



Kinoya Sewerage Treatment Plant in Fiji. The facility is implementing biogas capturing and flaring.

## Levelling the playing field for the CDM and carbon finance

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), under which industrialized countries, aiming to comply with their emission reduction pledges, rely on developing industrializing countries to deliver emission reductions, is a complex market. As one of the Kyoto Protocol's flexible mechanisms the CDM intends to stimulate emission reductions and promote sustainable development, while providing industrialized countries with some flexibility as to how they meet their limitation targets. The ability of industrialized countries to benefit from the CDM rested in large part on the developing nations to develop and market CDM projects. However, market actors from developed and developing countries entering this complex market space had, at the onset of CDM implementation, substantial gaps in individual, organizational and institutional capacity. Therefore, developing countries willing to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the CDM did not only face the challenge of institutionalizing CDM, but also of creating the knowledge and capabilities to make the mechanism fully operational at both national and international levels.

So far the CDM has been relatively successful in promoting project-based greenhouse gas emission reduction activities that both address the host countries' sustainable development priorities as well as offer a cost-effective option for carbon credit buyers to comply with their obligations under the Kyoto Protocol. Currently there are 8 971 CDM projects in the pipeline and 164 in the registration process. In August 2012 135 CDM projects have been submitted to the UNFCCC, the CDM Executive Board processed 160 registration actions

and 21.0 million CERs of a total of 995 million CERs were issued.

The main driving forces for this success are regulatory forces, market forces and both local investors and political will in developing countries. However, another important factor is the role of capacity development projects and programmes for the CDM, implemented by different multilateral agencies and financially supported by the development cooperation community. Due to its regulatory nature and cyclical process, the CDM mechanism is full of complexities on modalities, procedures and technicalities in each step of the cycle. These are mainly: project design by a project developer, approval by Designated National Authorities (DNAs), validation by Designated Operational Entities (DOEs), registration by UNFCCC, verification by a second DOE and CER issuance by UNFCCC. Capacity development support has been instrumental to help coping with these complexities by providing knowledge and skills to a range of actors in the growing carbon market to further understand and efficiently implement the CDM in the host countries.

The ACP MEAs project through its CDM component implemented by the UNEP Risø Centre, is supporting twelve ACP countries (Angola, Belize, Botswana, Cuba, Fiji, Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Trinidad and Tobago and, Vanuatu) to fully engage in the global carbon market by providing technical and financial support to identify, design, approve, finance, implement, monitor and promote CDM projects. Activities include

1) institutional enhancement, i.e. operationalizing the DNAs, designing sustainable development criteria for project selection, and consolidating national project approval procedures; 2) CDM project origination and portfolio development, i.e. evaluating business plans for potential CDM projects and drafting project proposals and 3) promoting project portfolios through organizing national and sector-focused CDM workshops as well as regional events to equip countries with the skills and knowledge to develop and approve CDM projects. Participating countries have established, redefined or consolidated the CDM institutional frameworks, thus securing that national and international regulatory requirements are fulfilled. Also, the lack of knowledge and general awareness on the CDM of local investors, project developers, high level policy makers or financial executives has been addressed through the national and sector-focused workshops as well as specific technical training sessions. Awareness was also raised through mass media. Côte d'Ivoire, for instance, has promoted the CDM through television and radio emissions, which encouraged developers to contact the DNA for information to further develop their CDM projects. The efforts in Côte d'Ivoire were internationally recognized when the UNFCCC announced the country's DNA the winner of the Best Communicator Award in the African region last year.



National Workshop in Sao Tome and Principe: Hands-on exercise on PDD development.

As part of the project activities, the UNEP Risø Centre supports the development of national CDM project portfolios. Currently, 72 Project Idea Notes (PINs), 27 Project Design Documents (PDDs), 14 Program of Activities-PINS and 9 PoA Design Documents (PoA-DDs) have been developed in several sectors, including the energy and waste sector. A full overview of the countries CDM portfolios is provided on the project website <http://www.acp-cd4cdm.org/>. In order to promote the target countries as CDM destinations and to seek potential investors and CERs buyers, the countries received support to participate in the annual Carbon Expo held in Cologne or Barcelona, where they presented their CDM

portfolios and expanded their networks. In addition, the ACP MEAs project supported the organization of regional carbon forums in the three ACP regions.

Region	Country	CDM - PIN	CDM - PDD	PoA-PIN	PoA-DD
Africa	Botswana	4		2	2
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire	14	2		
Africa	Malawi	5	0	2	
Africa	Nigeria	8	2		
Africa	Rwanda	3	7		
Africa	Sao Tome and Principe	1	1		
Africa	Angola	0	0		
Caribbean	Belize	4	1		
Caribbean	Cuba	9	4		
Caribbean	Trinidad & Tobago	7	2		
Caribbean	Regional	-	-	2	1
Pacific	Fiji	6	2		
Pacific	Vanuatu	6	2		
Pacific	Regional	-	-	12	4
Pacific	Fiji+Solomon Islands			6	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>72</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total LDCs</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>

List of UNEP Risø Centre project activities under the ACP MEAs project.

