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# **GETTING SCIENCE INTO INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE POLICY MAKING: A SUCCESS STORY! CCS IN THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM**

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“What is carbon capture?”

“Do we have technology to monitor groundwater impacts?”

“Definition of seepage should include CO<sub>2</sub> dissolved in groundwater migrating to ocean or atmosphere”

These are statements made during negotiations on including CCS in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) during the UNFCCC meeting in Durban. They reflect different degrees to which negotiators were informed on science, even with the significant information provided. This illustrates the difficulty of, and need for, informing policy makers on scientific issues

After five years of debate, it had been agreed that CCS could be eligible for the CDM providing issues including monitoring, modelling, risk assessment, and groundwater protection, could be addressed in the rules for CDM (‘modalities and procedures’). A work programme consisted of submissions, a technical workshop in Abu Dhabi, and the production of draft modalities and procedures by the UNFCCC for negotiation in Durban. IEAGHG used three of its International Research Network meetings in 2011 (Modelling, Monitoring, and Risk Assessment) to address these issues, using the international technical expertise within them. IEAGHG ensured that conclusions were shared in the Abu Dhabi workshop, which brought CCS negotiators into contact with technical experts in an environment conducive to good discussion. Highlights were repeated in Durban.

The third quote reflects a negotiator who attended the workshop and whose concerns were addressed, enabling him to be influential in reflecting his concerns while facilitating negotiations.

The end result was official recognition by the UNFCCC that CCS is a technology capable of deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, and sets an important precedent for the inclusion of CCS into other mechanisms. This paper will describe how science informing negotiations greatly assisted in achieving inclusion of CCS in the CDM, and will provide specific and real examples.