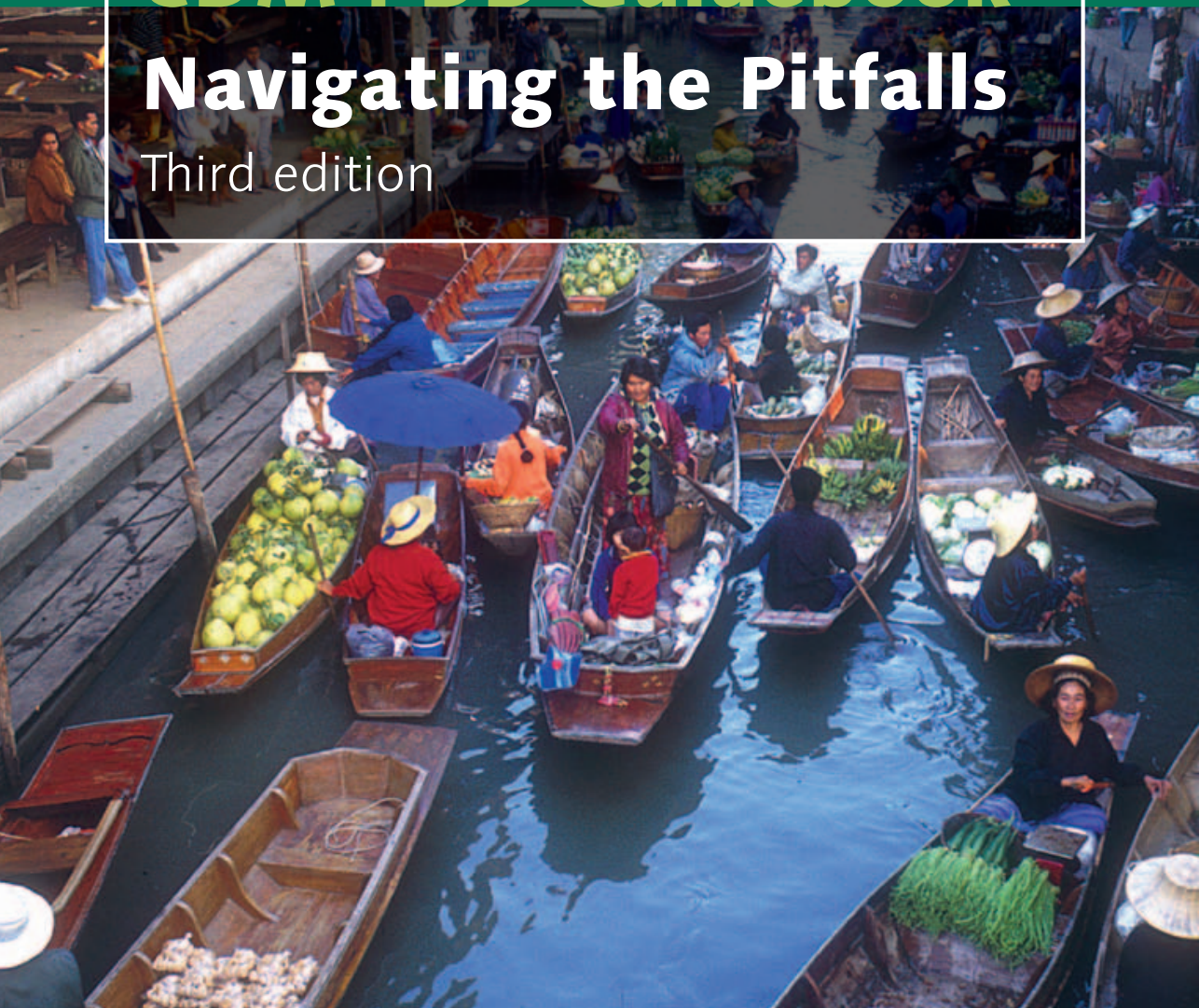


The ACP MEAs CDM Programme

CDM PDD Guidebook

Navigating the Pitfalls

Third edition



ACP MEAs



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Developed for the UNEP project 'CD4CDM'

Updated for the EU ACP MEA/CDM Programme

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Preface

Over 7,000 Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects have been submitted for validation since 2003. In 2007 and 2008, on average, approximately 200 new projects entered into the CDM pipeline each month. Although the number of new CDM projects has declined since 2009, on average, over 100 are still being submitted for validation each month. The number of approved methodologies has grown as well, to around 200 approved methodologies, including both large-scale and small-scale.

In the operational side, substantial experience and knowledge has been gained by different actors and stakeholders, especially by the different Designated Operational Entities (DOEs), through the process of validating the submitted projects and the verification of emission reductions, specifically with regard to common mistakes and pitfalls that the CDM project proponents fall into when preparing CDM Project Design Documents (PDDs)¹; during the implementation of the project and when reporting emission reductions. While project proponents, too, have gained intensive experience and knowledge in CDM projects, as the CDM rules are changing and new guidelines are being issued, PDDs still include a number of errors that could have been avoided.

The Capacity Development for CDM (CD4CDM) Programme, now funded by the European Commission and implemented in ACP countries by the UNEP Risoe Centre, in support of the CD4CDM Programme implementation, is capitalizing on the lessons learned by the validation and verification process and has collaborated with Det Norske Veritas (DNV), an accredited DOE, to produce this guidebook. It draws upon the extensive knowledge of DNV, which has validated about 30% of all CDM projects coming through to the validation stage and verified 26% of all projects with Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) issued.

¹ It should be noted that this guidebook does not give a detailed description of how to design a CDM project or how to prepare monitoring reports. For guidance on this topic, please refer to other CDM guidebooks downloadable from <http://cd4cdm.org/> and <http://acp-cd4cdm.org>

In this third edition of the guidebook, DNV identifies 50 common pitfalls; based on the systematic analysis of all projects it has validated and verified up to September 2010, and provides detailed guidance on how to avoid these pitfalls. This third edition includes a revised version of the pitfalls that can be encountered during the validation and verification process, and also includes a new section dedicated to the pitfalls faced by Programme of Activities (PoAs). By producing this guidebook, CD4CDM aims to indirectly contribute to the reduction of transaction time associated with CDM project validation and verification through improving the quality of the PDDs, Monitoring and Verification Reports produced.

The CD4CDM Programme would like to express appreciation to the primary contributors to this third edition of the Navigating the Pitfall Guidebook, including Miguel Rescalvo as Project Manager from DNV, Gabriel Baines, Shruthi Poonacha Bachamanda, Agnes Dudek, Marlene Fischer, Ole Andreas Flagstad, Wu Lin, Luis López Martinelli, Yuri Poudayel, Ramesh Ramachandran, and Weidong Yang.

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