Overview

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement is about cooperation between countries in order to allow for greater ambition.

There are three parts to Article 6:

• 6.2 – cooperative approaches: when countries cooperate and transfer mitigation from one country to another (regardless of how this is achieved e.g. ETS linkages, or project mechanisms) then there are requirements such as, avoiding double counting and ensuring environmental integrity.

• 6.4 – a centralised mechanism: there will be a mechanism under UNFCCC authority that public or private sector participants can choose to use, to undertake activities that generate emissions reductions and issue units for these emissions reductions.

• 6.8 – non-market approaches: there are ways in which countries may cooperate other than markets. There is a Framework to promote these activities.

What’s happening at COP25?

The implementation rules for Article 6 were not completed last year. This year there are three deliverables:

• 6.2 – guidance for cooperative approaches: finalise how the transfer and use of offshore mitigation is accounted for; and what information countries must provide to allow scrutiny and give confidence that transfers have environmental integrity.

• 6.4 – rules for the mechanism: establish the rules, modalities and procedures governing the centralised mechanism in order for it to begin work.

• 6.8 – a work programme under the Framework: decide what the initial work done by the UNFCCC on non-market approaches will be.

New Zealand’s objectives

Our objective is strong implementation rules for effective carbon markets with environmental integrity.

Why is this important to New Zealand

If New Zealand uses international carbon markets in future, we will only do so if they have environmental integrity, and these rules help to secure that.