



# United States Country Update

12 October 2011

Steering Committee Meeting  
Krakow, Poland

---

Paul M. Gunning  
Climate Change Division  
Office of Atmospheric Programs

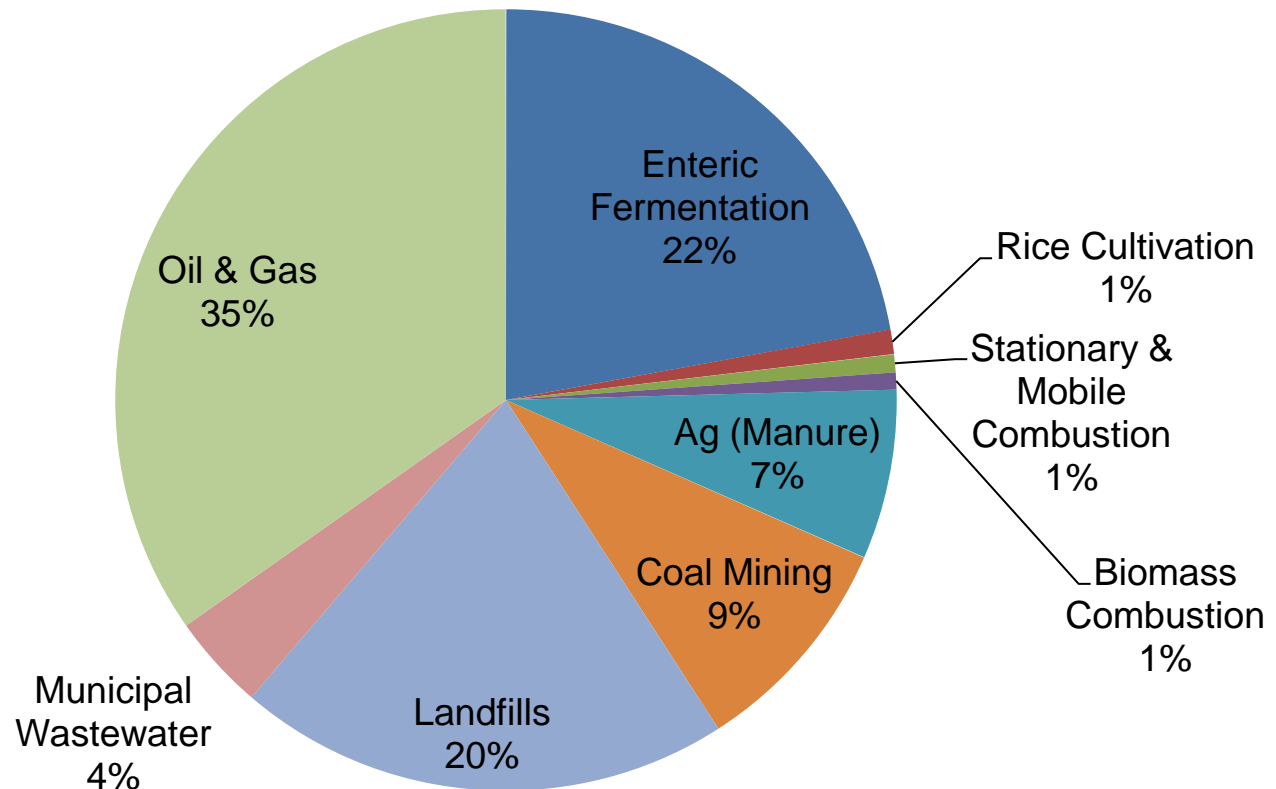


- U.S. Domestic Efforts
  - Methane Emission Reduction Activities
  - Policy Developments
- U.S. Commitment to Global Methane Initiative (GMI)
- Looking Forward

# Methane Emissions in the U.S.

Anthropogenic Methane accounts for about 8 percent of US GHG emissions

(Estimated 642.2 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E in 2010)



# Domestic Methane Partnerships

## ■ AgSTAR

- Since 1994, the number of biogas recovery systems has doubled.
- More than 140 projects, generate about 275 million kWh per year.



## ■ Coalbed Methane Outreach Program (CMOP)

- 86% of “drained” mine degasification methane is used (up from 25% in 1993).
- Industry effort to demonstrate abatement of ventilation air methane.



## ■ Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP)

- More than 445 U.S. projects (tripled since 1994).
- Strong corporate interest in use of landfill gas (LFG).



## ■ Natural Gas STAR

- More than 100 companies (60% of industry) participate in program.
- Since 1993, companies have reported reductions of 63 MMTCE, valued at more than \$6 billion USD.



