CDM Methodologies and their Application
Outline

• What is a CDM methodology
• The main contents
• One example
• Where they come from?
• Existing CDM methodologies and their application
An Approved CDM Methodology

Definition: Methodologies are standardised procedures how to measure and calculate emission reductions in a CDM project. Each CDM methodology consists of two parts:

• **A baseline methodology, which is** the emissions that would have been created in the most plausible alternative scenario to the implementation of the project activity (called the baseline scenario)

• **A monitoring methodology, which** refers to the method used by project participants for the collection and archiving of all relevant data necessary for the implementation of the monitoring plan
What is a CDM methodology

- Extensive elaborations on
  - Formulas
  - Definition of project boundaries
  - Monitoring requirements
  - Leakage
- Compulsory to use
- Project type specific
- Approval by the Executive Board needed
- Different sets for large scale and small scale projects
An approved methodology contains information on:

- Source, Approach
- Applicability
- Identification of baseline scenario
- Additionality
- Project boundary
- Emission reduction formulas
- Leakage
- Monitoring methodology
The Application of a Baseline Methodology

During CDM project development, five steps are identified for the definition of an emissions baseline:

1. Set project boundary,
2. Define project conditions,
3. Discuss project barriers,
4. Select the most appropriate baseline methodology,
5. Calculate baseline emissions.
Baseline Methodology

• The baseline methodology is key to the proof of additionality.
• The baseline represents the reference scenario and must be defined as follows:
  • In accordance with the provisions for the use of approved or new methodologies,
  • In a transparent and conservative manner regarding the choice of approaches, assumptions, methodologies, parameters, data sources, key factors and additionality, taking into account uncertainty;
  • On a project-specific basis; and
  • Taking into account relevant national and/or sectoral policies and circumstances.
A monitoring methodology:

- is the means to **calculate the actual emission reductions** from the project, taking into account any emissions from sources within the project boundary.
- sets out how project proponents should **develop and implement a monitoring plan** for a particular project type, in order to gather the data required to calculate emission reductions from the project.
## CDM Methodology – An example
ACM 0001 – Consolidated Methodology for landfill gas project activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Typical project(s)</th>
<th>Capture of landfill gas (LFG) and its flaring and/or use to produce energy and/or use to supply consumers through natural gas distribution network.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GHG emissions mitigation</td>
<td>• GHG destruction. Destruction of methane emissions and displacement of a more-GHG-intensive service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicability conditions</td>
<td>• Captured landfill gas is flared, and/or; • Captured landfill gas is used to produce energy, and or; • Captured gas is used to supply consumers through natural gas distribution network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important parameters</td>
<td>To be monitored: • Amount of landfill gas captured; • Methane fraction in the landfill gas; • If applicable: electricity generation using landfill gas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baseline Scenario: LFG from the landfill site is released to the atmosphere

Project scenario: LFG from the landfill site is captured and flared; and/or used to produce energy (e.g. electricity /thermal energy); and/or supplied to consumers through natural gas distribution network.
Where does an CDM methodology comes from?

- It is submitted by a CDM project developer using an approved new methodology template and approved by the CDM EB
- To have a methodology approved, a project developer must present a Project Design Document (PDD) that defines the baseline technology, shows how emissions reductions will result from the project, and how these reductions will be measured.
Methodology vs Project Development

- A PDD must be written based on an approved methodology or if there is no approved methodology, the project developer can propose a new methodology.
- The availability of an applicable approved methodology can significantly influence the time taken and costs of developing a CDM projects.
- New comers are often advised to limit their project development types with existing approved methodologies.
- Some donors or organisations offer support to the development of methodologies of high relevance to them.
Revision to an approved methodology

The CDM EB may approve revisions to an approved methodology for the following reasons:

- To address **over-** or **under** estimation of emission reductions, so as to ensure emission reductions are real, measurable and verifiable;
- To **broaden the applicability conditions** to include more potential project types or conditions for use;
- To address **inconsistencies, errors and/or ambiguities** in the language and/or formulae used within or between methodologies;
- To **simplify and clarify** the methodology for higher user-friendliness.
Existing CDM Methodologies

- 81 large-scale approved methodologies exist (AM’s)
- 19 large-scale consolidated methodologies exist (ACM’s)
- 72 small-scale approved methodologies exist (AMS’s)
- 11 large-scale afforestation methodologies exist (AR-AM)
- 7 small-scale afforestation methodologies exist (AR-AMS)
### Active CDM Methodologies and their application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>No. of meth.</th>
<th>No. of projects submitted</th>
<th>No. of PoAs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy efficiency – supply side</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thank You