

Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) – The new kid on the block

11 December 2014 - People's Summit event

Report Summary

On December 11, as part of the People's Summit in Lima, Peru, Carbon Market Watch organized an event about Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs). At the occasion of this event, experts from Carbon Market Watch, the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA), the Greens Movement of Georgia and Friends of the Earth Georgia discussed this new policy instrument and the role of civil society in its design and implementation.

Opening remarks were given by Weni Bagama, a member of the Ngäbe-Buglé indigenous community in Panama and environmental activist who chaired this two hour event.

The presentation given by Urska Trunk from Carbon Market Watch provided a broad overview of NAMAs, introducing the concept, chances for contribution to sustainable development and highlighting important lessons that need to be learnt from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) for successfully implementing this new policy instrument.

Katevan Kiria from Friends of the Earth Georgia who is also representing the Greens Movement of Georgia, shared experiences of designing NAMAs projects. She introduced several projects that currently are in the pilot phase and highlighted as important element for successful implementation the role of gender equality.

Speaking on behalf of the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA), Mariel Vilella Casaus presented challenges and opportunities for NAMAs in the waste sector, underlining the current lack of environmental criteria and internationally agreed procedures as major shortcomings.

The presentations were followed by a lively discussion and numerous questions from the audience, reflecting the interest in this event and NAMAs as a new policy instrument.

Find below a more detailed summary of the presentations:

Urska Trunk, Carbon Market Watch

Urska Trunk gave an introduction to NAMAs. She outlined the objective of this policy instrument in highlighting that it is following a development first approach by complying with local and national needs, generating emission reductions only as a co-benefit. She explained that NAMAs are following the same concept as the CDM, but are implemented at national level. In contrast to the CDM, the primary goal of these projects is sustainable development benefits. She furthermore emphasized the fact that lessons learnt from the CDM, especially regarding public participation processes, guidelines on how to monitor sustainable development benefits and emission reductions are of outmost importance to guarantee a successful implementation of projects. See presentation [here](#)

Katevan Kiria, Friends of the Earth Georgia / Greens Movement of Georgia

Katevan Kiria shared experiences with a NAMA project in Georgia that currently is at a pilot phase. She emphasized that when designing a project activity, gender equality as well as the community based approach are key elements for a successful implementation of projects. The involvement of local communities in all stages of the implementation along with providing access to education, gender balance and equal share of responsibilities were highlighted as indicators for generating actual sustainable development benefits. She further indicated that if following a bottom up approach, NAMAs can be an important tool for mitigation actions. See presentation [here](#)

Mariel Vilella Casaus, Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)

Mariel Vilella Casaus focused her presentation on the waste sector and its potential to be included in NAMAs projects. Outlining that NAMAs can be a powerful policy tool to drive investment to climate mitigation policies, she emphasized that with regard to the waste sector, this could lead to the creation of green jobs and helping local people to stabilize their income generation. However, she stressed out the fact that NAMAs have no environmental integrity criteria, accountability mechanisms or stakeholder involvement criteria in place. Concluding by underling the shortcomings of NAMAs that have to be addressed, she referred to the importance to learn from lessons of the CDM. See presentation [here](#)