With the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol finishing at the end of 2012, the UNFCCC Parties at COP17 in Durban decided on a second commitment period under the Protocol. The exact dates of the second period are still under negotiation, starting 1 January 2013 and ending either 31 December 2017 or 31 December 2020. The CDM will, therefore, continue as a mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol, although there remains a lack of clarity on the demand of CERs. Yet, eligible countries are diligently polishing national regulations and consolidating their national CDM project portfolios, which signals the continuation and growth of the carbon markets.

*Miriam Hinojosa (ACP MEAs CDM Coordinator) and Mette Annelie Rasmussen (Communication Coordinator), UNEP Risø Centre.*

### African Hub (AUC)

The African Hub in collaboration with the Government of Uganda held a colloquium in Entebbe from 4-6 June to sensitise Parliamentarians on the importance of mainstreaming MEAs into development policies and plans. The colloquium resulted in the Entebbe Declaration and a Manual on MEAs Mainstreaming. Moreover, it led to Togo

and Burkina Faso initiating their ratification process for the Maputo Convention. From 2-3 June, the Hub in collaboration with the African Network of Environmental Journalists (ANEJ) and the Government of the Republic of Congo held a workshop in Brazzaville to train African journalists on MEAs and environmental issues. Following the AUC co-sponsored COP 9 of the Abidjan Convention in March/April 2011, the Protocol against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities to the Convention was adopted in Cote D'Ivoire in June. Between January and July 2012, Cameroon, Comoros, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali and Swaziland established multi-stakeholder collaboration strategies on MEAs that will bring together all stakeholders involved to form a common platform for better implementing MEAs at the national level. The UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics signed an agreement with WWF to develop POPs regulatory frameworks to better regulate the entry, application and handling of POPs in Uganda and Burundi co-funded by the African Hub. In recognition of its support to African Negotiators of the Mercury International Negotiating Committee (INC), the African Hub received a bronze award during the INC4 Meeting on 27 June in Uruguay.

For further information, please contact the African Hub Coordinators: Ms Fatoumata Ndoye ([fnjallow@yahoo.com](mailto:fnjallow@yahoo.com)) and Mr Livingstone Sindayigaya ([sindayigaya@yahoo.com](mailto:sindayigaya@yahoo.com)).

### Caribbean Hub (CARICOM )

From 24-25 July the Caribbean Hub successfully held a pilot training workshop on MEAs Enforcement for Customs Officials and Border Control Personnel in the Dominican Republic. The Hub also launched its regional internship programme under which the first intern began a 3-month assignment at Guyana's Environmental Protection Agency. In order to identify synergies and possibilities for coordination, the Caribbean Hub participated in a number of informative activities organized by the other regional Hubs, including the African Hub's Parliamentarian's Colloquium on MEA mainstreaming and the Pacific Hub's regional preparatory meeting for COP 11 of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

For further information please contact coordinator Dr. Thérèse Yarde ([tyarde@caricom.org](mailto:tyarde@caricom.org)).



Workshop participants on MEAs Enforcement for Customs Officials and Border Control Personnel in the Dominican Republic, 24-25 July 2012.

### Pacific Hub (SPREP)

The main recent event has been the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the CBD COP11 which was held 10-13 August in Roturoa, New Zealand for 43 participants from 10 countries, 8 resource institutions and the UNEP Regional Office Asia Pacific. The meeting included media skills training and a negotiation skills refresher session. A Pacific Island Brief was prepared to guide the Pacific Voyage delegates during the COP. The Caribbean hub coordinators attended, and synergies between these two island-hubs were identified and discussed.

A side event "My Pacific Home, My Islands, My Wetlands" was financially supported by the ACP MEAs project at the Ramsar COP11, 3-14 July, Bucharest, Romania. Pacific visibility was notably scaled up in comparison to COP10 and stories were posted on the Bionesian blog ([www.bionesian.blogspot.com](http://www.bionesian.blogspot.com))

In addition, two further national negotiation skills workshops were held, in Nauru (6-7 June) and Tuvalu (2, 3, 6 August). A second workshop was held in Fiji for UNCCD NAP alignment (23-26 July). In June Yap State was assisted in mainstreaming EIA guidelines and Samoa launched their SOE vision document. Samoa has subsequently held two further workshops on indicators in July. The document "A Vision for Effective and Streamlined Reporting in the Pacific" was finalized and submitted to SPREP Members for endorsement at the SPREP Annual Meeting. For further information please contact the Pacific Hub coordinator Dr Jill Key ([Jillk@sprep.org](mailto:Jillk@sprep.org)).



Workshop group at the CBD pre-COP11 Meeting in New Zealand, 10 -13 August 2012.

