



Global Carbon Market

Eastern Africa

Context

With the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015 the international community committed to limit global temperature rise to 1,5 or well below 2 degrees Celsius. To reach this goal, countries need to drastically reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Market-based approaches, such as emission trading schemes, are an effective way to mitigate climate change as they reduce costs of emission reduction and incentivize climate-friendly investments. The creation of a global carbon market under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement presents an important opportunity to strengthen mitigation programs through climate financing, private sector involvement, and ambition raising.

Against this backdrop, since 2008 the [Global Carbon Market](#) project has been supporting partner countries in using market-based and other economic climate protection instruments at national and regional scale. Currently in its sixth phase, the project focuses on novel forms of cooperation arising under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, the voluntary carbon market and dedicated carbon pricing instruments.

In the past, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) have been underrepresented in the global carbon market. Uganda and Kenya, however, have been active participants and frontrunners in Africa in terms of carbon credits issued under both the Clean Development Mechanism and Voluntary Carbon Market standards. Despite uncertainties on regulatory outcomes from continued international negotiations under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, countries in Eastern Africa strive to play a pioneering role in the new carbon markets and continue to harness the sustainable development benefits that carbon markets offer. The *Global Carbon Market* [project](#) therefore combines country-level activities with a broader regional perspective to support its partner countries' ambitions to become key players in the global carbon market.

Global Carbon Market

Commissioner	German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)
Partner Country	Uganda/Eastern Africa
Political Partner	Ugandan Ministry of Water and Environment
Contact	ritah.rukundo@giz.de (Uganda) sven.egbers@giz.de (Germany)

The project's objective is to assist countries in Eastern Africa in making use of carbon market and pricing instruments and accessing climate finance for the implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Approach

In Eastern Africa, the *Global Carbon Market* project follows four approaches to engage with the relevant stakeholder groups:

1. **Strengthening capacities of the public sector** on market-based and other economic climate change mitigation instruments and approaches.
2. **Enabling active participation of the private sector** through technical capacity building and knowledge exchange.
3. **Promoting the active participation of youth and women** in emerging market mechanisms and climate finance.
4. **Strengthening regional cooperation** on carbon markets and climate finance in Eastern Africa.

Activities

1) Policy Advice for Public Decision Makers

The *Global Carbon Market* project works with public sector actors building their capacities on carbon markets and fostering dialogue on new developments within the carbon market ecosystem. It offers technical support on climate policy development and the integration of carbon markets into climate policies such as the NDC and the Long Term Low Emissions Development Strategy, etc. The project also strengthens institutional capacity on Article 6 and other climate protection instruments, and supports the development of strategic guidelines, tools, processes or procedures for the use of carbon markets.

Furthermore, the project promotes the implementation of necessary regulatory frameworks by informing policy makers and other actors about possible future carbon market scenarios and the use of different market instruments.

2) Private Sector Support

In Eastern Africa, the *Global Carbon Market* project is promoting public-private cooperation for effective carbon market participation and to ensure private sector carbon market activities work towards achieving host country NDCs and sustainable development. The project is also strengthening the technical capacities of private sector stakeholders, making them ready to meaningfully participate in Article 6 and the voluntary carbon market. This is undertaken through trainings and studies, which guide informed decision-making on nationally appropriate project activities and mitigation technologies. Through a



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Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36
53113 Bonn, Deutschland
T +49 228 44 60-0
F +49 228 44 60-17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1–5
65760 Eschborn, Deutschland
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15

Responsible: Ritah Rukundo, GIZ

series of knowledge products, dialogues, and events, the private sector gains a stronger understanding of technical considerations and market opportunities that can pave the way for the next generation of carbon market activities in the region.

3) Promoting Participation of Youth and Women

The project aims to build the capacities of youth and women on carbon markets. It ensures that representatives of youth and women are empowered to make informed decisions about the implementation of nationally adapted market-based and other economic climate protection instruments.

4) Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Eastern Africa

The project worked with countries in the region to establish the [Eastern Africa Alliance on Carbon Markets and Climate Finance](#). Ongoing operational support is provided to the Alliance, which offers a platform for member countries (Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Sudan) to shape the regional approach on carbon markets and to strengthen their readiness to implement the new generation of market mechanisms. Negotiators from Eastern Africa are supported to actively participate in international climate negotiations through the development of an Article 6 negotiator handbook, and by conducting COP preparatory and debriefing workshops. Eastern African countries continue to represent themselves as key players in the global carbon market.



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