

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION/POSTAL OPERATIONS COUNCIL

Joint Committee 2 (Development and Cooperation)

Sustainable Development Project Group

Berne, 2 November 2010 (9.30–12.30 and 15.00–18.00), Heinrich von Stephan Hall

Feasibility study – Communication kit (Agenda item 4c)

1 Subject Informing the Sustainable Development Project Group of the progress of the study on a carbon offset system for the postal sector, and presentation of a communication kit on the subject.	References/paragraphs §§ 1 to 5
2 Decision expected The Sustainable Development Project Group is invited to take note of the progress of the study and encourage member countries to read the communication kit distributed by the International Bureau.	§ 6 and Annex 1

I. Introduction

1 Please refer to document CA C 2 SDPG 2010.2–Doc 4a.

II. The subgroup's first steps

2 Please refer to document CA C 2 SDPG 2010.2–Doc 4a.

III. Documents prepared by the subgroup

3 In order to explain its work and help member countries to understand its mission and the proposals made, the subgroup has decided to prepare a "communication kit".

4 The "communication kit" is designed to explain, briefly, what the concept of carbon offset covers, and why such a concept could be of interest to the postal sector. Its aim is to encourage member countries to start taking an interest in this area, and prompt them to read the "e-learning kit", which explains in greater detail what system could be used by the Union if its members decided to implement the study. (The e-learning kit is described in another document).

5 This communication kit has just been made available on the UPU's web page dedicated to the environment and the fight against climate change:

www.upu.int/en/activities/sustainabledevelopment/environment/about-environment.html. It is available in English and in French.

IV. Conclusion

6 The Sustainable Development Project Group is invited to take note of the progress of the study on a carbon offset system for the postal sector, and the creation of this communication kit in particular, and to encourage member countries to read it.

Berne, 7 September 2010



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CA C 2 GPDD 2010.2–Doc 4c. Annexe 1

Communication kit

Carbon offsetting



Communication kit plan

1 Introduction

- i What is the context?**
- ii What is carbon offsetting?**
- iii How do I offset?**

2 Why a postal sector carbon scheme?

- i How could the postal sector scheme operate**
- ii What are my interests? Those of the postal sector?**

3 Conclusions



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What is the context?

Environmental context

- The greenhouse effect is a natural phenomenon due to greenhouse gas (water vapour, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane, for example) that traps the energy received from the sun
- Without it, the temperature on earth would average -19°C instead of 14°C
- As a consequence of human activities (mainly during the last half century) the proportion of greenhouse gas in the atmosphere is rising, which modifies the natural greenhouse effect phenomenon, which in turn is a probable cause of global warming and climate change



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What is the context?

Political context

- 1992: 153 countries signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- 1997: 111 countries signed Kyoto Protocol
 - 38 countries (known as Annex 1) committed themselves to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by 2012
 - Creation of the flexibility mechanisms
 - carbon trading schemes
 - clean development mechanism
 - joint implementation
- The next step will be the COP16 in Cancun Mexico in December 2010 to agree on a follow-up to the Kyoto Protocol



What is the context?

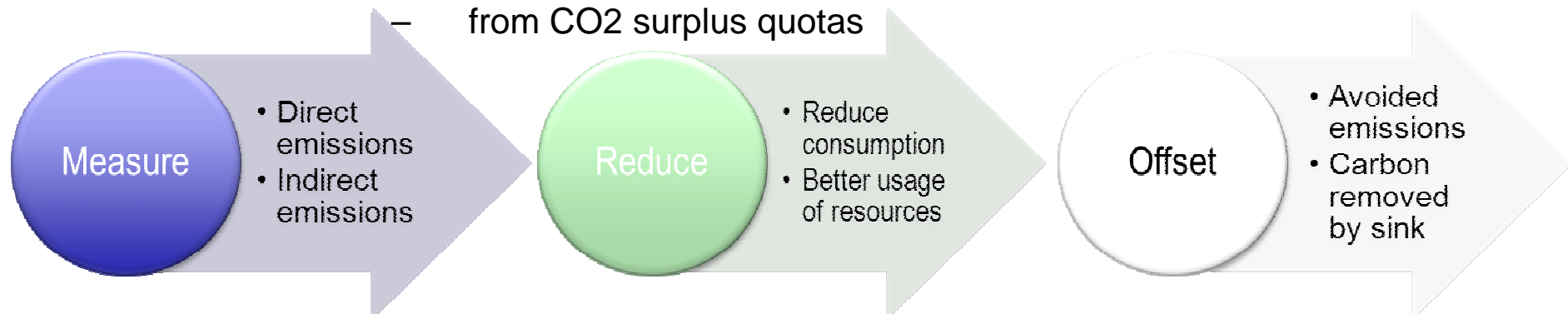
Economic context

- Climate change will have direct impacts on the territories in which the postal sector is creating added value
 - Populations will move more and more
 - Companies and organizations will have to adapt and define scenarios
 - Posts will also be involved
 - Populations could be more and more affected by climate change
 - Future employees will emphasize in their choice of employer companies acting to tackle climate change and better quality of life
- International and state regulation (about markets/environment/emissions ...) will continue to develop, gradually embracing those polluters with no emission restriction as yet. Action might cost a lot, but the cost of inaction might prove higher (cf. the aviation industry)
- Last but not least, actions might prove to benefit the sector economically, through increased margins and new markets development



