



GLOBAL METHANE INITIATIVE
11th Steering Committee Virtual Meeting
20 November 2018

MEETING SUMMARY

Overview

The Global Methane Initiative (GMI) Steering Committee held its 11th meeting on 20 November 2018. The virtual meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Jennifer Kerr of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Dr. Juan Carlos Arredondo Brun of Mexico's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT). Representatives from Argentina, Canada, China, India, Mexico, Nigeria, and the United States participated in the meeting. The meeting focused on the Global Methane Challenge (GMC), Subcommittee updates, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) Working Group Meeting, and planning for the 2019 in-person meeting of the steering committee. The presentation for the meeting and other materials discussed during the meeting are available on the [GMI website](#).

The following sections provide details of the meeting's discussions.

Agenda 1: Welcome, Opening of the Meeting, Webinar Tips (Monica Shimamura, USA)

Agenda 2: Roll Call (Tour de Table) (GMI participants -- see Appendix A)

Agenda 3: Meeting Objectives; Adoption of Agenda (see Appendix B)

- Approved.

Agenda 4: Overview of the Global Methane Challenge (Jennifer Kerr, Canada)

- Highlights:
 - GMI's Steering Committee announced its intention for the Global Methane Challenge (GMC) in April 2018 at the Global Methane Forum and a Steering Committee Task Force was established to develop a proposal.
 - The GMI Steering Committee endorsed and adopted the GMC proposal in July 2018.
 - Eligibility for the Challenge was broadened to include all public- and private-sector entities (see the revised [Co-Chairs GMC Proposal Addendum](#)).
 - The GMC will begin in January 2019 and continue through the calendar year.
 - Each participant will be publicly recognized for actions taken to reduce methane emissions and celebrated at a 2020 capstone event. The location and date of this event are to be confirmed but would likely be in the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2020. The capstone event could be held in conjunction with another appropriate (methane-related) event; its purpose is to highlight the achievements/accomplishments of the Challenge.
 - Examples of cross-cutting and sector-specific actions were reviewed.
 - Participants were encouraged to visit the Global Methane Challenge [website](#) which will showcase actions and raise awareness about ongoing efforts.
 - A promotional 1-pager (fact sheet) is available for Steering Committee members to use to share news about the GMC and encourage participation (see the [GMC 1-pager](#)).

- J.C. Arrendondo Brun (Mexico) noted that Mexico is ready to promote their Challenge action, referring to the recent publishing of a new methane regulation for the control and management of methane emissions in the hydrocarbon sector.
 - Next steps:
 - Summary information about the Global Methane Challenge will be sent to all GMI Partners and Project Network Members encouraging their participation and providing a link to the GMC website.

Agenda 5: Report to Steering Committee on Subcommittee Activities (Juan Carlos Arredondo Brun, Mexico)

- Biogas Subcommittee – Chris Voell, USA
 - 2018 Highlights:
 - Completed the first full year of the Biogas Subcommittee after combining the Municipal Solid Waste, Agriculture and Wastewater Subcommittees.
 - Participated in a high-level meeting with CCAC’s Agriculture Initiative which led to a planned joint effort in India focused on livestock manure management.
 - Hosted the first Biogas Subcommittee in-person meeting that was attended by 7 of the GMI Partner Countries.
 - Collaborated with GMI Partner Countries, Project Network members, the CCAC Waste Initiative, C40, the International Solid Waste Association, and the World Biogas Association.
 - Hosted a workshop in India on advancing agriculture biogas projects in collaboration with India ministries and Project Network partners.
 - Participated in conferences such as the World Gas Conference, the World Biogas Expo in the United Kingdom, and the ManuResource Conference in the Netherlands.
 - 2018-2019 Action Plan:
 - Support the Global Methane Challenge with Biogas sector tools and resources.
 - Continue supporting China’s Low Carbon Cities Initiative, India’s livestock manure initiatives, and Kazakhstan biogas and wastewater projects.
 - Technical priorities include (1) best practices for food/organic waste and wastewater treatment, (2) advanced manure management and sustainable agriculture, (3) renewable natural gas production, and (4) co-digestion of sludge, manure, agricultural residues and food wastes.
 - Host quarterly webinars, an in-person meeting with the Global Summit on Waste Management, and meetings with the CCAC’s Waste and Agricultural Initiatives.
- Coal Subcommittee – Huang Shengchu, China; Shekar Saran, India; and Felicia Ruiz, USA
 - 2018 Highlights:
 - Participated in the Global Methane Forum in Canada and in the UNECE Coal Mine Methane Annual Meeting in Switzerland.
 - Conducted coal mine methane pre-feasibility studies in China, India, and Latin America.
 - Updated GMI Partner Country profiles, and technical and policy support documents.
 - Provided support to the International Centers of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane with the UNECE in China and Poland, with additional centers proposed for Colombia, Ukraine, Russia, and the United States.
 - 2018 – 2019 Action Plan:
 - Continue providing technical assistance and outreach for the UNECE on a best management guidance document on abandoned mine methane for publication in 2019.
 - Refine the Subcommittee Action Plan and other technical documents.
 - Conduct events focused on CMM/CBM and shale gas in China and India.

