WEST AFRICA CARBON MARKET HUB

UNLOCKING CARBON MARKETS TO ENHANCE THE ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY OF WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES

CONCEPT NOTE & AGENDA

28-30 MAY 2025 - Senegal

BACKGROUND

The West African Alliance On Carbon Markets And Climate Finance (hereafter 'WAA' or the 'alliance') is an initiative of sixteen west African countries aimed at promoting a subregional approach to enhanced carbon market participation and access to international climate finance.

It was launched at COP22 in Marrakech in 2016. From 2017 until 2024, Alliance support has focused on strengthening technical capacities at the sub-regional and national level, providing opportunities for networking and peer-to-peer exchange and advising on governance frameworks in the context of Article 6 readiness.

The International Emissions Trading Association (hereafter 'IETA') is a non-profit organisation representing businesses committed to smart, well-designed and effective carbon markets to help achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and reach net-zero emissions by 2050. IETA works in collaboration with stakeholders to develop and promote broad participation in effective market-based trading systems for GHG emissions and reductions.

As an initiative within IETA, the Business Partnership for Market Implementation (hereafter 'B-PMI') aims to support the World Bank's Partnership for Market Implementation (PMI) programme in promoting the implementation of carbon pricing instruments for the achievement of NDCs and long-term decarbonization strategies, including through the engagement in international carbon markets and Article 6. As international rules for Article 6 are becoming increasingly clear and pioneering countries set precedents, many of them are prioritising Article 6 to attract investment in support of national climate policy goals. Some member countries have adopted national governance frameworks for Article 6 activities. At the sub-regional level, several actors are now emerging. A key priority in the coming years is to strengthen the Alliance's support for member countries' carbon market readiness implementation and facilitate private sector stakeholder action. In this spirit, the West Africa Carbon Market Hub aims to facilitate public and private sector partnerships for carbon market opportunities and enhance private sector and development partner engagement in West Africa.

The first edition of the West Africa Carbon Market Hub took place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in September 2023. This second edition of the West Africa Carbon Market Hub is coorganised by the Alliance, IETA's B-PMI, , with support from the UNFCCC RCC for West and Central Africa, the West African Develop- ment Bank (BOAD), the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and Voluntary Carbon Market Initiative (VCMI).

For more information visit the Alliance website here: **westafricanalliance.org.**

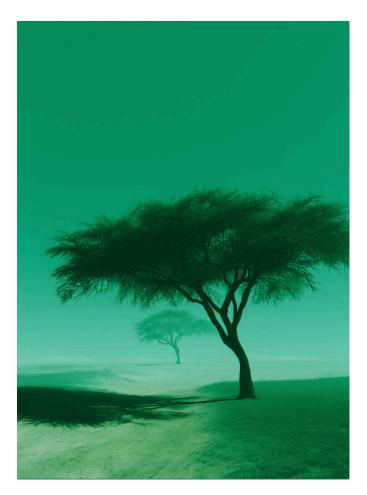
CO-ORGANISING PARTNERS:



OBJECTIVE OF THE CARBON MARKET HUB

To facilitate public and private partnerships for carbon market opportunities and enhance private sector and development partner engagement in West Africa.

- 1. Highlight the challenges and opportunities for carbon markets in the region.
- 2. Strengthen the technical and legal knowledge of regional stakeholders about participation and compliance requirements.
- 3. Deepen the understanding of the operational aspects and requirements of Article 6.2, Article 6.4 and the Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM).
- 4. Raise mutual awareness on priority actions expected from both host countries and business developers.
- 5. Facilitate information sharing and partnerships between West African private sector and public sector stakeholders for concrete project implementation (e.g., on waste, energy, e-mobility, nature-based solutions).



TARGET GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPERTS AND PARTICIPANTS

The event will invite:

Private sector

- Regional and international private sector stakeholders active or interested in the carbon market landscape
- Project developers
- Carbon credit buyers
- Professionals with experience in institutional and regulatory policies in the context of international climate change agreements
- Technology and clean solution providers

Public sector

- West African Alliance focal points
- Public sector stakeholders active in the carbon market landscape
- Development partners, donors
- Partner countries
- Article 6.4 Designated National Authorities (DNAs) and climate finance NDAs
- · Parliamentarians and local governors

Civil society and academia

 Academic researchers specializing in climate change, environmental policy, climate finance, carbon markets or related areas, community-based organisations and development NGOs, youth and women organisations, social entrepreneurs, climate networks, cooperatives

Regional and international organisations

- Sub-regional organisations
- · Multilateral and regional development banks
- Development organisations

THE WEST AFRICA CARBON MARKET HUB AIMS TO FACILITATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS FOR CARBON MARKET OPPORTUNITIES AND ENHANCE PRIVATE SECTOR AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNER ENGAGEMENT IN WEST AFRICA.

