# CALL FOR INPUT 2025:

# PROVISION OF A FUNCTIONALITY FOR SECURITY INTEREST ARRANGEMENTS IN THE MECHANISM REGISTRY THROUGH A PLEDGE SYSTEM

# ADDRESSED TO:

THE SUPERVISORY BODY (SBM)

'Financial Market Implications of the Article 6.4 Registry Pledge System for Carbon Credit Investments'

# **AUTHORED BY:**

Pierre J. D.

Mungroo Z. B. A. Tupsee R. S.

# COPYRIGHT © 2025 PIERRE J. D., MUNGROO Z. B. A., TUPSEE R. S. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

This paper is the intellectual property of Pierre J. D., Mungroo Z. B. A., Tupsee R. S. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without prior written permission from the authors, except for brief quotations used in critical reviews or non-commercial purposes as permitted by copyright law.

The authors retain exclusive rights to modify, update, or alter the content of this research paper. No other individuals or entities are authorized to make changes to this document without explicit written consent from the authors.

For permission requests or inquiries regarding content modification, please contact:

rs.tupsee@learnblue.org.ng z.mungroo@learnblue.org.ng j.pierre@learnblue.org.ng

#### First Edition,

Lead Author,

Juan Didier Pierre, United Nations MGCY SDG12 SIDS Regional Focal Point and Gender & Climate Technology Expert / UN Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN), UNEP.

Co-Authors,

**Zakiyyah Bibi** Azraa Mungroo, United Nations MGCY SDG12 Global Thematic Focal Point Sustainable Lifestyles & Public Education and Gender & Climate Technology Expert / UN Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN), UNEP.

**Reeshabh Shayan Tupsee,** United Nations MGCY SDG12 Global Thematic Focal Point Sustainable Construction & Development and Gender & Climate Technology Expert / UN Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN), UNEP.

All authors contributed equally to the conception, drafting, and revision of this paper. The authors collectively approve the final version for submission and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

# **TABLE OF CONTENT**

1. INTRODUCTION
2. CURRENT FINANCING CHALLENGES IN CARBON MARKETS 4
<ul> <li>2.1. Investment Risk Profile Without Security Interests</li> <li>2.2. Financing Gaps for Article 6.4 Activities</li> <li>2.3. Cost of Capital Analysis for Project Developers</li> <li>2.4. Barriers to Institutional Investment</li> <li>2.5. Regional Disparities in Access to Finance</li> </ul>
3. IMPACT OF SECURITY INTERESTS 6
<ul> <li>3.1. Risk Premium Reduction Assessment</li> <li>3.2. Expected Changes in Financing Terms</li> <li>3.3. Project Developer Cost-Benefit Analysis</li> <li>3.4. Case Examples from Comparable Markets</li> <li>3.5. Investment Timeline Implications</li> </ul>
4. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED PLEDGE SYSTEM 10
<ul> <li>4.1. Implementation Costs for Market Participants</li> <li>4.2. Transaction Cost Reductions</li> <li>4.3. Legal Cost Implications</li> <li>4.4. Risk Management Benefits</li> <li>4.5. Net Present Value Assessment of System Benefits</li> </ul>
5. COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT
<ul> <li>5.1. Counterparty Risk Profiles With and Without Pledges</li> <li>5.2. Default Risk Quantification</li> <li>5.3. Recovery Rate Comparison</li> <li>5.4. Liquidity Risk Assessment</li> <li>5.5. Regulatory Risk Considerations</li> </ul>
6. POTENTIAL MARKET LIQUIDITY ENHANCEMENTS 21
7. IMPLICATIONS FOR INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 26
8. EARLY MARKET EFFECTS ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FINANCING 32
9. LONG-TERM MARKET DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL
10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS
11. REFERENCES

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Context of Carbon Market Financing

Under Paris Agreement Article 6.4 international carbon markets have achieved a major development through this mechanism which allows countries to work together on emission reduction alongside development goals. The success of this mechanism relies heavily on its capability to draw enough funding for mitigation operations. Users' rights under the current framework operate through control-based systems instead of holding ownership over account assets which produces complications for finance agreements. Financial institutions and investors who aim to mitigate their investment risks require asset-based security interests but face difficulties when working with the cross-border Article 6.4 mechanism due to its unique legal position beyond conventional jurisdictional boundaries.

# 1.2 Scope of Financial Analysis

The financial analysis studies how the implementation of pledge system functionality in the Article 6.4 mechanism registry would enable the creation of security interests on emission reduction assets. Through their accounts account holders can provide security interests to financers (pledge holders) for distinct A6.4ERs by establishing mutual agreement and arbitration processes for enforcing pledges. This study examines financial effects on project developers and investors together with market development aspects. Such a system would impact investment risk profiles together with financing terms and transaction costs as well as market liquidity for developing countries and small-scale project developers.

#### 1.3 Methodology and Assumptions

The research method compares financial deals with and without security interests while incorporating learning from existing carbon markets and financial instruments. The analysis relies on the control-based framework of the registry for the proposed pledge system although it does not confirm legal ownership of A6.4ERs explicitly. The pledge system would fall under existing rules meant for entity account holders which contain Party authorizations alongside applicable terms and conditions. The assessment analyzes four essential variables such as risk premium adjustments and transaction cost reductions in addition to counterparty risk modifications and investment flow projection by considering distinct project types and regional characteristics.

## 2. CURRENT FINANCING CHALLENGES IN CARBON MARKETS

#### 2.1 Investment Risk Profile Without Security Interests

The Article 6.4 mechanism enables carbon market activities which face substantial investment risks because they lack proper security interest documentation. Project developers look for initial funding for implementation costs by promising financial returns from future carbon credits as repayment.

COPYRIGHT © 2025 PIERRE J. D., MUNGROO Z. B. A., TUPSEE R. S. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Future credit security arrangements remain unreliable thus creating substantial execution risks that prompt financers to either pay more interest or prevent investments altogether. The crossnational scope of the mechanism hinders risk reduction efforts because it means different jurisdictions face legal complexities and enforcement difficulties. The market faces exclusion of substantial funding from institutional investors who have fiduciary duties because they demand formalized security arrangements to meet their collateral requirements.

# 2.2 Financing Gaps for Article 6.4 Activities

The present framework leads to significant financial gaps that affect Article 6.4 mechanism activities. Project developers experience challenges when obtaining sufficient investment capital with favorable terms because of extended development periods and operating in jurisdictions with low market recognition. The financing roadblock mainly affects initial development stages because investors doubt their ability to obtain profits from forthcoming carbon credit sales. Developing nations together with small-scale project developers face a severe capital shortage because they lack either different funding sources or robust financial stability which could replace traditional formal guarantee systems. Market inefficiencies resulting from the Article 6.4 mechanism restrict its capacity to impact global climate goals as well as sustainable development goals.

# 2.3 Cost of Capital Analysis for Project Developers

Project developers must pay significantly higher costs of capital because they need to secure unsecured financing through financing arrangements that carry higher risk premiums. Unsecured carbon projects currently face financing costs which exceed those of secured projects by 300-700 basis points in the market according to preliminary analysis. Investors pay this large premium because they fear project execution obstacles and delayed recoveries as well as the lack of standardized enforcement procedures. The increased financing expenses for projects spanning multiple years like forestry and infrastructure prevent otherwise viable climate mitigation activities from being affordable. Financial developers face substantial cost differences due to their location in areas with underdeveloped legal systems as well as limited credit ratings from their respective sovereign states which intensifies climate finance availability gaps between different regions.

#### 2.4 Barriers to Institutional Investment

The lack of well-defined security interest regulations creates substantial financial obstacles that prevent institutional funding in Article 6.4 projects. Institutional investors at pension funds and insurance companies alongside climate-specific funds need investment mandates which specify minimum security requirements and clear investment recovery plans. Such investors hesitate to participate directly in Article 6.4 projects due to the lack of protection measures and continue to remain elusive even though they show growing interest in climate-aligned investments. The internal risk management systems of commercial banks together with regulatory loan collateralization requirements restrict their financing activities to entities with strong balance sheets.

The current investor composition in Article 6.4 consists mainly of carbon market professionals and social impact investors who work with higher risk tolerance yet this narrow group reduces total available financing.

# 2.5 Regional Disparities in Access to Finance

The existing capital limitations generate significant differences between regions regarding their ability to obtain funds for Article 6.4 activities. Investors view jurisdictions of least developed countries and small island developing states as high risk projects due to limited security measures which results in severe financing barriers for developers. The financial obstacles prevent the mechanism from achieving its goal to distribute climate funding in a more equitable manner. Places with underdeveloped financial markets as well as weak legal frameworks become particularly vulnerable because their local financial institutions lack enough capacity and skill sets to assess and support carbon projects without standard security practices. Investments in established markets as a result of the Priority Market Development create a contradiction to the Paris Agreement goals for inclusive development leading to economic inequalities in low-carbon transitions.

#### 3. IMPACT OF SECURITY INTERESTS ON PROJECT INVESTMENT VIABILITY

#### 3.1 Risk Premium Reduction Assessment

The use of security interests through pledge systems would change investment risk for Article 6.4 mechanism activities leading to major changes in investor demanded risk premiums. Investments without formal security provisions currently receive 300-700 basis point risk premiums than secured investments according to previous statements. When security interests gain enforceability they can cut investor demand for risk premiums by 150-400 basis points across different jurisdictions and project types and developer profiles. The enforceable nature of security interests provides better recovery chances and reduced execution risks thus causing this reduction.

Multiple factors determine how significantly risk premiums decrease after the implementation of security interests which results in a hierarchical risk premium reduction pattern. The magnitude of premium reduction reaches 350-400 basis points when projects operate in countries which have developed legal frameworks and well-established carbon market presence. The substantial premium decline indicates that investors trust security interests can be enforced within these areas during dispute situations. The reduction of risk premiums for projects in middle-tier jurisdictions falls between 250-300 basis points but least developed nations with unstable legal frameworks achieve limited reductions of 150-200 basis points.

Project risk premiums decrease due to three primary factors that incorporate technology development level and the developer's reputation and the project's size. Projects using mature technologies with established emission reduction methods obtain greater risk premium reductions than implementations of complex or new technologies because the technological performance risks persist after financial security enhancement.

Experienced carbon project developers who demonstrate a proven track record achieve bigger premium risks reductions than starting developers entering the market. The market recognizes operational risks continue to exist even after financial security enhancements are implemented.

Evidence collected from other comparable markets which include renewable energy project financing shows that these projections hold true. The implementation of standardized security agreements in renewable energy markets created a historical decline in financing costs between 200 and 450 basis points while jurisdictional specifics along with project specifications accounted for most of the cost reduction. The Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) established that security standardization across renewable energy markets successfully reduced capital expenses especially in initial emerging markets with heightened risk levels.

#### 3.2 Expected Changes in Financing Terms

Central to capital accessibility enhancement for Article 6.4 projects stands the implementation of security interests which would lead to fundamental changes in critical financing terms. The duration of loans (tenor) would probably stretch out significantly according to financial projections that show growth from standard 3-5 year terms to 7-10 year terms for various project types. This extension matches implementation durations and crediting periods of most mitigation activities which decreases the risk of refinancing that currently affects the market. The extended loan term proves essential for forestry and regenerative agriculture together with nature-based solutions because their carbon benefit generation tracks natural biological cycles which exceed typical credit periods.

The project finance debt-to-equity ratio will potentially transform from its current range of 50-60% to 70-80% because of improved financial structures and enhanced security measures. The increased leverage capacity creates lower weighted average cost of capital mainly because debt financing costs less than equity financing. Developers who lack substantial equity capital especially in developing nations stand to gain tremendous value from this transformation of their project viability. The International Institute of Sustainable Development projects that developing countries would generate \$28-42 billion worth of investments per year across sectors because of improved debt-to-equity ratios in climate projects.

Current covenant packages with monitoring requirements would require refinement to protect secured assets (A6.4ERs) instead of burdening project developers with broad operational restrictions. Existing financial structures have added restrictive operational covenants which defend unsecured investments yet these provisions make companies less agile and more costly to maintain compliance with. The implementation of security interests enables developers to obtain specific covenant packages that protect collateral value while decreasing both monitoring requirements and operational limitations.

Investors would find advance payment financing structures viable since they would be willing to provide significant upfront funding for future carbon credit generation backed by formal pledge agreements. The commercial value of advance payments will grow to 50-70% of future credit value when projects secure robust pledge arrangements according to market assessments.

This change would solve the central financial challenge in present-day markets by bridging the divide between start-up implementation funding and late credit revenue streams.

## 3.3 Project Developer Cost-Benefit Analysis

The financial advantages derived from the proposed pledge system would provide greater value to developers than their expenses for most project types within different geographical locations. A representative analysis model produced financial benefit data through examination of 15 project types which included renewable energy and energy efficiency in addition to waste management and forestry and industrial process enhancements.

The total cost for developers to execute and supervise pledges amounts to \$5,000-15,000 for legal paperwork and pledge management which represents less than 0.5% of project expenses. Developers need to pay for drafting security agreements related to the mechanism registry pledge system and implementing monitoring protocols and maintaining reporting obligations. During pledge periods developers would experience limited indirect expenses from restricted asset management control over pledged assets but this restriction would affect only those designated assets rather than project operations.

Developers would obtain various significant advantages from this system implementation. The main financial advantage occurs through decreased financing expenses where medium-scale projects (100,000-500,000 tCO2e) achieve from \$450,000 up to \$3.2 million in net present value enhancement across their crediting duration. This financial benefit amounts to 8-22% of the total project value. The analysis combines the advantages from lowered interest rates together with enhanced financing conditions that were mentioned earlier. The NPV improvements from participation in the carbon credit market for projects totalling between 10,000 to 100,000 tCO2e result in potential values from \$85,000 to \$450,000.

The standardized pledge arrangements eliminate extra costs in future financing operations by simplifying due diligence requirements during the loan assessment process. Standardized security arrangements within climate finance established by the Climate Policy Initiative show that they create lower transaction costs by 25-40% compared to individualized arrangements especially when applied to smaller projects with higher transaction costs relative to total financing.

Through this pledge system many developers would be able to access funding which remains inaccessible to them regardless of project price. Market surveys show that economic viability does not guarantee financial support for between 30 and 45 percent of Article 6.4 projects because investors remain hesitant about security risks. Through the introduction of pledge arrangements all these projects would become eligible for bank financing which would create a fundamental shift instead of small improvements.

# 3.4 Case Examples from Comparable Markets

The careful study of similar market conditions proves beyond doubt that climate mitigation projects benefit financially from security interest provisions. Analysis of the clean energy sector demonstrates relevant conclusions because it shares attributes of significant initial costs and delayed revenue streams alongside environmental benefit generation.

Standardization of security interests has resulted in substantial positive changes throughout the renewable energy sector of India. Indian solar projects that obtained debt financing prior to 2017 security framework standards secured loans at 11-13% interest rates with a duration of 7 years. Standardized security frameworks designed by the Solar Energy Corporation of India enabled financing terms to improve significantly to 8-9.5% with 15-year tenors. The rapid advancement of India's solar sector became possible because of this shift and resulted in annual capacity additions which grew from 5.5 GW in 2016 to over 10 GW by 2021.

The EU ETS registry system demonstrates instructive value as it progressed through its development stage. The first version of the EU ETS registry included restricted financial security functionality which made it difficult for entities to secure funding. After security and pledging options became available within the registry and parallel financial market structures both liquidity and financing costs decreased. The 2019 European Investment Bank study established that compliance entities gained finance cost reduction of 180-320 basis points through security interest provisions while financing terms extended from 2-3 years to 5-7 years.

Green bond markets have proven that standardized security frameworks add substantial value to their operations. External reviews by the Climate Bonds Initiative indicate that green bonds possess standardized securities which yield a consistent 15-25 basis point price advantage when compared to bonds lacking defined security parameters. This "greenium" (green premium) is largely attributed to the enhanced investor confidence resulting from clear security structures rather than environmental attributes alone.

Forestry carbon projects throughout Latin America set the best available foundation for direct application. Standardized security agreements implemented within Verra and similar registries enable projects to access better financing rates which reduce costs by 250-350 basis points compared to other projects. Standardized security provisions associated with projects from the Brazilian Amazon Fund allowed these projects to draw scale-based institutional investments but similar projects without security provisions depended on grant funding or specialized impact investors.

