

## Annex 16:

### Glossary & abbreviations

Term	Definition
AAU	Assigned amount units. These are tradable units derived from an Annex I Party's emissions target under the Kyoto Protocol. They may be counted by Annex I Parties towards compliance with their emissions target and are equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent gases.
Account	An account is used to partition a registry and can hold units. There are three accounts types: holding account, cancellation account and retirement account.
Accuracy	Condition in which information is not modified randomly by the software system.
Acknowledgement	An acknowledgement is the communication that is returned by a Web service (located at either the Transaction Log or at a registry) that a message has been successfully received. The acknowledgement occurs before the message is evaluated in any way other than format checks and minimum version requirements.
ACL	Access Control List. A set of data that informs a computer's operating system which permissions, or access rights, that each user or group has to a specific system object, such as a table, directory or file. Each object has a unique security attribute that identifies which users have access to it, and the ACL is a list of each object and user access privileges such as read, write or execute.
Administrator	A role to configure and maintain a software system. Configuration can range from system set-up to amending data and parameters within the system.
Annex A	A list in the Kyoto Protocol of the six greenhouse gases and the sources of emissions covered under the Kyoto Protocol.
Annex B	A list in the Kyoto Protocol of 38 countries plus the European Community that agreed to emission targets. The list is nearly identical to the Annex I Parties listed in the Convention except that it does not include Belarus and Turkey.
Annex I Party	A Party to the UNFCCC listed in Annex I to the UNFCCC. These are 40 industrialized countries including those with economies in transition plus the European Economic Community that agreed to try to limit their GHG emissions.
Application System	An automated collection of business functions, entities, modules, technology platforms, and documentation that performs a specified set of business functions.
Article	An Article of the Kyoto Protocol.
Article 6 Supervisory Committee	The committee supervising the JI. It is serviced by the Secretariat.



Term	Definition
Attribute	Identifier for a piece of information.
Audit	Checking of recorded data.
Authentication	The process to confirm the identity of a user.
Authorization	The process to verify a permission to do something.
CA	=> Certificate Authority
C&A database	Compilation and Accounting database. The database is to be established and maintained by the secretariat in order to facilitate the compliance assessment of Annex B Parties with their emissions targets. It holds information, for each Annex B Party, on its greenhouse gas emissions and removals, assigned amounts, various limits on transactions and eligibility status to participate in the flexible mechanisms. It provides reference data to the ITL for its transaction checks.
Cancellation	Cancellation is the action taken by the ITL for a proposed transaction when no response has been received from a registry within 24 hours.
Cancellation transaction	Cancellation transaction is the action taken by registries to set aside credits by shifting them to cancellation accounts, so that they cannot be used any further transactions.
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism under Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol. The CDM is one of the three flexible mechanisms established under the Kyoto Protocol. It is designed to promote sustainable development in non-Annex I Parties and assist Annex I Parties in meeting their greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments. It enables Annex I Parties to invest in emission reduction projects, or removal enhancement projects, in non-Annex I Parties and to receive credits (CERs, tCERs and ICERs) for reductions or removals achieved.
CDM Executive Board	The board supervising the CDM. It is serviced by the Secretariat.
CDM-IS	CDM Information System. Data system to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- store and provide information relating to CDM projects, project participants, methodologies for baselines and monitoring</li><li>- provide dynamic content representing views on the datasets described above to the CDM website and manage communication and continuity tools of the Executive Board</li><li>- Provide electronic workflow management for processes carried out by the Executive Board</li></ul> It is also to provide reference data to the ITL for its transaction checks.
CDM Project	A Project under the Clean Development Mechanism under Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol.
CDM-R	=> CDM Registry