A CARBON MARKET BAZAAR PRESENTING INITIATIVES FROM THE SUB-REGION WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE SIDELINES OF THE CARBON MARKET HUB. PROJECT DEVELOPERS AND CARBON MARKET INITIATIVES ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING EXHIBITION MATERIALS.

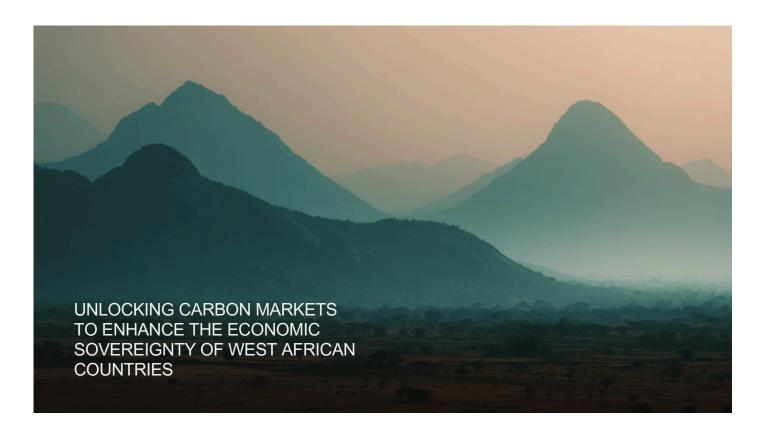
THE STATE OF CARBON MARKETS GLOBALLY AND IN WEST AFRICA

ТІМЕ	ΤΟΡΙΟ			
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and distribution of badges (Breakfast refreshments)			
09:30 – 10:45	Opening ceremony <i>Moderator:</i> • Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance	Welcome remarks from local and international dignitaries		
Session 1: Scene	e-setting			
10:45 – 12:00	 Overview of Carbon Markets at the Global and Regional Level: Compliance and Voluntary Markets, Article 6, Biodiversity and Plastic Credits <i>Moderator:</i> El Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & AGN lead negotiator 	Presentations by: • Andrea Bonzanni – IETA & B-PMI • Sandra Greiner – Climate Focus • Mandy Rambharos – Verra • Nicole Dewing – Africa Carbon Commodities		
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch break			
Session 2: Host	country carbon market readiness			
13.00 – 14:30	Implementation of Article 6 Frameworks Moderator: • Lamin Jammeh – The Gambia	Panellists: Mominata Compaore – Burkina Faso Rachel Boti-Douayoua – Côte d'Ivoire Asmau Jibril – Nigeria Isaac Danso – Ghana		
14:30 - 15:00	Refreshment Break			
Session 3: Market opportunities in West Africa				
15:00 – 16:30	Building High integrity Carbon Markets: Implementing Solutions for West Africa Moderator: • Sergi Cuadrat, Perspectives	 Panellists: Aurélien Pillet – KliK Foundation Manabu Kido – Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP) Bianca Gichangi – VCMI Alex Saer – Cercarbono Mark Hogg – Mere Plantations Limited Molly Brown – BURN 		
Throughout the day: Carbon Market Bazaar				
17:30 – 19:00	End of Day 1: Cocktail reception			

DEEP DIVES FOR CARBON MARKET IMPLEMENTATION: INTEGRITY, FAIRNESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ТІМЕ	ТОРІС	ТОРІС	
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and distribution of badges (Breakfast refreshments)		
09:30 – 11:00	 Fairness in carbon markets Moderator: El Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & AGN lead negotiator Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance Coordinator Keshinee Shah – CAP-A Hania Othman - Hedera Foundation 	 Unlocking Carbon Markets: How High-Integrity Registries Enable Trust and Interoperability Moderator: Carlos Cordova – S&P Global Isaac Danso – Ghana Kabaka Mutensa – BioCarbon Standard Yannick Wabo – RCC for West & Central Africa, UNFCCC Joe Dell'Orfano – Verra Kishor Rajhansa – Global Carbon Council Ieva Steponaviciute – Climate Action Data Trust (video) 	
11:00 – 12:00	Project Cycle of a Carbon Project & Project Origination Moderator: • Marshall Brown – GGGI • Tom Hayes – Gold Standard • Mercedes Garcia Madero – ALLCOT (TBC) • Tajiel Uroh – South Pole (TBC) • Heather McEwan – Verra	 Rollout of the Article 6.4 Mechanism (PACM) Moderator: Andrea Bonzanni – IETA Sergi Cuadrat – Perspectives Rachel Pekker – Germany El Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & SBM member Anantha Karthik – UpEnergy 	
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch break		
13:00 –14:00	Financing Carbon Projects Moderator: • Reshma Shah, FSD Africa Panellists: • Ababacar Diaw – IMPAXIS • Bruce Ian Keith – IFC • Wes Geisenberger – Hedera Foundation • Adrian Mill – ESS	Article 6 strategies Interactive simulation game led by: • Fenella Aouane – GGGI • Marshall Brown – GGGI	
14:00 – 15:00	The Digital Transformation of the VCM: Now and Next – Verra side event Moderator: . • Lorna Ritchie - ICVCM Introduction and presentation: • Joe Dell'Orfano – Verra • Benktesh Sharma - Verra Panellists: • Joe Dell'Orfano – Verra • Wes Geisenberger – Hedera Foundation • Raphaël De Ry – ALLCOT	Peer-to-Peer Exchange: Senegal & The Gambia (waste sector) Moderator: • Fanta Ciré Diop - SONAGED Presentations by: • Adja Aissatou Diallo – SONAGED • Aissatou Faye – SONAGED • Oumar Cesay – NEA, The Gambia • Nicole Dewing, Africa Carbon & Commodities	
15:00 – 15:30	Refreshment Break		

