## Working together

International Cooperation on ETS Implementation

Femke de Jong 13 December 2017





Cooperation to take us from where we are to where we want to get



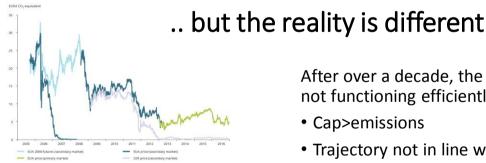
Leading economists: \$40-\$80/tCO2 by 2020 \$50-\$100/tCO2 by 2030 \$250/tCO2 by 2050

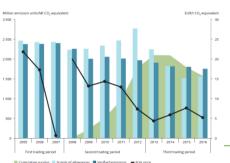
World Bank Group: 75% of carbon prices < \$10/tCO2

### We can design the 'perfect' cap-and-trade system on paper ...

- Set the cap so it reflects real emissions
- Annually lower the cap to meet the Paris climate goals
- ➤ Allocate allowances through auctioning (no free allocation)
- ➤ Recycle auctioning revenues to the low-carbon economy
- ▶ Put in place safeguards, such as rising carbon floor prices and companion policies, to enhance long-term effectiveness







After over a decade, the EU ETS is still

not functioning efficiently:

- Cap>emissions
- Trajectory not in line with Paris goals
- Majority of allowances handed out for free
- Low carbon price



# Main problem: lack of public support for effective carbon pricing

Carbon markets can be made more acceptable in three ways:

- 1. Providing more transparency on benefits and impacts
- 2. Recycling of revenues for the just, low-carbon transition
- 3. Putting climate at the heart of the ETS' design



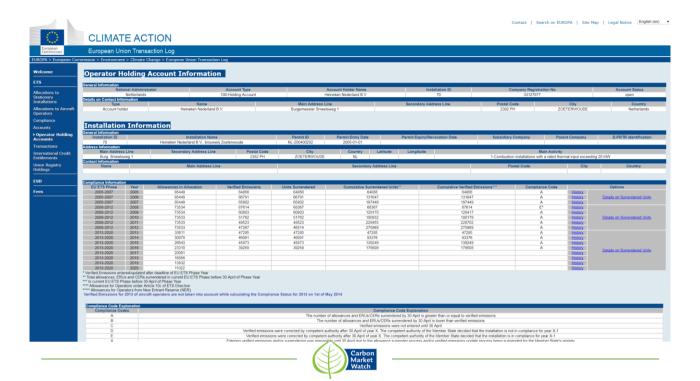
Providing more transparency

Transparency is usually provided by making data publicly available to the public, allowing stakeholders to monitor the effectiveness of the system.

Problem: carbon markets are very complex systems







### Disclose easily-understandable information



Providing regularly the following information to the public can help increase trust in, and credibility of, the carbon market:

- Achieved and expected greenhouse gas reductions
- Achieved and expected co-benefits, e.g.: reduced air pollution, improved health, less households in energy poverty
- Impacts on average **household incomes**, especially low-income households
- Impacts on job creation and losses, and competitiveness effects



#### Earmarking of auctioning revenues

Revenues can be recycled to tackle social issues (e.g. energy poverty) and support low-carbon research, development and deployment.

This helps to show and strengthen the purpose of carbon markets: reducing emissions.

Disclosing information on how revenues have been used increases awareness of the positive effects of carbon pricing.





#### Putting climate at the heart of the ETS' design

Carbon markets are increasingly being seen as hampering climate action, rather than spurring it:

- Carbon markets have been used as an argument against other (more popular) policies that reduce emissions
- Carbon markets are talked about in business, rather than climate, terms e.g. 'cost-efficiency', 'reducing compliance costs' instead of 'putting a price on pollution', 'scaling up climate action'
- ➤ Re-define the objective of the ETS, e.g. to support the just transition to zero-carbon societies



# Opposition by vested interests against effective carbon pricing

Lobby by vested interests can have a disproportionate influence on ETS design and undermine the effectiveness of carbon markets.

Some industry claims have been exaggerated to push through unjustified exemptions in ETSs.

➤ Enable citizens to correctly evaluate the risks of exempting industries from carbon pricing



# Cooperation to increase confidence in carbon pricing

Main arguments used against higher carbon prices are related to competitive distortions.

Cooperation between jurisdictions can help increase awareness on the opportunities of carbon pricing and counter unjustified carbon leakage claims, thereby increasing confidence and public support in this climate tool.

The ultimate objective of ETS cooperation should be to increase carbon prices and phase-out free allocation in order to enable more climate action.

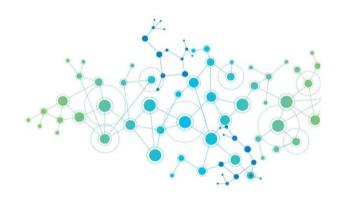


See more here

### What about linking?

ETS linking should have the aims of increasing carbon prices, deepening emission cuts, and phasing-out of free allowances.

Transparency and public participation must be key conditions for linking emission trading systems to ensure public acceptance.





#### Thank you!



