guides within the two focal countries. In addition, countries have engaged in creating Programme of Activities (PoA), and Tonga and Samoa are being initiated under the project.

BOTSWANA IS CHALLENGED TO REGISTER CDM PROJECTS AND RAISE FUNDS BEFORE END OF 2012

"Botswana does not currently have any CDM projects registered with the CDM Executive Board but we hope that at least one project is registered by 2012," said Department of Meteorological Services, Designated National Authority (DNA), Meteorologist, Janet Selato. In the year 2011, the DNA conducted two CDM national workshops to raise awareness on CDM amongst stakeholders. The response has been significant as project proponents have developed interest and developed project proposals. Currently ten Project Idea Notes (PINs) have been submitted to the DNA office. Most of the potential CDM project proponents who have approached the DNA with project ideas have largely come from the private sector (industry, mining companies, and individuals), NGOs and only two are initiatives from government departments. Regional project proponents have also taken interest to include Botswana in their Programme of Activities (PoAs) for CDM development in the future.

The support from URC project assists with the development design documents for two Programme of Activities – one for energy efficiency in buildings and another

one for the waste sector which will recover methane from animal waste to generate electricity. To date, two other waste projects have been identified for possible inclusion as CDM Programme Activities (CPA) into the waste PoA.

Speaking on financing CDM waste projects, Head of Large Corporate, Barclays Bank, Motlalepula Olopeng said, "All we want to know is whether the project is sustainable. We will also go into it if we understand the project, right now I can't say I understand what carbon credits are. CDM is relatively new in Botswana but as an international bank we usually engage expertise from the first world in cases like these".

Botswana thus offers a lucrative destination for CDM investment, particularly in the energy sector using renewable energy such as solar, wind and biofuels, to offset carbon emissions generated from use of fossil fuels. Energy efficiency for the industrial sector and households also presents quick cost effective access to the carbon market. Waste also offers another area to explore for methane capture.

CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM – THE EXPERIENCE IN BELIZE

Belize ratified the UNFCCC in 1994 and acceded to the Kyoto Protocol in 2003, making it eligible to participate in the CDM. The country, however, did not have the governance structure or the human and technical capacity to participate in the CDM and to access the global carbon market. To initiate the capacity building programme, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Belize and UNEP Risø Centre (URC), whereby URC provided financial, capacity-building support and technical guidance for Belize to undertake activities. This programme provided the financial support for the operationalization of Belize's DNA.

Through the CDM project, government officials and policy makers in Belize have recognized the importance of the CDM, and see it as an important mechanism for encouraging foreign investment, the transfer of technology and its contribution to sustainable development. This has also encouraged the Government of Belize to establish the required legal and regulatory infrastructures.

UNEP Risø Centre conducted workshops and a series of lectures that built technical capacity, enabling consultants and project developers prepare Project Identification Notes (PINs) and Project Design Documents (PDDs). The CDM project has promoted greater awareness and

understanding of the CDM among policymakers from relevant ministries, specialists, private sector, non-state partners, academia, project developers, and consultants. This was made possible through provision of hands-on training workshops, training materials, guidebooks and publications. The training workshops and sectorally-focused workshops encouraged exchange of views and assisted in identifying possible CDM projects. This was an important step in supporting Belize to enter the CDM market.

The interventions produced by participating in the CDM are aligned with Belize's Horizon 2030 and the newly developed Energy Policy. In the energy sector, Belize finds itself in a unique position drawing some 50 percent of its energy from renewable resources which is more than twice the regional average for renewable energy mix. Belize's energy policy has embraced alternative energy sources to continue to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels.

At present, although there are no CDM projects in Belize, the country has progressed to the Project Design Development stage under the guidance of CDM experts from URC. More capacity building exercises and sector specific workshops will continue to help realize the benefits to project developers and local communities.