Capacity Building for Carbon Markets Governance Frameworks in Africa

07 September 2023
Room – Lac Tchad - KICC - Nairobi

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Carbon markets
Carbon Markets under the Kyoto Protocol

• Under the Kyoto Protocol, GHG emission reduction commitments for developed countries only (A1 Parties);
• Three flexibility mechanisms to help A1 Parties (developed countries) meet their commitments:
  – The **Clean Development Mechanism** (Article 12): The purpose of the CDM is to assist non-Annex I Parties in achieving sustainable development and in contributing to the ultimate objective of the Convention, as well as to assist Annex I Parties in complying with their quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments;
  – The **Joint implementation** (Art. 6): Any A1 Party may transfer to or acquire from any of the other A1 Parties emission reduction units resulting from projects aimed at reducing anthropogenic emissions by sources or enhancing anthropogenic removals by sinks of greenhouse gases from any sector of the economy; the acquisition of emission reduction units complements domestic actions to meet commitments;
  – The **Emissions trading** (Art. 17): Parties listed in Annex B of the KP (with GHG emission reduction targets) may participate in emissions trading in order to meet their commitments; Any such trading will complement domestic actions to meet quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments.
Compliance and Voluntary Carbon Markets (1)

- **Voluntary and compliance carbon markets** are instruments used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote the energy transition. These markets allow companies and governments to voluntarily commit to reducing their GHG emissions by buying and selling emissions allowances or certified emission reduction credits.

- **Compliance carbon markets** are regulated markets set up by governments to oblige companies to reduce their GHG emissions. These markets operate by setting a cap on each company's emissions and allowing companies to purchase emission rights or participate in offsetting programmes if they exceed this cap.

- The advantages of compliance carbon markets are that they create a financial incentive for companies to reduce their carbon emissions and can be more effective than voluntary carbon markets in achieving long-term emissions reduction targets. However, they can be costly to implement and can lead to market distortions.
What is the subject of transactions?

Usually, only part (%) of the target can be met with compensations.

Emission allowances

- (tonnes of CO2e emitted into the atmosphere)
- MRV follows the national inventory (IPCC guidelines)
- Trading for compliance purposes in an ETS/C&IT

Compensation

- (Tonnes of CO2e reduced from the atmosphere)
- MRV follows standards for projects, programmes of activities
- Negotiated for different purposes Compliance or voluntary market
Compliance and Voluntary Carbon Markets (3)

- **Voluntary carbon markets** are markets created by private organizations or governments to enable individuals and companies to offset their GHG emissions by investing in emission reduction projects.
- These projects can include initiatives such as tree planting, the protection of existing forests, the use of renewable energy sources, etc.
- The advantages of voluntary carbon markets are that they allow individuals and companies to take concrete steps to reduce their carbon emissions and support environmental projects.
- However, they are not mandatory and may not be sufficient to achieve long-term emission reduction targets.
GHG reduction projects or mitigation activities can certify their results according to their confidence standard. Some examples are:

Verified emissions reductions (offsets) can be traded on the market for a variety of purposes. Here are a few examples:

- Regulated Markets: entities for compliance under the ETS or C&T
- Companies for voluntary mitigation or other sustainability objectives.
- Governments or companies to achieve net zero objectives.
- Sector objectives, for example, CORSIA.
- Individuals for self-compensation of emissions.
- Financial investment (assets).

When used for compliance purposes, VERs must meet the requirements of the target market.

In 2020, 95 million VERs were withdrawn. Demand could rise to 2,000 million by 2030.

Article 6: co-operation towards NDCs

Cooperative approaches

Articles 6.2 and 6.3 and decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 36
Bilateral/multilateral cooperation between countries, involving international transfers of the mitigation outcomes produced through such cooperation

The mechanism

Articles 6.4 to 6.7 and decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 37 and 38
To be operated centrally (6.4 SB and UNFCCC secretariat), credits emission reductions by public and private sector actors, allows for international transfer of those credits or use for any other purpose

Framework for non-market approaches

Articles 6.8 and 6.9 and decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 39 and 40
Facilitates climate action through international cooperation focused on sustainable development and poverty eradication (and does not involve trading of mitigation outcomes)
New Carbon Markets landscape (1)

Generation of Mitigation Outcomes

- Article 6.4 M
- Independant standards
- Bilateral agreements

Usage of Mitigation Outcomes

- Gvt / companies
- OIMP (ie. CORSIA)
- Voluntary

Others (Linkage of ETS)

Others (eg. Domestically)
New Carbon Markets landscape (2)

• **Usages of units generated by 6.4 mechanism:**
  – Meeting another Party’s NDC (6.4 ER);
  – Other International Mitigation Purposes (OIMP) like CORSIA (ICAO)
  – Voluntary Carbon Market
  – Result-based finance
  – Domestic use

• **Main usages of units generated by independent standards**
  – Voluntary Carbon Market
  – CORSIA
  – Net-zero or carbon neutrality claims

The main independent standards are in the process of revising their rules and procedures to align them with Article 6 and generate units for both compliance and the voluntary market.
New Carbon Markets landscape (3)