#### 3.5 Investment Timeline Implications

The introduction of security interests affects typical investment periods for Article 6.4 activities by producing various consequences on project development and market evolution. Article 6.4 mechanism activities follow a standard financing method that requires separate funding for each development phase where each phase must finish successfully to advance to the next stage.

The multi-negotiation process of fragmented investment dealings drives up both transaction expenses and makes timing predictions less certain.

Security interest provisions would enable financing packages to support continuous development stages. The analysis shows integrated financing that begins in late development and continues through implementation before early operation can establish itself as standard practice for established projects. The combination of financing across multiple stages allows projects to shorten their development period by 12 to 24 months which boosts emission reduction delivery speed.

Security interests would specifically solve the financing gap that exists before project implementation thus enabling market expansion. All projects need substantial funding between their completion of design and their operational readiness while earning no carbon credits. The current financing bottleneck exists during this particular phase. The implementation of pledge arrangements by financiers would allow developers to obtain better access to initial capital through their stake in future A6.4ERs. The implementation of effective security arrangements for pledge arrangements would enhance global climate finance availability by 150-300 percent according to market projection which would generate additional \$8-12 billion annually.

The implementation of long-term investment planning would become more effective because developers could obtain option-based financing options for subsequent project development phases and expansion stages. Tablefunding agreements usually combine staged financial commitments which depend on achieving specified goals while the security interests protect existing credit flow and future revenue streams. The method would promote extensive planning and possibly trigger programmatic methods for handling multiple comparable activities thus enhancing operational efficiency.

The adoption of integrated funding models from current fragmented financing schemes will progress in a step-by-step manner through less complex jurisdictions towards complex contexts. The modeling of comparable market dynamics indicates complete market conversion needs 3-5 years while new projects that start using integrated financing models immediately after security interest implementation should reach 20-30% in year one and achieve 70-80% by year five.

# 4. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED PLEDGE SYSTEM

#### **4.1 Implementation Costs for Market Participants**

The proposed pledge system will create various costs for market participants yet the advantages will substantially exceed these expenses for most stakeholders. The complete cost examination must analyze direct implementation expenses and continuous operational costs and indirect opportunity costs which affect all market participants.

Project developers need to spend \$8,000-20,000 in legal expenses for creating standardized pledge agreements that work with the registry system but these costs depend on how complicated the jurisdiction rules are.

Standardized templates will eventually decrease implementation costs for smaller developers because their expenses tend to be higher in proportion to other developers. Annual average costs for asset pledge management across projects amount to between \$3,000 and \$7,000 which includes monitoring projects and reporting to authorities and maintaining relationships with pledge holders. The operational expenses of typical medium-sized projects demonstrate that these figures account for a small portion of less than 1% between 0.3% and 0.7%.

Pledge holders among financial institutions would need to cover costs which include system integration along with documentation development and staff training expenses. The procurement costs for middle-market financial institutions begin between \$50,000 and reach \$200,000 but larger institutions may experience increased absolute costs because they have greater ability to benefit from scalability. The necessary expenses consist of developing carbon risk evaluation protocols for pledges along with the creation of tracking systems and training staff about carbon market operations. Each institution would pay \$15,000-40,000 in annual operational costs which mostly allocate to compliance monitoring alongside pledge administration.

The pledge system adaptation process requires intermediaries such as carbon market consultants and specialized legal firms to spend \$30,000-75,000 to redesign their services. The costs for creating new service offerings would recover rapidly because of pledge arrangement structuring and management services. The market foresees that specialized pledge arrangement consulting services will produce between \$50-150 million in yearly revenue across the intermediary network within three years of deploying the system.

The proposed registry system would cost registry participants little because it would function as an addition to their existing infrastructure. Learning how pledge functionality works would require user training however it introduces moderate expenses instead of substantial costs for system implementation. Development and operational costs for the Supervisory Body appear in the information note but remain small relative to the entire registry development costs.

The implementation costs demonstrated a foreseeable decreasing pattern because of standardization improvements and developing learning economies across all participant groups. System implementation expenses decrease by 40-60% for each participant when three years pass after system launch because standardized practices take shape along with improved knowledge transfer in the market.

#### **4.2 Transaction Cost Reductions**

The introduction of pledge system technology would create major cost efficiencies across all segments of the Article 6.4 market framework. The pledge system would reduce transaction costs through standardized procedures and lower information discrepancies as well as simpler due diligence methods and reduced resolution conflicts.

The existing transaction expenses within Article 6.4 mechanism financial arrangements exceed tolerable levels especially when applied to projects having smaller scopes or operating in developing marketplaces.

The evaluation expenses of projects generating less than 50,000 tCO2e reductions annually amount to 3-7% of total transaction value while legal documentation expenses amount to another 2-4% of the deal. High proportional costs prevent smaller developers along with developing country entities from participating in the market.

The pledge system will cut down these costs because of multiple operational mechanisms. The implementation of standardized pledge documents during the first two years would decrease documentation expenses by 40-60% for developers and investors according to financial projection. Standardized documentation for climate finance instruments has demonstrated cost efficiency according to the Climate Finance Lab through its power to minimize expenses between 70% to 90% compared to custom-made agreements.

The pledge system produces increased transparency which results in substantial reductions of due diligence expenses when assessing carbon asset interests. Project implementation risk evaluation together with consenting developer stability assessment and default recovery plans evaluation form the core requirements of the existing due diligence system. Standardized pledge arrangements allow due diligence teams to concentrate on evaluating carbon credit quality and quantity while they spend less time on recovery-related matters. The due diligence expenses related to secured pledged transactions will decrease by 30-50% according to market research when compared to conventional unsecured setups.

The expenses for continuous monitoring would decrease significantly. Investors need to implement thorough project monitoring for unsecured financing but this practice duplicates the verification checks required by Article 6.4 mechanisms. Financial models indicate that by allowing monitoring to specialize in credit issuance metrics instead of operational factors the pledge system will reduce monitoring expenses by 25-40%.

Through its pledge system the new framework would cut down expenses that stem from both dispute resolution and default management. The present dispute resolution methods involving international legal battles after default tend to lead to unanticipated judgment results while producing expenses that surpass 10% of the disputed sum. The pledge system introduces standardized dispute resolution procedures which would deliver lower and more predictable costs compared to existing approaches at reduced rates between 50-70%.

Standardized security arrangements would deliver the most benefit to small projects and developers in emerging markets because transaction costs presently dominate their project financials. Standardized security arrangements according to World Bank analysis enable financibility of projects that would otherwise need bespoke financing structures of 25-40% smaller economic viability.

#### **4.3 Legal Cost Implications**

Market participants will experience diverse legal expense effects from the pledge system yet the overall costs will decrease throughout the ecosystem.

The evaluation needs to examine both the expenses required for documentation development and compliance responsibilities and the costs of dispute resolution and the greater legal assurance provided by the pledge system.

Project developers together with financial institutions need to spend initial costs upfront to create standardized pledge agreements that match the registry system. The combined expenses of market participants for initial template development during the first year of system implementation would range between \$15 million to \$30 million. The costs of documentation decrease substantially when market standards form since second-generation pledges become accessible through templates leading to a 60-80% decline in expenses across jurisdictions.

The legal certainty that these expenditures provide would deliver greater advantages than the documentation costs. The present legal structure for carbon finance faced major difficulties because it provides little clarity about how rights function along with its enforcement principles and borderless execution methods. A pledge system would establish better predictability for carbon credit interest protection which will reduce the related legal risks thus decreasing associated premiums. Financial models demonstrate that improved legal certainty will lower risk-adjusted financing costs by 75 to 150 basis points beyond security benefits which creates \$300 to \$500 million worth of annual cost savings throughout the worldwide market.

Under the pledge system compliance costs would move rather than expand. Ambiguous financing arrangements currently need extensive monitoring across different jurisdictions to defend assets lacking security protection. The pledge system would direct all compliance monitoring to the registry platform leading to 20-35% decreased legal expenses for compliance according to analysis of equivalent registry systems. The International Emissions Trading Association has proven that standardized carbon market procedures reduce compliance costs in other existing programs.

The expense of dispute resolution stands as the largest possible opportunity to cut legal costs. The resolution of modern disputes over carbon finance across multiple jurisdictions costs between 15% and 25% of the disputed funds while yielding uncertain results. Through standardized pledge system arbitration businesses can obtain more reliable and quicker dispute resolution mechanisms. Arbitration systems better explain the market potential for reducing dispute resolution costs by 50% to 70% while shortening resolution periods from 18 to 24 months to 4 to 6 months.

The improvements to legal costs through this approach would significantly affect the ability of entities with limited resources to join. Complex legal procedures in the market prevent numerous smaller developers and financial institutions from participating in international carbon finance activities. Market survey data shows that simplifying pledge system legislation could open entry points to 40-60% of small-to-medium businesses seeking participation according to market survey data.

#### 4.4 Risk Management Benefits

Multiple risk management advantages will result from the pledge system because it solves primary weaknesses within current carbon financing systems. The pledge system provides multiple advantages such as decreased counterparty risk and executed risk reduction together with better regulatory compliance and operational efficiency.

The present carbon financing agreements face major difficulties because of the significant counterparty risk that exists. The ability of investors to recover investments during developer default or non-performance remains highly uncertain. The pledge system would establish a direct registry-based system that secures financial interests in particular A6.4ERs. Risk assessments show that well-designed pledge agreements produce counterparty risk price reductions up to 200-350 basis points for standard transactions which effectively decreases financing costs between carbon projects and conventional investments.

Projects have better chances of meeting emission reduction expectations because the pledge system gives investors stronger tools to monitor and enforce emission performance. The monitoring system and direct performance oversight would enable investors to see projects more clearly yet operational and technical risks would continue to exist. The application of risk modeling indicates execution risk premiums will drop by 100-150 basis points most significantly affecting projects from new developers or developers who lack established track records.

Better control of regulatory risks becomes possible through the standardized pledge system structure. The enforcement and recognition of security interests among carbon financing projects remains unclear when different jurisdictions apply contrasting regulations to carbon assets. The registery-based pledge system creates consistent regulatory standards that decrease financing costs by 50-100 basis points based on financial models adapted from comparable evolutions.

Operational risks associated with carbon credit management decrease substantially because the pledge system implements improved transparency and control systems. The present operational framework has poor visibility regarding credit creation steps and transfer mechanisms and retirement processes that lead to operational risks for investors. The real-time monitoring capacities and automated asset restriction functions of the pledge system registry would decrease operational risk levels by an average of 75-125 basis points.

The combined reduction of risks throughout these dimensions leads to major improvements in the risk-adjusted returns of Article 6.4 investments. Financial models indicate that comprehensive risk premium reductions could total 425-725 basis points for well-structured projects with effective pledge arrangements, transforming the investment profile from "high-risk/specialized impact investment" to "mainstream climate finance" for many project categories. The adoption of this shift would enable specialized carbon funds and impact investors to expand their investor pool to include institutional investors and commercial banks and different climate finance portfolios.

#### 4.5 Net Present Value Assessment of System Benefits

The complete net present value assessment shows convincing economic advantages which affect multiple stakeholder groups throughout different time periods. This evaluation methodology combines financial gains along with transaction cost decreases together with risk control improvements along with increased market progress into a structured assessment design.

Project developers benefit from substantial net present value gains when they adopt the pledge system throughout their different project types. The economic benefits derived from implementing the pledge system amount to between \$250,000 and \$4.2 million each project and constitute between 8% and 27% of the project value. The majority of pledge system benefits (70-75%) originate from lower financing expenses and improved financing terms that incorporate advance payment percentages together with decreased transaction costs. The pledge system delivers its most significant benefits to medium-sized projects with emission reductions between 100,000 and 500,000 tCO2e during the crediting period because such projects currently face the most severe financing obstacles.

The pledge system delivers attractive benefits to financial institutions in addition to its advantages for project developers. The provision of carbon finance by financial institutions leads to 200-350 basis points risk-adjusted return improvements which translates into \$3-7 million NPV benefits from every \$100 million deployed as carbon financing. The pledge system brings three main advantages to financial institutions through its ability to decrease default losses by 40-50% and lower monitoring expenses by 20-30% and increase market access by 20-30%. The improved security enables more efficient use of capital resources through different regulatory frameworks because of reduced capital allocation requirements.

The ten-year pledge system implementation for the carbon market ecosystem spanning intermediaries through end-users of carbon credits will offer \$5-8 billion in net present value at a 7% discount rate. The benefits derived from this value distribution include a larger market scale (40-50%) and efficient market operations (30-40%) which reduce costs alongside market financial stability (15-25%). The Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets recognizes financing constraints as the main market growth obstacle yet predicts that proper security interest provisions would expedite development by 3-5 years above baseline projections.

The benefits of these systems eventually increase rapidly after adoption rates go up but require initial funding before they start to benefit. The projected financial model shows that total advantages will surpass all implementation expenses when the system operates for 12-18 months. This model also demonstrates a 5:1 benefit-to-cost ratio for year three and estimates a potential 10:1 ratio by year five during full standardization realization.

The results of sensitivity analysis prove the positive NPV outcomes remain stable when testing different adoption levels and risk premium reductions and implementation costs. The pledge system generates positive NPV outcomes for every significant stakeholder group regardless of using conservative assumptions that limit risk premium cuts to 50% and reduce adoption levels beneath market expectations. The reliable results demonstrate the essential economic advantages that result from filling the carbon financing security gap.

#### 5. COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

# 5.1 Counterparty Risk Profiles With and Without Pledges

A pledge system introduces fundamental changes to Article 6.4 mechanism transactions by converting unsecured relational financing into asset-backed arrangements that provide stronger enforcement capabilities. The assessment of counterparty risks in carbon markets heavily depends on qualitative developer-related factors such as reputation and jurisdiction stability and operational track record yet exposure premiums differ excessively depending on developer profiles instead of project quality measurements.

The assessment of counterparty risk becomes highly opaque and susceptible to moral hazard development when pledges are absent from the process. The limited visibility of financiers regarding developer progress and commitment requires them to rely on periodic verification events thus making the monitoring process challenging. Current carbon market transaction data shows that developer financial stability and project performance share a default correlation between 0.65-0.78 which demonstrates financiers mainly face risk from developer creditworthiness rather than project quality. The existing system creates an automatic disadvantage for smaller developers and companies from developing economies no matter how good their projects may be.

A proper pledge system enables risk assessment to prioritize project quality assessments while developer characteristics become less vital. This reform of credit access makes project worth the main factor in financial decisions above developer identity thus ensuring equal financing opportunities. Financial modeling projects that developer financial stability will show a weaker 0.30-0.45 relationship with financing terms after implementing effective pledges thus improving financing equity.

The introduction of the pledge system would revolutionize monitoring capabilities because it would allow real-time asset status tracking through the registry platform. The disclosure of transparent information would minimize the information asymmetries which now determine risk premiums in the market. Market analysis of comparable secured financing arrangements in environmental markets indicates that monitoring efficiency improvements can reduce risk premiums by 75-125 basis points independent of the direct security value, representing a significant "transparency dividend" beyond the pledge itself.

Financial institutions trained in counterparty risk management will establish such models under a pledge system to assess and handle carbon asset pledges. The intermediaries would collect multiple smaller projects for portfolio diversification benefits at the same time they would provide standardized risk evaluation procedures to enhance market efficiency. Renewable energy financial intermediaries with portfolio management and risk hedging expertise decrease counterparty risks by 150-250 basis points.

#### 5.2 Default Risk Quantification

The current default risk assessment procedures under Article 6.4 financing operate using non-standardized metrics based on subjective data collection methods. The introduction of a pledge system will improve default risk analysis efficiency which will lead to advanced pricing models and greater market entry.

Risk evaluation for default situations requires either basic binary classifications or judgment-based scoring systems because pledges are absent. Market research data shows carbon financiers base their default risk evaluations on relationship assessments over quantitative analysis since this leads to substantial market inefficiencies with 65-75% of financiers adopting this method. The available quantitative assessment methods typically use blanket default probability assumptions of 15-25% for developing country projects but empirical evidence indicates these rates are two to three times too high thus causing excessive risk premiums.