## URC

São Tomé and Príncipe's Designated National Authority (DNA) was officially accredited at the UNFCCC. From 2-7 August a series of workshops were organized in the country including a training session for the Grid Emission Factor (GEF) and a national workshop on the status of CDM in the country. Simultaneously feasibility studies, PINs and PDDs are being prepared. One PDD for the 'Bombaim Small Hydropower Project' was finalised and is available for public comments on the UNFCCC website. The updated GEF will be used to obtain the Standardized Baseline in the country. URC also organized a third national workshop to discuss the PINs and PDDs prepared by project developers in Belize City 25-26 June. 24 participants from the public and private sectors, including Ministers and CEOs were sensitized and updated on the CDM and other new market mechanisms. Project developers presented their PINs and PDDs to stimulate discussions and to improve the documents. In Botswana two PDDs for programmatic CDM projects were completed. In Malawi five PINs have been developed in the areas of landfill gas, rural electrification, municipal waste composting, geothermal, energy efficient lighting. A comprehensive list of PDD and PINs for all countries as well as workshop presentations are available at <http://acp-cd4cdm.org>.

For further information please contact URC Coordinator: Miriam Hinojosa, [milh@dtu.dk](mailto:milh@dtu.dk).

## SAICM Quick Start Programme

Nine projects funded under the ACP MEAs window have made steady progress in implementing their activities. One such project entitled "Chemical safety for children at work in Agriculture" in Uganda completed training manuals for chemical safety education and two train the trainer workshops

with the participation of 80 representatives from various trade unions. Additionally, four regional awareness raising meetings for 160 district leaders and agricultural extension workers on chemical safety issues have been conducted. Chemical management has only recently been recognized as an important issue in Uganda and, with the intervention of the project, efforts are beginning to make a difference.

For further information, please contact the SAICM Secretariat ([saicm@unep.org](mailto:saicm@unep.org)).



Hands of a victim of chemical exposure in Lugazi Sugar plantation in Uganda, Photo Courtesy: PROBICOU, Uganda.

## FAO

In Africa, the project supported initiatives to develop harmonized regional pesticides registration schemes in both SADC and ECOWAS. During a meeting of the Southern Africa Pesticide Registrars Forum in Gaborone, Botswana end June, a "roadmap" for developing the regional registration scheme was agreed. Also in June, during the 30th session of the Comité Sahélien des Pesticides held in Burkina Faso, it was agreed that steps should be taken to expand the scheme from just the 9 CILSS countries to include the whole of ECOWAS.

In the Caribbean, FAO organised the annual meeting of pesticide regulators in Grenada from 4-8 June with broad participation from regional institutions: CARICOM, the Inter American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Basel Convention Regional Centre and COLEACP. Progress was made in all countries to complete national inventories of obsolete pesticides, to formulate plans for their disposal and to use the Pesticides Stock Management System to support regional harmonization of pesticide registration. A technical workshop on the registration of biopesticides was held with the assistance of international experts and a communications platform for registrars established to strengthen the commitment and regional collaboration among governments and organizations.

In the Pacific, representatives from the agricultural extension and research branches of the Governments of Fiji, Salomon Islands, Samoa and Tonga met with professionals from SPC and ACIAR in Fiji, 31 July - 3 August. Main purpose was to coordinate activities on capacity building for MEA implementation, including strengthening the application of Integrated Pest Management. A baseline survey of farmer practices will be carried out in the four countries in 2012/13 and a Training of Trainers on Brassica crops will begin in September in Fiji to reduce the use of pesticides and increase productivity on commercial cabbage farms. Obsolete pesticide stocks in Samoa stored in the premises of the Custom Service Office were repackaged in August for overseas shipment and subsequent disposal in New Zealand.

For further information, please contact Coordinator Mr. Mark Davis ([mark.davis@fao.org](mailto:mark.davis@fao.org)).



Pesticide application on cabbage.

## UNCCD

From 9-14 July 2012, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD organized a workshop on resource mobilization strategies for the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The workshop, held in The Gambia for English-speaking African countries, was the second of its kind; a similar event was held in Algeria for French-speaking African countries in March 2012. In total, more than 55 participants from 13 African countries shared their experience to enhance resource mobilization for sustainable land management (SLM), ultimately improving their knowledge on accessing innovative sources of financing for GGWSSI project implementation. The GGWSSI sees some 20 countries

working together to tackle both environmental and poverty-related challenges in the Sahel-Saharan zone through sound ecosystem management and sustainable development. For further information, please contact Coordinator Ms Inès Chaâlala ([i.chaalala@global-mechanism.org](mailto:i.chaalala@global-mechanism.org)).

## UNEP

### UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20: Side-Event on ACP MEAs, 15 June 2012

20 Years after the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro paved the way for major policy documents, including Agenda 21, and MEAs for environmental sustainability, world leaders came together again to take stock of the progress made and to set the path for the global “future we want”. With the ACP MEAs program supporting the implementation of MEAs in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries through building regional and national capacities, UNEP used this highest-level political forum for sustainable development to present the ACP MEAs during a side-event in the EU Pavilion. It was well attended and among the keynote speakers were Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, Ms. Amina Mohamed as well as representatives of SPREP and CARICOM.

For further information please contact Mr. Mamadou Kane, UNEP Project Coordinator ([mamadou.kane@unep.org](mailto:mamadou.kane@unep.org)).



UNEP Deputy Executive Director Ms. Amina Mohamed introducing the ACP MEAs project to participants of the Rio+20 Conference side-event, 15 June 2012.

This newsletter is published quarterly and includes opinion pieces by the programme partners as well as an update of latest developments. For more information on ACP MEAs please contact:

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