

November 26, 2012

“Viet Nam: Policy development, financial mechanism, technology transfer to respond to climate change” Side Event Report

Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)
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This is a report of a side event held at the 18th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP18) from November 26th to December 7th 2012, in Doha, Qatar.

- Title : “Viet Nam: Policy development, financial mechanism, technology transfer to respond to climate change”
- Date : 13:15-14:45, Monday, November 26, 2012
- Organizer(s) : Government of Viet Nam, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, JICA, GEC, OECC
- Venue : Side Event Room 7, Qatar National Convention Centre
- Presenter(s) : Dr. Nguyen Khac Hieu, MONRE, Viet Nam; Dr. Le Van Minh, MONRE, Viet nam; Dr. Huynh Thi Lan Huong, IMHEN, Viet Nam and Makoto Kato, OECC; Hoang Van Tam, MOIT, Viet Nam; Kenji Shiraishi, GEC
- Abstract: This side event featured efforts by Viet Nam in cooperation with Japan and the international community to respond to climate change with a particular focus on preparation for NAMAs/MRV under the National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change. Also, policy development, the institutional framework in place, GHG quantification methods, new market mechanisms as well as technology development and transfer were highlighted..

Summary

Opening Speeches

1. Ms. Tran Thi Minh Ha, Director General, MONRE, Viet Nam
 - She introduced the aim of the side event and explained about Viet Nam’s efforts to organize international donor assistance to support mitigation and adaptation initiatives.
 - She thanked the Government of Japan for the continuous support as a leading donor.
2. Mr. Masahiko Horie, Ambassador for Global Environmental Affairs, MOFA, Japan
 - He introduced some initiatives from the Japanese Government such as the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership, launched in Durban in 2011, as well as its pillars and

the amount of support compromised for the initiative. The three pillars consist in: 1) development of low-carbon growth strategies, 2) importance of technology, market and non-market mechanisms, 3) importance of cooperation among stakeholders.

- He remarked the importance of this partnership, showing some good examples such as mitigation projects in Viet Nam, and the benefits for the region and the sectors involved.
- He introduced the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) also known as Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism (BOCM) as a key driver for boosting up mitigation effort, effective transfer, and deployment of low carbon technologies.

Session 1: Viet Nam Policy Response to Climate Change

1. Dr. Nguyen Khac Hieu: “Viet Nam Climate Change Strategy and related policies”

- He presented a overall introduction on the climate change context of Viet Nam.
- He showed sea level rise scenarios and its impacts, as well as the state of GHG emissions by sector. Here, he highlighted the role of IMHEN to develop climate change scenarios, considering the high vulnerability of the country.
- He presented the climate change policy framework of Viet Nam, by introducing the National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (NTPRCC), the National Climate Change Strategy, the recently approved National Green Growth Strategy, and the National Action Plan to Respond to Climate Change 2012-2020.
- He highlighted the efforts undertaken by the country to organize programs and facilitate reception of international cooperation.

2. Dr. Le Van Minh: “SP-RCC: An innovative approach to support developing countries to respond to climate change”

- He presented the historical background, structure and objectives of the Support Program to Climate Change (SP-RCC).
- He highlighted the SP-RCC as a platform to aid harmonization, promote climate change policy dialogue, and facilitate climate change project priority and formulation, under the management of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE).
- He described the SP-RCC activities in both, mitigation and adaptation, and also the international organizations supporting these projects.
- He listed some of the achievements since 2009, such as enhanced capacity in coordination for SP-RCC implementation, introduction of new technologies, and conduction of capacity building activities.
- He concluded describing the lessons learnt such as the necessity of a better coordination and communication between ministries and provinces.



- A 10-min. video was presented showing activities in relation to the SP-RCC, and specially highlighting coordination efforts with interntional donors. Opinions such as the one from a representative of DFID has been shown as well.

Session 2: Preparation for NAMAs in Viet Nam

(Facilitated by Ms. Tran Thi Minh Ha, Director General, MONRE, Mr. Masahiko Horie, Ambassador for Global Environmental Affairs, MOFA, Japan, and Dr. Ryutaro Yatsu, Vice Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, MOEJ)

3. Dr. Huynh Thi Lan Huong, IMHEN, and Mr. Makoto Kato, OECC: “NAMAs in a MRVable manner in the waste sector”

- They presented the background of the capacity-building cooperation initiative between the Governments of Viet Nam and Japan, in a workshop held in Hanoi in February 2012, in which the waste sector has been selected for analysis.
- In July 2012, an inter-minsiterial WG on NAMA/MRV in the waste sector was established, which provided cooperative implementation structure, schedule and steps for the NAMA design.
- At the core of the project, steps for quantification of GHG emissions reduction and consideration on MRV is placed. In this connection, key elements such as a comparisson between BAU and NAMA was shown, as well as the relation between NAMA and its corresponding MRV.

