

Global Methane Initiative Task Force Recommendations to Steering Committee

Future of GMI Post-2015

I. BACKGROUND

A. Context

1. GMI charter (“Terms of Reference,” or TOR) ends in April 2016.
2. Steering Committee met in the fall of 2014 and made a firm decision that GMI’s work is important and the brand is valuable; thus, it should continue to operate as an autonomous partnership—but before the charter is extended for a new term, the existing mission and approach of GMI should be evaluated and updated as appropriate.
3. The Steering Committee expressed interest in exploring ways for GMI to become more efficient and effective in achieving its mission, including possible alignment with other relevant initiatives to leverage resources and attention for key issues while minimizing overlap or duplication of other international methane reduction efforts. Notable among these:
 - a. The Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), which has significant sector-specific methane activities in three sectors that overlap with GMI (agriculture, specifically manure management; municipal solid waste; and oil & gas) as well as several cross-cutting initiatives (e.g., financing, short-lived climate pollutant [SLCP] national action planning).
 - b. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Sustainable Energy Division (which hosts the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane).
 - c. Other initiatives such as the World Bank’s Global Gas Flaring Reduction Initiative (GGFR) and the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA).
 - d. *Appendix A: Matrix showing cross-walk of these other initiatives with the work of GMI in the appendix*
4. The Steering Committee established the Task Force to evaluate a set of “charter questions” and—based those questions’ answers—make a formal set of recommendations to the Committee for the re-charter of GMI.
 - a. *Appendix B: Task Force charter questions*
 - b. *Appendix B: Short summary of Steering Committee meeting outcomes and process for convening the Task Force*

II. Recommendations for the future of GMI

Brief overview/executive summary of recommendations.

A. Improving efficiency and effectiveness of GMI’s work to promote global methane reductions

1. **Recommendation:** No significant changes need be made to the existing GMI mission, which should remain to promote global methane abatement and reduction across five sectors:

agriculture (manure management), coal mining, municipal solid waste, oil & gas, and wastewater.

2. **Recommendation:** The mission stays intact, but GMI shifts emphasis. While maintaining its core technical expertise, it moves from its historical role as a “project incubator” to a forward-looking catalytic role, as a developer and disseminator of best practices and policy guidance, as well as a tool developer and a knowledge platform. GMI should continue as an inclusive, transparent, open forum for discussion, information dissemination, and networking. Suggestion: keep the current mission statement, but augment it with an action-oriented strategy statement to capture this new emphasis.

- a. *Appendix C: Terms of Reference—(current) mission statement for GMI*

- b. *Appendix D: Table of GMI Strengths/Challenges*

3. Give the private sector a pathway to invest in project development (i.e., reliable data, information exchange or networking), promote policies that support and incentivize methane emission reduction actions, and encourage industry best practices.
 - a. Specific recommendations/suggestions/mechanisms to be developed.
4. Give financial institutions (international and national development banks, local banks, and other financial institutions such as foundations, etc.) an opportunity to participate in project development and provide feedback on how to develop bankable projects.
 - a. Specific recommendations/suggestions/mechanisms to be developed.

B. Align GMI more effectively with existing initiatives/organizations, with adequate flexibility to engage with new initiatives that have yet to emerge. Seek to broaden participation in GMI (and in other initiatives) by increasing access both of GMI Partners and Project Network members and their counterparts in CCAC and other methane-directed efforts.

1. CCAC, at the organizational level and the sector/initiative level
 - a. **Recommendation:** GMI seeks “non-state” partner status as a member of the Coalition and seeks other mechanisms to actively engage with CCAC at an institutional level.
 - i. Purpose: to provide broader recognition of GMI activities in a more cross-cutting way among CCAC coalition members and an opportunity for greater information exchange about methane mitigation opportunities and strategies.
 - ii. Process: letter submission to CCAC, to be approved by CCAC Working Group.
 - iii. Proposed GMI representation at CCAC Working Group meetings (one of the following): Steering Committee co-chairs, designee of the GMI Steering Committee, or Administrative Support Group (ASG). The mechanism could be ad hoc, ex officio, or a rotating basis for designating the representative.
 - b. **Recommendation:** At the sectoral/initiative level, GMI subcommittees formally align with CCAC counterparts (where applicable), opening GMI subcommittee meetings to relevant CCAC initiative counterparts. As quid pro quo, GMI would request that CCAC initiatives invite GMI subcommittee/sector counterparts to participate in (relevant) meetings/workshops/events.

- i. Through this collaboration, GMI (methane-focused) activities in sectors covered by CCAC initiatives could work with CCAC initiatives/partners to propose activities for funding, directly through the CCAC trust fund, that would build on existing work and leverage the expertise and advance the aims of both CCAC and GMI.
- ii. Through this collaboration, there is also a potential to introduce GMI private sector Project Network members to CCAC project developers and explore opportunities for scaling up activities.
- iii. GMI Partner Countries that have not joined CCAC would be able to participate in CCAC sector activities of interest through their membership in GMI.
- c. **Recommendation:** Continue to pursue strategies such as co-locating and co-branding GMI/CCAC events where appropriate and mutually beneficial to build opportunities for GMI Partners not in CCAC to participate in CCAC events (and vice versa). This has already begun to happen:
 - i. Municipal solid waste workshop (Tokyo, Japan, February 2015)
 - ii. Oil & gas workshops (Thailand, March 2015; Saudi Arabia, April 2015)

And will continue in the future:

 - iii. CCAC Oil and Gas Initiative Technology Demonstration Component Workshops (Mexico, August 2015)
 - iv. Global Methane Forum (Washington, D.C., March/April 2016)
- d. **Recommendation:** Streamline communication and coordination on methane-related work.
 - i. Encourage CCAC to send communications from the three methane-related initiatives (agriculture, municipal solid waste, and oil & gas) that would formally invite GMI Partners to participate.
 - ii. Encourage GMI partners to become more engaged with CCAC cross-cutting work such as the SLCP National Action Planning Initiative, for example in accessing the tools that have been developed and identifying ways in which GMI Partners could use them to develop or enhance GMI Methane Action Plans.

2. UNECE, Sustainable Energy Division

- a. **Recommendation:** Align GMI coal mine sector work with the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.
 - i. Discussions have been held with UNECE, which welcomes this collaboration. UNECE has hosted multiple Coal Subcommittee meetings since 2005 and has collaborated on important projects such as creating the *Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines*. UNECE's Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane is scheduled to host the next Coal Subcommittee meeting (Geneva, Switzerland, October 2016). This collaboration offers centralized venue with simultaneous translation, as well as an engaged group of key stakeholders.

- b. **Recommendation:** Consider whether it would be appropriate/beneficial to align with UNECE in the oil & gas sector, with a focus on specific added value that alignment brings to GMI oil & gas work.
 - i. UNECE's Sustainable Energy Division also hosts a Group of Experts on Natural Gas. This group's focus is much broader than the GMI oil & gas sector, but there may be important areas of mutual interest and UNECE's convening power may be helpful as a mechanism to bring together key partners on an annual basis.
- 3. World Bank
 - a. **Recommendation:** Explore opportunities to collaborate more closely with the World Bank's Climate Change Group, which is set to launch the Pilot Auction Facility for Methane and Climate Change, and identify ways to support their future efforts to facilitate financing of methane reduction projects.
 - b. **Recommendation:** Explore opportunities to collaborate more closely with the World Bank's GGFR partnership, leveraging synergies between the technical content of the work and overall in oil and gas company and country stakeholders.
- 4. Other technology partnerships
 - a. **Recommendation:** Explore opportunities to collaborate more closely with other existing partnerships whose activities include methane-related projects.
 - i. GACSA
 - ii. GGFR
- 5. Other multilateral or regional development banks
 - a. **Recommendation:** GMI should better engage the financial/investment community to encourage increased access to project development capital and to incorporate their advice/expertise in Steering Committee decisions.