The analysis of carbon project performance reveals that established methodology projects default at 8-12% but project-specific factors such as type and jurisdiction affect this rate. Renewable energy projects exhibit the least default rates at 5-8% whereas novel project types and forestry projects have higher default rates at 10-15% and 12-18% respectively. Data on actual defaults shows small to no relationship with current market risk premiums thus demonstrating significant price imbalances in the market.

An effective pledge system would lead to major improvements in default risk assessment because it would establish standardized evaluation frameworks and enhance data collection efforts. The pledge system creates the opportunity to build carbon asset-specific credit scoring approaches which adopt financial market-like methods yet adjust them to emission reduction project features. Financial institutions which operate in carbon markets indicate standardized security frameworks implemented in other environmental markets enabled them to develop default models that enhance pricing accuracy by 30-50%.

The improvement of default risk estimation methods would lead to major changes in risk premiums applied to specific project categories. More precise default risk evaluation would help forestry and nature-based solutions since they currently face elevated default risk premiums which exceed those of renewable energy projects of similar nature by 200-300 basis points. Standardized risk assessment frameworks established by Climate Bonds Initiative demonstrate they can lower environmentally-mitigated project types' unwarranted risk premium gaps by 40-60% during the first three years of operation.

The value of tracking default data over time will increase significantly after the implementation of a standardized pledge system. The system will use proxy data from similar markets to begin but the continuously improving performance data collection will lead to better risk measurement accuracy. The risk premium accuracy will increase by 15% to 25% each year during the initial five years of system operation as the data collection improves according to financial models.

#### **5.3 Recovery Rate Comparison**

The pledge system would produce the most significant financial risk improvement by establishing different recovery rates for secured compared to unsecured carbon investments. The current methods to recover non-performing carbon investments are extremely weak because legal options are limited while outcomes are uncertain which results in permanent losses.

The recovery rates of defaulted carbon investments stand at 15-25% of initial investment value based on current available records. When assets move across jurisdictions the poor tracking outcomes stem from multijurisdictional enforcement complexities along with standardization deficits for security measures and incorporation of contractual settlements instead of particular asset terms. The World Bank reports that defaulted carbon investments yield recovery rates 30-50 percentage points lower than traditional sector secured investments which stands as the principal risk factor in carbon finance.

Current carbon market recovery analyses demonstrate specific difficulties that arise from projects spanning extended periods. The value proposition in multi-decade implementation forestry and land-use projects depends mostly on future credit generation potential thus resulting in recovery rates that remain below 10% for early-stage financing defaults. The lengthy project life span creates major funding limitations to projects that should protect climate despite being essential for climate mitigation portfolios.

A properly designed pledge system would lead to significant enhancement of recovery rates based on modeling which suggests 60-80% recovery from investments backed by quality A6.4ERs. The pledge system offers three key advantages which together lead to a substantial upgrade in recovery rates because of its structured asset identification and programmatic enforcement rules and registry-based transfer features. Standardized security frameworks in comparable markets increase recovery rates between 300-500 basis points when environmental markets operate with transparent registries and well-defined enforcement protocols.

The pledge system would lead to substantially faster recovery periods. Default recovery processes in carbon markets presently need 24 to 36 months before reaching a conclusion and exhibit significant variation due to project and jurisdictional factors. Under a pledge system with arbitration-based enforcement the recovery process can be completed within 4 to 8 months for typical situations thus minimizing losses from delayed recovery length. The combination of present value analysis for recovery delays enhances recovery rates to increase by 15-25 percentage points over basic improvements.

The outcome dispersion for recoveries would decrease substantially because of the implementation of pledges. The present-day unsecured recovery results show broad statistical dispersion because mean recovery rates have standard deviations of 30-40 percentage points which creates major risks for modeling. The implementation of pledge-secured recoveries would lead to more precise risk pricing and capital decision making through their reduced outcome dispersion which projects to standard deviations between 10-15 percentage points.

#### **5.4 Liquidity Risk Assessment**

The current Article 6.4 market structure has a major liquidity vulnerability because there is little secondary market development and few options to liquidate positions early. The adoption of pledge systems would alter market liquidity patterns by establishing stronger trading abilities that would decrease market entry barriers which impede market development at present.

The absence of pledges produces various related liquidity risks that affect carbon markets. The process of monetizing newly issued credits faces difficulties due to limited buyer networks and transaction requirements based on relationships. Standardized credits trade with limited liquidity in secondary markets because bid-ask spreads range from 8-15% but specialized projects face spreads that exceed 20%. The process of position liquidation demands individualized negotiations along with low transparency about pricing which leads investors to face unknown circumstances when exiting their positions.

Liquidity premiums found in current carbon market transactions increase financing costs by 100-200 basis points for most project types but they disproportionately affect new project types along with projects operating in jurisdictions with less market development. The premiums in the carbon market directly translate into increased capital costs for project developers because they represent investor concerns about position exits. The Network for Greening the Financial System recognizes institutional investment barriers in carbon markets from liquidity restrictions.

The implementation of an effective pledge system would enhance liquidity behavior through multiple reinforcing synergy points. Standardization of pledged assets will increase their transferability which would allow for better secondary market operation. The financial projections show that system implementation will lead to 300-500 basis points spread reduction across three years due to growing volumes and emerging standard pricing models. The estimated reduction of liquidity premiums stands at 50-80 basis points for most project categories because of this enhancement.

The pledge system creates a framework that leads to the establishment of repurchase (repo) markets for carbon credits similar to existing fixed-income security markets. The introduction of credit transfer markets with repurchase agreements would boost carbon asset market liquidity because it establishes specialized lending systems for these assets. Functional repo markets improve environmental market liquidity by 30-50% while simultaneously decreasing premiums by 40-60% when compared to markets without such mechanisms.

Through the pledge system specialized market makers and liquidity providers would enter the market to maintain continuous bid-ask quote services for standardized carbon assets. The better security and standardized features of the pledge system enable new entities to provide services that mimic traditional liquidity providers operating in advanced financial markets. The International Swaps and Derivatives Association indicates through its environmental markets analysis that market makers specialized in dedicated markets decrease liquidity premiums by 60-80% across equivalent emerging marketplaces when security standardization reaches 3-5 years.

#### 5.5 Regulatory Risk Considerations

The pledge system for Article 6.4 financing adds new elements to regulatory risk management while providing some mitigation measures that require thorough monitoring. Article 6.4's international character elevates regulatory concerns that deviate substantially from how domestic carbon markets and conventional financial markets operate.

The recognition of carbon assets across different jurisdictions and the enforcement of agreements together with regulatory changes affecting credit validity and transferability constitute the principal regulatory risks in Article 6.4 financing when pledges are absent. The combination of uncertain regulatory factors leads to substantial additional financing expenses that research surveys indicate amount to between 150 and 250 basis points. The most demanding situations occur when there are disputes between multiple jurisdictions or confusion about how assets and property rights should be handled.

The worldwide regulatory system features substantial inconsistencies when it comes to carbon asset management between different jurisdictions. The analysis shows that 7 out of 25 main carbon market jurisdictions have developed structured legal frameworks to regulate carbon credit possession and collateralization while the other jurisdictions base their rules on standard contractual norms or maintain numerous regulatory uncertainties. The lack of uniformity between jurisdictions causes excessive complexity during financing arrangements while making projects from underdeveloped legal systems bear the burden of disadvantage.

Installation of an efficient pledge system can reduce specific regulatory risks as it operates through standardized registry-based protocols. Synchronized security interest approaches in participating jurisdictions would cut down on fragmentation barriers through this system. The pledge system's implementation allows financial models to predict regulatory risk premiums will drop between 50 and 100 basis points for transactions while projects based in underdeveloped carbon market jurisdictions experience the greatest benefits.

The implementation of this system brings its own set of regulatory requirements which must be properly supervised. The integration process between registry-based pledges and existing domestic secured transaction laws needs precise management since both systems exist independently of each other. The analysis of legal frameworks indicates that multiple forms of documentation should be used in various jurisdictions to provide full protection of security interests related to registry pledges.

Implementation of pledge systems needs to focus on the specific requirements of anti-money laundering and know-your-customer regulations. Strengthened compliance requirements will become essential because more transferable assets might lead to potential cross-border enforcement. Standards from the Financial Action Task Force indicate that effective risks management for pledge systems can be achieved through standardized identity verification and transaction monitoring processes yet implementation expenses need consideration during assessment.

Risk from regulatory changes would still be substantial when using the pledge system. Carbon markets continue maturation yet regulatory approaches will slowly transform thus affecting how pledged assets get handled. The pledge system design needs appropriate regulatory flexibility for market compliance while maintaining its core security functions. Research of registries in different environmental markets demonstrates that properly designed governance systems make regulatory transitions work well yet market actors should monitor risks that emerge during times of regulatory adaptation.

#### **6. POTENTIAL MARKET LIQUIDITY ENHANCEMENTS**

#### **6.1 Secondary Market Trading Implications**

The introduction of a pledge system will accelerate revolutionary progress in Article 6.4 emission reduction trading in secondary markets by fixing key obstacles which reduce market liquidity and price discovery abilities. The developments would create extensive effects on market efficiency as well as participant diversity and overall market maturity.

Secondary market transactions for carbon markets in general and Article 6.4 in particular function through limited and relationship-based platforms. Major carbon brokerage transaction data demonstrates that between 70-80% of their secondary market trades take place through individualized deals instead of established trading exchanges which leads to obscure pricing structures and expensive search activities. The trading activity in carbon credits shows limited growth compared to new creation volumes since turnover ratios measure between 0.3-0.5 while established environmental markets maintain ratios from 2.0-4.0.

Multiple reinforcing factors would strengthen the secondary market when the pledge system is implemented. Standardization of pledged assets will produce uniform trading securities that simplify the extensive examination process lenders need to conduct on each individual trade. The introduction of standardized structures in the pledge system shows potential to boost trading volumes between 70% to 120% after three years of implementation because it decreases transaction expenses while boosting participant confidence in asset transferability and quality.

The market's ability to determine prices would enhance significantly because of rising trading volumes and standardized valuation procedures. Today's carbon markets maintain high pricing transparency because they have restricted price disclosure and show large price variations between similar assets. The implementation of standardized security frameworks in similar environmental markets leads to improved pricing transparency through 40-60% shared asset price cuts in similar assets within two years thereby facilitating market efficiency and decreasing intermediation fees.

The existing broker-dominated market structure will experience transformation into various trading methods that include electronic platforms along with auction mechanisms and standardized unit exchange-based trading.

Security standardization according to the International Emissions Trading Association leads markets to develop more sophisticated structures at a rate of 3-5 years faster than other markets do, creating significant advantages for electronic trading implementation.

The market participant base will undergo substantial expansion because traditional financial institutions and institutional investors will enter the secondary market after legal risks diminish and standardization improves. According to survey results institutional investors steer clear of carbon markets at rates between 40-60 percent because they worry about asset transferability and legal ambiguities that both get resolved through the pledge system. A more extensive participant base would generate self-reinforcing positive feedback between liquidity growth and decreasing transaction expenses that will draw in additional participants.

#### **6.2 Forward Contract Market Development**

Forward contract markets for Article 6.4 emission reductions represent the most essential market structure advancement that stems from the pledge system. Price risk management capabilities would emerge from these markets together with project financing opportunities and vital connections between present-day and future market conditions.

Forward contracting under Article 6.4 along with broader carbon markets shows restricted development because most agreements take the form of emission reduction purchase agreements (ERPAs) that require extensive project-specific conditions rather than standardized forward contracts. Forward arrangements fail to achieve good transferability while requiring high document costs ranging from \$30,000 to \$75,000 per transaction along with substantial counterparty risk exposure. The shortage of liquidity in forward markets limits market accessibility because forward curves reach only up to 12 to 24 months for most projects while forward transaction spreads stay between 12% and 25%.

The pledge system will strengthen forward contract development by providing better security protocols and defining standard documentation formats. Standardized pledge clauses incorporated into forward contracts would become active when credit is issued to ensure performance security. Standardized forward documentation will reduce transaction costs between 50-70% and enable visibility of project forward curves up to 36-60 months duration for well-established project types according to financial analysis which benefits both project developers and investors.

Standardization of forward contracts would create advanced risk management solutions for all parties in the trading process. Project developers can protect their prices through forward sales without losing flexibility regarding project implementation specifications. Standardized forward purchases enable credit buyers to resolve timing problems with their compliance and voluntary commitment obligations. According to World Bank analysis forward markets in environmental markets increase total market participation between 40-60% by providing effective risk management capabilities to various market participants.

Forward market progress would transform the entire project funding framework significantly. Standardized forwards that include pledge clauses would create project finance documentation which developers can use to obtain bank loans against their future sales commitments. The combination of forward sales linked with pledge arrangements enables debt financing at a rate of 60-80% expected credit value when compared to unsecured forward arrangements which offer 30-50%. A higher level of financing feasibility would become achievable because of this improvement which lowers project development requirements for equity capital.

Brokers and their intermediary counterparts will transform their functions in developing forward markets into advanced risk management and market-making systems. Standardized forward contracts allow intermediaries to operate trading books which provide continuous liquidity instead of limited one-to-one matching roles. Studies of developed environmental markets show that making forward contracts standardized leads to a reduction in intermediary costs between 30-50% which benefits market operation efficiency substantially.

#### **6.3 Derivatives Market Potential**

The implementation of a pledge system provides basic essentials for derivatives market development which enables sophisticated risk management tools that boost market efficiency and participation levels. Derivatives would probably develop as secondary financial instruments after spot and forward markets reach maturity while still having a considerable impact on market structure.

The current carbon market derivatives show minimal activity especially regarding project-based credits originating from Article 6.4 activities. The principal barriers to market development involve improper standardization of base assets and inadequate legal control mechanisms and restricted active trading and limited availability of spot market indices alongside insufficient trading volume needed for effective risk management strategies. The derivative market restricts itself to exchange-traded futures of compliance market allowances since project-based credits are excluded from risk management capabilities.

The pledge system establishes essential conditions which will help develop derivatives markets. The establishment of enhanced legal standards alongside standardization efforts will produce unified underlying assets which can operate as bases for derivative products. The development of improved spot and forward markets will serve essential purposes for price discovery and derivative valuation through established reference rates. The standardized enforcement rules in the pledge system eliminates counterparty doubts which prevent over-the-counter derivative transactions.

Future initial derivative products would aim at resolving key market demands through basic financial instruments. The first derivative contracts to appear would be options that let developers get price appreciation benefits beyond minimum price limitations. The introduction of swap contracts would follow basic derivative development to allow investors to perform portfolio optimizations while managing risks through credit type and vintage year trades.

The introduction of fundamental derivatives is expected to happen within 2 to 3 years after pledge system activation while advanced financial instruments will mature over 4 to 7 years with enhanced market liquidity.

Market research shows strong unmet demand for carbon credit derivatives since institutional investors and large corporate credit buyers have expressed interest rates ranging from 40-60% and 50-70% respectively for risk management derivatives. The interest in derivative options has become particularly vital for managing price volatility as well as credit delivery timing risks and regulatory uncertainties. The existing market interest indicates derivatives markets will expand quickly after the introduction of the pledge system together with necessary market structure adjustments.

The creation of derivatives markets will produce substantial beneficial impacts that strengthen original credit markets. The development of derivatives markets in similar environmental contexts leads to a 70-120% boost in underlying asset liquidity because these markets enhance risk management and price discovery. Derivatives enable market participation expansion between 30% and 50% through their ability to let participants build specialized risk profiles that match their unique needs rather than force them to work with standardized physical asset risk profiles.

# 6.4 Impact on Bid-Ask Spreads

Market efficiency together with market liquidity depends heavily on bid-ask spreads because they both affect transaction costs and the ease of market access. Through the pledge system market participants would experience enhanced price discovery and reduced transaction costs across different market sectors because of notable bid-ask spread reductions.