# U.S. Domestic Policies are Evolving

- EPA is pursuing responsibilities under the Clean Air Act (CAA) to address GHG emissions.
- April 2007– In *Massachusetts v. EPA*, the Supreme Court found that GHGs are air pollutants covered by the CAA.
- December 2009 - EPA Administrator signed endangerment & cause or contribute findings for GHGs under CAA.
- January 2010 – Final rule became effective. Findings serve as a prerequisite to EPA's GHG emission standards for light-duty vehicles.

# GHG Reporting Program (GHGRP)

- **Reporting of GHGs from large emitters in all sectors of the U.S. economy.**
- **Provides accurate and timely data to inform future climate change policies and programs.**
- **Annual reporting of GHG by:**
  - 41 industrial categories (facilities in 29 categories required to report for calendar year 2010, an additional 12 categories will begin reporting for calendar year 2011).
  - 25,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>E reporting threshold for most sources; capacity-based thresholds, where feasible.
  - Estimated 13,000 facilities (85-90% of U.S. emissions coverage).
- **In August 2011, EPA opened the electronic Greenhouse Gas Reporting Tool (e-GGRT) for 2010 GHG reporting.**

# New Source Performance Standards

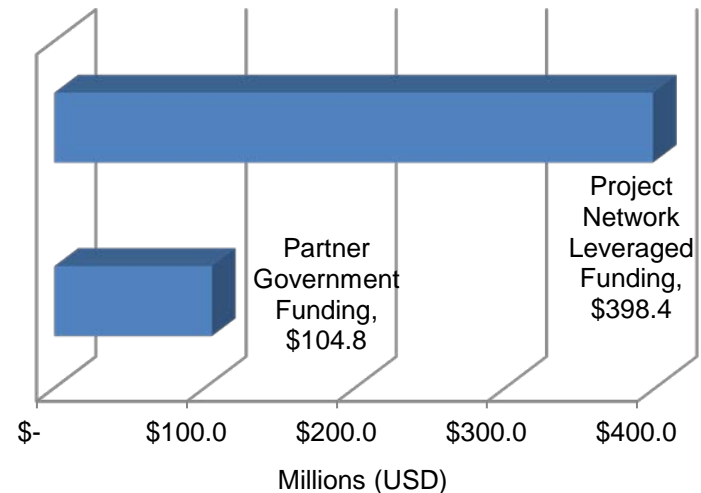
- On July 28, 2011, EPA proposed new source performance standards to reduce smog-forming volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions by nearly one-fourth across the oil and gas industry.
- This would be accomplished primarily through capture natural gas that currently escapes to the air. That gas would then be made available for sale, estimated to result in net savings of nearly \$30 million annually.
- When fully implemented in 2012, the proposed rule would have substantial co-benefits in reducing methane emissions as well - about 3.4 million tons annually (65 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent) or about a 26 percent reduction.

# U.S. GMI Commitment



- **Provided nearly \$60 million to support a wide range of projects and activities to-date**
  - Leveraged nearly \$400 million in public and private sector contribution
- **Providing significant support to the Partnership through the ASG and technical support across all four sectors in the following Partner Countries:**
  - Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Korea, Mexico, Mongolia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Philippines, Russia, Serbia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, and Vietnam
- **In 2010, the USG pledged another \$50 million to ensure the success of GMI over the next five years.**

