

Independent Project Report on CFL Replacement Project in Jamaica

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Executive Summary

- The project aims to replace 77,000 incandescent bulbs with high quality, energy saving CFL bulbs and to deliver 51,323 tCO₂e of emission reductions over an eleven year period.
- The project is on track, with 85,000 light bulbs sold since 2002. This equates to a saving of 1,900,000 KWh of power, generating 44,000 tonnes of VERs sold to The CarbonNeutral Company or others.
- Additionality requirements of the CarbonNeutral Protocol are met by the project, and the project's design, management and implementation is in line with current carbon market standards and practices.
- Whilst the project delivered innovation and additionality during its initial phase, additionality is weakening over time as there is a strengthening commercial case for hotels to adopt CFLs now that their economic and environmental benefits have been proven.
- Under pressure to demonstrate their 'green' credentials, many hotels in Jamaica understand the marketing benefits of environmental initiatives. 30% of hotels are certified under the Green Globe scheme and this percentage is expected to grow. It is clear that hotels should now be switching to CFLs even without this project.
- Eco-Tech is running a profitable business and their bottom line is strengthened by carbon credits and Eco-Tec is using these profits to further develop other projects that they hope will generate more emission savings.
- Meanwhile the Jamaican government whilst making efforts to facilitate CDM and VER projects has focused mainly on issues of adaptation
- Greater carbon and commercial gains could be achieved by focusing on air conditioning (which is the greatest user of energy in hotels) especially the promotion of AC units fuelled by biogas produced from black waste. Although it is understood that upfront costs for AC replacement are high and hotels may not produce enough biogas to support the change, this is an area that could be explored further.
- More benefit could also be achieved through targeting support for innovation and development and working to achieve public policy tipping points, perhaps 15% for both.
- The project raises the question of whether offsets in their current form offer the best value for money for people who want to do something concrete about climate change.
- Also whether corporate offsets should be more linked to the activities of the companies concerned (eg. Virgin credits used to support greener transport, Philips credits to support lighting, B&Q credits to support air-conditioning) so that companies are effectively supporting technology transfer.
- TCNC should actively seek out and prioritise projects which offer planned 'exponentiality' ie. which have the clear potential to generate dramatic

change, with ripple effects beyond the immediate, direct carbon reductions.

- TCNC could explore introducing a tender process under which project managers have to state what tonnage of carbon saving their project could deliver with the carbon credits. This would allow more investment in innovation and would channel credits into projects offering the biggest possible reductions.