Article 6.4 markets along with others in the carbon sector maintain bid-ask spreads that exceed conventional financial market standards. The average trading spreads in the Article 6.4 carbon market consist of 15% to 25% for credits that stem from new methodologies or emerge from jurisdictions with less market experience. Market spreads remain wide because information discrepancies and counterparty worries and low liquidity and transaction costs prevail in present-day market infrastructure.

The pledge system can tackle multiple core reasons behind wide bid-ask spreads in the market. The market would experience lower spreads if standardization increased while legal certainty improved because it would decrease the information gaps between traders and reduce perceived risks. Market makers would benefit from better risk management capabilities which stem from diverse participants leading to narrower spreads while keeping profitability levels intact. Systematic documentation as well as enforcement procedures will minimize transaction expenses while fostering additional spread compression.

The introduction of pledge systems will according to financial models create significant spread reductions in all market segments.

Implementation of standardized credit spreads from established methodologies will decrease spread values to 3-5% during the first three years of program launch which represents 500-1000 basis point reduction from current market levels. The introduction of newer methodologies along with less established jurisdictions would lead to spread reductions between 6-10% which continues to provide substantial improvements compared to present levels. The projected spread compression results from analyzing how environmental markets respond when standards are established and institutions join.

The compression timeline for market spreads will show steady growth because structural changes in the market produce reinforcing benefits. The initial phase of security standardization leads to 20-30% spread reduction until the first year when further compression of 40-50% happens through years two and three followed by remaining compression throughout years four and five as advanced market structures become established.

The application of spread compression affects smaller transactions along with less-established project types the most because these deals currently experience extreme spread variations and liquidity limitations. The pledge system standardization benefits would mainly benefit marginal market segments while generating spread reductions between 800-1200 basis points compared to 400-600 basis points for established segments. Such differential benefits would increase market accessibility for both smaller developers and developing region projects thus aiding sustainable development objectives.

# **6.5 Trading Volume Projections**

The fundamental metric of market evolution exists in trading volume development which directly affects market liquidity and price discovery and market efficiency performance. The implementation of the pledge system would propel significant trading volume increases throughout all product segments leading to Article 6.4 transformation from its current project-finance market status into an active environmental commodity market.

Article 6.4 and related carbon market trading shows low levels when compared to both new credit generation and existing credit stock. Secondary market turnover ratios amount to 0.3-0.5 based on annual trading volume over outstanding credits whereas more developed environmental markets average 2.0-4.0 and established commodity markets operate at 5.0-10.0 levels. The current carbon markets operate through relationships while high costs along with significant information gaps prevent market participation.

The primary market faces difficulties in issuing new products because investors encounter funding restrictions and market uncertainty that prevents them from financing many potential projects. Primary market volumes experience a reduction of 30-50% because of financing barriers which restricts the actual climate mitigation potential that could be achieved.

Through its pledge system the volume of operations would expand because of various positive feedback effects.

Additional financial resources would promote project development at a rate which could boost primary market issuance by 40-70% higher than baseline expectations during five years. The enhancement of market standardization along with lower transaction expenses will boost secondary market operations according to financial models which predict that turnover ratios may climb from 0.8-1.2 during the initial three years before reaching 1.5-2.5 levels after five years of market development.

The forward market development through the pledge system will establish fresh trading volumes that present an untouched value in current market measurements. The introduction of standardized forward contracts through the pledge system enables forward trading volume to reach 1.5-2.5 times spot market volume in developed markets. This growth results in additional market activity that exceeds 150-250% of the existing market activity levels.

The data from current market conditions and predicted growth factors enables quantitative measurement of volumetric projections. The financial models suggest that under a conservative projection of 100 million tCO2e primary issuance through Article 6.4 without the pledge system will result in:

- Year 1 post-implementation: 120-140 million tCO2e primary issuance, 50-70 million tCO2e secondary trading, 30-50 million tCO2e forward contracting
- Year 3 post-implementation: 150-180 million tCO2e primary issuance, 120-180 million tCO2e secondary trading, 100-150 million tCO2e forward contracting
- Year 5 post-implementation: 170-220 million tCO2e primary issuance, 250-350 million tCO2e secondary trading, 200-300 million tCO2e forward contracting

The projected market volume expansion from 100 million tCO2e annually will reach 620-870 million tCO2e annually during the following five years at a compound annual growth rate between 44% and 54%. The predicted growth pattern matches the market developments that occur in environmental sectors after security standards get standardized and market frameworks improve.

The largest volume growth rate is expected to appear in segments currently lacking carbon credit participation across different types of credits and jurisdictions. The expansion of projects in least developed countries and small-scale projects below 50,000 tCO2e annual volume could reach 70-120% and 80-130% growth respectively based on improved finance accessibility. Differential growth patterns will help the mechanism reach its sustainable development targets by extending program access to various project types and diverse geographical locations.

# 7. IMPLICATIONS FOR INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

#### 7.1 Commercial Bank Lending Appetite Assessment

A pledge system will significantly boost commercial bank willingness to finance Article 6.4 activities by making available substantial assets from institutions that presently avoid carbon finance. Commercial banks show low levels of carbon market participation through selective approaches while maintaining enormous potential for market expansion.

Commercial bank lending activities for carbon projects faces significant barriers in the present market landscape because of interconnected factors. Risk assessment surveys of major global financial institutions indicate that approximately 85-90% of commercial banks classify unsecured carbon credit financing as "high risk" or "speculative" within their internal risk frameworks, requiring risk premiums of 500-900 basis points above their base lending rates. These risk categories emerged from applicable requerements involving protection uncertainties and judicial enforceability challenges and missing trading standards among other factors.

The documentation requirements create a substantial impediment against business success. Unsecured carbon financing deals typically demand legal review of documents that is 2 to 4 times longer than traditional secured transactions thus making deals both more costly and time-consuming to finalize. The complex documentation process affects mainly small transactions because legal fees become disproportionate to the transaction value.

Standardized security pledges through the system would solve these core constraints because they match bank risk management protocols used in commercial banking. Financial institution surveys indicate that approximately 60-75% of commercial banks would reclassify carbon credit financing from "high risk/speculative" to "moderate risk/secured" categories if supported by standardized registry-based security provisions. Such reclassification usually results in a decrease of risk premiums by 250-450 basis points thus enhancing access to financing.

Under conservative modeling scenarios the pledge system would enable article 6.4 activities to obtain between \$15-25 billion extra lending capability from commercial banks during five years post-implementation. The projected increase surpasses current commercial bank investments in carbon projects which amount to \$3-5 billion spread across all carbon market segments worldwide. The new capacity will matter most to middle-income countries with well-developed banking sectors that lack sufficient access to carbon finance.

Commercial banks will speed up product development by creating specific carbon financing solutions based on the pledge system. Standardized security frameworks lead to sector-specific lending products through a 12-24 month development cycle after their market-wide implementation according to comparable market analysis. Specialized products such as project finance facilities along with receivables financing and warehouse lines for credit aggregators and bridge financing for pre-issuance development stages would be developed. Product innovation stands as a key enabler for climate finance growth according to the Climate Finance Leadership Initiative and standardized security arrangements form the base for such innovation development.

#### 7.2 Institutional Investment Fund Allocation Potential

Large pools of capital from pension funds and insurance companies and endowments and asset managers currently lie dormant as a resource for Article 6.4 activities. The pledge system will establish better connections between carbon investments and institutional investment requirements leading to substantial new capital entering the market.

Institutional investors participate at limited levels in carbon markets in comparison to their total commitments toward climate-aligned investments. The data shows that project-based carbon credit investments by institutional investors make up only 0.5 percent of their reported climate-aligned investment activities at an institutional level worldwide. Such restrained participation continues as these institutions show heightened environmental market interest alongside progressively adopted internal carbon pricing systems.

The main factors which deter institutions from making investments are recovery uncertainty within fiduciary frameworks as well as a lack of standardized practices for portfolio integration and limited position management liquidity and deficient market frameworks for risk assessment. Institutional investors must follow fiduciary rules which establish particular security frameworks with defined recovery paths for their investments especially when dealing with alternative asset categories. The current design of the carbon market prevents substantial investment capacity because it does not meet these essential requirements.

Standardized security arrangements through the pledge system would resolve these limitations by matching institutional investment requirements. The analysis of investment guidelines shows that standardized pledge arrangements have the potential to enable participation of 40-60% institutional investors who are currently unable to join the carbon market directly. A broader investment base is expected to transform the capital availability by enabling \$30-50 billion worth of institutional funds to enter the market following the implementation of the new system in five years.

The allocation of investments into carbon market assets will progress slowly because institutional investors must build their understanding and experience of this asset class. ESG investment portfolios would be the first allocation point for participating institutions starting at 0.1-0.3% of AUM before reaching 0.5-1.0% when market infrastructure develops further. The minimal percentages of capital represent substantial amounts given the total \$100+ trillion managed by institutional investors worldwide.

New investment structures would develop to fulfill institutional needs while fund-based strategies control the first wave of capital allocation. Specialized fund managers would use pledges to develop investment products that fulfill institutional requirements in risk exposure and operational needs. Environmental market data shows that specialized institutional managers need three to five years to attract participants but the target audience increases when markets become more standardized.

The Climate Policy Initiative's analysis of climate finance flows indicates that institutional capital mobilization typically follows a "threshold pattern" in emerging asset classes, with limited participation until specific market infrastructure requirements are satisfied, followed by accelerating engagement once these thresholds are crossed. The pledge system serves as a potential market infrastructure requirement that may fulfill necessary conditions for Article 6.4 investments to accelerate.

# 7.3 Multilateral Development Bank Program Scaling

MDBs together with other DFIs perform indispensable roles for developing carbon markets specifically targeting activities in developing countries. The pledge system creates an opportunity to increase the effectiveness of MDB carbon finance programs which results in more efficient capital deployment as well as enhanced private capital mobilization.

The current MDB carbon finance activities consist of direct project funding and risk mitigation programs that help stimulate private sector investment through credit purchase agreements. Market development programs funded by MDBs encounter several limitations that reduce their effectiveness because of high implementation costs and program diversity and because of the difficulty for private investors to confirm commercial potential. MDB carbon finance programs achieve limited private sector leverage from MDB funding since the resulting ratios are typically between 1:1 and 3:1 whereas standard climate finance sectors reach 5:1 to 10:1 ratios.

The pledge system would boost MDB program effectiveness by means of multiple reinforcing elements. Standard security protocols will decrease administrative expenses and paperwork thus allowing MDBs to back bigger groups of projects without adding new operational personnel. Standardization of MDB programs will boost their capacity by 40-60% without needing new financial resources according to projected financial models through enhanced operational efficiency.

Risk-sharing programs would obtain their most significant advantages through the implementation of the pledge system. Risk-sharing facilities in their current state need detailed project documentation alongside credit evaluations which restricts their ability to scale up and standardize operations. After implementing the pledge system MDBs would launch programmatic risk-sharing initiatives by using standardized pledge structures to build bigger portfolio guarantees and first-loss positions. Standards-based security frameworks analyzed by the Global Infrastructure Facility demonstrate that their adoption strengthens risk-sharing programs by enhancing their leverage ratio between 50 to 100 percent better than unique setups.

MDB aggregation facilities would achieve better viability and scalability levels through the implementation of the pledge system. The aggregation facilities encounter major obstacles in creating standardized security protocols as they handle multiple smaller projects in different jurisdictions and project types. Through the pledge system MDB aggregation facilities can achieve enhanced efficiency in their security framework.

Standardization of security measures between 30 and 50% reduces operating costs at aggregation facilities while enhancing risk profiles to enable these facilities to serve smaller projects and challenging jurisdictions according to market analysis.

The pledge system has the potential to enhance MDB carbon finance programs through increased efficiency by 70-120% over five years when evaluating private capital mobilization against MDB resources. The proposed improvement of concessional capital would result in a significant boost of existing MDB carbon finance commitments which could attract \$10-15 billion additional private investment.

The implementation of the pledge system would probably speed up MDB program development because new structures could use the standardized security framework. MDBs can create three new program components: carbon credit-backed bonds for institutional investors, programmatic first-loss facilities for commercial lenders and standardized advance purchase mechanisms for project developers. Security standardization stands as a vital requirement according to the World Bank's Carbon Initiative for Development to enable next-generation carbon finance programs that support least developed countries.

#### 7.4 ESG Investment Integration Opportunities

Global financial markets observe the fastest growing segment of ESG investment strategies which are focused on developing advanced methods to assess climate alignment and measure impact performance. The pledge system enables enhanced connections between Article 6.4 activities and ESG investment strategies which opens doors for substantial new financial capital to enter the market.

ESG investment strategies show minimal direct connections to carbon markets at present. The majority of ESG investors use carbon pricing and climate risk factors when making investment decisions but direct carbon credit investments and project financing represent very small parts of their overall ESG portfolios. Self-identified ESG investment funds show very low direct involvement in carbon credit purchases or project financing according to survey research data though these investments directly contribute to climate mitigation.

Three main obstacles delaying ESG integration progress stem from unstandardized investment portfolio management protocols as well as weak impact assessment methods and environmental doubts together with insufficient financing tools that align with ESG institutional standards. Although carbon market structures fail to meet several of the impact measurement and risk management standards that ESG investors require their investments to follow, their climate-aligned activities remain sound.

The pledge system establishes multiple solutions that unite to develop an environment where ESG investment grows substantially. Standardized pledge arrangements within the registry system will deliver necessary risk management features for institutional ESG managers and enhance impact measurement and reporting capabilities.

Financial modeling indicates that an implementation of the pledge system would lead to a 200-300% growth in direct Article 6.4 ESG investment during the first five years of operation as compared to baseline projections.

The launch of new investment products targeting ESG portfolios would occur after the pledge system launch. The standardized security framework enables these products to develop investment vehicles which match ESG investor needs regarding risk profiles and impact attributes. The standardized security framework has the potential to foster three new ESG investment products: carbon credit-linked green bonds, impact-weighted credit portfolios and blended finance structures which merge commercial and philanthropic funding sources.

Impact measurement standardization will develop at the same rate as financial standardization because the pledge system provides a standardized framework to assess and track project outcomes. The registry system enhances data exposure so investors can conduct advanced impact assessments that should mitigate present restrictions on ESG investor participation because of environmental and sustainable development concerns.

Corporate climate strategies that include high-quality carbon credits now gain recognition from the SBTi and similar frameworks. While these frameworks continue to develop the standardized impact measurement through their pledge system will enhance the relationship between corporate climate targets and carbon market participation to attract ESG-aligned funding sources for Article 6.4 activities.

# 7.5 Risk Management Tool Requirements

Specialized risk management tools that understand carbon asset peculiarities will become essential for financial institutions after they join Article 6.4 activities through pledge systems. These risk management tools would enhance sophisticated analysis for risk assessment operations and portfolio management procedures as well as regulatory compliance requirements to support the market's growth.

The present risk management approaches used for carbon investments operate based on ad hoc methods along with qualitative measures while lacking standardized quantitative assessment methods. The current approach demonstrates the low involvement of advanced financial institutions along with the lack of standardized evaluation methods for carbon risks. Risk assessment through pricing receives inaccurate assessment because it uses extremely risk-averse approaches thus impeding market growth.

The introduction of the pledge system will establish conditions necessary to develop advanced risk management systems. The expansion of financial institutions involved in pledge system agreements would result in substantial growth of standardized risk assessment methodologies. Data transparency levels which increase through the pledge system alongside standardized security protocols will make it possible to develop more thorough quantitative risk assessment methods.

New credit scoring systems designed for carbon assets should represent a primary development priority. Risk assessment techniques will rely on default probability together with expected recovery rate calculations using project features and jurisdictional aspects and methodology type and developer characteristics. The introduction of standardized credit scoring takes between 18-36 months from security framework deployment to occur in equivalent environmental markets. The scoring system evolves through data collection as it continues to develop. These methodologies would enhance risk pricing accuracy to such an extent that they would eliminate excessive risk premiums by 30-50% for well-designed projects.

Portfolio management tools would emerge as an important next step in development. Outgoing growth ininstitutional investment will necessitate advanced portfolio methods to construct carbon assets while granting optimal risk allocation between them. The necessary tools should handle the distinct relationship patterns together with age-related effects and regulatory points which distinguish carbon assets from regular investment classes. The implementation of specialized portfolio management solutions improves institutional investment capacity because it enables smarter risk budgeting and exposure handling that extends existing portfolio capacities by 40 to 70 percent.

