

### **Upgrading Climate Finance in adverse economic conditions**

**Jean-Charles Hourcade** 

**Seventth LCS-Rnet Annual Meeting** 

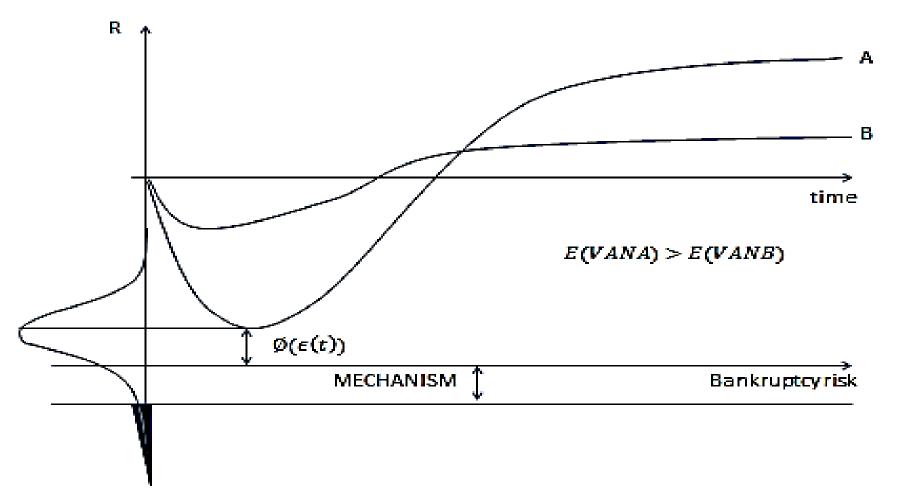
Paris, 15 - 16 June 2015

How to help the deployment of more ambitious INDCs?

- why carbon prices only policies might not do the job?
- Why we need some form of valuation of the social benefits of mitigation activities?
- Why climate finance has to come into play?
- How to upgrade Climate Finance in an adverse context while respecting the CBDR principle?



#### 'Finance' and energy prices in an uncertain world



# CBDR and GCF at risks of the distrust?

- How to pass from 3G\$ per year to 100G\$ and 500G\$ in a context of 'depression economics', 'public debts' and rebalancing of the world economic equilibrium:
  - exarcerbates the 'donor fatigue' in the Annex 1 countries
  - Reinforces the **resistance** to carbon pricing (explicit or implicit)
- A problem of orders of magnitude
  - Incremental Investments < 0,5% of the GDP in non O&G countries</p>
  - Ieveraged inv costs < upfront inv costs < induced inv costs</p>
  - Redirected investment = 8 to 9% of the Gross Capital Formation

## Turning the question upside down; listen to the 'climate agnostic' policy-makers

#### Post 2008: between instable growth and depression economics

- « Saving glut » and « Buridan's Donkey » dilemma for investors
- Risks of *depression* vs risks of *re-unleashing speculative bubbles*
- Banking systems still fragile and in process of deleveraging
- Tensions due to a « *currency cold war* »

(see Fault Lines by Rajan Raghuran)

#### **Responding the questions of climate agnostics**

- **Because** a massive redirection of investments concerns 40% of the economic sectors:
  - Climate policies can stimulate an inclusive growth recovery
  - Climate finance can't stay a marginal section of global finance

#### Low carbon finance: a good candidate

- To redirect savings towards infrastructure and industry  $\bullet$
- **Revitalize the industrial fabric** in OECD countries (and in the EU)
- *More inward-oriented growth* in emerging economies
- A more resilient financial and monetary order