C. Consider structural/leadership changes to streamline the organization.

1. GMI leadership: Steering Committee

- a. **Recommendation:** Continue the administrative and convening role of the Steering Committee to guide the Initiative/address important issues, with modification(s):
 - i. **Recommendation:** Change leadership model to two Steering Committee Co-Chairs, rather than a single Chair.
 - a. **Recommend** that Co-Chairs include representatives from one developed and one developing country.
 - b. **Recommend** two-year terms for the Co-Chairs.
 - c. **Recommend** requiring that the Co-Chair role include hosting one Steering Committee meeting in their country (with ASG support).
 - d. **Recommend** that the United States continue acting as Chair during the transition period until Co-Chairs appointed.
 - e. **Recommend** issuing a call for new Co-Chairs before the Steering Committee meeting at the upcoming Global Methane Forum, with selection by consensus

vote during meeting.

b. **Recommendations** regarding Steering Committee membership:

- i. **Recommendation:** Consider ways to enhance active participation among Steering Committee members (e.g., establish a requirement that serving as a member of the Steering Committee implies an obligation to serve as a Co-Chair of the Steering Committee at some point during their tenure).
- ii. **Recommendation:** Include subcommittee Co-Chairs as ex officio members of the Steering Committee.
- iii. **Recommendation:** Consider inviting key Project Network members to be members of the Steering Committee.
 - a. World Bank (and/or regional development banks such as Asia Development Bank).
 - b. Consider a system to enable rotating seat(s) for one or two Project Network members to serve on the Steering Committee.

2. **GMI ASG/Secretariat functions**

- a. **Recommendation:** Continue ASG functions as critical to track overall GMI activities, communicate broadly across the initiative, and maintain continuity and efficient support for Steering Committee Co-Chairs.
- b. **Recommendation:** Identify ways to streamline administrative functions to increase efficiency and reduce administrative burdens. For example:
 - i. Reduce number of stand-alone, in-person meetings that must be organized by holding virtual meetings and co-organizing events with other initiatives as appropriate.
 - ii. Reduce the number of resource-intensive “project expo” events and focus more on development and dissemination of knowledge platforms, tools, and resources.
- c. **Recommendation:** Consider alternative models for hosting the ASG.
 - i. The U.S. EPA has historically funded and provided staff for the ASG. The United States is willing to consider continued support but invites others to consider hosting or supporting (in-kind).
 - ii. Consider whether an in-depth search for other potential secretariat hosts should be conducted. UNECE expressed some interest in “hosting” the secretariat, but this would likely need to be funded externally (e.g., by GMI partners); details need to be evaluated.
 - iii. Ensure that the Steering Committee will be adequately supported by the ASG regardless of the hosting arrangement.

3. **Subcommittees—recommendation:** Continue GMI’s sector-specific work in all five sectors/subcommittees, with certain modifications to better align GMI’s work with that of CCAC and other international organizations engaged in methane reduction capacity building.

Identify ways to encourage more active participation of subcommittee members. Consider mechanisms to enable more flexible entry to membership in subcommittees.

- a. ***“Biogas” sectors—recommend formation of new “Biogas” Subcommittee:*** Re-organize three existing GMI subcommittees (Agriculture, Municipal Solid Waste, and Wastewater) into an overarching “Biogas” subcommittee to leverage participation, minimize duplication, and achieve synergies on related topics. The new Biogas Subcommittee would work to abate, recover, and use methane from livestock manure and agro-industrial wastewater and residues, from municipal solid waste and from municipal wastewater sources. It would focus on building capacity by providing tools, policy guidance development, project development at national, state, and city level within Partner Countries. The new Subcommittee would seek work areas on common policies and approaches across the three biogas methane sectors, and would also continue sector-specific work as needed.
 - i. ***Recommended future alignment:*** The work of the Biogas Subcommittee should align with activities of the corresponding CCAC initiatives (municipal solid waste and agriculture) where relevant—e.g., workshops, trainings, conferences, tools/resources. To the extent appropriate, GMI Biogas task force members could advise CCAC initiative members on areas for proposing new activities or seeking new funding. Co-locate with relevant CCAC agriculture and municipal solid waste initiative meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants on wastewater-methane-related topics.
 - a. Consider collaboration with other international biogas initiatives that could help further GMI’s mission (GACSA, others), building on existing collaboration with the International Solid Waste Association, Water Environment Federation, etc.
 - b. Encourage and support cross-sectoral biogas activities and projects that combine organics from various sectors (municipal solid waste, wastewater, agriculture).
 - ii. ***Recommended meeting frequency:*** At least one annual in-person meeting or event to facilitate reduced travel demands on GMI biogas sector delegates. Meetings will be primarily designed as technical workshops, each with a short administrative component.
 - a. Existing GMI agriculture, municipal solid waste, and wastewater sector expertise would be maintained through development of sector-specific working groups that could share or solicit sector-specific information. Each Biogas meeting could continue to have “breakout” working groups focused on the individual sectors, either within meetings or as separate activities, as appropriate to focus on issues unique to each sector.
 - iii. ***Recommended leadership for the Biogas Subcommittee:*** Choose three Co-Chairs for the new Biogas Subcommittee, to be appointed/chosen from the existing three subcommittees, with regular reviews to provide additional opportunities for delegates to take a leadership role. Solicit new leaders for each of the working groups focused on experts in each of the sectors.
 - iv. ***Recommended role of the private sector/Project Network:*** Project Network members would be invited to become full delegates in the Subcommittee and

working groups with potential to also become Co-Chairs if selected by consensus of the Subcommittee.