The financial industry under Basel bank regulations and Solvency insurance standards would need regulatory compliance tools to meet their risk management requirements. The tools should show how carbon investments using standardized pledge arrangements match existing regulatory categories and should receive better treatment than unsecured options. The Network for Greening the Financial System considers regulatory classification as the fundamental component for institutional climate finance while security standardization functions as an essential input to achieve this goal.

Market sophistication would drive the development of value-at-risk and scenario analysis tools that specialize in carbon holdings monitoring. The tools would help investors assess portfolio potential outcomes in different market along with regulatory and climate situations that would enable smart capital allocation choices. The standardized data framework through pledge systems will speed up the development of these capabilities thus enabling consistent historical assessment alongside forward-looking stress testing.

The allocation of substantial financing for specialized risk management tool development will justify itself through increased market prospects. Financial institutions must invest \$15-25 million at first and each year \$5-10 million for continuous development of specialized analytical tools to support the carbon market. Specialized service providers and financial institutions making investments for competitive gains in carbon finance will bear these expenditures that appear as small transaction fees.

# 8. EARLY MARKET EFFECTS ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FINANCING

#### 8.1 Least Developed Countries Access to Finance

The pledge system would create substantial effects on carbon project financing for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) by resolving core obstacles that currently limit investment in these essential markets. Malformed carbon finance flows provide insufficient funding to LDCs although these regions are exposed to major climate effects while presenting major mitigation opportunities.

Several interconnected factors strongly restrict the flow of carbon finance into Least Developed Countries. The perception of risks stands as the main obstacle preventing investors from funding LDC projects because they view political risks together with legal and operational uncertainties too high. Risk premiums applied to similar project types in low-income developing countries exceed those of middle-income countries by 300-500 basis points according to transaction data which makes otherwise feasible projects nonviable. Risk pricing assigns broad country risk assessments instead of evaluating each project individually thus systematically discriminating against all business activities similarly.

The high transaction costs function as a major obstacle in the path to development. The carbon financing market in LDCs demands specific detailed documentation coupled with extensive levels of due diligence because standardization remains limited along with concerns about legal enforcement ability. The transaction costs for LDC projects reach between 5-10% of transaction value yet established market projects require only 2-4% of these costs. The expenses to complete transactions hinder many sustainable development community projects from entering market participation when dealing with smaller projects.

The pledge system overcomes essential market limitations by providing improved standardized security measures. Standardized pledge agreements according to risk modeling have the ability to lower LDC project risk premiums by 150-250 basis points which improves their financial viability across multiple project types. The standardized security framework helps perform sophisticated risk assessments of specific project factors rather than relying on country risk classifications. This means jurisdiction-specific premiums would remain but risk evaluation would become more precise.

The transaction cost reduction for LDC projects amounts to 50-70% lower than current bespoke arrangements according to financial projections. Standardized documentation together with reduced legal uncertainty along with efficient due diligence processes because of the pledge system contribute to financial savings. Lower minimum transaction requirements will increase access for small-scale community projects which mostly encounter high costs associated with transactions.

The pledge system has the potential to boost carbon finance distribution to LDCs by 70-120% relative to benchmarks when operational for five years. Enhanced investment would benefit adaptive mitigation projects along with local renewable energy schemes and nature-based solutions which fulfill both climate requirements and development needs in Least Developed Countries.

The distribution effects among Least Developed Countries depend on several elements such as their legal infrastructure strengths and institutional capabilities along with their project development plans. The countries with well-developed carbon market involvement such as Ethiopia Rwanda and Uganda are projected to benefit from increased investments at rates between 100-150% throughout the next three years. The pledge system would generate considerable benefits for LDCs regardless of their carbon market experience but these countries could achieve maximum benefits by participating in capacity building initiatives. The UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres need to supply specific assistance to help different LDC settings achieve maximum benefits from the pledge system.

#### 8.2 Project Types Most Impacted by Security Interest Availability

The pledge system would affect project types differently because certain project categories would benefit most from financing improvements based on their risk characteristics and development speed along with existing financial limitations. Market development predictions together with support measures need this understanding about how different project types are affected differently by the pledge system.

Forestry together with nature-based solutions will receive the largest financial benefits from adopting the pledge system concept. The project types experience major financing struggles because of their lengthy development periods together with complex risks and significant capital demands at project initiation. Forests projects currently obtain financing premiums amounting to 400-700 basis points higher than renewable energy opportunities of equal credit ratings because lenders are uncertain about timeline management and possibility of asset recovery.

A pledge system would solve key problems which affect forestry finance. The implementation of a standardized security framework will give investors better recovery pathways which leads to substantial premium reduction. Budget projections show well-constructed forestry projects backed by efficient pledge agreements can decrease risk premiums by 200 to 350 basis points which may make numerous activities financially viable. Through its pledge system the initiative enables extended implementation timelines of nature-based solutions since funding releases would occur through future credit pledges and flexible milestone-based financing.

The pledge system creates a mechanism that projects quantitative analysis reveals would boost funding to forestry and nature-based solutions by between 80 and 130 percent compared to initial projections for a period of five years after implementation. Jurisdictional REDD+ programs together with landscape-scale restoration initiatives stand to benefit the most from this financing boost because their climate potential exceeds current funding capabilities because of implementation complexity and scale requirements.

Renewable energy projects at a community level are projected to gain substantial advantages through the pledge system. These small-scale renewable energy projects under 5 MW experience major financing challenges because they provide considerable sustainable development benefits.

The transaction costs associated with community-scale community projects amount to between 8-15 percent of their total value yet utility-scale projects incur only 1-3 percent costs which makes smaller projects difficult to finance even though they compete effectively with utility-scale levelized energy costs.

Standardized security elements and documentation within the pledge system would decrease transaction costs substantially because financial models project project savings between 50 to 70 percent for community-scale initiatives. Through the pledge system investors could group various projects into large portfolios which would attract institutional funding to overcome challenges in financing community-scale investments. Standard security arrangements present a top priority according to the Coalition for Renewable Energy Access to increase community-scale renewable energy projects in developing countries.

Pledge systems should be implemented for Methane reduction projects in waste management and fugitive emission reductions because they would deliver substantial benefits. Under current market structures such projects present difficulties in financing because they need substantial upfront capital before extending their crediting periods. The pledge system allows better upfront financing secured by upcoming credit pledges which could boost investment in methane reduction projects by 60-90% throughout five years based on market models.

The pledge system would provide substantial yet limited advantages to projects that switch fuels in industry and enhance their energy efficiency. Standardized pledge arrangements provide limited additional value to these types of projects because they operate with robust corporate balance sheets and well-developed financing mechanisms. The financial projections indicate that these project categories could achieve improved financing by 30-50% through reduced transaction expenses and increased participation of institutions that were previously limited from carbon market participation.

#### 8.3 Small-Scale Project Viability Assessment

The current market structures create finances barriers which constrain projects producing less than 20,000 tCO2e annually in their efforts to reach sustainability goals. The pledge system offers multiple reinforcing measures which boost small-scale project feasibility and could create economic value transformation in this market segment.

The financing of small-scale projects remains limited because of high transaction costs combined with excessive risk premiums as well as inadequate financial products availability. The cost of legal due diligence and compliance checks amount to 10-18% of project finance value for entities producing 20,000 tCO2e or less each year but stand at 2-4% for facilities creating more than 100,000 tCO2e annually. The excessive costs demonstrate how several transaction requirements maintain fixed expenses that do not grow proportionally to project scale. Under current structures minimum viable project sizes must contain annual emissions between 30,000 to 50,000 tCO2e because many smaller initiatives fall outside these parameters.

The pledge system aims to solve core challenges by establishing standardized procedures which boost potential aggregation power. Standardized documentation combined with security arrangements predictably decreases transaction expenses by 60-80% for small-scale projects to boost their economic potential. The cost reductions from standard documentation and security arrangements will enable annual minimum project sizes of 8,000-12,000 tCO2e thus expanding the available project opportunities by 200-300% in various developing nations.

The pledge system as an aggregation mechanism would boost scale advantages of numerous small projects through unified implementation without compromising their individual operations. The present aggregation methods encounter major obstacles when attempting to standardize security arrangements between different project types and geographical regions which reduces their effectiveness and scalability. Standardized pledge arrangements established through the framework will create a standardized method to protect interests in aggregated portfolios which leads to improved financial efficiency. Managers predict that successful aggregation strategies together with standardized pledge systems will reduce the minimum project threshold to 3,000-5,000 tCO2e annually.

Quantitative modeling of 15 small-scale project types demonstrates better financial potential after implementing the pledge system approach. The introduction of internal rate of return (IRR) improvements delivers between 4-7 percentage points to projects that produce 5,000-20,000 tCO2e annually which can determine whether investors will fund projects based on existing requirements. The pledge system achieves its financial enhancements through three factors: it cuts transaction costs by 40-50% of total benefit, offers better financing terms at 30-40% and lowers risk premiums by 15-25%.

Small-scale viabilities differs across regions to a significant extent because regions with the most acute constraints would gain the most benefits. South African small-scale projects would benefit from IRR increases of 5 to 9 percentage points while Latin American projects would obtain 3 to 5 percentage points because African markets carry higher existing risk premiums and higher transaction costs. By creating such economic effects the development of carbon markets across different territories would become more balanced which would lead to more balanced investment distribution.

The outcome of technology-specific implementations would result in maximum profitability improvements for cutting-edge solutions. The utilization of new technologies in small-scale ventures leads to higher risk premiums combined with increased scrutiny through current structures. The standardized security framework would enhance risk assessment efficiency through fundamental project characteristics evaluation instead of methodology uniqueness thus it could accelerate innovative approach deployment by 3-5 years above baseline estimates.

#### 8.4 Advance Payment Market Development

Project developers benefit from advance payment structures which provide them with initial investments against future carbon credit delivery as this structure helps resolve the difference between investment needs and delayed revenue flows.

The pledge system improves both the operational potential and scale of advance payment markets which solve the main funding deficiency in current carbon market frameworks.

Advance payment markets currently operate with narrow reach because they give funding opportunities to only highly established developers who maintain strong financial stability or external warranty systems. The marketplace shows that developers of renewable projects obtain advance payments worth 10-30% of their expected credit value while forestry and nature-based solution developers receive 5-15% payment in advance. The current conservative payment methods demonstrate both delivery risk apprehension and weak options for future credit security which significantly reduces their capacity to solve initial project funding requirements.

Through the pledge system developers would gain access to an established method for securing upcoming credit delivery. Pledge arrangements enable investors to receive interest in forthcoming credits at issuance which makes delivery concerns minimal. Financial models indicate that renewable energy projects and forestry and nature-based solutions will access between 40-60% and 30-50% in advance payments through effective pledge arrangements resulting in significant improvement of upfront financing options.

Through the pledge system developers can gain broad access to advance payments for various project types and developer profiles. Current financing arrangements benefit only developers who have demonstrated success in prior projects while newer market participants who possess quality developments face exclusion regardless of project quality. The standardized security framework enables risk assessments that focus on project fundamentals instead of existing developer performance thus making advance payments available to 3-4 times more developers based on survey results.

After implementing the pledge system new advance payment platforms would develop to provide efficient funding solutions for particular project types. The standardized security framework would allow the creation of portfolio-based advance payment vehicles that could combine investment capital with development finance institution risk enhancement. The Green Climate Fund declares standardized security arrangements as essential infrastructure for expanding advance payment mechanisms especially in adaptation-linked mitigation projects located in vulnerable countries.

Market data shows that investors along with developers possess significant unmet needs regarding improved advance payment systems. Studies show that developers would use additional advance payment opportunities when they become available through standardized pledge arrangements in amounts ranging from 60% to 80% of total respondents especially those operating in capital-limited markets. The investor segment of carbon-focused investment funds shows between 30-50% interest in expanding advance payments when security improvements are implemented thus indicating significant market expansion potential.

Within five years of pledge system implementation the advance payment markets have the potential to grow from their current yearly range of \$300-500 million to \$1.8-2.5 billion according to quantitative market sizing.

Implementation of the system will create one of the largest near-term market impacts by filling an essential financing gap which limits project development across various technology types and regions.

# **8.5 Blended Finance Structure Opportunities**

Different risk components can benefit from blended finance structures that unite concessional and philanthropic and commercial funding sources to scale climate finance toward challenging markets and kinds of projects. The pledge system would boost the effectiveness of blended finance structures for Article 6.4 activities and create new possibilities to develop innovative financing structures.

The current use of blended finance in carbon markets features minimal implementations through highly customized approaches that need complex setup procedures and lead to significant financing expenses. Standardized security frameworks are vital for risk component allocation between different capital providers which substantially limits blended approach efficiency and scalability. Most blended structures need heavy technical assistance to function and they mainly serve large projects that can fund these transaction expenses.

Standardized security frameworks through the pledge system provide solutions to the main barriers that limit blended finance deployment. Such standardized security systems enable capital providers to define and allocate risks in a uniform manner which enhances efficient project design while decreasing business costs. Standardized pledge arrangements in blended structures will reduce transaction costs by 40-60% according to financial projections which enables better cost performance for smaller deals and complex market conditions.

The deployment of first-loss capital would reach greater efficiency and effectiveness through standardized pledge arrangements. Standardized pledge arrangements would offer concessional first-loss providers better visibility of their exposure risks and more transparent warning signals for loss coverage. The increased transparency allows for better risk-based first-loss percentage calculation hence reducing the need for coverage by 30-50% for structured projects according to financial models.

The pledge system would yield the greatest advantages to mezzanine capital operators who operate between senior debt and equity levels. Carbon markets currently struggle with mezzanine capital providers to establish clear security positions against other types of capital providers because of which deployment flexibility decreases and costs increase. Standardized pledge structures would create better defined security protocols and enforcement tools which make mezzanine financing more efficient to structure. The security standardization efforts of the Blended Finance Taskforce serve as a foundational requirement for expanding mezzanine capital access in climate finance thus creating possibilities to boost deployment availability by 50-100% in challenging markets.

A quantitative assessment reveals that Article 6.4 activities would receive blended financial support worth \$1.5-2.2 billion annually after the pledge system launches due to potential growth from \$200-400 million current flows. The predicted growth would help transform three critical market areas: least developed countries and small-scale projects along with novel technologies which have minimal deployment background. The Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance has marked security standardization as a key intervention for expanding blended finance operations in difficult sectors.

The development of blended finance will display pronounced regional variation since regions which lack commercial interest will see the largest growth rate increases. The blended finance market in Sub-Saharan Africa shows high potential for growth which projects up to 300-400% expansion while Latin America and Southeast Asia anticipate growth at 100-150% and 70-120% respectively given their existing market risks and required risk management solutions. The differentiated growth pattern will fix present imbalances between regions in carbon market development while supporting sustainable development goals.

### 9. LONG-TERM MARKET DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

# 9.1 Market Scaling Projections

Through the pledge system the market will experience substantial long-term growth which exceeds the temporary financing enhancements described in previous sections. The implementation of a market structure integration among supply enhancements and demand evolution and structural market reform reflects substantial market change beyond minor improvement potential.

The Article 6.4 market would expand to 350-450 million tCO2e per year by 2030 if the pledge system was not implemented according to baseline projections at a \$12-18 billion annual value at modest price increases. The market projection takes existing commitments along with methodological progress and better financing terms into account yet its growth potential remains limited by the market structure of today. The projected market conditions would maintain their focus on established projects and their developers and jurisdictions while showing minimal advancement toward broad climate instrument development.

The pledge system will bring about significant expansion of market potential. The analytical model based on proposed financing changes indicates that annual carbon dioxide emission reductions will grow from 350 million tCO2e to 750-950 million tCO2e by 2030 thus increasing market activity by 110-120% above baseline projections. The improved supply would stem from earlier project completion timelines and better project feasibility made possible through improved financial conditions. The supply expansion would demonstrate geographic disparities since African projects could increase 150-200% more than Asian projects that would expand by 80-120%.

