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Integrated Capacity Strengthening for CDM (ICS-CDM) Project

Implementing Agency: The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Funded by: The Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Objectives:

The project has an overarching objective of enabling potential CDM host countries and Japanese investors to participate in CDM projects that contribute to sustainable development. It aims at strengthening the institutional and human capacities in host countries to implement CDM projects through:

- 1) Information dissemination and awareness raising about CDM
- 2) Network building among entities interested in CDM in host countries and Japan
- 3) Training of personnel to implement CDM
- 4) Support the finding, development and implementation of CDM projects

Principles:

The project will implement these activities based on three principles:

- (1) Collaboration with relevant activities;
- (2) Proactive participation of host countries and building of mutual understanding; and
- (3) Capacity building to realize CDM that contribute to sustainable development. The project will mainly focus on the following sectors/project type: (a) waste management, (b) biomass energy (including A/R component), and (c) small-scale CDM projects.

Activities:

The project activities will formally resume in October 2003 for the period of three years.

The project activities tentatively consist of four components:

1. Information dissemination and awareness raising about CDM

- Develop teaching materials on CDM at different levels (introductory, technical, summary for policy makers, etc.)
- Regional "Training of trainers" workshops on CDM at introductory and technical levels
- National workshops to be planned and conducted by national trainers
- An "Information Unit" to be set up to carry out information dissemination activities, e.g. seminars, websites, information newsletters, etc.

Capacity building target: government officials, business community, NGOs, academia

2. Assisting the establishment and operation of the Designated National Authority (DNA) and relevant national institutions

- Research the existing legal and institutional frameworks and legal and procedural requirements for setting up a DNA
- Propose possible legal and institutional setup to enable effective and efficient CDM project approval and oversight
- Carry out capacity building activities as necessary to strengthen the DNA, e.g. legal instruments to oversee CDM project cycle, developing technical tools, research and analysis of sectoral baseline data, etc.

Capacity building target: relevant government offices and institutions including the DNA

3. Evaluation of the potential for CDM projects

- Carry out a bottom-up evaluation of the potential for CDM projects in the target sectors and project type (e.g. waste management, biomass energy, small-scale projects) in order to come up with a list of potential and feasible CDM projects
- Hold seminars in the host country and in Japan to raise interests of potential project participants and potential investors

Capacity building target: relevant government offices, business community and research institutions

4. Capacity building through implementing model CDM projects

- Select few projects that attracted most interests of potential project participants and investors
- Draft a Project Design Document and undertake validation of these projects
- Publish the process and lessons learned from the model CDM projects

Capacity building target: business community and relevant government offices

Different countries are at different stages of preparation for CDM, thus the activities should be selected and fine-tuned according to the national circumstances in close consultation with the national stakeholders. It is expected that a project steering committee would be established in each country where the project activities will take place, in order to assure full involvement and active participation by local stakeholders in all aspects of the project planning and implementation.

Expected Results:

1. Diffusion of knowledge and understanding about CDM among various stakeholders and positive attitude towards CDM projects
2. A good partnership between host countries and Japan based on mutual understanding
3. Analysis of the realistic potential of CDM projects, for example, in the waste management and biomass energy sectors and of small-scale projects, to serve as basis of devising a sensible strategy for CDM in these sectors/project types
4. A list of potential CDM projects in the above-mentioned sectors/project type, which is diffused among potential project participants in the host country and Japanese investors
5. Drafting of PDDs and validation of feasible CDM projects