



**Environment at the crossroads.
Aiming for a sustainable future.**
Gulbenkian Conference 2009
27 and 28 October

Trading Emission Schemes and the Future of the Carbon Economy

Pedro Martins Barata

The presentation will attempt to outline possible scenarios for the development of a “carbon economy”. It first proceeds to discuss the environmental critique of carbon trading and the relative merits of different proposed solutions to climate change. Emission trading and other market-based approaches are only one tool, and not a miracle solution. As with regulation and other instruments, if well devised, markets can go a long way towards addressing climate change. Finally, the main themes of the Copenhagen conference of the Parties will be outlined. The argument will be put forward that Copenhagen, the process to it and thereafter, may well be decisive for the world economy and society.



**Environment at the crossroads.
Aiming for a sustainable future.**
Gulbenkian Conference 2009
27 and 28 October



Pedro Martins Barata is currently a Member of the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism. He is a consultant to the Ministry of Environment in Portugal on climate issues, acting as Senior Policy officer for the Interministerial Climate Change Commission. He has worked on the Portuguese delegation to the Climate Change talks since 1999. In

that capacity he has chaired the European Union Expert Group on Carbon market mechanisms during the Portuguese European union Presidencies of 2000 and 2007, and also during the Slovenian presidency of 2008. He has also been a consultant to the European Commission and to international environmental NGOs, on international environmental policy issues. He was Vice-President of Quercus, the largest environmental NGO in Portugal, from 1999 to 2001, and has served on the board of the European Environmental Bureau as Portuguese representative. He holds a M.Sc degree from the London School of Economics on environmental economics and policy and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Lisbon University, with a thesis on environmental and climate assessment of energy subsidies in Spain and Portugal.