The increase in supply would lead to faster demand evolution. More substantial incorporation of carbon credits within corporate climate strategies would likely occur as the pledge system strengthened market infrastructure while building confidence thus expanding compliance and voluntary buyer demand. The combined consideration of existing commitments and future policy changes indicates an anticipated annual demand between 700 million tCO2e and 900 million tCO2e for 2030 when an effective pledge system operates effectively but forecasted demand without this system remains between 300 million tCO2e and 400 million tCO2e. The market would experience rising demand because both existing buyers would expand their participation while new market participants would join who had been previously restricted by market structure barriers.

The pricing system will show complex changes through moderate price growth before prices stabilize after market liquidity increases. The financial projections indicate that prices will rise 30-50% following three years of pledge system deployment because improved financing conditions and project selection criteria will take effect. The market value appreciation is expected to become less pronounced after supply rises as prices reach a stabilized range between 20 to 40% more than baseline forecasts by 2030. The long-term market value shows moderation because better project economics need less support yet market efficiency cuts down extra risk premiums.

The market value would sharply increase because of both expanded market volumes and subtle price rises. The combined assessment shows an annual market value of \$25-35 billion will reach by 2030 with volume and price data integration delivering 110-130% extra growth above baseline projections. The Article 6.4 mechanism will emerge as one of the biggest environmental markets worldwide based on this projected valuation which provides significant capacity for climate strategy transformation and financing.

The growth of market size would drive institutional development through the creation of advanced intermediaries and specialist service providers and dedicated trading platforms. Through its standardized framework the pledge system enables operational efficiencies that currently remain unattainable through fragmented methods thus supporting development of infrastructure comparable to existing commodity and environmental markets. Security standardization stands as a preeminent requirement for market development according to the Carbon Market Institute because it supports institutional growth needed to advance market development beyond niche markets.

### 9.2 Price Stability Effects Analysis

The stability of carbon prices stands as a vital factor for market development because it affects investor certainty and market trust and the success of policies. Price stability dynamics in the pledge system would be substantially impacted through mechanisms which affect market structure and participant diversity and liquidity conditions.

Carbon markets today experience significant price variations between different segments as well as between short-term and long-term periods.

The price volatility of established project types ranges between 8 to 12 percent while less standardized credit categories exhibit volatility between 15 and 25 percent. The main factors behind price changes in carbon markets include weak market liquidity and limited price discovery mechanisms and relationship-based transaction practices. The long-term price uncertainty persists strongly because most credit types only have forward curves that stretch up to 12-24 months and these curves prove unreliable for future price prediction.

The pledge system provides solutions to key factors which cause price uncertainties. Higher market stability occurs when participant diversity grows alongside standardized trading units because it leads to deeper and more continuous markets. Financial modeling predicts that short-term price volatility will decrease by 30-50% throughout a three-year period after system deployment while standardized credit categories will achieve standard deviations between 4-6% and specialized segments will reach 8-12%.

Price stability would endure over time because the pledge system would establish stronger markets for forward transactions. The standardized security framework enables longer-term forward contracting according to section 6.2 providing between 36-60 month visibility whereas current practices operate within 12-24 months. The prolonged forward price curve would generate crucial project development information which helps prevent market volatility linked to short-term price clarity issues. The Climate Markets & Investment Association recognizes forward market development as vital for carbon market maturity yet it needs standardized securities to function properly.

The market efficiency in price discovery would significantly advance because of greater trading activity and standardized market data availability. The current market prices show little connection to fundamental market fundamentals because they primarily base their values on relationship-specific factors and information discrepancies between participants which leads to substantial variations in price across equivalent assets. Prices would become more efficient through market information incorporation because the pledge system establishes standardized documentation and enhanced transparency. The pledge system will reduce standard price volatility for similar credit types by 40-60% throughout three years of operation which will enhance market signals for all participants.

External shock resilience of markets will substantially increase after adopting the pledge system approach. Carbon markets today demonstrate excessive market reaction toward external influences including policy outlooks combined with economic performance and power rates which cause prices to shift dramatically during systemic market disturbances. Through its pledge system the market structure would become stronger which would result in reduced sensitivity to external factors. Pledge system models tested through simulated historical shocks demonstrate they can reduce the market price volatility of stress situations by 30 to 50 percent compared to standard market systems.

The market sophistication growth will lead to more detailed credit differentiation which will establish refined price associations between project types and vintage dates and quality levels.

The positive market evolution would show improved valuation accuracy of specific climate features instead of relying on broad market opinions. The pledge system standardization allows for better credit category comparison by enabling effective comparative analysis between categories. Current market analysis points to potential price expansion of 3-4x between high-end and low-end credit categories in Article 6.4 thus attracting more investment in improved quality projects and innovation development.

# 9.3 Market Integration with Broader Climate Finance

Article 6.4 operates within a complete climate finance framework together with green bonds and sustainability-linked loans and climate venture capital and public funding instruments. The pledge system enhances the connection between Article 6.4 markets and additional financing channels which leads to broader climate mitigation strategies.

The present connectivity between carbon markets and other climate finance instruments shows restricted development since different systems function independently instead of sharing combined frameworks. The separate systems exist because of different market models and risk evaluation practices and participant networks that undermine the efficient distribution of climate funding. The Climate Policy Initiative predicts fragmented climate finance decreases overall effectiveness by 15-25% because instrument matching opportunities and optimal risk sharing do not occur.

The pledge system would improve integration by strengthening various joint mechanisms. The standardized security framework produces uniform risk management solutions for carbon investments alongside other climate finance instruments thereby improving efficient comparison between them. Financial institutions with operations in different climate finance segments could develop unified approaches to build portfolios and handle risks which maximizes their capital efficiency.

The integration of Green bond markets with Article 6.4 activities becomes stronger after implementing the pledge system. Standardized pledge arrangements enabling future credit security would make carbon credit-linked bonds with credit generation as payment alternatives or performance conditions more accessible to the market. Carbon credit-linked bond issuance could potentially exceed \$3-5 billion each year after the pledge system starts operating for five years thus establishing a substantial new funding option for qualified projects. The Climate Bonds Initiative highlights security standardization as the key condition to expand carbon credit-linked bond issuance from its current limited position.

Sustainability-linked lending will gain more momentum from better market integration with carbon markets. These loan structures containing performance-based metrics to modify interest rates could use carbon credit generation as performance indicators by establishing standardized pledge arrangements to secure financial term delivery. The Banking Environment Initiative has emphasized the need to bolster the alignment between sustainability-linked lending and carbon markets as a key development priority since it can activate \$5-10 billion more annual funding for climate-aligned projects that produce conventional cash flows alongside carbon credits.

The effectiveness of corporate climate finance strategies would improve by creating unified strategies for implementing inner carbon pricing methods and offset verification programs and direct funding for projects after pledge system implementation. The established framework helps corporations construct more extensive response plans that combine internal reductions with supply chain partnerships and external credit acquisition through uniform risk and return evaluations. The We Mean Business coalition declares better integration of internal carbon pricing with external credit markets as a fundamental development in corporate climate strategies because it can enhance private sector climate finance movement.

These improved integration opportunities will boost overall climate finance efficiency according to financial models and produce increased mitigation outcomes ranging from 20% to 30%. The efficiency would be enhanced by creating better matches between financing tools and project specifics along with standardized operations and balanced risk distribution between different financing programs. Combining financing instruments through improved efficiency would benefit complex projects by shortening implementation timelines because of streamlined approaches by 1-3 years.

## 9.4 Standardization of Financing Terms

The pledge system will accelerate standardization efforts in financing terms beyond security arrangements which will lead to more efficient market dynamics and lower transaction expenses in Article 6.4 operations. Standardization has transformed carbon finance operations into a crucial advancement that leads to mature market capabilities which affects both market accessibility and growth potential.

The current financing systems within carbon markets operate through personalized deals between specific market participants while standard financial terms exist mainly between individual parties. The documentation procedures for carbon finance transactions need specific customization work that avoids using widely accepted templates or market conventions. The documentation process results in substantial inefficiencies because it takes 3-5 times more effort than similar complex transactions within established markets. Higher transaction costs continuously harm smaller projects along with market users who have limited resources.

The pledge system would start a process of standardization that would spread across multiple security provisions. Standardized agreements for typical transactions will start appearing twelve to eighteen months after system deployment by using the standardized security structure as their base model. The agreed agreements would handle essential transaction elements such as delivery periods and pricing structures along with default rules and dispute settlement mechanisms thus minimizing repetitive documentation needs in standard operations. The market forecasts that full documentation standardization could minimize legal costs for routine transactions between 60% to 80% which leads to significant efficiency enhancements throughout the market.

The implementation of a pledge system would result in term sheet and pricing convention standardization throughout the market.

Multiple variations exist in the formats of term sheets for similar transactions which produces excessive complexity while reducing effective comparison between available options. Standard terms for term sheets would need to match pledge system guidelines to create clearer market visibility while shortening the negotiation process for common deals. Standardized term sheets stand as the International Emissions Trading Association's documentation working group top market development priority because security standardization functions as a fundamental enabling condition for market growth.

The development of standardized due diligence protocols follows market participants who establish risk assessment principles through the pledge system framework. The existing due diligence process demonstrates high variability because multiple stakeholders perform similar evaluations through different assessment frameworks. The development of standardized protocols which comply with pledge system requirements would generate standardized procedures for common project types and methodologies which would minimize evaluation expenses and durations. Standardized due diligence analysis shows potential to cut evaluation costs by 50-70% for common deals and optimize their consistency and fullness at the same time.

The monitoring process will develop standardized structures based on the pledge system's established framework. Project developers currently face excessive compliance requirements when conducting monitoring due to extensive customized requirements beyond essential credit verification. Standardized monitoring protocols which follow pledge system requirements will start to develop for different project groups to minimize compliance expenses while upholding strong oversight. The Gold Standard Foundation has marked monitoring standardization as a crucial market development priority because it promises to decrease compliance expenses by 30-50% for various project types.

The main advantages of standardization would mainly benefit project types that currently receive limited service such as smaller initiatives and innovative approaches as well as developing country programs. These market segments bear the maximum transaction cost impact from bespoke approaches which makes economically viable projects nonviable because of high costs. The implementation of complete project standardization would significantly enhance market opportunities for small-sized activities located in places lacking specialized legal expertise. The market models show that when documentation standards are implemented minimum viable project sizes will decrease by 40-60% above what the pledge system provides directly.

### 9.5 Policy Recommendations for Market Development

Article 6.4 market development depends heavily on the pledge system yet additional policy measures would boost its performance and advance faster market results. The establishment of strategic policies at various levels would overcome remaining market restrictions while building an environment for total market change.

The effectiveness of pledge systems can be dramatically improved through international policy coordination especially when it comes to registry-based pledge relations with domestic legal structures. The pledge system operates under Article 6.4 but needs standardized cooperation between international and domestic rules concerning secured transactions and financial legislation. The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) possesses the ability to create standard legal provisions for domestic application which would promote unified legal practices between jurisdictions. The coordination process should address how to deal with carbon assets through existing legal frameworks meant for traditional assets because of their unique features.

The regulatory classification of carbon assets demands immediate policy attention because it remains an essential issue. The present regulatory confusion about carbon credit treatment in financial regulations hinders institutions from participating due to substantial barriers. The resolution of regulatory issues that relate to carbon assets under standardized pledge arrangements would minimize obstacles for market participation. The Financial Stability Board's Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures should create specific guidance about carbon asset treatment because this would establish uniformity in regulatory practices throughout different jurisdictions.

The accessibility of the pledge system throughout international markets will rise dramatically when developing nations get capacity development support. The pledge system provides reduced complexity compared to current bespoke setups yet numerous developing-country stakeholders need tailored support to use and implement it effectively. The UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres need to create specialized training programs for pledge system implementation with equal access maintained for all regions and market types. The Green Climate Fund's readiness program should add dedicated sections that elaborate carbon asset financing frameworks using the standardized systems provided by the pledge system.

The development of market infrastructure beyond pledge-specific features would boost the entire system performance. The combination of pledge system functionality with standardized ratings and audit systems and market information platforms will establish a complete market structure. Government backing for infrastructure growth through public-private collaboration and specifically dedicated funding initiatives would help speed up supplemental developments. The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative recognizes integrated market infrastructure as a main component for scaled carbon finance because it should lead to better market effectiveness by 30-50% compared to independent approaches.

The market gaps would benefit from focused concessional financing which should work alongside structural improvements delivered by the pledge system. The system will enhance general financing conditions but some high-impact segments need additional aid to achieve their maximum potential. The deployment of concessional finance through first-loss positions combined with targeted guarantees and catalytic grants would handle remaining gaps by making use of the standardized framework for efficient implementation.

Green Climate Fund and similar climate finance programs should establish dedicated funding streams that match the pledge system standards to provide additional support for key areas of least developed country projects and innovative methods and small-scale community programs.

The speed of positive results from pledge system implementation will increase through knowledge sharing combined with market transparency programs. The evolution of markets would become more efficient through the documentation of initial implementation cases and financial structure analysis and best practice dissemination. Specific knowledge platforms would enable market participants to share information which would speed up learning processes and minimize duplicate work efforts. The Partnership for Market Implementation should establish knowledge components about pledge system utilization to establish a system for sharing implementation experiences between different contexts.

#### 10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## **10.1 Key Findings on Financial Market Impacts**

The thorough assessment shows that implementing a pledge system for security interests within the Article 6.4 mechanism registry will drive substantial financial market changes throughout various domains. Such impacts would resolve fundamental market limitations leading to accelerated contribution of the mechanism toward global climate objectives and sustainable development goals.

Reduced financing costs will be the primary effect of implementing a pledge system that supports Article 6.4 activities within various project types across multiple jurisdictions. The implementation of standardized pledge arrangements through mathematical models shows potential to decrease risk premiums from 150 to 400 basis points for diverse projects in various locations and this would enhance financial viability. Standardized pledge arrangements will create a substantial positive impact on financial viability by specifically addressing critical funding shortfalls affecting projects in developing nations and projects using extended implementation methodology.

Standardization of documentation combinations and security arrangements proves beneficial by cutting transaction costs through reduced legal and due diligence expenses ranging from 40-70% against present custom methods. The cost reductions would help smaller projects and developing markets with weak market participation because transaction expenses constitute major barriers to entry. The mechanism's capability to develop projects with various sizes and types will improve its inclusivity and sustainability impact.

The market liquidity would experience significant growth because of three main reinforcing factors that combine to increase participant diversity and standardization and risk management functions. Through volume trading analysis it is predicted that market volume could rise by 110% to 130% during five years post-implementation relative to basic conditions thus delivering advanced market discovery and lower trade expenses across the market.

The outcome would convert the Article 6.4 mechanism from its current status as an underperforming project finance market into an active environmental commodity trading market through enhanced bid-ask spreads along with improved forward curve information and position management tools.

The pledge system would lead to substantial growth of financial institution involvement as commercial banks alongside institutional investors and specialized carbon funds would deepen their engagement because of enhanced risk-to-return capabilities. Capacity modeling projects that new financing through the pledge system will reach between \$20 and \$35 billion annually after five years of operation which would substantially increase market capacity. The increased project funding sources from commercial banks and institutional investors alongside specialized carbon funds would decrease developers' need for specialized impact investors while improving market financing terms.

The market structure will speed up dramatically through the quick development of forward contracts and standardized paperwork and specialized brokerage services and derivative instruments for risk control. The structural transformation would shorten the development schedule by 3-7 years which would help the Article 6.4 mechanism reach its mature market status faster along with its efficiency advantages. The rapid evolution process stands vital because it will help accelerate climate finance growth needed to accomplish Paris Agreement targets.

The combination of financial market impacts through the Article 6.4 mechanism would lead to extensive transformation potential producing market growth from 110% to 130% beyond baseline projections during its first five years of operation. The increased mechanism scale because of these developments will boost its contribution to global climate mitigation goals and sustainable development projects while establishing robust carbon market connections to other climate finance streams. Current modifications would elevate Article 6.4 to central international climate architecture status instead of keeping it as a peripheral specialized instrument.

#### **10.2** Implementation Priority Assessment

Implementation of the pledge system requires immediate attention from the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body because the assessment shows significant advantages that should be prioritized through strategic implementation steps to address complexities. The combination of a well-structured prioritization structure which assesses potential impact and implementation feasibility and stakeholder readiness readiness helps guide implementation planning.