- v. **Recommendation:** Develop a new Biogas Subcommittee Action Plan and Statement of Purpose drawing from elements of existing documents from all biogas sectors.
- vi. *Appendix E: Comparison of proposed Biogas Subcommittee structure and role to existing individual biogas sector structure*
- b. **Coal (Statement of Purpose):** The GMI Coal Subcommittee is dedicated to reducing the impacts of climate change by providing international leadership to mitigate global methane emissions through the abatement, recovery, and use of methane from coal mines. The Subcommittee promotes collaboration between delegates from Partner Countries and Project Network members to build capacity, develop strategies and markets, and remove barriers to methane mitigation project development in order to improve worker safety, enhance mine productivity, increase revenues, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - i. **Recommended future alignment:** Formally align Coal Subcommittee with UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.
 - a. This recommendation is based on Steering Committee members' expressed emphasis on the importance of maintaining GMI's expertise and continued efforts in the coal mine methane sector.
 - b. The UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane has offered to host annual in-person Coal Subcommittee meetings in Geneva in conjunction with its annual meetings. This model has worked successfully since 2005.
 - ii. **Recommended meeting frequency:** at least one annual in-person meeting, on the margins of or in conjunction with UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane meetings. Also explore opportunities to convene technical events on the margins of other large global coal-related meetings or conferences.
 - a. Consider potential synergies of meeting in conjunction with the GMI Oil & Gas Subcommittee.
 - iii. **Recommended leadership for the Subcommittee:** Keep the current leadership structure of three Partner delegate Co-Chairs, with the current Co-Chairs from China, India, and the United States—the largest coal producers and coal mine methane emitters in the world—staying in position. Add a new rotating “honorary Co-Chair” for a delegate from a country hosting a Subcommittee meeting or large coal workshop, on an annual basis. Leadership of the Subcommittee should be reviewed every two years and new co-chairs adopted if other delegates interested. If Co-Chairs are changed, consider “staggering” terms that the leadership (as well as the Subcommittee's agenda) has enough continuity.
 - a. Consider forming a “leadership group” that could help manage some of the administrative details of the Subcommittee. This group could meet virtually (e.g., on a quarterly basis) and thus make in-person Subcommittee meetings less administratively focused and more valuable to Project Network members, mines, and project developers.

- iv. **Recommended role of private sector/Project Network:** One member of the Bureau of the UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane could be invited to co-chair the Subcommittee. Continue discussing the option of allowing Project Network members to take a leadership role in the Subcommittee (perhaps through the proposed leadership group).
 - v. **Recommendation:** Revise the Coal Subcommittee Action Plan and Statement of Purpose as necessary to include future alignment with UNECE.
- c. **Oil and Gas (Statement of Purpose):** Mitigate global methane emissions from the oil and gas sector through the abatement, recovery, and use of methane from oil and gas operations as a clean energy source. Encourage collaboration within the Subcommittee to build capacity, and to develop strategies and markets and remove technical and non-technical barriers to methane mitigation project development.
- i. **Recommended future alignment:** Consider ways to formalize the connections between GMI and the CCAC Oil & Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) through joint meetings, events, and trainings to provide opportunities through which engaged GMI companies would be exposed to CCAC Oil & Gas Methane Partnership companies and activities and would be encouraged to join the OGMP. The GMI Oil & Gas Subcommittee could consider hosting events in collaboration with the CCAC Oil and Gas Methane Partnership, and vice versa (as has already occurred via GMI workshops in Thailand and in Saudi Arabia in spring 2015).
 - a. Consider working with the CCAC to incorporate GMI oil and gas activities into the broader CCAC Oil & Gas Initiative. Oil and gas company active participation in GMI technology transfer support activities would be foundational for companies considering joining the CCAC Oil & Gas Methane Partnership at a future date. Similarly, as GMI promotes OGMP to companies, OGMP outreach should reference active GMI membership as a starting point for companies that decline to join the CCAC OGMP.
 - b. Consider more closely aligning with the World Bank's Global Gas Flaring Reduction Initiative to provide an official nexus between GGFR, CCAC, and GMI. Such an interaction could have extremely powerful convening power, given the strong membership and participation in these partnerships, the existing work being undertaken in each, and the complementary nature of the work.
 - c. Consider an alliance with the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division, Group of Experts on Oil & Gas, if specific value add of such alliance can be identified.
 - d. Consider ways to coordinate the efforts underway in the CCAC Oil & Gas Technology Demonstration Component more broadly through joint meetings, events, collaborate work products, technical support activities, and training to provide marketing opportunities GMI, GGFR, and OGMP companies. GMI, OGMP, and GGFR could consider hosting events in collaboration with the CCAC Oil & Gas Technology Demonstration Component such as the upcoming workshop with PEMEX in August 2015. Careful coordination is critical to avoid setting up competing opportunities for oil and gas companies and assure CCAC remains a platform for global leaders to showcase their methane reduction efforts in a systematic and public manner.
 - e. Consider leveraging developing country ambitions related to Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to promote and encourage oil and gas sector methane emission reduction work.

- ii. **Recommended meeting frequency:** at least one annual in-person meeting, on the margins of existing oil and gas workshops (such as the U.S. Natural Gas STAR implementation workshop or in conjunction with a CCAC Oil & Gas Methane Partnership meeting). Meetings will be designed as a technical workshop with a short administrative component, and will include relevant participants from oil and gas company and government organizations in GMI and CCAC countries, as well as other OGMP and GGFR membership.
- iii. **Recommended leadership for the Subcommittee:** Keep current leadership structure of three partner delegate co-chairs. Offer opportunity for new leadership as part of re-chartering of GMI and consider the option of rotating Co-Chairs.
- iv. **Recommended role of private sector/project network:** Project network members invited to participate in all activities of the Subcommittee.
- v. **Recommendation:** Revise the Oil & Gas Subcommittee Action Plan and Statement of Purpose to reflect possible alignment with CCAC, GGFR, UNECE, or other international oil and gas methane initiatives that might evolve.

D. Cross-sectoral activities

1. Action planning

- a. **Background:** As part of joining GMI Partners agree to develop and implement action plans that outline a series of concrete activities and actions that directly support the core goals and functions of the Initiative. These plans are recognized as potentially useful tools in advancing project implementation, facilitating investment, and creating appropriate policy frameworks that support methane abatement, recovery, and use.
 - i. **Recommendation:** Engage with CCAC's Supporting National Planning for Action Initiative (SNAP) to ensure methane related activities are included in this Initiative and to potentially facilitate additional action planning by GMI partners who have not yet developed Action Plans. SNAP has a track record of developing specific policies, measures and practices for national planning which could benefit GMI.

2. Resources to achieve GMI's mission

- a. **Background:** GMI's mission focuses on building capacity, and building a pipeline of project opportunities that will ideally be funded by the private sector, multilateral and national development banks and by carbon development mechanisms. In the future, GMI should consider ways to better engage the financial/investment community to encourage increased access to project development capital and to incorporate their advice/expertise in GMI Steering Committee decisions.
 - i. Consider mechanisms to more closely coordinate with banks in areas where GMI's mission and banks' goals align.
 - ii. Consider ways to engage with CCAC's financing initiative; e.g., identify how to promote financing of methane mitigation projects.
 - iii. Recommend continued engagement with World Bank's Pilot Auction Facility for Methane and Climate Mitigation to help it become successful and to potentially harness it's potential to fund potential GMI projects.

- iv. Closely watch outcomes of upcoming Paris UNFCCC meetings and agreements for opportunities to engage with any future carbon development mechanisms.
- v. Consider establishing a **trust fund** to address one of GMI's key weaknesses; i.e., the inability to centrally collect and allocate funding to partnership activities. As currently hosted by the U.S. EPA, the ASG cannot assume this function. Establishing a trust fund to accept donations is a significant task but could yield large benefits if there is sufficient interest and donations to GMI.
 - a. **Recommend** exploring further the establishment of a trust fund with an appropriate organization, only if GMI Partners express to provide funding into trust fund.

(1) Some organizations (such as UNECE, OECD) may be able and willing to support establishment of a trust fund, but these trust funds would come with a significant indirect cost (e.g., ranging up to 13%).
 - b. **Consider:** If a trust fund were established, significant processes would need to be created to allow for decision-making and allocation of resources including procurement.
 - c. **Consider:** As a potential alternative to establishing a dedicated GMI trust fund, investigate ways to leverage the CCAC trust fund for specific directed activities in collaboration with CCAC initiatives and GMI Subcommittees.

