



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/EFC.17/Inf.1  
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Ethics and Finance Committee  
Seventeenth Meeting  
Bonn, Germany, 6-7 October 2015

Agenda item 9. c)

## **UNFCCC ONLINE PLATFORM FOR VOLUNTARY CANCELLATION OF CERS (PRESENTATION)**

# UNFCCC Online Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of CERs

Information package

Updated 10 September 2015



# Background

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*“Climate science shows clearly that the world needs to achieve a three-part goal to successfully address climate change: peaking global emissions in the next decade, triggering a deep de-carbonization of the global economy and achieving climate neutrality as soon as possible in the second half of the century.”*

• Christiana Figueres,  
UNFCCC Executive Secretary

**Acknowledging the message from science that a below-2-degrees-C world require that we achieve climate neutrality in the second half of the century, UNFCCC is launching the Climate Neutral Now campaign ([www.climateneutralnow.org](http://www.climateneutralnow.org)).**



## A CLIMATE NEUTRAL FUTURE



A future where our greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced to the point where we reach a balance between what we emit and what the Earth can absorb.

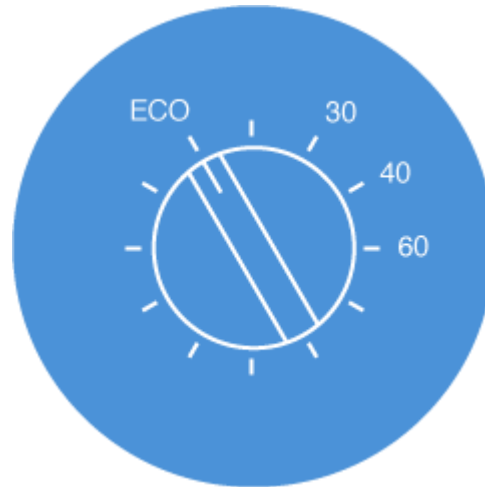
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## HOW IT WORKS



1. **Measure** your climate footprint



2. **Reduce** emissions as much as possible



3. **Offset** what cannot be reduced

# Background

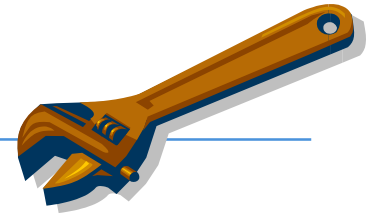
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1. For offsetting, UNFCCC promotes the use of Certified Emission Reductions from the Clean Development Mechanism.
2. In order to facilitate access and cancellation of CERs' in the CDM registry, the CDM Executive Board has now developed the Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of CERs.
3. Demand for CERs on the Platform is strengthened through the Climate Neutral Now campaign.

# Key requirements

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- ❖ Making CERs available for voluntary cancellation (VC) easily visible and searchable; ✓
- ❖ Implementing a simple process to pay for the VC of those CERs; ✓
- ❖ For each purchase of VC an attestation will be issued and published; ✓
- ❖ No brokerage fee charged to users; ✓
- ❖ Only CERs located in the CDM registry will be offered – this includes Adaptation Fund CERs; ✓
- ❖ Neutral design, not promoting particular CDM projects/programme of activities (PoAs) or CERs. ✓



# General features

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- a) UNFCCC operates the platform, with UNFCCC branding
- b) Payment by PayPal or credit card fees. The platform does not save users' financial information; **However, additional payment methods, e.g. to accommodate some institutional banks requirements, to be added in version 2.0 (Q4/15-Q1/16)**
- c) Supports accounts for sellers (mandatory) and for users (optional);
- d) Maintains a detailed log of all purchase transactions;
- e) Integrates with the CDM registry to support quantity availability, instructions for voluntary cancellation and issuance of attestations;
- h) Accessible through the main internet browsers (Chrome, Internet Explorer, Firefox and Safari); Accessible from desktop and mobile devices;
- i) Initial version in English. Other UN languages to be added.
- j) **Availability:** 24 hours a day, seven days a week.





# Providers (sellers) side

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- a) Anybody with CERs in the CDM registry can use the platform
- b) Sellers decide how many CERs are sold at the Platform, and at what price.
- c) Offers of CERs available in the CDM registry – can be modified or withdrawn at any time.
- c) Sellers set price for the CER offers.
- d) The system allows sellers to indicate tax rate to be included in his/her proof of sale document. This tax is automatically added to the sales price.
- e) Sellers can provide information about projects' Sustainable Development benefits;



# Providers (sellers) side

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- h) For the special case of Adaptation Fund, special “AF filter” will be available so that the buyer can easily identify relevant CERs.
- i) Information will be provided about the additional benefits that the AF CERs provide, in terms of supporting AF activities
- j) Receive proceeds through PayPal and credit cards – additional means to be added to accommodate requirements by some institutional sellers (see previous slide).
- k) Receive notification when a transaction involving their CERs is completed;
- l) View transaction history.
- m) Update contact details and password.