• **Usage of units generated by bilateral agreements**
  – Meeting another Party’s NDC (6.4 ER);
  – Domestic use

• **Usage of mitigation outcomes coming from linkage between different emission trading schemes**
  – Meeting another Party’s NDC (6.4 ER);
  – Domestic use
New Carbon Markets landscape (4)

• Participation requirements under the 6.2 cooperative approaches:
  – Each participating Party shall ensure that:
    a. It is a Party to the Paris Agreement;
    b. It has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC in accordance with Article 4.2;
    c. It has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6.3;
    d. It has arrangements in place that are consistent with the 6.2 guidance and relevant decisions of the CMA, for tracking ITMOs;
    e. It has provided the most recent national inventory report;
    f. Its participation contributes to the implementation of its NDC and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.
New Carbon Markets landscape (5)

• Corrresponding Adjustment::
  – Each participating **Party shall apply a corresponding Adjustment for all authorized ITMOS**;
  – Each participating Party shall apply corresponding adjustments in a manner that ensures transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency;
  – Participation in cooperative approaches does not lead to a net increase in emissions across participating Parties within and between NDC implementation periods;
  – Corresponding adjustments shall be representative and consistent with the participating Party’s NDC implementation and achievement.
New Carbon Markets landscape (6)

• Reporting:
  – Initial report:
    • Each participating Party shall submit an Article 6.2, initial report no later than authorization of ITMOs from a cooperative approach or where practical (in the view of the participating Party), in conjunction with the next biennial transparency report for the period of NDC implementation.
  – Annual information:
    • Each participating Party shall, on an annual basis by no later than 15 April of the following year and in an agreed electronic format (AEF), submit for recording in the Article 6 database
  – Regular information:
    • Each participating Party shall include as an annex to its biennial transparency reports and no later than 31 December of the relevant year, the information in relation to its participation in cooperative approaches (Biennial Article 6 Report)
New Carbon Markets landscape (7)

• Recording and tracking:
  – Tracking:
    • Each participating Party shall have, or have access to, a registry for the purpose of tracking and shall ensure that such registry records, including through unique identifiers, as applicable: authorization, first transfer, transfer, acquisition, use towards NDCs, authorization for use towards other international mitigation purposes, and voluntary cancellation (including for overall mitigation in global emissions, if applicable), and shall have accounts as necessary.
    • The secretariat shall implement an international registry for participating Parties that do not have or do not have access to a registry. *Any Party may request an account in the international registry.*
New Carbon Markets landscape (8)

- Participation requirements under the 6.4 Mechanism:
  - Each participating Party shall ensure that:
    a. It is a Party to the Paris Agreement;
    b. It has prepared, has communicated and is maintaining a nationally determined contribution (NDC);
    c. It has designated a national authority for the mechanism (DNA) and has communicated that designation to the secretariat;
    d. It has indicated publicly to the Supervisory Body how its participation in the mechanism contributes to sustainable development, while acknowledging that the consideration of sustainable development is a national prerogative;
    e. It has indicated publicly to the Supervisory Body the types of Article 6.4 activity that it would consider approving pursuant to chapter Approval and authorization, and how such types of activity and any associated emission reductions would contribute to the achievement of its NDC, if applicable, to its long-term low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions development strategy, if it has submitted one, and to the long term goals of the Paris Agreement.
Infrastructure overview

Centralized accounting and reporting platform (CARP)

- **Public interface**

**Article 6 database**

- Annual ITMOs
- Corresponding adjustments
- Emissions balances
- Identifying inconsistencies

**International registry**

- Party N registry
- Party M registry

Consolidated registry Parties X,Y

- Registry Party A
  - GHG segment
  - Non-GHG segment

Mechanism Information system

- Connector

Mechanism registry

- GHG segment

- Connector Portal

- Connectors: API, other

- Meta information/reports

- ITMO transfers

- Initial / annual / regular information

- Optional element
Capacity Building

• The UNFCC secretariat, including through its regional collaboration centres and in consultation with the Supervisory Body, was requested to design and implement, in consultation with Parties, a capacity-building programme to assist Parties wishing to voluntarily participate in the mechanism to, inter alia:
  – (a) Establish the necessary institutional arrangements to implement the requirements for participating in 6.4 M;
  – (b) Develop the technical capacity to design and set baselines for application in host Parties;

• Many partners are supporting developing countries in participating in cooperatives approaches (Switzerland, Japan, Norway, etc... through World Bank, UNDP, GGGI, CfRN, etc.)

• Many partners are also proposing to use open source registries (WB, UNDP, CfRN, etc..)
Capacity Building

• For effective participation in Article 6 (6.4M, 6.2 and GCNMA - 6.8) a Party needs to:
  – Have an robust institutionnal framework;
  – Set a regulatory framework;
  – Have an infrastructure for recording, tracking and reporting ITMOs;
  – Be able to provide regular GHG inventories;
  – Have a robust MRV system for the NDC;
  – Have arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs;
  – Build the capacity of all stakeholders:
    • Decision makers
    • Project participants;
    • Technical committees;
    • Member of the Article 6 Bureau.
Thank you

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