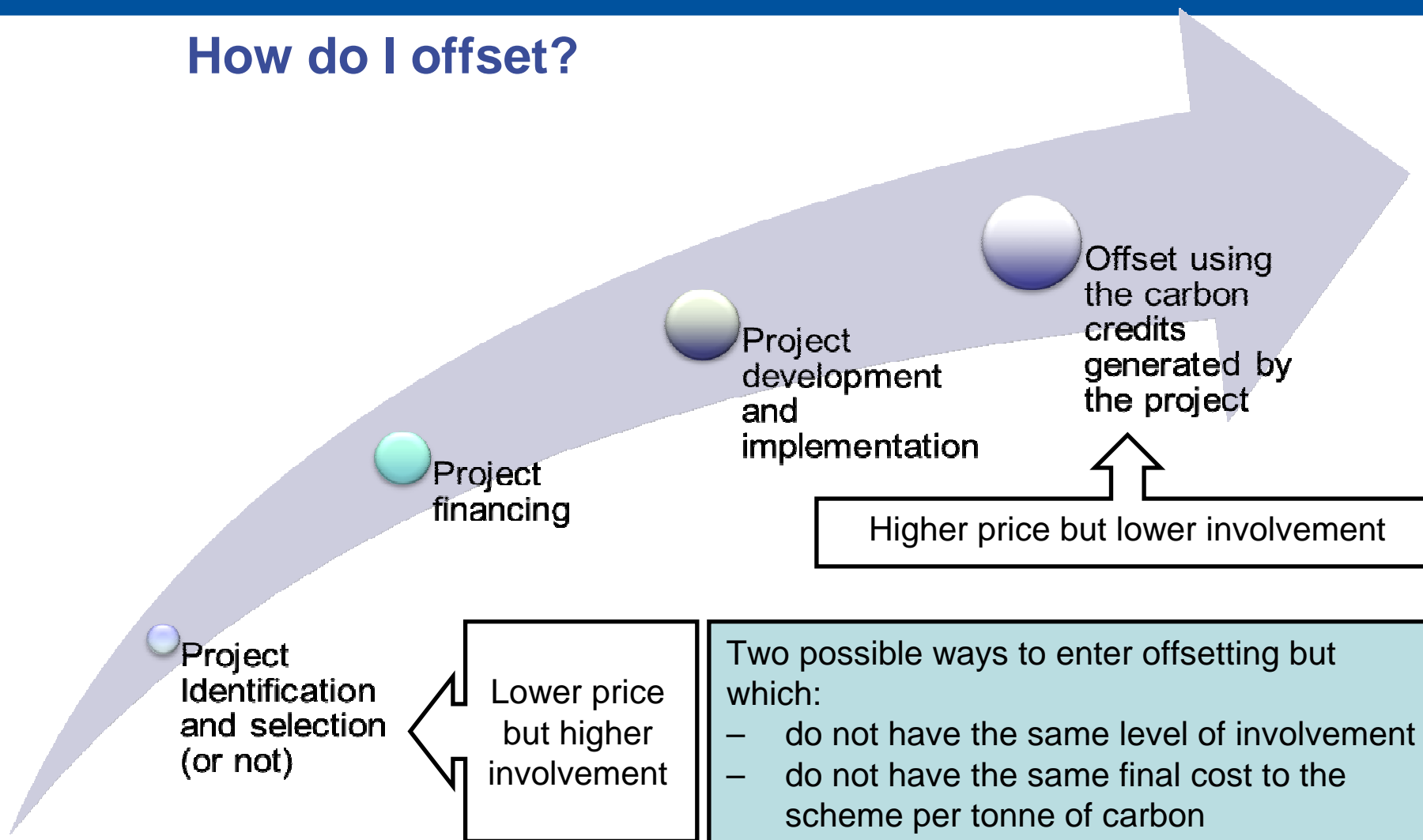
What is carbon offsetting?