III. GMI Terms of Reference (TOR) elements to be amended

- A. Specific elements of TOR will need to be changed to comport with any changes in GMI structure approved by the Steering committee. Changes needed will depend on specific changes adopted by GMI Steering Committee. Potential changes include:
 - 1. Steering Committee Leadership/Membership
 - a. Co-chair terms
 - b. Project Network participation
 - c. Linkages with the ASG
 - 2. Any changes to Subcommittee structure
 - 3. Action Planning
 - a. Engage with CCAC SNAP Initiative
 - 4. Resources to Achieve GMI's Mission
 - a. Discuss value of a trust fund and potential to engage with CCAC trust fund
 - i. Include opportunity to establish a GMI trust fund if donor countries identified.
 - b. Recognize value of in-kind contributions

IV. Ministerial statement/launch

- A. **Consider:** Partner countries could develop and sign a Ministerial Statement, similar to the 2010 launch of the Global Methane Initiative as a successor to Methane-to-Markets.

1. *Appendix F*

- B. **Launch date/location:** Global Methane Forum event, March 28 – 31, 2016 in Washington, DC.

1. **Background:** The Global Methane Forum will convene methane experts and policy-makers from around the world to discuss options for methane reduction and abatement activities. Sessions will include:

- a. High-level plenary sessions on cross-cutting issues such as project financing.
- b. Technical sessions on biogas (agricultural sources, municipal solid waste, municipal wastewater systems), coal mines, and oil and natural gas systems.
- c. Joint GMI Subcommittee – CCAC Initiative level discussions on policy and projects.
- d. Opportunities for networking with methane experts in the public and private sectors from around the world.

e. *Appendix G*

2. **Participation:** All Partners and Project Network members are invited to attend –with opportunities for Partners to participate in sessions highlighting success stories, high-level plenary dialogue and cross-cutting meetings with CCAC Initiatives.

V. Appendices

- A. GMI–CCAC–UNECE comparison table
- B. Summary of 2014 GMI Steering Committee meeting/recommendations and “charter” questions for analysis
- C. Current GMI terms of reference (including mission statement)
- D. GMI strengths/challenges table
- E. Biogas Subcommittee comparison table
- F. Example ministerial declaration (from 2010 launch of GMI)
- G. Global Methane Forum overview

Appendix A: GMI – CCAC- UNECE Comparison Table

Sector	GMI Approach	CCAC Approach	Current and Potential Areas of Alignment
Agriculture (manure management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigate methane emissions from livestock and agro-industrial sectors by providing technical assistance in identifying opportunities for anaerobic digesters to be designed, implemented, and maintained. Collaborate with key financial institutions (World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and Land Bank of the Philippines) in Southeast Asia, primarily China, the Philippines and Thailand to implement a “train the trainer” approach for anaerobic digester trainings and have assessed priority areas for livestock and agro-industrial methane emissions reductions in thirteen countries. Support technical assistance, tools development and project development at national, state, and city level within partner countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broader approach across the agriculture sector, focusing on mitigating black carbon and methane from open burning, rice cultivation, enteric fermentation and manure management. Focus on characterizing best practices and performing limited pilot projects to demonstrate mitigation potential of those practices. 	<p><u>Current key partners in common:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada & World Bank (lead/advisory roles); Vietnam, Ethiopia and Argentina (implementing activities) <p><u>Potential key partners that could be gained through alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major agricultural methane emitters Brazil, Indonesia and China (currently involved in GMI but not CCAC) <p><u>Current alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in the CCAC Agriculture Livestock and Manure Management Component as a member of its Advisory Board through engagement of GMI staff at US EPA. <p><u>Potential future alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-locate and co-brand relevant meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants to relevant topics. Consider coordination on CCAC and GMI (pilot) projects to leverage the resources and expertise of each initiative and avoid duplication of efforts.
Coal Mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds international alliances to advance methane recovery (especially ventilation air methane) and use in underground coal mines. Capacity building through development tools, country-specific strategic plans, resource assessments and direct technical assistance via targeted trainings, feasibility studies and information sharing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is currently no CCAC analogue to GMI’s Coal Mines work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCAC Partners who are not currently part of the GMI Coal Mines Subcommittee would be invited to participate in Coal Mines Subcommittee meetings and events. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Sustainable Energy Division convenes a Coal Mine Methane (CMM) Group of Experts which meets annually. There has been strong collaboration between the UNECE

Appendix A: GMI – CCAC- UNECE Comparison Table

Sector	GMI Approach	CCAC Approach	Current and Potential Areas of Alignment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMI would continue the work of the Coal Mines Subcommittee, in collaboration with the UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane. Many of the Coal Subcommittee meetings have been co-located with the UNECE Coal Expert Group in Geneva 		Group of Experts and GMI, including hosting GMI Subcommittee meetings and publishing a Best Practices Guide for Coal Mine Methane.
Municipal Solid Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with national and state government institutions to discuss best practices (technical and policy) and build capacity, assessing potential methane mitigation opportunities at a national level based on specific existing landfills (e.g., determining population of landfills that might be good candidates for methane recovery / landfill gas to energy projects). Conduct technical assessments at specific landfills (measurement studies, pre-feasibility studies, etc.). No Subcommittee but rather an informal network This forum would not have a standalone meetings Activities – attending GasStar Meeting, GMI workshops, study tours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look across municipal solid waste systems to identify ways to holistically assess and reduce emissions of methane and black carbon by working specifically with cities, engaging with them through specific commitments at the mayoral level, in partnership with C40 Cities and ISWA in areas such as organics management, improved waste collection and disposal. 	<p><u>Current key partners in common:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada, Japan, Mexico, USA <p><u>Potential key partners that could be gained through alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brazil, China, India, Indonesia <p><u>Current alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in the CCAC MSW Initiative work through significant technical engagement of GMI staff at US EPA. Co-locate meetings and share resources. <p><u>Potential future alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to more formally align GMI MSW sector work with the CCAC MSW Initiative, erasing the distinction between CCAC “city” focused work and GMI “national” work, recognizing the importance of concerted coordination between the two complementary approaches. Only through nationally adopted plans, policies, incentives, and regulations can more rapid adoption of effective SLCP mitigation approaches by municipalities be adopted more effectively within countries, enabling “scaled up” implementation.
Oil and Gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support international oil and gas company efforts to understand and mitigate methane 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCAC’s Oil and Gas Methane Partnership includes a structure and 	<p><u>Current key partners in common:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada, Mexico, US, Norway

