

Repty to SSC\_011  
31 May 2005

**Subject: Category III E and scopes**

Reference is made to your query dated of 31 March 2005. The small scale working group (SSC WG) of the CDM Executive Board would like to thank you for the submission regarding the application of category III. E to agricultural projects.

The scope of the projects in SSC-Methodology type III (Other project activities that both reduce anthropogenic emissions by sources and directly emit less than 15 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually) is defined in paragraph 5 of the Annex II to Decision 21/CP.8, reproduced below:

*"5. Type (iii) CDM project activities could include **agricultural projects, fuel switching, industrial processes and waste management**. Possible examples in the agricultural sector include improved manure management, reduction of enteric fermentation, improved fertilizer usage or improved water management in rice cultivation."*

The Methodology Type III-E ("Avoidance of methane production from biomass decay through controlled combustion") was defined in Appendix B to the Document above with the following scope:

*"1. This project category comprises measures that avoid the production of methane from **biomass or other organic matter** that would have otherwise been left to decay as a result of anthropogenic activity. Due to the project activity, **decay is prevented through controlled combustion** and less methane is produced and emitted to the atmosphere. The project activity does not recover or combust methane (unlike III D). Measures shall both reduce anthropogenic emissions by sources, and directly emit less than 15 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually."* We highlighted some parts to show that Type III-E deals with any kind of residues (biomass or other organic matter); thus it is related to waste management in any field: agricultural, municipal, industrial and other contexts. The activity consists of controlled combustion of the wastes, hereby avoiding methane formation in landfills (the baseline condition). Of course, safety and environmental aspects related to local air pollution are of relevance in consideration of such projects (particularly in industrial and municipal wastes), although the simplified methodology only describes the methane avoidance.

Concerning the Type III-A (Agriculture), there are no simplified methodologies up to now, but it is recognized that activities under this category are possible. Paragraph 5 above already mentions possible examples: improved manure management, reduction of enteric fermentation, improved fertilizer usage or improved water management in rice cultivation. Some of these activities will also result in methane avoidance, but none of them will consist of controlled combustion of wastes, since this activity falls in Category III-E.

For more information regarding the outcomes of the second meeting of the SSC WG please refer to: [http://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/ssc\\_wg](http://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/ssc_wg).

Best regards,

CDM team