# A C.R.A. device

#### (Climate Remediation Assets)

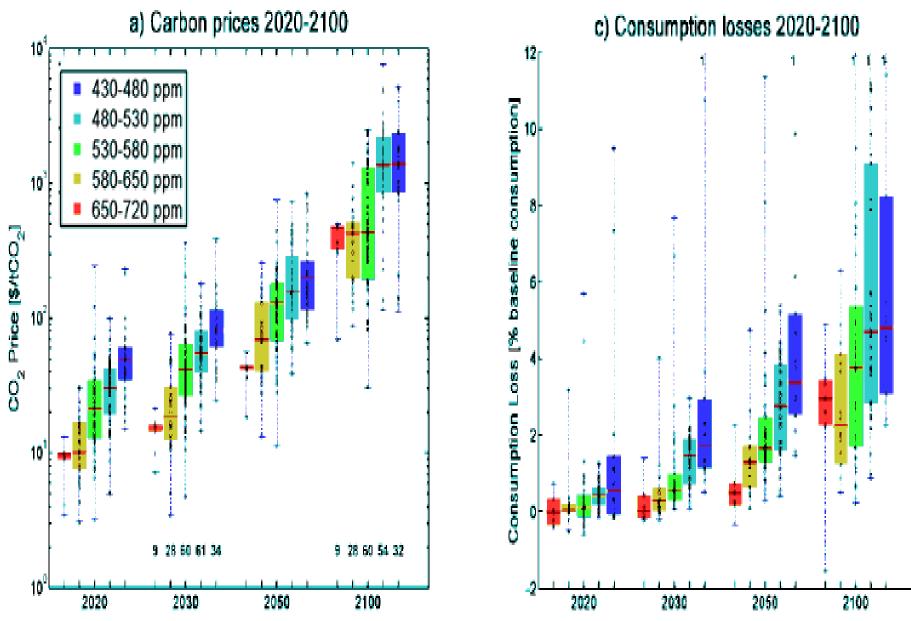
- Inject liquidity conditionnal upon its use for low-carbon investments
- Awake the Buridan's Donkey: public guarantee to lower the risks
- Enhance the solvency of low-carbon entrepreneurs'
- Make the *Banking System interested* in an easier conformity to their prudential constraints and a higher RWA (risk-weighted asset)
- Make institutional investors interested in carbon-based financial products to attract savings
- Trigger a *wave of LCI in infrastructure* 
  - *Revitalizing the industrial fabric* in OECD countries
  - *More inward-oriented growth* in emerging economies

# Sketching a possible mechanism

- Its anchor : an agreement, under UNFCCC on a Value of Climate Remediation (per ton of avoided carbon emissions)
- 2. Voluntary commitments, by 'clubs' of governements, to back a quantity of C.R.As over every five years
- Central banks open *credit lines* and accept as repayment *carbon certificates (CC)* to fund LCIs
- 4. An Independent Supervisory Body to certify the eligibility of the projects in function of the NAMA's list and secure the statistical additionality of the system through the allocation rules of the CC
- 5. Asset swap after certification of project completion: CC <-> C.R.A
  C.R.As appear on the balance sheet of central banks (like gold)

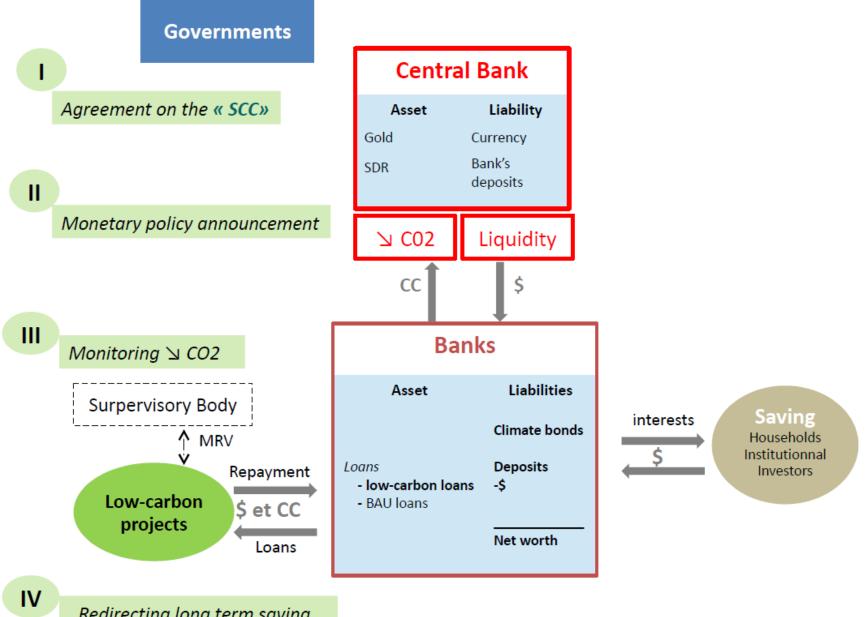
# The VCRA: a notional value, not a carbon price