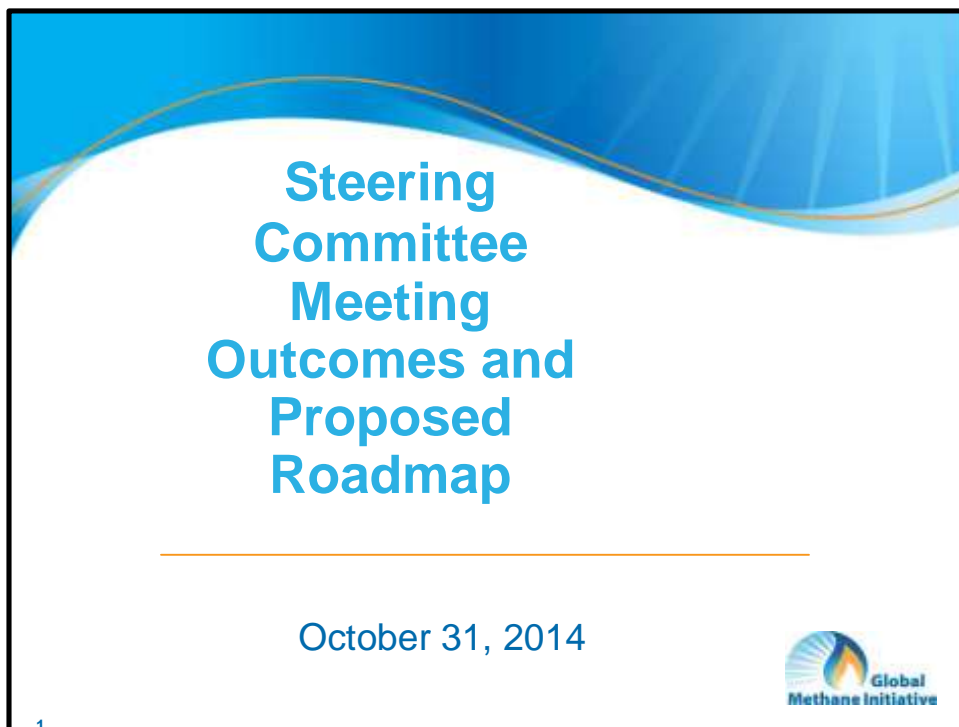
Appendix A: GMI – CCAC- UNECE Comparison Table

Sector	GMI Approach	CCAC Approach	Current and Potential Areas of Alignment
	<p>emissions through technology transfer and capacity building activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle mechanisms of engagement include study tours, technology transfer workshops, company-specific trainings, and individual company assistance in the form of pre-feasibility studies, measurement studies, analyses of mitigation options. • 28 partner oil and gas companies working with GMI associated GasSTAR International (a flexible, voluntary partnership with companies to adopt cost-effective technologies and practices that improve operational efficiency and reduce methane emissions). 	<p>process through which partner companies quantify and implement methane mitigation opportunities and disclose results publicly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance is offered to partner companies in the form of trainings and one-on-one company assistance. • 6 Partner oil and gas companies to date (ENI, Pemex, Southwestern Energy, Statoil, BG Group, PTT) -- all but BG group have also worked with GMI. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companies commit to quantify and reduce emissions from nine core sources. 	<p><u>Potential key partners that could be gained through alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia, India, Saudi Arabia, Colombia, China, UK <p><u>Current alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal connection of CCAC, GMI, and GasSTAR International through EPA's participation in all three initiatives. <p><u>Potential future alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on co-branded events being planned for 2015, continue to formalize the connections between the CCAC Oil & Gas Methane Partnership and GMI more broadly through joint meetings, events and trainings. • Create a structure through which engaged GMI companies would be exposed to CCAC Oil & Gas Methane Partnership companies and activities to encourage their joining the OGMP.
Waste water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses technical and policy issues to facilitate wastewater methane abatement, recovery, and use projects in partner countries. • Activities include capacity building, feasibility studies, and training. • GMI would continue to support the activities of the Municipal Wastewater Subcommittee, though would attempt wherever possible to co- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no CCAC analogue to GMI's Waste water sector methane work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCAC Partners who are not currently part of the GMI Waste water Subcommittee would be invited to participate in Subcommittee meetings and events. • The sector would co-locate and co-brand with the CCAC initiative activities wherever appropriate. • A strong network of municipal wastewater experts has been established in Latin America

Appendix A: GMI – CCAC- UNECE Comparison Table

Sector	GMI Approach	CCAC Approach	Current and Potential Areas of Alignment
	locate and combine such activities under the auspices of other Biogas sectors events (e.g., MSW and Agriculture.		and China that would serve as a solid platform for CCAC to explore opportunities in this sector. Additionally, given the vital role played by municipal solid waste and wastewater management institutions in urban areas, many additional opportunities exist to explore ways to enhance the sustainability of these two critical components of urban infrastructure.

Appendix B: Summary of 2014 GMI Steering Committee Meeting



Meeting Objectives

- Begin a dialogue among GMI Partners about the role of GMI moving forward.
- Assess interest and achieve consensus on pursuing an extension of the GMI Charter beyond 2015.
- Discuss and identify ways in which GMI should adapt to be as effective as possible.
- Begin a dialogue about how the work of GMI could support and complement broader international approaches to methane mitigation.
- Establish a roadmap for the next 12 months to define the future of GMI post-2015.



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Consensus Points

- “Robust enthusiasm” for engaging in discussions for GMI post-2015.
- Recognition that this is a key transformational moment in time, and an opportunity to assess the future of GMI.
- Recognition of overlapping opportunities between GMI and CCAC and the need to be more efficient
- Support for creating a framework for GMI post-2015 that enables partners to participate fully regardless of CCAC partnership status.
- Strong support for coal mining sector
- Support for pursuing near term opportunities such as co-branding and co-locating events to be more efficient
- Interest in linking post-2015 GMI to a “bigger, bolder” international initiative but unclear on what that would entail



Outcomes

- Agreement to establish a task force to make specific recommendations regarding GMI post-2015
- Consensus to extend the GMI charter from current end date of October 1, 2015, for an additional six months
 - Will request concurrence of remainder of Steering Committee
- Plan to use International Methane Forum as platform for re-launch of GMI post-2015
 - Forum being planned by US EPA, to be held in Washington, D.C., late 2015 or first quarter 2016

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Next Steps

- Share meeting minutes, draft consensus document, and task force charter questions with Steering Committee meeting participants by **31 October 2014**
 - Request one week review (**7 November 2014**)
- Share meeting summary, task force charter questions, and request consensus on TOR extension with entire Steering Committee (**10 November 2014**)
 - Request response by **24 November 2014** (if no negative response, assume concurrence)
- Share with GMI community: consensus document, and task force charter questions **25 November 2014**
- Establish task force by **5 December 2014**

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Transformation Task Force

Objectives:

- Develop answers to “charter questions” developed by Steering Committee
- Develop a recommendation for new path for GMI post-2015

Timeline:

- ASG requests nominations for Task Force membership by **19 November 2014** (including project network suggestions)
- Membership finalized by **5 December 2014**
- ASG sends Task Force members charter questions
- Teleconference monthly - starting **16 December 2014**
- Targeted Task Force completion date: **September 2015**



Transformation Task Force

Participation

- Seek diverse representation from Steering Committee as well as non-Steering Committee, across all sectors, developed / developing countries, and some representation from the project network
- Balance diversity with need for effective working size



Task Force Charter Questions

1. What should be the focused mission for GMI post-2015?
2. What are some of the “low risk” or “no regrets” actions GMI could take in the near term to streamline its operations?
3. What are some of the sector-specific ways in which GMI could align its work with existing initiatives, including CCAC, in each of the key methane sectors?

