Ways to use forestry credits in the EU ETS



B. Schlamadinger, B. Bosquet, C. Streck, I. Noble, M. Dutschke, N. Bird*

* Joanneum Research, Austria bernhard.schlamadinger@joanneum.at





ICERs and tCERs

- Proposed by Colombia
- **Credits expire**:
 - tCERs: After 5 years
 - tCERS and ICERs: When carbon is released (harvest, disturbance)
 - CERs and ICERs: At the end of the project (by default)
 - 30 years, or up to 3 x 20 years

ICERs and tCERs



End of subsequent commitment period

End of crediting period

Linking Directive

- The Commission should consider, in its
- review of Directive 2003/87/EC in 2006,
- technical provisions relating to the
- temporary nature of credits and the limit of 1 % for eligibility for land use, land-use change and forestry project activities as established in Decision 17/CP.7
- to allow operators to use CERs and ERUs resulting from land use, land use change and forestry project activities in the Community scheme from 2008,
- in accordance with the decisions adopted pursuant to the UNFCCC or the Kyoto Protocol.
- → EC to report to Parliament and Council by 30 June, 2006

Objectives of this proposal

- Technical solutions for making tCERs or ICERs compatible with the ETS
 - Propose solutions for risk management

Solution 1: direct use of temporary credits in the ETS

- Installation acquires ICER
- I ICER issued to Country registry
- Installation pays risk premium to government
- Installation uses ICER for compliance

Solution 1: direct use of temporary credits in the ETS



Solution 1: key features

- Amendment of Linking Directive
- Company accounts must allow holding of temp. credits
- Permanence premium due when ICER is surrendered
- Permanence risk is covered

Solution 2: swapping temporary credits for EUAs

- Government sets up special EUA account (max 1% of 1990 emissions)
- Installation acquires ICER
- I ICER issued to Country registry
- Installation pays risk premium to government
- Country issues 1 EUA to installation

Solution 2: swapping temporary credits for EUAs



Solution 2: key features

- No amendment of Linking Directive needed
- Special Account needed at national level
- Could be implemented by individual member states
- Permanence premium due when EUA is issued to installation

Solution 3: swapping temporary credits for Kyoto units



Solution 3: key features

- No amendment of Linking Directive needed
- No special account needed at national level
- Could be implemented by individual member states
- Permanence premium due when ICER is swapped against CER or ERU

Swapping could also be done by private entities (carbon funds)

Swapping could be done within multi-nationals

Five options for risk mitigation

- 1. Invest Risk Premium in credits / futures / options
- 2. Exchange rate for converting ICERs into EUAs
 - 1 ICER equals , for example, 0.7 EUAs
- Use Risk Premium to buy further temporary credits (similar to 2)
- 4. Use Risk Premium to buy future CERs
- 5. Government assumes full risk
- 6. Insurance

Example: risk Premium buys future CERs

- 2007: project start
- 2007: buy 1 CER for second commitment period
- **2012:** Verification \rightarrow 1 tCER
- 2017: 1 tCER expires
- 2017: Verification → 1 tCERs
- 2017: 1 CER can be
 - used for compliance
 - banked to next commitment period

Creates a market for post 2012 CERs

Climate Policy 5 (2005) 199-208

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Can the EU emission trading scheme support CDM forestry?

Bernhard Schlamadinger^{1*}, Benoit Bosquet², Charlotte Streck³, Ian Noble⁴, Michael Dutschke⁵, Neil Bird¹