- Provide training for relevant mine personnel in India.
- Host the GMI Coal Subcommittee and UNECE Group of Experts on CMM Meetings in Switzerland.
- Oil & Gas Subcommittee – James Diamond, Canada
 - 2018 Highlights:
 - Participated in workshops in 6 countries and conducted measurement studies in India and Kazakhstan.
 - Hosted webinar meetings in July and October focused on implementing the Subcommittee’s Action Plan.
 - Adopted the Oil and Gas Subcommittee Action Plan in April 2018.
 - Plans for 2018–2019:
 - Compile a list of barriers to methane mitigation projects and areas that may require specific attention.
 - Conduct discussions focused on strategies to overcome project barriers.
 - Identify financing options and mechanisms for mitigation efforts.
 - Host a Subcommittee webinar in January and participate in the UNECE 6th Session of the Group of Experts on Gas in March 2019.

Agenda 6: Update from the CCAC Working Group Meeting (Claire LeNoury, Canada, and Monica Shimamura, USA)

- Highlights:
 - GMI’s GMC Task Force sent a letter to CCAC requesting the Steering Committee and Working Group’s endorsement for the Global Methane Challenge.
 - GMI representatives from Canada attended the CCAC Steering Committee and Working Group meetings in Bangkok in October to deliver presentations on the GMC.
 - CCAC’s Working Group formally endorsed the GMC.
- Plans for 2018-2019:
 - I from Canada will prepare a proposal for the CCAC Working Group to advance the GMC.

Agenda 7: Discussion for 2019 In-Person Meeting (Jennifer Kerr, Canada)

- Options for the Spring 2019 Steering Committee meeting were proposed: Paris, France; Washington, D.C., USA, and Ottawa, Canada.
- Interest was expressed in considering a non-North American location.
- J.C. Arredondo Brun (Mexico) indicated Mexico could potentially host a meeting although he noted that, due to the government transition, the meeting would need to be approved by incoming officials in early 2019.
- J. Kerr (Canada) provided an update on the status of the Steering Committee Co-Chair, Daniel Wolfish (Canada), noting that he has taken a new job and that Canada expects to confirm soon a new co-chair.

Adjournment

- J. Kerr (Canada) thanked the Steering Committee members for a productive meeting and the Subcommittee Co-Chairs for their input and adjourned the meeting.

APPENDIX A

Meeting Participants

James Diamond, Canada
Natasha Duggan, Canada
Chunling Feng, China
Pamela Franklin, USA
Matt Hamilton, Canada
Jiaye Han, China
Dougie Harrower, USA
Jorge Hilbert, Argentina
Lan Huang, China
Chelsea Kealey, Canada
Jennifer Kerr, Canada
Claire LeNoury, Canada
Wenge Liu, China
Rajiw Lochan, India
Cathy McGirl, USA
Felicia Ruiz, USA
Shekar Saran, India
Huang Shengchu, China
Monica Shimamura, USA
Chris Voell, USA
Yiran Wang, China

APPENDIX B

Agenda

1	Welcome and opening of the meeting	Monica Shimamura, USA
2	Roll call	Cathy McGirl, USA
3	Adoption of the agenda	Monica Shimamura, USA
4	Overview of the Global Methane Challenge	Jennifer Kerr, Canada
5	Report to Steering Committee on Subcommittee Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Biogas Subcommittee, Chris Voell, USA○ Coal Subcommittee, Felicia Ruiz, USA; Huang Shengchu, China; and Shekar Saran, India○ Oil and Gas Subcommittee, James Diamond, Canada	Juan Carlos Arredondo Brun
6	Update from the Climate and Clean Air Coalition Working Group Meeting	Claire LeNoury, Canada, and Monica Shimamura, USA
7	Discussion of options for the 2019 in-person meeting	Jennifer Kerr, Canada
8	Adjournment	Jennifer Kerr, Canada