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Task Force Charter Questions

4. What are the strengths and weaknesses of GMI?
5. How can we continue robust engagement with the project network, including the private sector, in GMI post-2015?
6. What would a proposed model/framework for GMI look like?
7. Which elements of the GMI Terms of Reference (TOR) need to be amended?



Task Force Charter Questions

8. Is it feasible to align “international methane forum” event (planned for late 2015) with the “re-launch” of GMI?
 - In terms of timing?
 - Is it feasible to consider aligning this event with a CCAC high-level assembly (HLA)?



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Task Force Charter Questions

9. What are specific suggestions for future leadership model of GMI?
10. Are there specific suggestions for secretariat function of GMI?
11. Are there any aspects of GMI's current portfolio / mission that could be considered “complete” or “accomplished”? (i.e., do not need to be included in mission of GMI post-2015)



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Task Force Charter Questions

12. What is the appropriate way to communicate within the GMI community about our accomplishments / ongoing activities / transformation itself?
13. When Methane to Markets was re-launched in 2010 as “Global Methane Initiative” it was re-branded. Should GMI consider changing its name again?



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE GLOBAL METHANE INITIATIVE

The undersigned national government entities (collectively referred to as “the Partners”) set forth the following Terms of Reference for the Global Methane Initiative (referred to as “the Initiative”). The Initiative serves as a framework with the goal of achieving global reductions of anthropogenic methane emissions through partnerships among developed countries, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition in coordination with the private sector, researchers, development banks, and other relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations.

1. Purpose

To create a voluntary, non-binding framework for international cooperation to reduce methane emissions and to advance the recovery and use of methane as a valuable clean energy source to increase energy security, enhance economic growth, improve air quality, and improve industrial safety. The Initiative will focus on the development of strategies and markets for the abatement, recovery, and use of methane through technology development, demonstration, deployment and diffusion, implementation of effective policy frameworks, identification of ways and means to support investment, and removal of barriers to collaborative project development and implementation. The Initiative will serve to complement and support Partners’ efforts implemented under the United Nations’ Framework Convention on Climate Change.

2. Functions

The Partners will seek to:

- 2.1 Identify and promote areas of bilateral, multilateral, and private sector collaboration on methane abatement, recovery, and use in the areas of agriculture, coal mining, landfills, oil and natural gas systems, and wastewater treatment, and in other areas as agreed to by the Partners.
- 2.2 Develop improved emissions estimates and identify the largest relevant emission sources to facilitate project development.
- 2.3 Identify cost-effective opportunities to recover methane emissions for energy production and potential financing mechanisms to encourage investment.
- 2.4 Identify and address barriers to project development and improve the legal, regulatory, financial, institutional, technological and other conditions necessary to attract investment in methane abatement, recovery and utilization projects.
- 2.5 Identify and implement collaborative projects aimed at addressing specific challenges to methane abatement and recovery, such as raising awareness in key industries, removing barriers to project development and implementation, identifying project opportunities, and demonstrating and deploying technologies.

Partners will also work together to share lessons learned from these cooperative activities.

- 2.6 Foster cooperation with the private sector, research organizations, development banks, and other relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- 2.7 Integrate and coordinate Initiative activities with related activities and initiatives.
- 2.8 Support the identification and deployment of best management practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of methane.
- 2.9 Work to improve scientific understanding in relation to the abatement, recovery, and use of methane.
- 2.10 Develop and implement action plans that outline a series of concrete activities and actions that directly support the core goals and functions of the Initiative. Action plans can be useful tools in advancing project implementation, facilitating investment, and creating appropriate policy frameworks that support methane abatement, recovery, and use.
- 2.11 Communicate their progress and accomplishments in implementing action plans and undertaking other activities to support the Initiative's goal.
- 2.12 Periodically assess the effectiveness of the Initiative's efforts to achieve its goal.

3. Organization

- 3.1 A Steering Committee, Administrative Support Group, and Subcommittees are to be formed. The Subcommittees will focus on the following focal areas: Agriculture, Coal Mining, Landfills, Oil and Gas Systems, and Wastewater Treatment. The Steering Committee may establish additional Subcommittees, working groups, or enlarge the scope of existing Subcommittees in other focal areas as agreed. Each Subcommittee will create and support a Project Network.
- 3.2 The Steering Committee will govern the overall framework, policies and procedures of the Initiative; annually review progress of the Initiative; and provide guidance to the Administrative Support Group and Subcommittees. The Steering Committee should meet at least once per year, at times and locations to be determined by its appointed representatives. The Steering Committee will make decisions by consensus.
- 3.3 Appendix A lists those Partners that may appoint up to two representatives to the Steering Committee. Appendix A may be amended by consensus of the Steering Committee.
- 3.4 The Subcommittees will be responsible for guidance and assessment of area- specific activities and engaging representatives of the private sector, development banks, researchers and other relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations. Each Subcommittee will work to implement its program of action, offer assistance to

Partners in the development and implementation of their action plans, provide guidance on project identification, identify and address key barriers and issues for project development, address market assessment and reform issues, facilitate investment and financing opportunities, and report on progress. Subcommittees will report to the Steering Committee. Subcommittees will meet as often as necessary to fulfill their responsibilities, making use of electronic media (including email, teleconference and videoconference) as appropriate in order to minimize travel. Each Subcommittee will make decisions by consensus.

- 3.5 The Subcommittees will be comprised of representatives from interested Partners. Each Partner may appoint up to three members to each Subcommittee. Each Subcommittee will select two Partners as co-chairs, ideally one from a developed and the other from a developing country or country with an economy in transition. At their discretion, Subcommittees may select one additional co-chair. Every three years, Subcommittees should review their leadership to provide other Partners the opportunity to act as co-chair.
- 3.6 A Project Network will be created under each Subcommittee to serve as an informal mechanism to facilitate communication, project development and implementation, and private sector involvement. The Project Network will be key to reaching out to and organizing the efforts of the private sector, governmental and non-governmental organizations. The Project Network will be comprised of representatives from local governments, the private sector, the research community, development banks, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. Those interested in becoming partners in the Project Network will sign and submit a Project Network Membership Agreement.
- 3.7 The Administrative Support Group will serve as the principal coordinator of the Initiative's communications and activities. The focus of the Group will be administrative. The Group will not act on matters of substance except as specifically instructed by the Steering Committee. Specifically, the Group will:
 - 3.7.1 Organize the meetings of the Initiative,
 - 3.7.2 Arrange special activities such as teleconferences and workshops,
 - 3.7.3 Receive and forward new membership requests to the Steering Committee,
 - 3.7.4 Coordinate communications of Initiative activities, progress, and accomplishments,
 - 3.7.5 Act as a clearinghouse for information for the Initiative,
 - 3.7.6 Provide support for activities related to the Project Network, and
 - 3.7.7 Perform such other tasks as the Steering Committee directs.
- 3.8 The Administrative Support Group will be supported and hosted by the United States, at the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington D.C. Another Partner's offer to support and host the Group will be accepted by the consensus of the Steering Committee.
- 3.9 Each Partner will designate an Administrative Liaison to serve as its principal point of contact to the Administrative Support Group. The Group will work with the Liaisons

to ensure an adequate flow of information between the Initiative and individual Partners.

