

Michael Thomas Joseph Baumann

Thesis

Development and Overview of Quantification Standards for Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Projects

Abstract

This M.Eng. report presents an overview of my work as lead author developing the ISO 14064 GHG (greenhouse gas) project standard (M.Eng. project). The main sections of this report include overviews of the process to develop an ISO standard, GHG projects, the literature review, a comparison of the ISO 14064 GHG Standard for Projects (Committee Draft) and the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol for Projects (Roadtest Draft), a case study demonstrating the procedures of ISO 14064.2, and recommendations for the path forward. The demand for and importance of GHG standards and guidance, especially for GHG projects, has never been greater. In the event that the Kyoto Protocol does not come into force, the ISO 14064 GHG standards have a special opportunity to become the basis of an alternate system to link pro-Kyoto and anti-Kyoto countries. Although the ongoing work with general requirement standards and general guidance methodologies is a leap forward for verifiability and credibility of GHG mitigation claims, the development of specific standards and guidance will help to reduce even further the transaction costs for GHG accounting, GHG credit trading, etc. However, several years of practice and refinement will be necessary to have a stable system of sufficient size and integrity to achieve the forthcoming series of economical GHG mitigation targets.

Degree

M.Eng.

Completion

2004

Supervisor

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