- Carbon offsetting is the last part of a global process:
 - GHG emission measurements and
 - GHG emission reductions
- It can be done through
 - financing projects (reducing emissions or removing carbon by sink somewhere else in the world)
 - buying credits directly from the market, either:
 - generated by projects; or
 - from CO2 surplus quotas





How do I offset?





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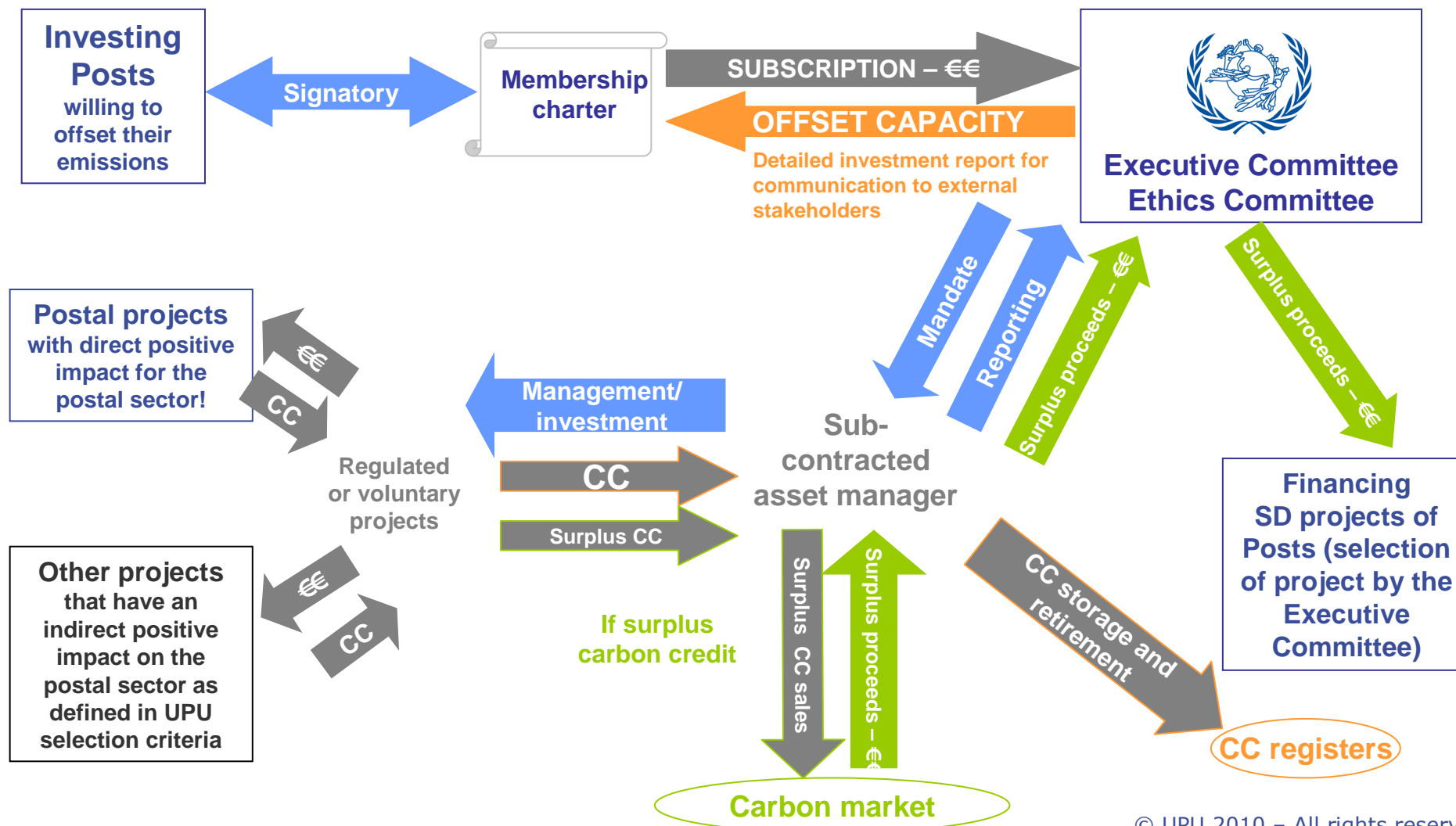
3 Conclusions



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How could the postal scheme operate? A detailed view