- 3.10 The Administrative Support Group may, if appropriate, involve personnel employed by the Partners to assist in specific activities undertaken by the Group. Such personnel will be remunerated by their respective employers and will remain subject to their employers' conditions of employment.

4. Membership

- 4.1 These Terms of Reference establish a framework for voluntary cooperation and do not create any legally binding obligations between or among the Partners. Each Partner is expected to conduct the activities contemplated by these Terms of Reference in accordance with the laws under which it operates and the international instruments to which it is a party.
- 4.2 The Steering Committee may invite other national governmental entities to join the Initiative through endorsement of the Terms of Reference.

5. Funding

- 5.1 Participation in the Initiative is on a voluntary basis. Each Partner may, at its discretion, contribute funds, personnel and other resources to the Initiative subject to the laws, regulations and policies of the Partner. Any costs arising from the activities contemplated in these Terms of Reference are to be borne by the Partner that incurs them, unless other arrangements have been made.
- 5.2 These Terms of Reference do not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity against the Partner, their officers or employees, or any other person. No Partner should submit a claim for compensation to another Partner for activities it carries out under these Terms of Reference. These Terms of Reference do not direct or apply to any person outside of the governments of the Partners.

6. Commencement, Modification, Termination, Extension, and Withdrawal

- 6.1 Commencement, Modification and Termination
- 6.1.1 These Terms of Reference commence on 1 October 2010 and will continue in effect for 5 years unless extended or terminated by the Steering Committee.¹
- 6.1.2 These Terms of Reference may be modified at any time by consensus of the Steering Committee.
- 6.2 Extension and Withdrawal

¹ The Initiative was originally known as the Methane to Markets Partnership, whose Terms of Reference commenced on 16 November 2004

- 6.2.1 By consensus, the Steering Committee may extend these Terms of Reference for additional periods.
- 6.2.2 A Partner may withdraw from the Initiative by giving written notice to the other Partners and the Administrative Support Group 90 days prior to its anticipated withdrawal.

TOR Appendix A: Current Steering Committee Members:

Argentina
Australia
Brazil
Canada
China
Colombia
Ecuador
Ethiopia
European Commission
Finland
Germany
Ghana
India
Italy
Japan
Mexico
Nigeria
Poland
Republic of Korea
Russia
Ukraine
United Kingdom
United States

Appendix D: GMI Strengths/Challenges Table

Steering Committee Question: What are the strengths and weaknesses of GMI?

The following table summarizes some of the strengths and challenges facing GMI in response to the GMI Steering Committee charter question to the GMI Task Force. By assessing GMI's strengths and its current challenges, the Task Force can determine areas for most effective alignment with other initiatives focused on methane mitigation, as well as how to improve the current structure of GMI.

GMI Strengths	GMI Challenges
Comprehensive, collective, experience-based knowledge and capabilities to share best practices and lessons learned	Limited human and financial resources have been invested to date
Significant network of contacts, technical experience, demonstrated track record of accomplishments, and trust built across all sectors	Relatively little concrete commitment or investment by many Partner countries (low cost to entry)
Source of recognized, objective methane mitigation tools and resources that are widely accessible	No centralized trust fund into which donors can contribute; no mechanism to directly fund GMI activities or project implementation
Membership includes all of the top methane-emitting countries (representing about 70% of global anthropogenic emissions)	GMI activities / partnership is not widely recognized in the broader climate change community (UNFCCC negotiations, etc.)
GMI has always had a focus on, and maintains good relations with, the private sector, and has successfully leveraged fairly limited resources into tangible results	Lacks broad or consistent high-level political commitment.

- Overall GMI is recognized for its depth of methane reduction technical expertise, and its broad network of experts and country representatives.
- GMI has developed and distributed a comprehensive array of tools and resources in all its targeted sectors.
- Other initiatives such as CCAC have high-level political support and funding mechanisms that if aligned more directly with GMI's technical expertise and network of experts and targeted tools, could lead to a more effective global effort to reduce methane.

Appendix E: Biogas Subcommittee Comparison Table

	Proposed Biogas Subcommittee (Recommended Option)	Status Quo: Maintaining Three Separate Subcommittees (Not Recommended)
Statement of Purpose	Re-organize the three existing GMI biogas subcommittees (Agriculture, MSW and Wastewater) into an over-arching “Biogas” subcommittee to leverage participation, minimize duplication, and achieve synergies on related topics. The work of the Biogas subcommittee should align with activities of the corresponding CCAC Initiatives (MSW and Agriculture) where relevant – e.g., workshops, trainings, conferences, tools / resources. To the extent appropriate, GMI Biogas task force members could advise CCAC initiative members on areas for proposing new activities or seeking new funding. New combined Biogas Subcommittee will continue to maintain existing level of technical expertise in its component sectors through sector-specific working groups.	<p><i>Agriculture:</i> Mitigate methane emissions from livestock manure and agro-industrial wastewater and residues by providing technical assistance in identifying opportunities for anaerobic digesters to be designed, implemented, and maintained.</p> <p><i>MSW:</i> Abate, recover, and use methane emissions from disposal and management of municipal solid waste.</p> <p><i>Wastewater:</i> Abate, recover, and use methane from municipal wastewater sources.</p> <p><i>All:</i> Focus on building capacity by providing tools and policy guidance development and project development at national, state, and city level within partner countries.</p>
Recommended Future Alignment	<p>Co-locate and co-brand with relevant CCAC Ag and MSW Initiative meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants on methane emitted from biological sources. Eliminate existing silos from biogas sectors to allow open participation.</p> <p><i>Agriculture:</i> Work closely with the CCAC Agriculture Initiative, with emphasis on providing support and leveraging the manure management work (recognizing that the CCAC initiative has broader mandate). . Focus on GMI contributions to “knowledge platform” and CCAC</p>	<p><i>Agriculture:</i> Work closely with the CCAC Agriculture Initiative, with emphasis on providing support and leveraging the manure management work (recognizing that the CCAC initiative has broader mandate). Co-locate and co-brand relevant CCAC Ag meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants on methane related topics. Focus on GMI contributions to “knowledge platform” and CCAC Manure kiosks. Consider coordination on CCAC and GMI (pilot) projects to leverage the resources and expertise of each initiative and avoid duplication of efforts.</p>

