

**CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM:
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT HOPE OR
HOAX?**



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May 2012[†]

ABSTRACT: *The continuous rise of greenhouse gases (GHGs), one of the main causes of climate change (CC), poses a major threat to humanity and the world as we know it. As the Kyoto Protocol draws to an end of its initial five years commitment period (2008-1012), it is of vital importance to assess the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), one of the three flexible instruments designed in this Protocol to curb GHG emissions and increase sustainable development. The purpose of this paper is to critically examine the ability or lack thereof of CDM projects under the Kyoto Protocol to promote sustainable development. The paper analyses a number of CDM projects and assesses their contribution to sustainable development in the host country; whilst highlighting areas for further improvements post 2012.*

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[†] Published in CEPMLP Annual Review - CAR Volume 16 (2013) Editor-in-Chief: Wendy Treasure