

# **Mechanisms to Increase Sector Subcommittee Engagement**

**2<sup>nd</sup> GMI Steering Committee Meeting  
March 2013**

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**Vancouver, British Columbia  
Canada**



# Sector Subcommittee Engagement

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- Seeking mechanisms to improve GMI Subcommittee meetings
- Assistance Available for Developing Countries
- Items for Steering Committee Consideration

# Improving Subcommittee Meetings

- **GMI has been actively trying to encourage greater participation in Subcommittee meetings – seeking to make meetings more useful, interesting, dynamic, and cost-effective.**
  - We recognize the needs of Partner countries to reduce travel costs and to reduce carbon footprints
- **Ideas for Improved Formats Include:**
  1. **Conjoined with Larger Conferences**
    - Example: Oil and Gas Subcommittee with U.S. EPA Natural Gas STAR Annual Implementation Workshop (April 2012)
      - Effective in getting more project network participation.
  2. **Joint or Multiple-Sector Meetings**
    - Agriculture, Municipal Solid Waste, and Municipal Wastewater Tri-Sector Meetings (November 2010 in Venice, July 2012 in Singapore).
      - Increase partner participation in all three subcommittee meetings, with some overlap of delegates.

# Improving Subcommittee Meetings (2)

## 3. Partnership-Wide Meetings (exclusive of Expos)

- Examples: Buenos Aires, Argentina (2005); Monterrey, Mexico (2009); Mexico City, Mexico (2010); Krakow, Poland (2011).
  - Creates critical mass to attract participation in all sectors from both partner countries and project network.
  - Technical and policy sessions provide additional reason for participation.

## 4. Web- or Internet-Based Meetings (Webinars)

- No travel involved = reduced costs/carbon footprint
  - Currently conducting a minimum of one webinar per sector per year.
  - Enables participation by partners with no travel funds.
  - Limits ability to have in-depth discussions, conversation / dialogue, or build relationships
  - Effective as an interim measure between face to face meetings

# Potential path forward: 2014 - 2015

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- 2014 – hold sector specific sessions at appropriate co-located or convenient venues
  - Joint biogas meeting (ag, MSW, wastewater)
  - Coal
  - Oil & Gas
  - Steering Committee
- 2015 – seek host for All-Partnership meeting

# Meeting Formats: Next Steps

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- Continue utilizing meeting formats that allow for the greatest number of participants while also minimizing cost burdens and achieving the subcommittees' work.
- Partners should consider value of Partnership-wide meetings versus sector oriented meetings in 2014 and notify ASG if interested in hosting meetings for future dates.
- GMI plans to continue using webinars for at least one virtual meeting per year – and more frequently as need arises.

# Assistance Available for Developing Countries

- Travel costs have been one of the biggest barriers to robust participation by developing countries to GMI meetings, workshops, etc, and travel support is critical to success of these events. Past examples of Partner and Project Network Support include:
  - Japan's New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO): 2006, 2007 Coal events (Subcommittee meetings, Beijing Expo)
  - Asian Development Bank (ADB): 2007 Beijing Expo
  - U.S. government airfare and/or hotel support for more than 60 GMI meeting attendees since March 2010
  - Canada delegate and sector support for Methane Expo 2013
  - World Bank and CCAC Methane Expo side-events (providing support for delegate and other participant travel)
- Other financial support mechanisms (e.g., grant opportunities) often are ad hoc and could be more effectively communicated to GMI community
  - Bilateral country work (E.G. Environment Canada's work with PEMEX in Mexico). Could be communicated through GMI Partner Action Plans
  - Better/more timely communication when funding (e.g., grants, RFPs) are available

# Assistance Available for Developing Countries (2)

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- Partners encouraged to include bilateral funding opportunity information in their GMI action plans and to inform ASG when possible funding might be available to support meetings or project development.
- All public funding opportunities can be posted on the GMI website and shared with Partnership via broadcast e-mail.



# Items for Steering Committee Consideration

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- Does the Steering Committee wish to charge Partners with sharing solicitations and/or availability of other funding with the ASG for posting on the GMI website (or sending broadcast email if the information is time-sensitive)?
- Does the Steering Committee wish to encourage developed Partner Countries to support participation of their developing country project partners in subcommittee and other GMI-related meetings (e.g., Expo, Partnership-wide) for the purposes of sharing their experiences (i.e., making a presentation)?
- Does the Steering Committee have any suggestions for better coordination and integration of GMI and other methane-related development initiatives?

# Items for Steering Committee Consideration (2)

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- Does the Steering Committee wish to develop a plan for more systematically meeting the GMI's needs to provide travel support to developing countries for their participation in GMI-related meetings?
- Does the Steering Committee wish to task the ASG with organizing a partnership-wide meeting in 2014 or should the ASG pursue a sector-oriented approach in 2014 and a partnership-wide meeting in 2015? Any volunteers to host a partnership-wide meeting in the future (2014 or 2015)?