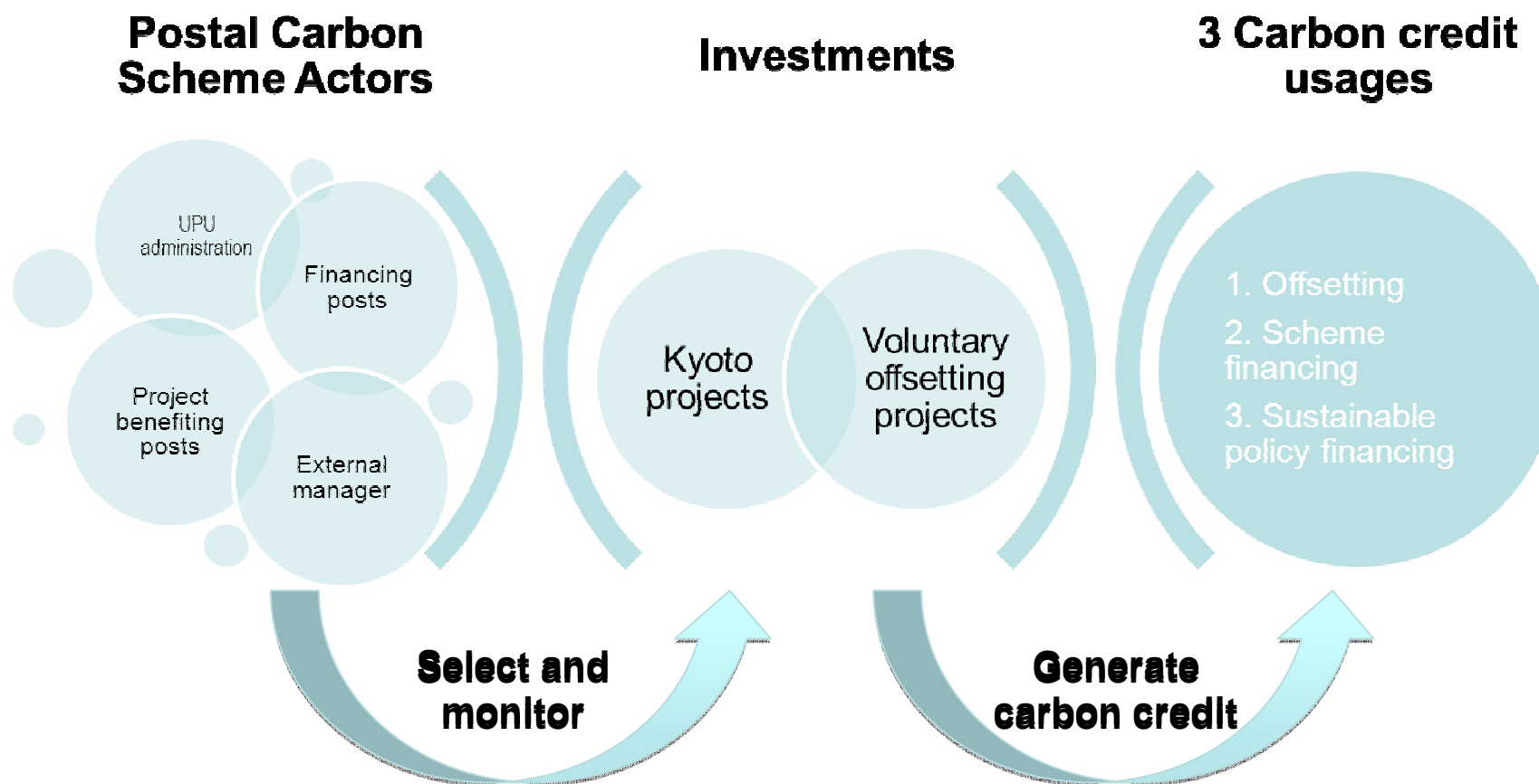
CC = carbon credit





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How could the postal sector scheme operate? An overall view





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Why should I join the scheme?

If you want to offset



Investing posts

Tools to
contribute to de-
carbonation
strategy

Added value
commercial offers

**If you want to propose potential
project(s) to generate carbon credit**



Non investing posts

local de-
carbonated
economic
development

Local
infrastructure
development

Green technology
implementation
and know how
transfer

Our common objective



Postal carbon offsetting scheme

Postal sector identified as a positive actor in the fight against climate
change



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Conclusion

The postal sector offsetting scheme aims at a four-win solution

WIN for a post of a beneficiary country

- Support for a sustainable development implementation
- Cleaner energy production technology
- Local economic development (including postal sector)
- Green technology know how

WIN for the investing post

- Credits for structural GHG emissions reduction
- International postal industry development opportunity
- Cost reduction of offsetting due to management cost mutualisation

WIN for the postal sector

- Seen as a positive actor of climate change problem tackling
- Anticipation of new regulations
- Help protect the territories on which postal activities are developed
- Growing solidarity between the member countries

WIN for the Global Environment

- Climate change tackling
- GHG Emissions reduction and carbon removal by sink
- Environmental co-benefits
- Better living conditions of local population



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For a more detailed presentation and further explanation,
please refer to the carbon offsetting e-learning

If you have any further question please contact:

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