

Indian Paper Industry: Kyoto Protocol and Clean Development Mechanism

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ABSTRACT

Climate change represents the most widespread and pressing environmental concern of our time. Current climate models predict a global warming of about 1.4–5.8°C between 1990 and 2100 [5]. These projections are based on wide range of assumptions about the main forces driving future but do not assume any climate change policies for reducing emissions. The pulp and paper industry is a significant emitter of green house gases. Despite the proportion of industrial plantations devoted to pulp production, plantations do not appear to be offsetting emissions from energy use or landfills. Production, consumption and disposal of paper products are estimated to contribute a net addition of about 450 million tons in carbon dioxide equivalent units each year. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the foundation of global efforts to combat global warming. Adopted in 1992, the UNFCCC sets out a framework for action aimed at stabilizing atmospheric concentrations for greenhouse gases to avoid dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. India has signed Kyoto protocol in December 1997, ratified in August 2002 & established DNA in December 2003. The CDM is based on the emission reducing projects located in developing countries, selling carbon credits to buyers in industrialized countries. This Paper reviews the UNFCCC methodologies for CDM projects in pulp and paper industries and identifies specific opportunities pertaining to Indian pulp and paper industry. The paper also reviews the various implemented and ongoing CDM projects in Indian pulp and paper industry.