Term	Definition
CDM Registry (CDM-R)	The registry established by the CDM Executive Board on behalf of Non-Annex I Parties hosting CDM Projects. It is to ensure the accurate accounting of transactions of CERs, tCERs, and ICERs by those Parties. Its administrator is the Secretariat.
CER	Certified Emission Reduction unit. These are tradable units generated by Projects that reduce emissions in Non-Annex I Parties under the CDM. They may be counted by Annex I Parties towards compliance with their emissions target and are equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent gases.
Certificate Authority (CA)	Provides a Digital Certificate for site-to-site authentication to positively identify an organization and encrypt data communications between the organization and other certificate holders.
CITL	Community Independent Transaction Log. Data system similar to the ITL developed by the EU. When the ITL is available, the CITL will become a supplementary transaction log (STL) to the ITL and carry out only the EU specific checks for transactions which involve EU registries.
Commitment Period	A specified period in which an Annex I Party is to show compliance with its emissions target. The first Commitment Period for the Kyoto Protocol is from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2012.
Communications Hub	The central communications component integrated in the ITL, through which all registries, the ITL, and any STLs communicate.
Compliance Committee	A body established under Article 18 of the Kyoto Protocol. The Compliance Committee is an authoritative body which determines compliance of Parties with commitments under the Protocol. It also performs roles of facilitating Parties' compliance.
Component	A component is a group of programming functions that perform related tasks.
Conference of the Parties (COP)	The supreme decision-making body under the UNFCCC. Attended by delegations from all state Parties to the UNFCCC. The COP generally meets once a year.
COP	=> Conference of the Parties
COP/MOP	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The equivalent body of the COP under the Kyoto Protocol.
Crediting Period	The period for which emission reductions or enhancement in removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere from a CDM or Joint Implementation Project are monitored and verified.
Customisation	Configuration of systems toward specific user needs within certain boundaries.
Cut-over	Transition to a new application system in a live, production mode of operation.
Database	A collection of data, usually in the form of tables or files, under the control of a database management system.
Data Warehouse	A repository of subject-oriented data used for information retrieval and decision support.



Term	Definition
Denial of Service Attack	A very high number of requests in very short period aimed at a software system with the goal of achieving an overload and crash of that software system.
Developer	Vendor contracted to the secretariat for the development component of the work under the RFP and which develops the ITL application.
DES	Data Exchange Standards. Specifications for data exchange between registries, STLs and the ITL under the Kyoto Protocol
Digital Certificate	Provided by the Certificate Authority to ensure authentication of documents.
Discrepancy	A discrepancy is a finding by the ITL that a proposed transaction does not conform to agreed transaction rules.
DNA	Designated national authority. Body designated by a Party to administer CDM projects on its behalf.
DOE	Designated operational entity. Certification body accredited to validate and certify CDM projects.
Downtime	The time in which a software system is not available for use.
Emissions Trading	The trading of units which may count towards compliance by Annex I Parties with their emissions targets. Emissions trading is provided for under Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol. Domestic (e.g., UK) and regional (e.g., EU) emissions trading schemes are also being established under the umbrella of Article 17 emissions trading under the Kyoto Protocol.
Encryption	A way of protecting data from unauthorized access.
Entities	Legal entities authorized by a government to participate in emissions trading or joint implementation Projects. Private and/or public entities involved in the CDM. Such entities may be from public, private or non-governmental sectors.
ERU	Emission reduction units. These are tradable units generated by Joint Implementation Projects in Annex I Parties. They may be counted by Annex I Parties towards compliance with their emissions target and are equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent gases.
	NEEDED? ISN'T IT TOO OBVIOUS?
Exchange Mechanism	System for exchanging data.
Finalization	Finalization is the action taken by a registry to complete a transaction which has been validated by the Transaction Log.
Function	A specific section of programming code within a component which performs a specific task.
Functional Requirement	Requirement for which the quality test result is binary (e.g., yes/no or right/wrong).
GHG	Greenhouse Gas



Term	Definition
GUI	Graphical User Interface.
Inconsistency	An inconsistency is a finding by the ITL that the unit information provided to the registry as part of a data reconciliation process differs from the information retained by the ITL.
Initialization	A process to review and test the electronic connections between the ITL and registries and between the ITL and STLs.
Integrity	Assurance that data cannot be modified by any Party not authorized to do so.
International Transaction Log (ITL)	An electronic database established by the Secretariat to monitor the validity of transactions between registries under the Kyoto Protocol.
ITL	=> International Transaction Log
ITL AA	ITL Administrator Application. Graphical User Interface for configuration, administration and monitoring of the ITL.
Invalidation	An invalidation is a finding by the Transaction Log that a message does not conform to the messaging requirements (including data formats, identifiers, etc.) in these Technical Specifications.
JI	Joint Implementation. One of the three flexible mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol. Joint Implementation occurs when an Annex B Party invests in an emissions reduction or sink enhancement project in another Annex B Party in return for emission reduction units (ERUs).
JI-IS	Joint Implementation - Information System. Data system to: - store and provide information relating to JI projects - host and provide dynamic content to the JI section of the UNFCCC website - manage workflow processes for the Article 6 Supervisory Committee It is also to provide reference data to the ITL for its transaction checks.
Joint Implementation Project	A Project under Joint Implementation under Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol.
Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee	Informal name for the Article 6 Supervisory Committee
Kyoto Protocol	Allied agreement to the UNFCCC containing emission reduction targets for Annex I Parties.
Layered product	An off-the-shelf software product or licence that is used by custom-built applications but is additional to the computer's normal operating system. Examples may include commercial or open source toolkits, databases, run-time libraries and utilities.



