

**Question for written answer E-002096/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Flexible mechanisms for the transfer of emission reductions between countries

The Kyoto Protocol of 1997 recognises flexible clean development mechanisms (CDM) as a way of making cost-effective reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement also sets out the ways in which states may transfer emission reductions between each other.

Industrialised countries whose emission reductions are obtained at a high price per reduced tonne of CO₂ can, in cooperation with developing countries, contribute to projects that help curb emissions in a more cost-effective way.

To prevent industrialised countries from buying their way out of emission reductions altogether, the rules are designed to ensure that flexible mechanisms are just one part of the efforts to reduce emissions.

Those efforts have been governed by the CDM Executive Board, but little has been done since 2013. Assessments of the projects carried out have shown mixed results. Some projects are successful, some are less so.

The EU has not made use of this option. Because it is irrelevant where emission reductions take place, it is strange that the EU does not give Member States the opportunity to hit their emissions targets in the most effective way, i.e. also through the measures set out in Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

In the light of the foregoing: What steps is the Commission taking to give Member States incentives to cooperate with developing countries? What follow-up will there be with regard to the experience gained with the CDM?