

International policy

Climate Action Reserve brings on board Mexican official

Published: 30 Apr 2009 07:34 PM CET

A senior Mexican official has joined a group that tracks and registers pre-compliance GHG offsets.

The California-based Climate Action Reserve (CAR) announced Thursday it has brought on to its board of directors Adrián Fernández Bremauntz, director of the Mexican environment ministry's National Ecology Institute (INE).

The institute's climate change team is in charge of preparing Mexico's national greenhouse gas inventories that are submitted to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change.

Fernandez "adds an international influence to the future development of the Climate Action Reserve" and a source of advise on the "benefit the Reserve's protocols and projects could provide in Mexico," the organisation said in a statement.

Market participants regard CAR's protocols for developing emissions-reduction projects in forestry and agriculture as being environmentally stringent and predict their credits stand a good chance of being transferred into a federal carbon market.

By July, CAR will expand its protocols for developing landfill and livestock methane projects to be used to develop projects in Mexico, vice president for policy Derik Broekhoff told Point Carbon News earlier this month.

It will also develop reforestation protocol for Mexican forests, he added.

"As we look immediately at the environmental benefit of expanding the Reserve's protocols and projects into Mexico, we could not have better counsel than that of Dr. Fernández," said Linda Adams, secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency and chair of CAR.

The Western Climate Initiative, a regional emissions trading system consisting of seven US states and four Canadian provinces, will accept credits from Mexican offset projects, according to its market design documents.

California's own proposed cap-and-trade system will also accept credits from Mexican projects.

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