Term	Definition
ICER	Long-term Certified Emission Reduction unit. These are tradable units generated by Projects that enhance removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere in Non-Annex I Parties under the CDM. ICERs expire at the end of the crediting period of the Project (though these crediting periods may be renewed such that the Project may continue for up to 60 years). ICERs may be counted by Annex I Parties towards compliance with their emissions target and are equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent gases.
Logging	Functionality of a software system that stores information on the system for auditing and tracking.
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry. Land use and land-use changes can act either as sinks or as emission sources. It is estimated that approximately one-fifth of global emissions result from LULUCF activities. The Kyoto Protocol allows Parties to receive credit for certain LULUCF activities that achieve net removals by sinks.
Major Version Number	A major version number is the number assigned to the Technical Specifications for the Data Exchange Standards for purposes of identifying a specific set of technical requirements. The major version number changes only when a change in the Technical Specifications requires programming changes in a registry.
Minor Version Number	A minor version number is the number assigned to the Technical Specifications for the Data Exchange Standards for the purposes of identifying a specific set of technical requirements. The minor version number changes do not require programming changes within registries. These changes may involve response code table updates, for example.
Message	A message is a communication between the ITL and a registry or STL. It includes all data exchanged, including transaction and reconciliation data, requests for logs and responses. Messages are transported through HTTP SOAP requests.
National Registry	A registry established by an Annex I Party.
Net Source	A Net Source is an activity which emits more greenhouse gases than it absorbs over a given period. A Net Source Cancellation is a transaction specific to the case where a LULUCF activity under Article 3.3 or 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol, which would generally result in RMU issuance through its net absorption of greenhouse gases, is found to be a Net Source.
Non-Annex I Party	A Party to the UNFCCC which is not listed in Annex I to the UNFCCC. These are developing countries.
Non-functional Requirement	Requirement for which the quality test result is measure or a score (e.g., from 1-10 or high/medium/low)
Notification	A notification is a communication to a registry from the ITL about a required or recommended action involving unit transactions.
Novation	The substitution of one legal party to a contract by another, or the replacement of a contract with a new contract. It is the term used to describe the legal transfer of ownership of an instrument, product, or licence.



<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
NR	=> National Registry
Operator	Vendor contracted to the secretariat for the operational component of the work under the RFP and which operates the ITL application.
Participant	A general term for organisations who are authorised to connect up to the ITL. This includes secretariat interfaces, National Registries and STLs.
Party	A state that has ratified the Kyoto Protocol.
PEN test	A penetration test is the process of probing and identifying security vulnerabilities in a network and the extent to which it might be exploited by outside parties.
Process	The business area or category of interaction between registries and the ITL. The primary processes are unit issuance, unit conversion, external transfers, internal transfers (including cancelation replacement, and retirement), unit carry-over, expiry date change, and reconciliation. In addition, there is an ITL administration process which addresses the need to manage message exchange failures, reference data, and manual intervention relating to reconciliation processes.
Proposal	The first of a sequence of transaction messages sent from a National Registry. It is termed a Proposal until it has been received, validated and accepted by the ITL and by the 'recipient' of the transaction.
Protocol	Formal rules describing how to transmit data.
Reconciliation	The process by which data from different registry systems are compared and inconsistencies are resolved.
Recovery	The complete re-installation and reconfiguration of data or a software system.
Registry	A software system for the accounting of transactions in AAUs, RMUs, ERUs, CERs, tCERs and ICERs. Includes national registries and the CDM registry.
Registry System Administrator	Collective name for national registry administrators, the CDM registry administrator, and transaction log administrators. These administrators are organizations responsible for maintaining the respective registry systems.
Registry System	Generic term for national registries, the CDM Registry and Transaction Logs.
Removal	Removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere through LULUCF activities. Such removals may lead to the generation of RMUs, tCERs or ICERs. They are the "opposite" of emissions of greenhouse gasses.
Response	A response is the data sent following the processing of a proposed transaction. Typically the response includes the transaction ID, an indicator that the proposed transaction was successful or unsuccessful, and, if unsuccessful, the response code(s) providing the reason for the failure.