ТІМЕ	ТОРІС			
15:30 –16:30	Navigating ITMO Authorisation - Practitioners Perspectives Moderator: • Fenella Aouane – GGGI Presentation by: • Alicia Schmid – Perspectives Climate Group Panellists: • El Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & AGN lead negotiator • Isaac Danso – Ghana • Andrea Bonzanni – IETA & B-PMI	Nature-Based Solutions: Carbon Markets for Agriculture and Forestry Moderator: • Astrid Agostini – FAO Panellists: • Sana Diop – TreeAid • Emma Van der Ven – Rabobank ACORN • Astrid Agostini – FAO • Daniel Benefoh – Ghana		
16:30 –17:30	Integrated and Interoperable Carbon Market Infrastructure for Immediate Operationalisation of Article 6.2 – GCC side event Moderator: • Massamba Thioye – UNFCCC Panellists: • Carlos Cordova – S&P Global • Andrea Bonzanni – IETA • Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance • Kishor Rajhansa – GCC	CORSIA takes off <i>Moderator:</i> • Agustina Cundari, IETA <i>Panellists:</i> • KyooWon Oh – MIGA • Molly Brown – BURN • Storm Patel – TASC		
Throughout the day: Carbon Market Bazaar				
End of Day 2				



REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

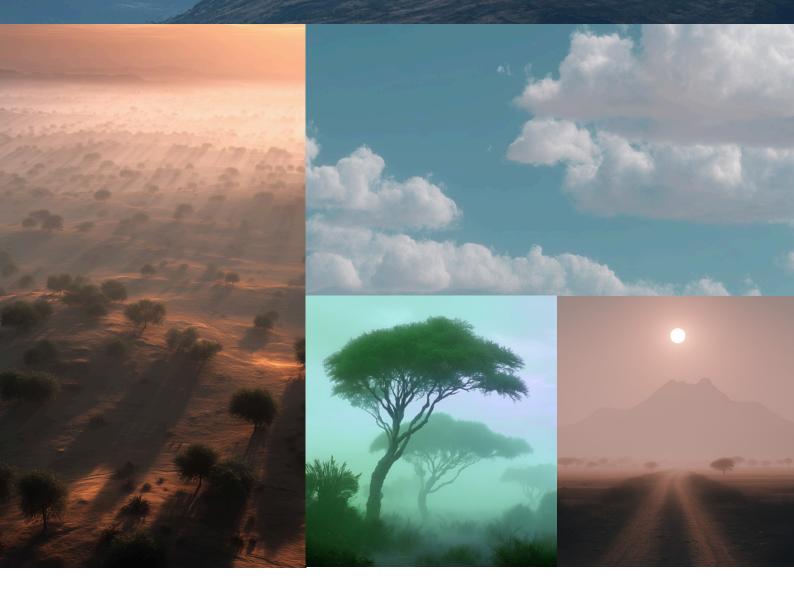
ТІМЕ	ТОРІС		
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and distribution of badges (Breakfast refreshments)		
09:30 – 11:30	Carbon Market Place, Initiatives and partnerships <i>Moderator:</i> • Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance	Opening: • Moubarak Moukaila – BOAD Presentations by: • Moubarak Moukaila – BOAD • Fenella Aouane – GGGI • Massamba Thioye – UNFCCC • Mandy Rambharos – Verra • Fanta Ciré Diop – SONAGED	
11:30 – 13:00	Ministerial Roundtable Moderator: • Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance	 Opening remarks by ambassadors and authorities Minister of Environment, Senegal Minister of Environment, The Gambia (TBC) Head of Environmental Protection Agency, Liberia Deputy Minister of Environment, Togo General Secretary, Republic of Guinea 	
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break		
14:00 –15:00	Closing ceremony		
Closing of the Carbon Market Hub			
End of Day 3			

Extra day, Saturday 31 May: Project site visit (optional)

More details to be shared soon

- 1- Mangrove Restoration
- 2- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project
- 3- Bandia Reserve

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28-30 MAY, 2025 Senegal