



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 sub-regional 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 co-organised by the Alliance, IETA's B-PMI, with support from the UNFCCC RCC for West and Central Africa, the West African Development 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:



West Africa Alliance
On Carbon markets and
Climate Finance



IETA



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Climate Action

WELCOME RECEPTION SPONSOR



Foundation for
Climate Protection and
Carbon Offset Kliik

SUPPORTED BY:



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

TIME	TOPIC	
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and distribution of badges (Breakfast refreshments)	
09:30 – 10:45	Opening ceremony <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance	<i>Welcome remarks from local and international dignitaries</i>
Session 1: Scene-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> <ul style="list-style-type: none">El Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & AGN lead negotiator	<i>Presentations by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Andrea Bonzanni – IETA & B-PMISandra Greiner – Climate FocusMandy Rambharos – VerraNicole 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 <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lamin Jammeh – The Gambia	<i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mominata Compaore – Burkina FasoRachel Boti-Douayoua – Côte d'IvoireAsmau Jibril – NigeriaIsaac 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 <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sergi Cuadrat, Perspectives	<i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Aurélien Pillet – KliK FoundationManabu Kido – Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP)Bianca Gichangi – VCMIAlex Saer – CercarbonoMark Hogg – Mere Plantations LimitedMolly 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

TIME	TOPIC	
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and distribution of badges (Breakfast refreshments)	
09:30 – 11:00	Fairness in carbon markets <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">El Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & AGN lead negotiatorOusmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance CoordinatorKeshinee Shah – CAP-AHania Othman - Hedera Foundation	Unlocking Carbon Markets: How High-Integrity Registries Enable Trust and Interoperability <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Carlos Cordova – S&P GlobalIsaac Danso – GhanaKabaka Mutensa – BioCarbon StandardYannick Wabo – RCC for West & Central Africa, UNFCCCJoe Dell'Orfano – VerraKishor Rajhansa – Global Carbon CouncilIeva Steponavičiute – Climate Action Data Trust (video)
11:00 – 12:00	Project Cycle of a Carbon Project & Project Origination <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Marshall Brown – GGGITom Hayes – Gold StandardMercedes Garcia Madero – ALLCOT (TBC)Tajiel Uroh – South Pole (TBC)Heather McEwan – Verra	Rollout of the Article 6.4 Mechanism (PACM) <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Andrea Bonzanni – IETASergi Cuadrat – PerspectivesRachel Pekker – GermanyEl Hadji Mbaye Diagne – Afrique Énergie Environnement & SBM memberAnantha Karthik – UpEnergy
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch break	
13:00 –14:00	Financing Carbon Projects <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Reshma Shah, FSD Africa <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ababacar Diaw – IMPAXISBruce Ian Keith – IFCWes Geisenberger – Hedera FoundationAdrian Mill – ESS	Article 6 strategies Interactive simulation game led by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fenella Aouane – GGGIMarshall Brown – GGGI
14:00 – 15:00	The Digital Transformation of the VCM: Now and Next – Verra side event <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lorna Ritchie - ICVCM <i>Introduction and presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Joe Dell'Orfano – VerraBenktesh Sharma - Verra <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Joe Dell'Orfano – VerraWes Geisenberger – Hedera FoundationRaphaël De Ry – ALLCOT	Peer-to-Peer Exchange: Senegal & The Gambia (waste sector) <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fanta Ciré Diop - SONAGED <i>Presentations by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Adja Aissatou Diallo – SONAGEDAissatou Faye – SONAGEDOumar Cesay – NEA, The GambiaNicole Dewing, Africa Carbon & Commodities
15:00 – 15:30	Refreshment Break	
Day 2 - Continued on page 6		

TIME	TOPIC	
15:30 –16:30	Navigating ITMO Authorisation - Practitioners Perspectives <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fenella Aouane – GGGI <i>Presentation by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alicia Schmid – Perspectives Climate Group <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Astrid Agostini – FAO <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Massamba Thioye – UNFCCC <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carlos Cordova – S&P Global Andrea Bonzanni – IETA Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance Kishor Rajhansa – GCC 	CORSIA takes off <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agustina Cundari, IETA <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

TIME	TOPIC	
08:30 – 09:30	Registration and distribution of badges (Breakfast refreshments)	
09:30 – 11:30	Carbon Market Place, Initiatives and partnerships <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance	<i>Opening:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Moubarak Moukaila – BOAD <i>Presentations by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Moubarak Moukaila – BOADFenella Aouane – GGGIMassamba Thioye – UNFCCCMandy Rambharos – VerraFanta Ciré Diop – SONAGED
11:30 – 13:00	Ministerial Roundtable <i>Moderator:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ousmane Fall Sarr – West African Alliance	<i>Opening remarks by ambassadors and authorities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Minister of Environment, SenegalMinister of Environment, The Gambia (TBC)Head of Environmental Protection Agency, LiberiaDeputy Minister of Environment, TogoGeneral 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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