# Users (buyers) side

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- a) CERs are searchable through filters and key words:
  - Project type;
  - Project name and number;
  - Country hosting the project;
  - Sustainable development co-benefits;
  - Commitment period;
  - Unit price.
- b) Purchase as a registered or as a guest user;
- c) Pay through PayPal or credit card. Separate transactions have to be processed for orders from different sellers;
- d) Purchase the cancellation of all or part of the CERs available in a particular offer from a seller;
- e) Check and modify as needed the purchase in the shopping cart;



# Users (buyers) side

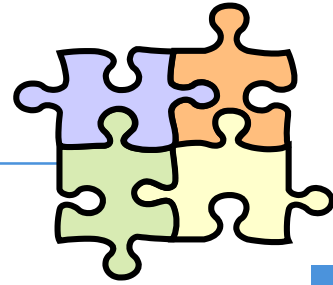
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- f) Indicate the reason for the cancellation by selecting a standardized reason or include free text. This will be reproduced on the attestation;
- g) Receive confirmation when the payment transaction is completed;
- h) Receive an attestation of voluntary cancelation of CERs when the CDM registry transaction is completed (in addition to the purchase confirmation) - normally within one working day. Unexpectedly high number of purchases within the same day may have an impact on the timeline.
- i) Transaction history for registered users;
- j) Registered users can update contact details and passwords.

# Specific features

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- ❖ Sellers have to apply for accounts with the secretariat and undergo authentication process before receiving access rights;
- ❖ Sellers may submit short project description and project picture as part of the seller account application process. Alternatively – default description and picture;
- ❖ Offers from the Adaptation Fund account will be searchable through a special filter; Description of Adaptation Fund CERs to be highlighted.
- ❖ Users will accept terms and conditions for the use of the store;
- ❖ Users will have access to UNFCCC complaints procedure;

# Pre-launch demonstration to ICAO

- Following the ICAO Global Aviation Dialogues (GLADs) on options for Market Based Instruments for the aviation sector, practical examples of how offsets can be sourced and cancelled emerged as a priority.
- Demonstration of the platform planned for the ICAO Global Aviation Partnerships on Emissions Reductions (E-GAP) Seminar in Montréal, Canada, 16 to 17 September 2015.
- Opportunity for showcasing the platform as a unique direct access to cancellation of CERs. Significant potential new demand post 2020.



# Launching event



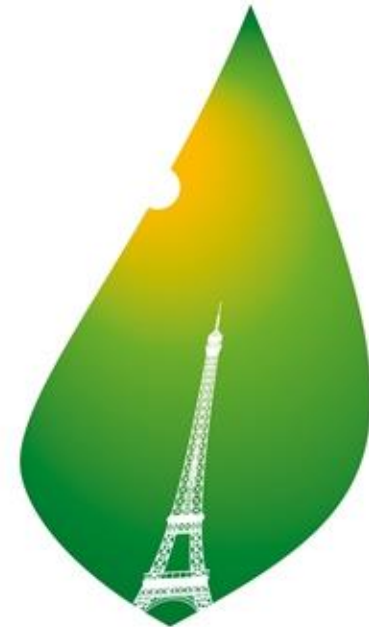
- Launching event on 22 September 2015 in New York.
- Combines the technically earliest possible release date of the platform with high-profile climate related events.
- The release would be a prominent feature of the UNFCCC Climate Neutral Now event during the Climate Week - also in conjunction with the opening of the UN General Assembly.
- Expect top level UN attendance, broad media coverage, and representation from diversity of sectors.
- Include announcements of C neutral COP21, SDG summit, UN system etc.
- Board to be represented by the Chair



# Promotion towards COP21

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- Senior delegates invited to offset their footprints with the platform
- Dedicated computer terminals will be set up in the COP21 venue
- Possibility for photo op. with EB members/other participants using the platform at COP21 .
- Coordinated with “Greening COP21” desks by French host
- Supporting communications pre- & during COP 21.



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**PARIS 2015**  
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



# Promotion towards COP21

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- CDM Executive Board Panel Discussion at COP 21 is proposed to focus on voluntary cancellation of CERs.
- A presentation of the online platform may be packaged into this event
- Additional promotional activities are planned in side lines of COP21.

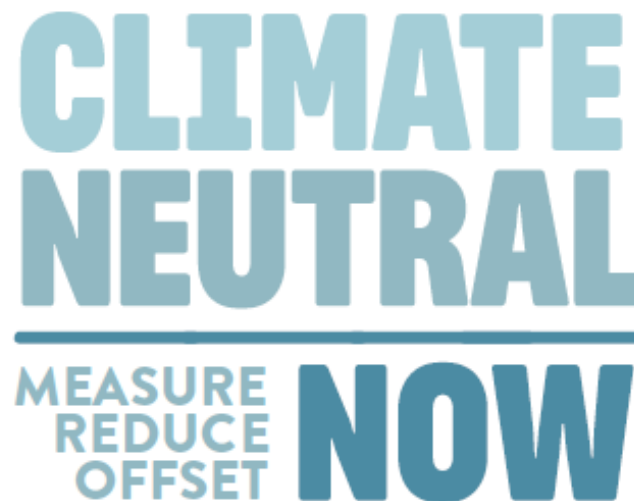


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# Promotion before and after COP 21

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- ❖ Promotion of on-line platform does not start, and does not stop, at COP 21.
- ❖ Integrated with the Secretariat's Climate Neutral Now initiative
- ❖ Partnering with Global Compact's Caring for Climate (C4C) initiative.
- ❖ Systematic outreach to sectors, companies, cities, events, individuals and organizations with focus on engaging sector organizations and key companies/organizations to champion climate neutrality, including the use of the on-line platform.
- ❖ Aligned with other business and NGO initiatives, such as We Mean Business, Science Based Targets, Groundswell/NAZCA, ICROA etc.
- ❖ Integrated in Secretariat regular messaging and outreach work.



**Thank you!**