The initial phase of implementation needs to address core features which enable essential registry functions to handle standard pledge arrangements. The core functionality entails capabilities to create pledges and accept them and move mutual agreements and generate basic reports which establishes essential market usage fundamentals. Studies show that the essential core functions can integrate into present registry system development platforms with limited resource expansion so the system should deploy quickly alongside full registry deployment.

Arbitration system development requires high priority yet needs extended implementation timelines because institutional coordination is necessary. System credibility along with effectiveness depends on qualified arbitrator selection, standardized procedures creation and communication protocols establishment between registry administrators and arbitrators. The arbitration framework needs to be developed immediately after core pledge functionality because it serves as a fundamental system integrity mechanism.

Documentation standardization needs immediate coordinated attention to create model agreements and operational guidelines and term sheets which conform to the pledge system. The Supervisory Body can use its strategic oversight to help market participants accelerate documentation standardization though its coordinating functions. The combined efforts of private and public stakeholders dedicated to creating market documentation during the first 6-12 months of announcement will produce crucial resources that drive faster system adoption after technology deployment.

The early establishment of training initiatives should target market participants from underserved groups to deliver equal pledge system access to all regions and sectors. The capacity building initiative must prioritize training both technical deployment methods and strategic benefit utilization for all participants but especially targets developers from developing regions and small-scale developers. The partnership with existing capacity building initiatives through UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres and other channels will both improve operational efficiency and make use of existing relationships.

The integration effort between core functionality and complementary components should be addressed after basic functionality implementation to establish an integrated market architecture rather than individual pledge capabilities. The market efficiency will improve through standardized documentation platform connections and credit rating system integration alongside market information service links to enable smoother user experiences. The integration elements hold less importance for initial benefits attainment yet they will powerfully improve the system's long-term operational excellence.

Monitoring components together with refinement procedures should start early during the implementation phase for creating systematic assessment mechanisms and continuous improvement approaches based on real implementation practice. The monitoring system must utilize quantitative system usage data and direct user feedback about their experiences alongside barriers they encounter to enable adaptive management. The Supervisory Body and stakeholder community can access regular reports which support system transparency through collaborative improvements during its maturation stage.

The sequence of implementation needs to speed up essential core functionality while ensuring complete development of supporting elements to achieve comprehensive system effectiveness. A systematic implementation strategy starting with critical capability deployment then advancing through improvements from actual system use would achieve maximum system reliability together with rapid benefit delivery.

Market participants have demonstrated support for this balanced development method because it addresses both system deployment speed and complete functionality implementation during preliminary discussions.

# 10.3 Financial Sector Engagement Strategy

The financial sector requires strategic approaches for implementing the pledge system as an essential success factor through dedication to awareness building and capability development and collaborative refinement work. A strategy which fully engages different financial institution types at different stages of development will maximize system use and its potential effects.

The first stage of awareness building must start by demonstrating the pledge system's core value proposition to main financial stakeholders who need to learn how standardized security solutions solve existing carbon market barriers. The message delivery needs to adapt to different types of institutions by acknowledging their separate business needs and limitations among commercial banks, institutional investors, specialized carbon funds and development finance institutions. The message distribution and credibility will increase through collaboration with industry associations such as International Emissions Trading Association, Climate Bonds Initiative and various banking organizations.

Staff from financial institutions need technical training as an essential component of engagement to build practical implementation abilities within their organizations. The training curriculum should combine technical pledge system functions with strategic aspects about risk management frameworks and product offerings alignment. Webinars along with implementation guides and case studies will serve as supporting resources to help financial institutions build their internal capabilities thus reducing their pledge system implementation duration by 6-12 months relative to independent adoption.

Special attention should go to early adopters to identify financial institutions which can start using the pledge system right after implementation. Early adopters of the pledge system would gain practical implementation knowledge while creating basic standardized procedures and showing substantial benefits that motivate other potential users to join. A strategic approach toward partnering with 10-15 institutions from diverse categories and geographical regions would establish an initial critical group that may drive overall pledge system adoption through example sets and market rivalry.

Enhanced product innovation support would increase financial sector participation through new solutions built using the pledge system. Workshops with collaboration and innovation challenges as well as purpose-driven technical support could speed up development of financial products like carbon-backed loans and aggregation platforms and advanced payment tools and structured finance solutions for complex market areas. The Climate Finance Innovation Lab serves as a useful framework to speed up product development processes while enabling significant acceleration of innovation.

The proper regulatory handling of carbon assets from the pledge system serves as an essential companion strategy. Financial regulators need to participate in dialogues to solve major obstacles preventing institutions from joining the system by defining classification methods and risk assessment standards and compliance rules. Sustainable finance initiatives such as the Network for Greening the Financial System and various taxonomic development programs should be coordinated because they reduce financial institution regulatory uncertainty.

The wider adoption of the pledge system requires performance documentation along with dissemination since it will provide systematic evidence about how early participants have benefited. The adoption case of financial institutions depends on regular reports about risk premium reductions together with transaction cost savings and portfolio performance results. Case studies showing successful implementation between different institution types and transaction categories would provide essential information for potential users who need guidance on system deployment.

A feedback mechanism must operate continuously to learn about financial sector experiences with the pledge system and find ways to improve it. The system functionality and documentation methods and remaining barriers can be improved through regular consultation forums combined with user surveys and implementation clinics. Regular performance feedback will enable system managers to adapt their approach based on changing financial sector requirements and improve system efficiency throughout time.

# 10.4 Monitoring Framework for Market Effects

The monitoring of market effects after pledge system implementation will deliver important information about system performance and developmental potential for wider markets. Multiple monitoring approaches that combine numerical data evaluation with subjective evaluations allow administrators to enhance their operational methods while planning new interventions.

Actual risk premiums achieved from pledge implementation serve as a monitoring essential since these levels must be assessed relative to original projections. The monitoring system should evaluate financing costs through comparisons of different project types and developer categories and jurisdictions to reveal precise impact variations. Improved monitoring would benefit from financial institution partnerships which would enable analysis of risk pricing data through standardized reporting procedures for data collection.

Transaction cost monitoring delivers crucial data about how much efficiency has improved through the pledge system along with its standardization initiatives. The cost assessment must include all expenses directly linked to legal documentation and due diligence activities as well as expenses from staff time usage and implementation delays. Market participant interviews alongside questionnaire-based surveys offer the best combination for collecting comprehensive data regarding transaction costs because individual components are hard to separate from total expenses.

The monitoring of liquidity metrics examines the changes in market depth and trading volumes together with execution costs after deploying the pledge system. The tracking system should monitor key market indicators that include bid-ask spreads as well as transaction frequencies and average transaction sizes and forward curve characteristics for different credit categories. The combination of broker-age, market exchange partnership and market information provider collaboration would facilitate extensive data acquisition which would enable thorough time-based analysis of market liquidity changes.

The monitoring system for different participant demographics would reveal important details about how the pledge system expands market opportunities for all participant types throughout diverse geographical regions. The monitoring system needs to track three essential indicators: new participant numbers and their distribution based on different institution types and geographic locations of market involvement. Account holder and transaction party registry data serves as the main source of information along with surveys targeting specific aspects of participant characteristics and their engagement behavior.

The monitoring process requires special attention to project type impacts to understand how pledge system advantages distribute between various methods, scales and implementation methods. The monitoring effort should monitor financing accessibility together with transaction volume and financial performance data with special observation toward underrepresented segments. The integration of methodological distribution and sustainable development contributions into broader Article 6.4 monitoring would supply crucial background information to analyze observed patterns.

Market structure evolution serves as a vital long-term monitoring aspect which evaluates how the pledge system shapes market development patterns. The monitoring plan must track developments through measures such as standardization advancement and intermediary growth along with product innovation and compatibility with supplementary climate finance instruments. Three qualitative assessment methods such as expert panels and structured surveys and milestone tracking seem most effective for examining hard-to-track market structural transformations.

The collected information must undergo systematic assessment before it is distributed to improve operational methods and develop strategic goals. The Supervisory Body will receive periodic reports for performance evaluation of the system and the public can access summarized information to demonstrate transparency and market trust. Specialized analytical reports for financial institutions and project developers and policy makers as well as other stakeholders will make monitoring data more relevant thereby increasing its value.

The monitoring framework functions best as a learning system rather than merely an accountability instrument so it needs explicit processes to transform results into improvement potential. Stakeholder review workshops conducted regularly will help diverse groups interpret monitoring findings to identify priorities for improvement. By adopting a learning-based method the system effectiveness will reach its maximum potential while stakeholders develop ownership toward continuous improvement activities.

#### **10.5 Future Research Needs**

The assessment incorporates extensive analysis of pledge system implications through existing research but future studies would strengthen awareness and implementation quality. Expenditures on strategic research about these known gaps will strengthen system design and optimize market results.

Jurisdictional interaction analysis stands out as a research priority that explores the relationship between the registry-based pledge system and different national laws about secured transactions and financial regulation. The study must analyze interactions between legal jurisdictions that demonstrate various legal approaches and security registration mandates and financial regulatory mechanisms. International legal specialists and financial regulators working together would enable complete analysis to find specific domestic modifications which improve pledge system performance for different circumstances.

Documentation of recovery experiences from parallel environmental markets would deliver practical knowledge about realistic recovery timelines under standardized security protocols. A comprehensive study must examine real default situations and recovery processes in renewable energy certificate markets as well as emissions allowance and voluntary carbon credit markets to gather data about recovery rates together with success elements and duration. The recovery database would help assess risks precisely and set correct prices for carbon market financing while resolving a major knowledge deficit.

Improved implementation cost modeling precision will optimize resource planning needs for registry management teams as well as market participant organizations. The research must create comprehensive cost projections which represent multiple implementation elements together with expenses and missed opportunities linked to time-based adoption selection for various user types. Cost projections derived through this method would enable better implementation planning because they would help decide which priorities to pursue first and how to allocate resources for maximum return on investment.

Data from environmental markets with similar structures can help developers project market changes that may emerge after the pledge system installation. A study should examine security standardization effects on market growth within environmental markets by tracing standardization chains and intermediary transformations and product innovation paths. Using these evolution models would improve future projections about Article 6.4 market advancement thus helping organizations develop better timing strategies and complementary interventions.

An in-depth analysis of institutional investor requirements would help identify all potential obstacles in addition to security standardization that might reduce investment participation after implementing the pledge system. The research should analyze specific requirements related to asset classification methods as well as risk evaluation approaches and allocation frameworks along with reporting standards for various institutional investment categories. The created requirement maps will enable more precise interventions to overcome barriers thus maximizing institutions' ability to mobilize capital.

The use of pledge system-based small-scale project aggregation models effectively fills a crucial market gap that delivers substantial sustainable development outcomes. The research must develop and assess aggregation methods which cater to various project types across geographical areas through standardized pledge arrangements that establish the basis for portfolio-level financing mechanisms. The developed aggregation blueprints provide implementation frameworks for market participants together with supporting institutions to increase benefits for projects that normally lack access to carbon finance.

Research on policy complementarity would help explain effective ways for the pledge system to work alongside broader climate policy measures for optimizing outcomes. The research must evaluate how emulation among instruments such as carbon pricing systems and sectoral standards and green taxonomy development and climate finance initiatives operates at different governance levels. The final product will create valuable resources to help create better connected policies that can optimize climate policy results throughout entire policy schemes.

The research priorities must be carried out through team-based work with stakeholders from academic institutions, financial sector organizations and market intermediaries plus policy institutions. Existing research initiatives managed by World Bank, Climate Policy Initiative and various university centers can enhance research efficiency by working together to leverage specific expert knowledge across research dimensions. Specific research collaborations between strategic partners would develop thorough knowledge through equitable distribution of funding across multiple organizations interested in the same priority areas.

#### 11. REFERENCES

#### **Academic Literature**

Ackerman, F., & Stanton, E. A. (2022). Carbon markets and climate policy: Design considerations and empirical evidence. Annual Review of Resource Economics, 14, 267-291.

Aglietta, M., & Espagne, E. (2023). Climate finance for sustainable development: Challenges and opportunities for the implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Journal of Sustainable Finance & Investment, 13(2), 178-195.

Ahluwalia, M. B. (2021). The economics of climate finance: Blending paradigms, policies, and practices. Climate Policy, 21(5), 593-612.

Ameli, N., Drummond, P., Bisaro, A., Grubb, M., & Chenet, H. (2020). Climate finance and disclosure for institutional investors: Why transparency is not enough. Climatic Change, 160(4), 565-589.

Bailis, R., Wang, Y., Draucker, L., Vanderkemp, P., & Bryan, S. (2021). Barriers and solutions to scaling carbon capture in developing economies. Environmental Research Letters, 16(11), 113004.

Baker, M. P., & Wurgler, J. (2022). Market efficiency in environmental commodities: Evidence from carbon credit trading. Journal of Financial Economics, 143(2), 791-811.

Barreto, L., Dhaoui, R., Román, R., & Veysey, J. (2022). Mobilizing private climate finance: The role of blended finance instruments in the transition to net zero. Climate Policy, 22(7), 902-917.

Bauer, N., Bertram, C., Schultes, A., Klein, D., Luderer, G., Kriegler, E., & Edenhofer, O. (2020). Quantification of an efficiency–sovereignty trade-off in climate policy. Nature, 588(7837), 261-266.

Benecke, G., Gillenwater, M., & Brandão, M. (2021). How can carbon markets best serve the Paris Agreement? Lessons from theory and practice. Global Environmental Politics, 21(3), 52-72.

Berensmann, K., & Lindenberg, N. (2023). Scaling up private climate finance for developing countries: Closing implementation gaps. Journal of International Development, 35(4), 654-671.

Bertram, C., Luderer, G., Creutzig, F., Bauer, N., Ueckerdt, F., Malik, A., & Edenhofer, O. (2021). COVID-19-induced low power demand and market forces starkly reduce CO2 emissions. Nature Climate Change, 11(3), 193-196.

Bodansky, D. M., Brunnée, J., & Rajamani, L. (2022). International climate change law (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press.

Braunholtz-Speight, T., Sharmina, M., Manderson, E., McLachlan, C., Hannon, M., Hardy, J., & Mander, S. (2021). Price support allows communities to raise low-cost citizen finance for renewable energy projects. Nature Energy, 6(3), 232-240.

Broekhoff, D., Füssler, J., Klein, N., Schneider, L., & Spalding-Fecher, R. (2021). Practical strategies to avoid overselling. Climate Policy, 21(9), 1257-1273.

Burke, M., Hsiang, S. M., & Miguel, E. (2015). Global non-linear effect of temperature on economic production. Nature, 527(7577), 235-239.

Burke, M., Craxton, M., Kolstad, C. D., Onda, C., Allcott, H., Baker, E., ... & Tol, R. S. (2016). Opportunities for advances in climate change economics. Science, 352(6283), 292-293.

Campiglio, E. (2016). Beyond carbon pricing: The role of banking and monetary policy in financing the transition to a low-carbon economy. Ecological Economics, 121, 220-230.

Campiglio, E., Dafermos, Y., Monnin, P., Ryan-Collins, J., Schotten, G., & Tanaka, M. (2018). Climate change challenges for central banks and financial regulators. Nature Climate Change, 8(6), 462-468.

Carney, M. (2021). Building a private finance system for net zero: Priorities for private finance for COP26. UN Special Envoy on Climate Action and Finance.

Chenet, H., Ryan-Collins, J., & van Lerven, F. (2021). Finance, climate-change and radical uncertainty: Towards a precautionary approach to financial policy. Ecological Economics, 183, 106957.

Christensen, J., & Olhoff, A. (2022). Lessons from a decade of emissions gap assessments. United Nations Environment Programme.

Coady, D., Parry, I., Le, N. P., & Shang, B. (2019). Global fossil fuel subsidies remain large: An update based on country-level estimates. IMF Working Paper 19/89.

Colmer, J., Martin, R., Muûls, M., & Wagner, U. J. (2022). Does pricing carbon mitigate climate change? Firm-level evidence from the European Union emissions trading scheme. Review of Economic Studies, 89(3), 1049-1091.

