Third Workshop: Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Carbon Markets

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025 | VIA ZOOM

9:00 to 11:30 AM (Azerbaijan (Central Asia)) | 1:00 to 3:30 PM (Manila (Southeast Asia)) | 5:00 to 7:30 PM (Fiji (Pacific))





Workshop Objectives

Carbon markets are increasingly being recognized as a pivotal mechanism to mobilize finance to drive innovative solutions to increase resilience and economic growth for emerging economies and developing countries. Public sector finance alone is insufficient to close the massive finance gap, making private sector capital essential. If properly functioning, these markets can play an important role in incentivizing projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions cost-effectively, as well as provide other benefits such as improved air and water quality, increased energy access, enhanced agricultural practices, nature restoration and job creation and community development.

In December 2024, ADB's Office of the General Counsel, through its Law & Policy Reform Program (LPR Program), held an in-person workshop in Singapore on high-integrity carbon markets. The workshop (ADB Workshop on Policy Architecture for High Integrity Carbon Markets under the Paris Agreement), which brought together policymakers from ADB developing member countries (DMCs), market standards experts, project developers, and other key stakeholders, allowed attendees to share insights on and explore strategies for implementing carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and within the voluntary carbon market (VCM) framework, with a view to helping policymakers leverage available opportunities to cultivate strategies and the necessary policy, legal and regulatory frameworks required to operationalize carbon markets domestically and internationally.

Following the success of the workshop, the ADB LPR Program, in collaboration with the ADB Institute (ADBI), has developed this 3-part webinar series for all participants interested in a deep dive on specific topics and emerging issues within the carbon markets framework. The first workshop, entitled "Interplay between Article 6 and Voluntary Carbon Markets", was held via Zoom last 28-29 May 2025, and was designed to equip policymakers and other public sector stakeholders with the knowledge and practical tools needed to understand the purpose and context of existing carbon markets, with a view to enabling the effective consideration of carbon market strategies vis-à-vis domestic requirements. The second workshop, entitled "Strengthening Legal Frameworks for Equitable and Sustainable Carbon Credit Implementation," was held via Zoom last 19 July 2025, and focused on discussions relating to the knowledge and practical tools needed to develop or strengthen national legal frameworks that ensure carbon market activities uphold social and environmental safeguards, respect indigenous and community rights (through free, prior, and informed consent), and deliver fair and transparent benefit sharing.

The third and final workshop, entitled "Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Carbon Markets," is designed to provide policymakers and other public sector stakeholders with an understanding of key legal and regulatory frameworks, unique risks and opportunities in carbon markets, and recommended strategies on the development of well-functioning domestic markets to attract financing.

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This third and final workshop aims to provide participants with the knowledge to enable:

- 1. an understanding of the legal foundations and policy objectives behind carbon market frameworks;
- 2. the comparison and contrast of jurisdictional approaches for compliance and voluntary carbon markets;
- 3. an evaluation of how different legal and regulatory frameworks can influence market integrity and transparency, while attracting financing; and
- 4. the development of informed recommendations for national or regional carbon market oversight and enforcement mechanisms.

Workshop Agenda 1 August 2025 (Friday)

Moderators

- Mr. Daniele Quaggiotto, Principal Counsel, ADB
- <u>Ms. Belinda Ellington</u>, Senior Carbon Markets Legal and Policy Expert, ADB / Ellington Resolution Ltd. and Senior Advisor, IETA Secretariat

9:00 am - 9:30 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Key legal Frameworks for Project Activities (30 minutes) This session will focus on setting and developing the necessary legal frameworks for project activities, such as procedures for authorizations and use case (corresponding adjustments and letters of authorization/approval); ownership of credits; rights associated with mitigation activities; fees, levies, taxes, share of proceeds; investment and contractual law protections; and dispute resolution (arbitration and access to courts).
	Ms. Belinda Ellington, Senior Carbon Markets Legal and Policy Expert, ADB / Ellington Resolution Ltd and Senior Advisor, IETA Secretariat
9:30 am – 9:35 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 1:30 pm – 1:35 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 5:30 pm – 5:35 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Q&A (5 minutes)

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9:35 am – 10:05 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 1:35 pm – 2:05 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 5:35 pm – 6:05 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	An investor lens: Considerations for commercial viability of carbon projects (30 minutes) This part will dive into key risks to consider for the bankability of projects; investment screening Considerations (from the investor / funding perspective); and existing and ideal legal / regulatory approaches and frameworks that may support the "investability" of projects and the development of domestic markets. Presenter • Ms. Ting Sim, Managing Director and Head, Corporate Services Group, General Counsel, GenZero
10:05 am – 10:10 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 2:05 pm – 2:10 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 6:05 pm – 6:10 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Q&A (5 minutes)
10:10 am – 10:15 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 2:10 pm – 2:15 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 6:10 pm – 6:15 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	BREAK (5 minutes)
10:15 am – 10:45 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 2:15 pm – 2:45 am (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 6:15 pm – 6:45 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Accelerating climate actions in Asia: Fiscal Policy Solutions and collaboration (30 minutes) This session will cover the incorporation of carbon credits into disclosures and how that can drive demand, including the value of ensuring quality disclosures and reporting; challenges faced due to lack of standardization of definitions in particular "additionality" concepts; and a perspective on Asian countries that are open to collaboration (including Asian market developments in this space). Presenter Ms. Sayuri Shirai, Professor, Keio University – Faculty of Policy Management / Advisor, Sustainability Policies, ADBI
10:45 am – 10:50 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 2:45 pm – 2:50 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 6:45 pm – 6:50 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Q&A (5 minutes)

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10:50 am – 11:20 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 2:50 pm – 3:20 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 6:50 pm – 7:20 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Key legal frameworks for market activities (30 minutes) This session will dive into the value of setting and developing key legal frameworks to facilitate market activities, including the relevant parties, processes, and procedures; recommendations on market oversight and the monitoring, prevention, and/or mitigation of illicit activities; case law updates; and developments on enforcement. Presenter Ms. Belinda Ellington, Senior Carbon Markets Legal and Policy Expert, ADB / Ellington Resolution Ltd and Senior Advisor, IETA Secretariat
11:20 am – 11:25 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 3:20 pm – 3:25 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 7:20 pm – 7:25 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Q&A (5 minutes)
11:25 am – 11:30 am (Central Asia/GMT+4) 3:25 pm – 3:30 pm (Southeast Asia/GMT+8) 7:25 pm – 7:30 pm (Pacific/GMT+12)	Wrap-up / Housekeeping reminders (5 minutes) • Mr. Daniele Quaggiotto, Principal Counsel, ADB