

URUGUAY

Inputs on modalities and procedures for possible additional LULUCF activities under the CDM in response to the call for submissions per the decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 6

The first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol accepted only afforestation/reforestation activities as LULUCF activities under the articles 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol. This restriction excluded land use and land-use change project activities that are important in terms of GHG fluxes and that may provide benefits for sustainable development in the agriculture sector.

The promotion of sustainable land use with activities as cropland management, cropland management, revegetation and forest management, among others may be significant in terms of carbon sequestration and reduction of emissions, and may contribute to sustainable development as GHG emissions are an indicator of inefficient use of natural resources. There is increasing understanding of the synergies and trade-offs between climate change mitigation and adaptation activities and food security and sustainable development. One example relevant to Uruguay is the restoration of degraded grasslands and croplands, rebuilding organic matter in soils and sequestering carbon. These project activities may also provide benefits in terms of food security, poverty reduction, resilience to climate change and progress in the direction of green and low carbon economies. Other example is sustainable forest management, e.g. natural forests that protect watersheds and provide many other environmental services.

In our view enhancing the number of LULUCF activities accepted in the CDM would also represent opportunities for learning and scaling up mitigation actions towards the implementation of NAMAs, involving a great number of farmers until now excluded from CDM.

Uruguay proposes that SBSTA considers additional LULUCF activities, as forest management, and cropland and grassland management, with a view to making recommendations for their inclusion under the CDM to CMP.8. In this regard, and in light of the first commitment period experience, it seems especially important to discuss new approaches to non-permanence that ensure that reversals of sequestration are adequately monitored and any reversal is accounted for, and at the same time ensure fungibility to increase the attractiveness of LULUCF CERs from carbon sequestration projects.