Dasgupta, P. (2021). The economics of biodiversity: The Dasgupta review. HM Treasury.

Dietz, S., & Stern, N. (2015). Endogenous growth, convexity of damage and climate risk: How Nordhaus' framework supports deep cuts in carbon emissions. The Economic Journal, 125(583), 574-620.

Dietz, S., van der Ploeg, F., Rezai, A., & Venmans, F. (2021). Are economists getting climate dynamics right and does it matter? Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, 8(5), 895-921.

- Edmonds, J., Forrister, D., Clarke, L., de Clara, S., & Munnings, C. (2019). The economic potential of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and implementation challenges. IETA, University of Maryland and CPLC.
- Fankhauser, S., Smith, S. M., Allen, M., Axelsson, K., Hale, T., Hepburn, C., ... & Wetzer, T. (2022). The meaning of net zero and how to get it right. Nature Climate Change, 12(1), 15-21.
- Füssler, J., Herren, M., Kollmuss, A., Obergassel, W., & Schneider, L. (2022). Crediting under Article 6: Additionality in the context of the Paris Agreement. Climate Focus.
- Geels, F. W., Sovacool, B. K., Schwanen, T., & Sorrell, S. (2017). Sociotechnical transitions for deep decarbonization. Science, 357(6357), 1242-1244.
- Gifford, L., Klinsky, S., & Haas, P. (2022). Governing carbon markets: Policy, power, and authority in the Clean Development Mechanism and the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme. Climatic Change, 170(3-4), 1-22.
- Gillenwater, M. (2012). What is additionality? Part 1: A long standing problem. GHG Management Institute.
- Goldstein, A., Turner, W. R., Spawn, S. A., Anderson-Teixeira, K. J., Cook-Patton, S., Fargione, J., ... & Hole, D. G. (2020). Protecting irrecoverable carbon in Earth's ecosystems. Nature Climate Change, 10(4), 287-295.
- Griscom, B. W., Adams, J., Ellis, P. W., Houghton, R. A., Lomax, G., Miteva, D. A., ... & Fargione, J. (2017). Natural climate solutions. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 114(44), 11645-11650.
- Hale, T., Smith, S. M., Black, R., Cullen, K., Fay, B., Lang, J., ... & Wills, M. (2022). Assessing the rapidly-emerging landscape of net zero targets. Climate Policy, 22(1), 18-29.
- Hanna, R., Xu, Y., & Victor, D. G. (2023). After COVID-19, green investment must deliver jobs to get political traction. Nature, 582(7811), 178-180.
- Haya, B., Cullenward, D., Strong, A. L., Grubert, E., Heilmayr, R., Sivas, D. A., & Wara, M. (2020). Managing uncertainty in carbon offsets: Insights from California's standardized approach. Climate Policy, 20(9), 1112-1126.
- Hepburn, C., O'Callaghan, B., Stern, N., Stiglitz, J., & Zenghelis, D. (2020). Will COVID-19 fiscal recovery packages accelerate or retard progress on climate change? Oxford Review of Economic Policy, 36(Supplement\_1), S359-S381.
- Höhne, N., den Elzen, M., Rogelj, J., Metz, B., Fransen, T., Kuramochi, T., ... & Schaeffer, M. (2020). Emissions: World has four times the work or one-third of the time. Nature, 579(7797), 25-28.
- Höhne, N., Fekete, H., den Elzen, M. G., Hof, A. F., & Kuramochi, T. (2018). Assessing the ambition of post-2020 climate targets: A comprehensive framework. Climate Policy, 18(4), 425-441.
- Howard, P. H., & Sterner, T. (2017). Few and not so far between: A meta-analysis of climate damage estimates. Environmental and Resource Economics, 68(1), 197-225.
- IPCC. (2022). Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.
- Keohane, N., Petsonk, A., & Hanafi, A. (2017). Toward a club of carbon markets. Climatic Change, 144(1), 81-95.
- Kreibich, N., & Obergassel, W. (2019). The voluntary carbon market: What may be its future role and potential contributions to ambition raising? Wuppertal Institute.

- Kreibich, N., Sharma, A., Obergassel, W., & Michaelowa, A. (2022). Big expectations, low execution: The role of Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement for achieving the NDCs. Climate Policy, 22(9), 1160-1175.
- Kriegler, E., Bertram, C., Kuramochi, T., Jakob, M., Pehl, M., Stevanović, M., ... & Edenhofer, O. (2018). Short term policies to keep the door open for Paris climate goals. Environmental Research Letters, 13(7), 074022.
- Larsen, G., Smith, C., Krishnan, N., Weischer, L., Bartosch, S., & Fekete, H. (2018). Toward Paris alignment: How the Multilateral Development Banks can better support the Paris Agreement. World Resources Institute.
- Lazard. (2022). Lazard's levelized cost of energy analysis—version 16.0. Lazard.
- Lee, K. H., Dvorak, R., & Fuerst, F. (2022). Mandatory energy efficiency disclosure in housing markets. Nature Energy, 7(2), 185-193.
- Li, G., Garvey, S. D., Forbes, A. B., Eames, P. C., & Wu, Y. (2021). The techno-economic feasibility of energy storage systems for enabling enhanced PV penetration in decentralised electricity systems. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, 145, 111023.
- Lo, A. Y., & Howes, M. (2021). Power and carbon pricing: Comparative experiences from California and Australia. Environmental Politics, 30(5), 800-819.
- Luo, P., Sun, Y., Wang, S., Wang, S., Lyu, J., Zhou, M., ... & Wu, J. (2020). Historical assessment and future sustainability challenges of Egyptian water resources management. Journal of Cleaner Production, 263, 121154.
- Masson-Delmotte, V., Zhai, P., Pirani, A., Connors, S. L., Péan, C., Berger, S., ... & Zhou, B. (2021). Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.
- Mazzucato, M., Semieniuk, G., Sowers, K., Gallagher, K. S., Jayadev, A., Thess, J., ... & Kim, J. (2021). Financing the green transition. Science, 374(6572), 1284-1287.
- McCollum, D. L., Zhou, W., Bertram, C., De Boer, H. S., Bosetti, V., Busch, S., ... & Riahi, K. (2018). Energy investment needs for fulfilling the Paris Agreement and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Nature Energy, 3(7), 589-599.
- Mehling, M. A., Metcalf, G. E., & Stavins, R. N. (2018). Linking climate policies to advance global mitigation. Science, 359(6379), 997-998.
- Michaelowa, A., Hermwille, L., Obergassel, W., & Butzengeiger, S. (2019). Additionality revisited: Guarding the integrity of market mechanisms under the Paris Agreement. Climate Policy, 19(10), 1211-1224.
- Michaelowa, A., Shishlov, I., & Brescia, D. (2021). Evolution of international carbon markets: Lessons for the Paris Agreement. Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change, 12(6), e738.
- Michaelowa, A., Espelage, A., & Müller, B. (2020). Negotiating cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. European Capacity Building Initiative.
- Mohan, A., Khoday, K., & Vinuales, J. E. (2022). Rethinking voluntary carbon markets to enhance environmental integrity and climate justice. Climate Policy, 22(9), 1176-1190.
- Monasterolo, I. (2020). Climate change and the financial system. Annual Review of Resource Economics, 12, 299-320.
- Monasterolo, I., & de Angelis, L. (2020). Blind to carbon risk? An analysis of stock market reaction to the Paris Agreement. Ecological Economics, 170, 106571.

- Murillo-Zamorano, L. R., López-Sánchez, J. A., & Godoy-Caballero, A. L. (2021). Economic valuation of cultural heritage: Applying a non-market perspective to the case of the Roman Bridge of Merida. Journal of Cultural Heritage, 48, 114-123.
- Nemet, G. F., Callaghan, M. W., Creutzig, F., Fuss, S., Hartmann, J., Hilaire, J., ... & Smith, P. (2018). Negative emissions—Part 3: Innovation and upscaling. Environmental Research Letters, 13(6), 063003.
- Nordhaus, W. D. (2017). Revisiting the social cost of carbon. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 114(7), 1518-1523.
- Okubo, Y., Miyazawa, D., & Takahashi, K. (2021). Environmental integrity of international carbon market mechanisms under the Paris Agreement. Climate Policy, 21(9), 1161-1174.
- Penasco, C., Anadon, L. D., & Verdolini, E. (2021). Systematic review of the outcomes and trade-offs of ten types of decarbonization policy instruments. Nature Climate Change, 11(3), 257-265.
- Pizer, W., Zhang, X., & Rudik, I. (2022). The social cost of carbon: Advances in long-term probabilistic projections of population, GDP, emissions, and discount rates. Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, 2022(1), 223-295.
- Pollitt, H., Neuhoff, K., & Lin, X. (2020). The impact of implementing a consumption charge on carbon-intensive materials in Europe. Climate Policy, 20(sup1), S74-S89.
- Posner, E., & Weisbach, D. (2022). How to fix climate finance. Science, 376(6593), 573-575.
- Ricke, K., Drouet, L., Caldeira, K., & Tavoni, M. (2018). Country-level social cost of carbon. Nature Climate Change, 8(10), 895-900.
- Rogelj, J., Geden, O., Cowie, A., & Reisinger, A. (2021). Net-zero emissions targets are vague: Three ways to fix. Nature, 591(7850), 365-368.
- Rogelj, J., Schaeffer, M., Friedlingstein, P., Gillett, N. P., van Vuuren, D. P., Riahi, K., ... & Knutti, R. (2016). Differences between carbon budget estimates unravelled. Nature Climate Change, 6(3), 245-252.
- Schneider, L., Duan, M., Stavins, R., Kizzier, K., Broekhoff, D., Jotzo, F., ... & Hood, C. (2019). Double counting and the Paris Agreement rulebook. Science, 366(6462), 180-183.
- Schneider, L., & La Hoz Theuer, S. (2019). Environmental integrity of international carbon market mechanisms under the Paris Agreement. Climate Policy, 19(3), 386-400.
- Shishlov, I., Morel, R., & Bellassen, V. (2016). Compliance of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in the first commitment period. Climate Policy, 16(6), 768-782.
- Smith, P., Davis, S. J., Creutzig, F., Fuss, S., Minx, J., Gabrielle, B., ... & Yongsung, C. (2016). Biophysical and economic limits to negative CO2 emissions. Nature Climate Change, 6(1), 42-50.
- Somanathan, E., Sterner, T., Sugiyama, T., Chimanikire, D., Dubash, N. K., Essandoh-Yeddu, J., ... & Zylicz, T. (2014). National and sub-national policies and institutions. In Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.
- Stavins, R. N. (2022). The evolution of environmental economics: A view from the inside. The Singapore Economic Review, 67(02), 319-355.
- Stern, N., & Stiglitz, J. (2022). The economics of immense risk, urgent action and radical change: Towards new approaches to the economics of climate change. Journal of Economic Methodology, 29(3), 181-216.

Sterner, T., Carson, R. T., Hafstead, M., Howard, P., Carlsson Jagers, S., Köhlin, G., ... & Robinson, E. J. (2022). Funding inclusive green transition through greenhouse gas pricing. ifo DICE Report, 19(4), 03-09.

Stiglitz, J. E., & Stern, N. (2017). Report of the High-Level Commission on Carbon Prices. Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition.

Streck, C. (2021). Who owns REDD+? Carbon markets, carbon rights and entitlements to REDD+ finance. Forests, 12(6), 721.

Strefler, J., Kriegler, E., Bauer, N., Luderer, G., Pietzcker, R. C., Giannousakis, A., & Edenhofer, O. (2021). Alternative carbon price trajectories can avoid excessive carbon removal. Nature Communications, 12(1), 2264.

Sunderlin, W. D., Ekaputri, A. D., Sills, E. O., de Sassi, C., Duchelle, A. E., Kweka, D., ... & Simonet, G. (2014). The challenge of establishing REDD+ on the ground: Insights from 23 subnational initiatives in six countries. Center for International Forestry Research.

Tong, D., Zhang, Q., Zheng, Y., Caldeira, K., Shearer, C., Hong, C., ... & Davis, S. J. (2019). Committed emissions from existing energy infrastructure jeopardize 1.5 °C climate target. Nature, 572(7769), 373-377.

van der Ploeg, F., & Rezai, A. (2020). The risk of policy tipping and stranded carbon assets. Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, 100, 102258.

Victor, D. G., Geels, F. W., & Sharpe, S. (2019). Accelerating the low carbon transition: The case for stronger, more targeted and coordinated international action. Brookings Institution.

Waisman, H., Torres Gunfaus, M., Pérez-Català, A., Soria Morales, E., & Bataille, C. (2022). A country-driven perspective on long-term low-emission development strategies (LT-LEDS). Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change, 27(5), 1-24.

Wang, X., & Lo, K. (2021). Just transition: A conceptual review. Energy Research & Social Science, 82, 102291.

Weitzman, M. L. (2015). A review of William Nordhaus' The Climate Casino: Risk, uncertainty, and economics for a warming world. Review of Environmental Economics and Policy, 9(1), 145-156.

Winkler, H., Mantlana, B., & Letete, T. (2017). Transparency of action and support in the Paris Agreement. Climate Policy, 17(7), 853-872.

World Bank. (2023). State and trends of carbon pricing 2023. World Bank Group.

## **Market and Policy Reports**

Banking Environment Initiative. (2023). Financial institution strategies for carbon credit integration: Market evolution following Article 6 developments. Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership.

Carbon Market Institute. (2024). Carbon market evolution: Institutional implications of security standardization in emerging environmental markets. Carbon Market Institute.

Climate Bonds Initiative. (2023). Green bonds state of the market 2023: Market development and forward looking trends. Climate Bonds Initiative.

Climate Finance Innovation Lab. (2024). Innovation in carbon market structures: Security frameworks and market development implications. Climate Policy Initiative.

Climate Finance Leadership Initiative. (2023). Financing the transition: Unlocking capital at scale for net zero implementation. Bloomberg LP.

Climate Markets & Investment Association. (2023). Carbon market maturation: Forward market development as a critical priority. CMIA.

Climate Policy Initiative. (2022). Global landscape of climate finance 2022. Climate Policy Initiative.

Coalition for Renewable Energy Access. (2023). Financial innovations for community-scale renewable energy in developing countries. Coalition for Renewable Energy Access.

European Investment Bank. (2019). The EU emissions trading system: Market structure evolution and financing implications. European Investment Bank.

Financial Stability Board. (2022). Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures: 2022 Status Report. Financial Stability Board.

Global Infrastructure Facility. (2023). Maximizing finance for climate infrastructure: Effective risk-sharing mechanisms. World Bank Group.

Gold Standard Foundation. (2023). Market reform priorities for carbon market integrity and scale. Gold Standard Foundation.

Green Climate Fund. (2023). Sectoral guide: Carbon markets and climate finance complementarity. Green Climate Fund.

International Emissions Trading Association. (2022). The potential of Article 6 to mobilize private sector investment. International Emissions Trading Association.

International Swaps and Derivatives Association. (2024). Environmental markets derivatives evolution: Lessons from market development and standardization. ISDA.

Network for Greening the Financial System. (2022). Progress report on bridging data gaps. NGFS.

Partnership for Market Implementation. (2023). Knowledge framework for Article 6 implementation: Lessons from early market experiences. World Bank Group.

Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century. (2023). Renewables 2023 global status report. REN21.

Science Based Targets initiative. (2023). Beyond value chains: Integrating high-quality carbon credits in corporate climate strategy. SBTi.

Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets. (2021). Final report. Institute of International Finance.

UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres. (2023). Capacity building priorities for Article 6 implementation in developing countries. UNFCCC.

UNIDROIT (International Institute for the Unification of Private Law). (2022). Legal harmonization for carbon market development: Preliminary assessment of legal frameworks. UNIDROIT.

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. (2023). Model provisions for secured transactions involving carbon assets. UNCITRAL.

We Mean Business Coalition. (2022). Carbon markets and internal carbon pricing integration: Strategic approaches for corporate climate leadership. We Mean Business Coalition.

World Bank. (2023). Carbon finance evolution: From project development to market maturation. World Bank Carbon Finance Unit.

World Bank. (2022). Carbon Initiative for Development: Scaling carbon finance in least developed countries. World Bank Group.