4. Mr. Hoang Van Tam, MOIT, Viet Nam: “Preparation for NAMAs in the Energy and Transport sectors”

- He presented support for the National Target Program on Climate Change with a focus on energy and transport sectors and introduced the executive and implementing agencies of the program at the national and sub-national level.
- Outputs from these activities were an increased capacity to plan and design responses to climate change, for both, mitigation and adaptation; increased awareness of stakeholders.
- Training and capapcity building components through models have been introduced.
- Although some problems in relation to data collection has been identified, MOIT is currently preparing the foundation for future NAMAs.

5. Mr. Kenji Shiraishi, GEC: “JCM/BOCM, MRV, and Technology Transfer ”

- He introduced the scheme and the aim of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) also



known as Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism (BOCM) proposed by the Government of Japan.

- For the JCM, he noted its aims were to: promote low-carbon technology transfer to developing countries; contribute to achieving NAMAs by developing concrete projects for emissions reductions with simple MRVs; and be an effective way for Japan to realize its carbon emissions targets.
- Between 2010 and 2011, 32 feasibility studies have been conducted. Currently, the development of streamlined MRV methodologies for JCM/BOCM projects are under development. At the same time, consultative meetings on studies with host-country governments and relevant organizations were held.
- He introduced 5 Demonstration Studies and Feasibility Studies in Viet Nam.
- He showed some examples, highlighting the mitigation activity, drafting of a MRV methodology, and the expected GHG emission reductions.

■ Q&A

Q. Representative from UK Consultant:

Two questions: 1) To what extent are Japan and Vietnam looking practices in other parts of the world in relation to NAMAs and MRV; 2) Is this the way Viet Nam will attract more donors to conduct projects in the country?

A. (Kato, OECC): The Japanese government has worked with many partner countries, as for example Indonesia and other developing countries.. There has been consultation in a long process. This is a huge asset we can refer to. Additionally, we have conducted some stock taking activities, and review of information, from developed countries including the UK as well.

A. (Minh, MONRE):Vietnam has been thinking on how to bring more funds from donor community and get them involved in our activities. We would like to enhance support from the international community to leverage our activities. At first we only had two donor partners and now we have seven. Some of them are considering capacity building activities as well. But, yes, we would like to open more chances to the donor community.

Q. Mr. Rincon, Center of Development Studies of Colombia:

In Cambodia, there are several stakeholders, NGOs, and also the private sector involved with project development. I would like to know if Japan is working only at the government level.

A. (Kato, OECC): There are several stakeholders, NGOs and private sector involved in this process. This is one feature of our activities.



Q. Mr. Matsuo, Climate Experts:

The key element of NAMAs is the MRV scheme. I did not hear anything about the “V” scheme. Are there any discussions within the governments?

A. (Truc, IMHEN): NAMA and MRV are quite new in Viet Nam. At the moment we do not have any MRV yet. Moreover, there is no guideline from UNFCCC. We have decided that at the beginning, we are going to work through project base. After that, we can contribute to the UNFCCC guideline if there will be one. In that way, we are working with Japan to develop a simple MRV at first.

Q. Representative from Partnership for Low Carbon Growth

To the last speaker. Could you please explain the difference between CDM and JCM. My impression is that you have talked about credit NAMAs. If that is the case, shouldn't be following CDM methodologies?

A. (Shiraishi, GEC): JCM is based on CDM. JCM is trying to reduce transaction costs that currently are presented in the CDM. We would like to push more possible projects by creating simple streamlined methodologies. We are not fully sure that we will made it, but we welcome suggestions.

5. Representative from Pollution Surveillance in Bangladesh

Question referred to waste management and NAMA. Are you considering domestic emissions in your projects? How do you decide the approach? We are currently working with SNV and biodigesters already registered. Is Viet Nam working with gold standards or CDM?

A. (Kato, OECC): We have experiences with waste management and we have interest to expand to biogas activities.

A. (Hieu, MONRE): For biodigesters we are also working with SNV. The projects is divided in two phases. First, bigger provinces and later the rest. We are currently working with NAMA in the waste sector and looking for some mitigation projects. We know that there is a potential specially in big farms for biogas.

Closing Remarks

Ms. Tran Thi Minh Ha, Director General, MONRE, Viet Nam

Dr. Ryutaro Yatsu, Vice Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, MOEJ

Ms. Ha: She thanked the support from the Japanese government and the organizers for preparing such a meaningful side event. Viet Nam is working with north-south and also



south-south type of cooperation and this is one example of successful collaboration.

Dr. Yatsu, MOEJ: He expressed that the Government of Japan is working with more cooperation through NAMAs and feasibility studies for JCM in a MRVable manner. It is his hope that such cooperation will further strengthen GHG emission reductions not only in Viet Nam but at the global level as well.

To access the COP18 Side Event Reports, please refer to the following link:

English: http://www.mmechanisms.org/e/relation/details_oecc_COP18report.html