- **1.** A signal of the political will 'to do sth' against climate change
- 2. It increases over time -> counterbalance the role of discount rate against investing in long lived capital stocks
- **3.** Surrogate of a « gobal price signal »: it does not hurt existing capital stock and *avoids the fragmentation* of climate finance
- 4. Politically negotiable :
  - The cost of cement in India will not be doubled by a 50\$/t VCRA
  - The VCRA differs across countries but is conditional upon the content of their development policies
  - Hence countries may accept *similar VCRA for different reasons,* including various views of the co-benefits of climate mitigation



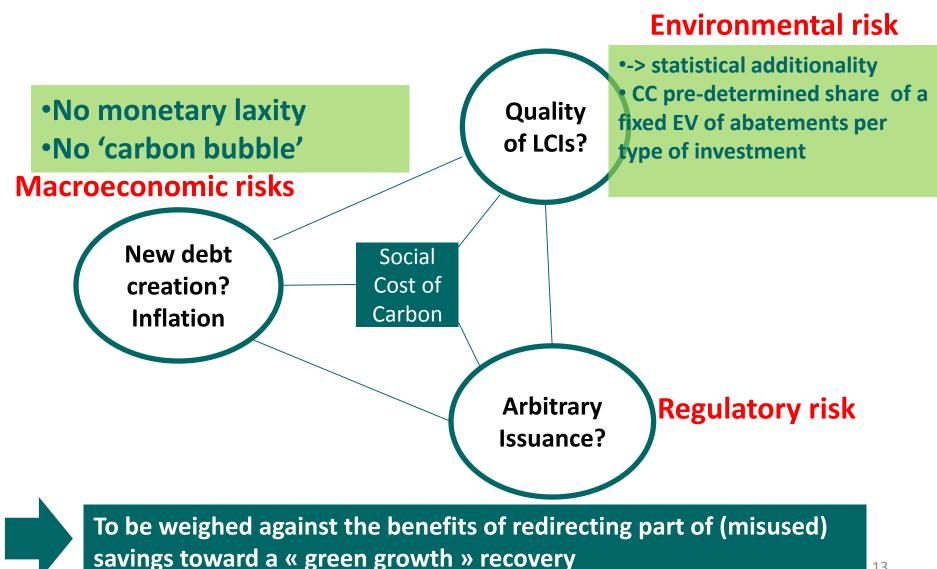
7 16 48 40 14

7 16 46 32 14



Redirecting long term saving

# Adressing potential risks of the system



# **Orders of magnitude**

based on last 'World Energy Outlook' and macroeconomic simulations from Imaclim – R

Thanks to a grant from Entreprises pour l'Environnement, BNP-Parisbas and Vinci to a project with the CIRED, the CEPII, the CDC-Climat and 2°I

## The nature of the funding challenge

- 1. Cumulated Energy Related Investments in the US up to 2035
  - BAU: between 5,5 and 6, 05 trillions US\$
  - 450 ppm: between 5,83 and 6,39 trillion US\$
- 2. Cumulated Energy Related Investments in the EU up to 2035
  - BAU++: between 4,94 and 5,25 trillions US\$
  - 450 ppm: between 5,29 and 6,61 trillion US\$
- 3. Cumulated Energy Related Investments in the world up to 2035
  - BAU: between 47, 44 and 54, 7 trillions US\$
  - 450 ppm: between **39,68** and **43,17** trillion US

## Orders of magnitude of the C.R.A.s issuance (in 2035)

	OECD	DC (Middle East Excl)
Total Energy INV	988	1143
Redirected INV	494	571
Need of Carbon	Assets	
Leverage 5	98	114
Leverage 10	49	57

#### % of the total GDP **between 0.19 and 0.30**

#### The full study available at <a href="http://www.centre-cired.fr">http://www.centre-cired.fr</a>

See also

Venturing into uncharted financial waters: an essay on climate-friendly finance finance JC Hourcade, BP Fabert, J Rozenberg, International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics 12 (2 ...

Can indebted Europe afford Climate Policy? Can it bail out its debt without Climate Policy? M Aglietta, JC Hourcade Intereconomics 47 (3), 81-87