	Proposed Biogas Subcommittee (Recommended Option)	Status Quo: Maintaining Three Separate Subcommittees (Not Recommended)
	<p>Manure kiosks. Consider coordination on CCAC and GMI (pilot) projects to leverage the resources and expertise of each initiative and avoid duplication of efforts.</p> <p><i>MSW:</i> Work closely with the CCAC MSW Initiative, with emphasis on broadening the CCAC initiative from city level support to national-level engagement.</p> <p><i>Wastewater:</i> Co-locate with other GMI biogas sector subcommittee meetings (Ag and MSW) and with relevant CCAC Ag and MSW meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants on waste water methane related topics.</p>	<p><i>MSW:</i> Work closely with the CCAC MSW Initiative, with emphasis on broadening the CCAC initiative from city level support to national-level engagement. Co-locate and co-brand relevant CCAC MSW meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants on MSW methane related topics.</p> <p><i>Wastewater:</i> Co-locate with other GMI biogas sector subcommittee meetings (Ag and MSW) and with relevant CCAC Ag and MSW meetings to ensure broad exposure of GMI and CCAC participants on waste water methane related topics.</p>
Recommended Meeting Frequency	At least one annual in-person meeting, on the margins of or in conjunction with other GMI biogas subcommittees to facilitate reduced travel demands on GMI delegates. Meetings will be designed as a technical workshop with a common short administrative component comprising all three biogas sectors.	At least one annual in-person meeting, on the margins of or in conjunction with other GMI biogas subcommittees to facilitate reduced travel demands on GMI delegates. Meetings will be designed as a technical workshop with a common short administrative component comprising all three biogas sectors.
Recommended Subcommittee Leadership	Reduce leadership to three co-chairs in total (one co-chair per biogas sector), offering initial opportunity to existing co-chairs -- with regular reviews to provide additional opportunities for delegates to take a leadership role. Make call for new leadership as part of formation of this newly formed Subcommittee. Seek new leaders for sector-specific working groups.	Keep current leadership structure (two co-chairs per subcommittee), offering initial opportunity to existing co-chairs to maintain leadership -- with regular reviews to provide additional opportunities for delegates to take a leadership role.
Recommended Role of Private Sector	Project network invited to become full delegates in the subcommittee with potential to also become co-chairs if selected by consensus of the subcommittee.	Project network invited to become full delegates in the subcommittee with potential to also become co-chairs if selected by consensus of the subcommittee.

Appendix F: Example Ministerial Declaration

Methane to Markets Partnership

*Ministerial Meeting
Mexico City, 1 October 2010*

Ministerial Declaration

We, the Ministers and representatives of the Methane to Markets Partners, met in Mexico City for a Ministerial meeting on 1 October 2010 to announce expanded international cooperation to reduce global methane emissions and accelerate our efforts to address climate change in the near term while providing cost-effective clean energy solutions, and delivering human health, environmental, and economic development benefits.

We recognize that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, and that all countries around the world must work together constructively in order to respond to it. Methane mitigation, in parallel with other greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies, plays a critical role in overcoming this challenge. Methane accounts for approximately 18 percent of the total anthropogenic contribution to climate change, and methane emissions are responsible for nearly one-third of the warming the planet is currently experiencing. Methane is a potent GHG that remains in the atmosphere a relatively short period of time. Therefore, reducing methane emissions today will yield substantial climate benefits, both in the near and long term.

We also recognize the importance of the energy, human health, environmental, and economic benefits that can accompany methane reduction projects in the agriculture, coal mining, landfill, oil and gas, and wastewater sectors. Projects may make methane available for local energy production and strengthen energy security. Projects may also contribute to technology development and transfer and enhance economic development. In addition, they may improve industrial safety by reducing the risks of explosions in coal mines and oil and gas installations. Projects can also bring considerable environmental and public health benefits such as reductions in background levels of tropospheric ozone, lower emissions of other local air pollutants, and improvement of local water quality.

The Methane to Markets Partnership was launched in 2004 with 14 partner countries. Our cooperation has since expanded to include 38 governments, which together represent approximately 70 percent of the world's estimated anthropogenic methane emissions and include the top 10 methane emitting countries, as well as more than 1,000 leading public and private sector organizations. Over the past six years, we have worked together, successfully building international capacity to address methane emissions. We have identified and made progress in reducing barriers to technology deployment and project development. The work of the Partnership has complemented the international community's efforts under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol.

Our efforts are delivering real GHG emission reductions, while providing the foundation for greater reductions in years to come. To date, Partner countries have supported more than 300 methane projects around the world that have already delivered reductions of approximately 40 million MTCO₂E cumulatively. When fully implemented, these projects are expected to reduce emissions by more than

60 million MTCO₂e per year while providing new sources of clean energy, supporting technology transfer, stimulating local economic growth, and providing public health and environmental benefits.

We appreciate the work of the Partnership's Project Network members for their actions in providing the necessary financial resources and technological and project development expertise to reduce methane emissions. We are also proud of the overwhelming success of the two Methane to Markets Expos, hosted by China and India. The Expo has become the premier international forum on methane emission reduction project development.

While much has already been achieved, we also recognize that more needs to be done to address climate change and that significant cost-effective methane reduction opportunities still remain available throughout the world. As a result, robust global action to reduce methane emissions is urgently needed, including, inter alia, stronger financial support and continued engagement of the private sector, researchers, international financial institutions, and other relevant governmental and nongovernmental organizations, as well as assuring that international cooperation evolves in a manner that is supportive of the UNFCCC.

We would like to build on the successes achieved through the Methane to Markets Partnership by expanding and enhancing our efforts in re-launching the Partnership as a new Global Methane Initiative (GMI). The GMI is intended to build on the existing structure and success of the Methane to Markets Partnership and supports the recently revised Methane to Markets Terms of Reference. Our expanded efforts will include additional methane sources, such as wastewater, and the exploration of approaches to methane abatement and avoidance as well as recovery and use. We will focus on working together to develop methane national action plans that will help countries with significant potential for methane reductions, particularly developing countries, identify opportunities and help developed countries and other stakeholders coordinate assistance. We will continue to work to overcome barriers to technology deployment and project development. We intend to encourage new financial commitments from developed country partners and others in a position to do so in order to ensure the success of our efforts.

Finally, we express our sincere gratitude to the Government of Mexico for hosting this meeting.

Appendix G: Global Methane Forum Overview

Global Methane Initiative 2016 Global Methane Forum

Meeting description: The 2016 Global Methane Forum will serve as the premier event for international collaboration on methane mitigation, recovery, and use. Methane experts from around the globe will gather to discuss policy and financing options, as well as the latest technology in the oil and gas, coal mining, agriculture, MSW, and waste water sectors. Through this comprehensive event, GMI seeks to create a dialogue between governments and the private sector to assist the development of methane mitigation projects. Furthermore, the 2016 International Methane Forum will launch the next phase of GMI's cooperation with the international community. The meeting will be hosted by the Global Methane Initiative, ideally with collaboration from the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) and potentially other relevant international organizations such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) World Bank, Asian Development Bank, C40, and ISWA.

Forum Date: March 28 – April 1, 2016

Location: Washington, DC; Georgetown University Hotel Conference Center

Scope of participation: Delegates from all 43 GMI Partner countries
CCAC methane-related membership
CCAC Working Group membership
UNECE Group of Experts – Coal GMI
Project Network
Other interested international methane experts

Anticipated attendance: 250 to 300 people total (including official delegates)

Meeting duration: 2-3 days

Anticipated level of government participation: Expert delegates from environment and energy ministries in GMI and CCAC partner countries. USEPA administrator to be invited.

Meeting format:

- **Opening plenary session** (keynote addresses, plus any over-arching topical presentations
 - e.g., World Bank Pilot Auction Facility or other multilateral bank presentation on financing)
- **Up to four (4) concurrent meetings:** Three (3) sector-specific technical sessions
 - (Biogas [comprising Agriculture, Municipal Solid Waste, and Wastewater GMI sectors]), Oil and Gas Systems and Coal Mine Methane), and the Steering Committee meeting
- Opportunity for side meetings of other organizations
- Planned day of joint meetings of GMI/CCAC Initiatives
- CCAC Working Group Meeting to occur the two days after the Global Methane Forum sessions (Thursday, Friday).