**U.S. Government Funding and Leveraged Funding**

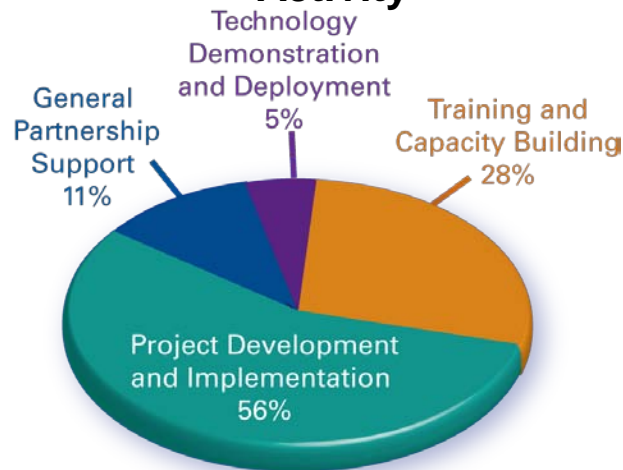




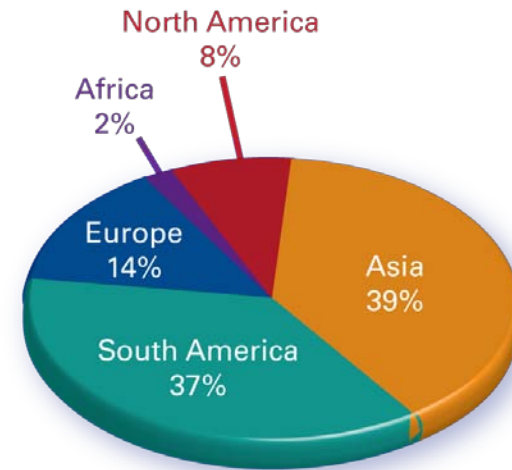
# U.S. Activities

- U.S. activities directly support GMI action plans and focus on advancing project development in developing countries.
- EPA provides technical expertise from our domestic methane programs.

**FY 2010 USG GMI  
Expenditures by Type of  
Activity**



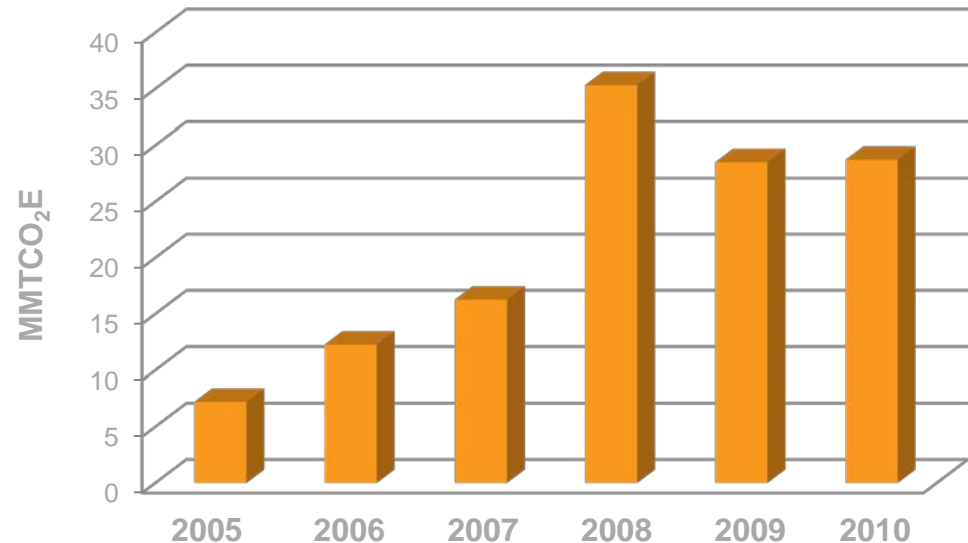
**FY 2010 USG GMI  
Expenditures by Region**



# U.S. Accomplishments

- U.S. is engaged in nearly 600 projects and activities around the world that have reduced cumulative methane emissions by 128.3 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E since 2005.

**Annual Methane Emission Reductions from U.S.-Supported Projects, 2005-2010**



# GMI Grant Solicitation

- For four years, EPA has offered a grant solicitation to support the objectives of GMI.
- In September 2011, EPA finalized grant awards to 27 recipients in 17 countries for work in support of GMI.
- EPA intends to issue a new grant solicitation in October 2011 to fund projects and activities that support GMI.
  - Designed to build capacity in agriculture (manure management), coal mining, landfills, municipal wastewater, and oil and gas systems.
  - Solicitation expected to be open until end of December 2011.
- Past awards and new solicitation will be posted on:  
**[www.epa.gov/globalmethane/grants.htm](http://www.epa.gov/globalmethane/grants.htm)**

# Looking Forward

- Through our continued commitment to GMI, the U.S. has significant opportunity to achieve global climate change and clean energy goals.
- U.S. looks forward to this meeting's discussions.
  - We encourage our colleagues to report their activities and accomplishments in support of GMI.
  - We support a GMI Expo and will participate in an Expo Task Force if one is formed.
  - We are supporting the Municipal Wastewater Sector by including it in the next EPA grant solicitation.
  - We will develop a revised U.S. Partner Action Plan.
  - We remain committed to hosting the GMI Administrative Support Group. We are open to discussing how we can work together to enhance GMI's effectiveness.

# Contact Us...

- Websites

[www.epa.gov/methane](http://www.epa.gov/methane)

- Contact Information

- Paul Gunning

- [gunning.paul@epa.gov](mailto:gunning.paul@epa.gov), 202.343.9736