

GMI Futures

1st Steering Committee Meeting
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GMI Futures

- Purpose
- Background
- Potential New Directions
- Possible Future Actions

Purpose

- ***Purpose:*** *Initiate discussion on potential changes to the direction and structure of the GMI that would enable it to function more effectively and reflect evolving needs.*
 - The organizational structure of the GMI, including the Administrative Support Group (ASG) and the Steering Committee Chair
 - Development of methane financial support mechanisms
 - Potential ties to other international initiatives to address Short Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF), including methane
- Since its launch, the Initiative has undergone significant growth and expansion.
 - 2011: 40 Partners, more than 1,100 PN members.
 - Expanded to include municipal wastewater sector and methane abatement.

Background: Organization

- Four key organizational components:
 1. Steering Committee
 2. Administrative Support Group (ASG)
 3. Subcommittees
 4. Project Network
- Terms of Reference (TOR) describes the associated roles and composition of these elements.
- Focus on potential changes to ASG and Steering Committee Chair.

Background: Organization (con't)

- **Administrative Support Group (ASG)**
 - Organizes and facilitates partnership meetings, workshops, and events.
 - Plans and implements international Expos.
 - Created and maintains virtual clearinghouse for information on the GMI methane abatement, reduction, and use projects.
 - Since 2004, has been housed at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

Background: Organization (con't)

- **Steering Committee Chair**
 - Facilitates the Steering Committee meetings.
 - Presides over Steering Committee discussions, guiding them toward resolution and decision points.
 - Reports out to the technical Subcommittees on the Steering Committee directives.
 - Since 2004, has been chaired by a senior U.S. EPA official.

GMI Organization: Potential New Directions

- Rotating Steering Committee Chair among Partner Countries
 - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
 - Arctic Council
- Rotating Secretariat among Partner Countries
 - International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)
- Hosting the secretariat at an Independent Organization, Multilateral Agency or a Quasi-Governmental Body
 - Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
 - Partnership for Market Readiness (PMR)

Background: Financial Support

- GMI has provided support in the form of:
 - In-kind technical assistance and capacity building
 - Networking opportunities
- No central funding mechanism current exists
 - Capacity building projects
 - Direct project financing
- At 2nd Ministerial meeting, Partners expressed:
 - Expectation that GMI will encourage financial commitments from developed country partners in the future.
 - Interest in finding a mechanism or fund to directly dedicate resources to projects.

Potential New Directions: Financing

- While CDM, JI, and other carbon funding has provided a source of methane project financing, this approach has limitations.
- No mechanism for Partner Countries to directly fund methane project(s) under current GMI configuration.
 - A fund specifically dedicated to methane projects could significantly accelerate GMI efforts.
- One interesting project financing models that could serve as templates:
 - **Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)**
 - Became operational in June 2008.
 - Two separate funds: readiness (capacity) and carbon (project funding).
 - World Bank acts as trustee.

Background: Short Lived Climate Forcers Initiative

- For many years, GMI was the only global initiative focused on methane mitigation and recovery.
- GMI's significant growth since inception has been achieved with relatively low overall cost and modest engagement by Partner Countries.
- Considerable opportunity still exists to achieve further reductions with enhanced attention, engagement, and commitment by Partner Countries.
- New focus on development of new international initiative targeting Short Lived Climate Forcers (SLCFs). Renewed interest should provide opportunities for GMI and increase support for methane projects.

Potential New Directions: SLCFs

- An emerging international initiative (i.e., details are still unclear).
- As methane is one of the most important SLCFs, GMI is expected to play an integral role.
- Increased high-level attention to SCLFs should encourage and reinvigorate Partner engagement and commitment of time and resources.
- Could garner additional country participation (e.g., new Partners).

Possible Future Actions

- **GMI Organization:** Does the Steering Committee want to continue exploring potential options for organizational changes to the structure of GMI either for the secretariat function (ASG), Steering Committee Chair, or both?
 - Are there other ideas that the ASG should explore in more detail?
- **Financial Support:** Should the GMI explore potential mechanisms to fund capacity building activities and/or project financing, including potential linkages to emerging funds or investment facilities?
 - Does the Steering Committee want to task the ASG to develop a comprehensive financial support options paper or create a task force to further explore financial support options?

Possible Future Actions (cont.)

- **Short Lived Climate Forcers:** Based on present understanding of the emerging international SLCF initiative, how does the Steering Committee envision GMI supporting the goals of such an initiative?
 - Does the Steering Committee want to create a statement of support for the emerging SLCF initiative?