

The future of the carbon markets: Challenges and the way forward for the European Union

Benoît Leguet

Chair – UNFCCC Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee

Head of Research - CDC Climat

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- Consider implications of ongoing policy development for the EU:
 UN negotiations; other international discussions;
- Address key challenges of the future carbon market: demand and supply balance; the EU 2020 target; surplus Assigned Amount Units (AAUs); international offsetting and new mechanisms, new sectors, new commodities;
- Examine how effectively indirect linking through new commodities could develop into a global carbon market;
- Explore possibility for completing and coordinating the designs of ETSs, e.g. treatment of offsets; price floors/caps; auctioning.



Who and when?

Multi-stakeholders: EU institutions, governments, business & industry, finance, NGOs.

Schedule

1st meeting: 2 July 2010

2nd meeting: 15 September

3rd meeting: 27 October (10 key messages)

4th meeting: April 2011 or later

An event for launch of a final report



Ten key messages

- Carbon markets are needed as an essential part of promoting investment in mitigation actions in order to reach the 2°C target.
- 2. Lessons need to be learned from existing carbon markets to improve future mechanisms.
- 3. Carbon markets, with appropriate short and long-term targets, are a reliable and cost-efficient way to meet GHG emissions reduction requirements.



Ten key messages

- 4. The private sector is expected to provide a significant share of international climate finance. Carbon markets are **an effective** way of channelling and scaling up private investment, and enabling public funding.
- 5. A comprehensive international agreement needs to be underpinned by **flexible mechanisms and their links with regional or domestic cap-and-trade systems**.
- 6. Until a global agreement comes into force, the demand for international offsets will be determined by domestic or regional legislation.
- 7. A common approach to the treatment of offsets will advance the integration of carbon markets.



Ten key messages

- 8. Domestic or regional legislation, or ideally a comprehensive international agreement, is needed to bring long-term predictability to carbon markets.
- 9. The development of cap-and-trade systems has started to influence investment. At present, however, the short-term volatility and the lack of a long-term price signal have limited its scale.
- 10. The impact of the long-term price signal can be enhanced by design choices in domestic or regional cap-and-trade systems.



For further detail about the Task Force, see:

http://www.ceps.eu/taskforce/carbon-market-aftercopenhagen-challenges-and-way-forward-eu

Comments

- Liva Andersone, DG Climate Action, European Commission
- Henry Derwent, International Emissions Trading Association
- Ulla Blatt Bendtsen, Danish Energy Agency
- Nick Campbell, Business Europe