

Call for public inputs on determination and verification manual (DVM)

In DNV's opinion the development of a determination and verification manual (DVM) is a key element to ensure transparency and a standardization of the determination and verification of JI projects following the verification procedure under the JI Supervisory Committee (JISC).

DNV has in the past contributed to a standardisation of the JI determination and verification processes by first developing the World Bank's Preliminary Validation Manual and by later being a main contributor to the World Bank's and the International Emission Trading Association's Validation and Verification Manual, which applied to both CDM and JI projects.

The DVM should learn from the lessons learnt in the development of the World Bank's and the International Emission Trading Association's Validation and Verification Manual. The DVM should also consider the relevant elements of the Validation and Verification Manual recently adopted by the CDM Executive Board, which incorporates much of the lessons learnt with the validation and verification of CDM projects.

At the same time, ISO 14064 has now been finalized and is operational, which should provide a suitable framework from which the DVM could be developed.

However, the DVM will have to build on the uniqueness of JI projects as there are some fundamental differences in the way CDM and JI projects are validated and verified. Under the CDM, a project only has the option to use a predefined and pre-approved methodology where under JI this is not the case. Consequently, with an emphasis on the need to bring consistency into the work being done by validators and verifiers, the DVM should above all ensure that AIE consistently ask the same types of questions while performing their work in particular when assessing new baseline and monitoring methodologies being proposed for JI projects or when assessing deviations from approved CDM methodologies. Hence, it would be of value to have a DVM that more clearly describe how determination takes place for the different available options (fully following CDM methodology, partly following CDM methodology or applying own methodology).

Based on DNV's good experience with participating in the development of the World Bank's and the International Emission Trading Association's Validation and Verification Manual, DNV suggests that a DVM is developed as a joint initiative by AIEs and the JISC (or selected JISC members nominated by the JISC to participate in the initiative). The process of developing JISC should also involve workshops involving further stakeholders in the JI, such as JI project developers.

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