Term	Definition
Reversal of Storage	A Reversal of Storage refers to a case in which an afforestation or reforestation activity under a CDM project is found to be a Net Source. Where this CDM Project has previously generated the issuance of ICERs through its net absorption of greenhouse gases, a Reversal of Storage would require replacement of ICERs equal to the quantity of the Reversal of Storage.
RMU	Removal units. These are tradable units generated on the basis of removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere through LULUCF activities under Articles 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol. They may be counted by Annex I Parties towards compliance with their emissions target and are equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent gases.
Robust	A characteristic of a software system that describes the extent to which it is protected from loss of service or data integrity.
Role	A role is a set of permissions for functions that a person is allowed to perform. A role may be assigned to a user (person) or a group.
RSA Forum	Registry System Administrators forum. The forum is an informal setting to discuss issues of common interest among registry system administrators relating to the development and operation of registry systems. It is to be facilitated by the ITL administrator (a function of the secretariat).
Scalability	The ability of a software system to handle higher workload than initially planned without modifying the program code.
Secretariat	Secretariat to the =>UNFCCC.
SLA	A Service Level Agreement setting down responsiveness and contract conditions for the operation of hardware and software.
SOAP	Simple Object Access Protocol.
Stage	The stage of a transaction or reconciliation defines where in the process of data exchange a particular message or evaluation occurs. A stage ends and a new stage begins when a message has been successfully transmitted and occurred by either a registry or the ITL or when the last step of a process occurs.
Status	The transaction and reconciliation status describe the current state of the review process. As each process moves through the defined stages, the status will be updated to reflect the result of the ITL (or an external registry) evaluation. A transaction status might move from proposed to checked (no discrepancy), and to final. A reconciliation status might change from initiated to ITL validated.
STL	=> Supplementary Transaction Log
Supplementary Program	An emissions tracking program for GHG emissions which operates as a complementary program to the Kyoto Protocol and shares communications with Kyoto Protocol participants through ITL Communications Hub.
Supplementary Transaction Log (STL)	An electronic database established for a Supplementary Program to monitor the validity of transactions between registries under that program.





Term	Definition
tCER	Temporary Certified Emission Reduction unit. These are tradable units generated by Projects that enhance removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere in Non-Annex I Parties under the CDM. tCERs expire at the end of the Commitment Period subsequent to the Commitment Period within which they were issued. tCERs may be counted by Annex I Parties towards compliance with their emissions target and are equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent gases.
Termination	Termination is the action taken by a registry to end a proposed transaction which has been determined to be invalid, for which a discrepancy has been identified, for which the allowable response time has lapsed, or which it no longer wishes to process.
Transaction	The term transaction is used to describe a unique operation on a unit or block of units. A transaction is comprised of a series of actions related to a specific process. Each "transaction" is processed in stages and results in the return of a message to the registry identifying subsequent data on the transaction. A resubmission of the same information, following a transaction failure, is a new transaction.
True-up Period	The period from the end of the Commitment Period (2012) until 100 days after the completion of the Kyoto Protocol reviews of emissions information relating to the Commitment Period. Transfers of units may continue to take place during this period. The true-up period may therefore last until some time in 2015.
UML	Unified Modeling Language. Notation standard for describing software systems.
Unavailable Status	Units which are involved in transactions that have been proposed and received by the ITL, and are waiting for a response from either another registry (for an external transfer) or the proposing registry, are "unavailable" for other transfer. These units are flagged as unavailable. Similarly, a unit involved in an inconsistency is marked as unavailable until the inconsistency is resolved. An ICER generated by a CDM Project for which a reversal of storage has occurred, or for which a certification report has not been submitted, is also marked as unavailable.
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This is the framework treaty to which the Kyoto Protocol is allied.
Unit	Generic term for AAUs, RMUs, ERUs, CERs, tCERs and ICERS.
Universal Time	Equivalent to Greenwich Mean Time (24-hour clock).
User	A person (human being) who interacts with a system.
User Acceptance Test	A test performed by a user of the system against a set of predefined test cases.
User Interface	The interface used by a person to interact with an application.
Version number	=> Major version number, Minor version number
Virus	A software program that harms software systems or other software programs.



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Term	Definition
VPN	Virtual Private Network.
Web Service	A Web service is a group of operations that perform communication tasks to and from a registry and the ITL. Separate Web services are defined for different processes.
WSDL	Web Service Description Language.
XML	Extensible Markup Language. Standard used for structured data storage.