

## **GMI Partner Action Plan Guidance Document – Sector Specific Components**

This guide is intended to assist GMI Partners or other stakeholders in the development of Global Methane Initiative Sector Action Plans which ultimately should provide data and information that guides development of an overarching Country Methane Action Plan. As stated in the Global Methane International (GMI) Terms of Reference, “*Action plans can be useful tools in advancing project implementation, facilitating investment, and creating appropriate policy frameworks that support methane abatement, recovery, and use.*” The following list of suggested topic areas include common elements across all the GMI sectors and are recommended for analysis and inclusion as you develop sector specific methane action plans. This outline should be considered as a guide to help you think of what elements to include with your plans – Partner countries can include more or less elements and are free to format their plans in a way that best fits their information. If you have already developed any sector-specific action plans, consider updating or modifying them as your program evolves.

### **1) Country Background and overview of Methane Emissions**

Provide an introduction and overview of your country. Specifically look to provide developers, decision-makers, investors and others with a background on the sector specific methane reduction opportunities, background on the scale of emissions and the sources within your country is important. Introduction can include general information on the country, the climate, geography and other interesting information that may be relevant to better understand methane sources within the country. If methane emission information is not immediately available, some general estimates may be possible using international studies such as EPA’s study titled: Global Anthropogenic Emissions of Non-CO2 Greenhouse Gases: 1990–2020 (EPA Report 430-R-06-003) – available at: [www.epa.gov/climatechange/economics/international.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/economics/international.html)

*Some Resources and Items to consider:*

- a. Existing national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and/or climate change program documents.
- b. Specific sector databases in Government Ministries.

### **2) Characterization of Public and Private Sector Involvement**

Provide an overview of key actors in the methane arena within your country – both internal and external. This could focus on how methane emissions are managed in your country (e.g., owned and operated by the public or private sectors) or could focus on specific sources.

*Some groups to consider include:*

- Owners/Operators
- Sector-Related Organizations (e.g., trade associations)
- Utilities
- Local Governments
- State or Provincial Agencies

- Regional/Geographic Collaborations (e.g., Latin America)
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Equipment Providers/Suppliers
- Other Private Sector Representatives
- Financiers (e.g., multi-national development banks)
- Project Developers
- Consultants
- Technical Experts
- Researchers
- Universities

- a. Consider how the sources of methane emissions are managed in each sector and consider which ministries have authority over each sector also think about which funding institutions are active in the methane sector.

### 3) Challenges to Mitigation or Abatement of Methane Emissions

Consider whether any project development barriers currently exist within your country and provide an overview of the challenges.

*Some broad areas to consider include:*

- Awareness
- Financial/economical
- Legal/regulatory
- Policy enforcement
- National capacity
- Project identification and development
- Resource/gas ownership issues
- Markets (e.g., end users)
- Low power prices
- Lack of transportation infrastructure
- Proven, cost-effective technologies (i.e., cost-benefit analysis)
- Inadequate/consistent (i.e., year-round) inputs
- Project scale (e.g., volume of gas)

### 4) Activities to Promote Methane Mitigation and Abatement (internally and externally)

Provide an overview of initiatives or activities that exist now in your country that promote methane abatement, recovery, and use (e.g., GMI activities). Also consider an overview of international climate work you are currently engaged in with an emphasis on methane with neighboring countries and others.

*Some activities you may have already completed or considered may include:*

- Data collection (e.g., inventories, research) and information products (e.g., reports)
- Information sharing
- Capacity building (e.g., workshops, clearinghouse)
- Targeted information exchange (e.g., list serves)

- Technical training (e.g., study tours)
  - Prefeasibility studies
  - Feasibility assessments
  - Project identification
  - Technology demonstrations
  - Pilot projects
  - Technology deployment
  - Adoption of new policies/changes to regulatory framework
  - Development of financial incentives
- a. Consider also including a section on additional types of assistance that could be useful to get projects moving and listings of successful projects developed.

## 5) Policy, Market and Legal Drivers to Advance Methane Project Development

Include a discussion of any market issues related to project development within your country. Some key issues could include: uses for methane, prices and tariffs, competition, import duties, market access (e.g. access to electric utility grid, gas pipeline), renewable or green energy standards, and regulatory issues. Also discuss how project financing, legal and policies addressed both internally and externally.

*Some items to consider here (note these may also apply to number 3 above) include:*

- Prices and tariffs
- Competition
- Access (e.g., electric utility grid, natural gas pipeline)
- Renewable or green energy standards (e.g., portfolios)
- Carbon credits
- Regulatory
- Legal framework (e.g., decrees, licensing/permitting)
- Climate change position (e.g., Kyoto Protocol signatory, CDM/JI opportunities)
- Policies and/or other mandates that might affect methane mitigation (e.g., mine safety, organic waste diversion)

## 6) Country Priorities

Based on the information gathered in covering the topics above, list some key near and long-term goals for your country on methane reduction, domestically and internationally.

## 7) Additional Information - Emission Sources, Mitigation Potential and Successful or Potential Projects

Additional information can be included to help others to better understand the full suite of activities within your country. Examples of information that could be included here include sector specific emissions inventories, lists of active projects or projects in development and links additional information listed above such as specific policies or laws, relevant ministries or organizations and any other contacts deemed useful to include.