



Methane to Markets

Methane International

The Methane to Markets Partnership Quarterly Update

Special Edition: Reporting from Buenos Aires

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Letter from the Conference Chair

Earlier this month, 140 attendees representing 20 countries convened for the second full meeting of the Methane to Markets Partnership in the halls of the Palacio San Martín, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

I was gratified to see the continued commitment to Methane to Markets demonstrated by the high-level participation from all of our governmental Partners. Over the course of three days, we made significant strides in

advancing the international community's resolve to recover and use methane as a clean energy source.

The meeting was an immense success. Among its highlights, I am pleased to announce that Ecuador became a Partner and that Canada, Ecuador, and South Korea became members of the Steering Committee. In addition, we broadened the scope of the Partnership and created a new subcommittee to focus on methane capture and

About Methane International

Methane International is the quarterly newsletter of the Methane to Markets Partnership. Published by the Administrative Support Group, *Methane International* delivers news and information about the Methane to Markets community of Partners and Project Network members. We welcome your news, commentary, and contributions. Please send them to the Administrative Support Group at asg@methanetomarkets.org.



use opportunities in the agricultural sector. Finally, I am particularly encouraged by the Steering Committee's decision to develop a Project and Technology Expo in 2007 to highlight site investment opportunities and promote key technologies for methane capture and use projects.

I would also like to take this opportunity to once again thank our host, Dr. Atilio Savino, and his staff at Argentina's Secretariat for Environment and Sustainable Development for their hospitality. I look forward to building on the progress we made in Buenos Aires and to further strengthening our Partnership over the next year.

Sincerely,
William L. Wehrum

Steering Committee Chair, Methane to Markets Partnership, Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



What Happened in Buenos Aires? A Summary of Meeting Outcomes

The Second Methane to Markets Partnership Meeting in Buenos Aires was distinguished by many notable

achievements. Ecuador joined the Partnership, increasing the total number of Partners to 17 countries that represent more than 60 percent of global emissions. Canada, Ecuador, and Korea joined the Steering Committee, making all of the current Partners full members of this committee. In addition, the Steering Committee took the following actions:

- **Created an Agriculture Subcommittee** to focus on facilitating methane recovery and use projects for livestock waste and manure-management systems.
- **Agreed to develop a Methane to Markets Project and Technology Expo**, highlighting project opportunities, successes, and methane recovery and use technologies. A task force was created to plan the Expo, which is tentatively scheduled to be held in 2007.
- **Adopted sector action plans** that will serve as the basis for accelerated action by Partners and Project Network members in each sector.
- **Committed to a substantial expansion of the Project Network**, with a focus on enrollment of more private companies, development banks, and other organizations from each of the Partner countries.
- **Adopted the Project Submission form** and encouraged Partners and Project Network members to use it to propose projects in their own countries. This form is available on the Web site at www.methanetomarkets.org/projects/submit-ideas.htm.
- **Agreed to track Partnership projects and activities** using the Methane to Markets Web site to disseminate the information.

- **Agreed to follow up on recommendations from the meeting's Finance Workshop,** which included providing basic information on project finance on the Web site, disseminating project finance information to key stakeholders, and encouraging subcommittees to identify sector-specific case studies.

Proceedings are available at the Methane to Markets web site (www.methanetomarkets.org/events).

Welcome New Steering Committee Members Canada, Ecuador, and South Korea!

Canada, Ecuador, and South Korea's applications to join the Steering Committee were unanimously accepted at the meeting in Buenos Aires. The Steering Committee governs the Partnership's framework, policies, and procedures. Partners may appoint up to two representatives to the Steering Committee. With the addition of these three countries, there are now 17 Partners on the Steering Committee.

Our Newest Partner: Spotlight on Ecuador



Ecuador, Methane to Markets' newest Partner, presents abundant opportunities for methane capture and use projects in a variety of sectors; state-of-the-art methane recovery technologies have not yet been widely implemented, despite a growing awareness in the public and private sectors. The biggest opportunity is in Ecuador's robust oil industry, where the

associated natural gas is generally flared. Ecuador is focusing on improving its solid waste management infrastructure and creating potential new opportunities for landfill projects. Ecuador also has opportunities for projects in the manure management sector.

Quick Facts About Ecuador's Methane Sources

- Human-induced methane emissions make up approximately 15 percent of the country's annual national GHG emissions.
- The oil industry produces approximately 100 million cubic feet of "associated gas" per day, most of which is flared.
- 60 percent of domestic solid waste (approximately 4.5 tonnes/day) is produced in Ecuador's 15 largest cities, with typical waste composition being 60 to 70 percent organic matter.

Methane to Markets Adds an Agriculture Subcommittee

The Methane to Markets Steering Committee formally established a subcommittee on agriculture that will focus on promoting methane capture and use opportunities in livestock waste management. The Partnership is focusing on this sector because it is a significant source of methane, and technology currently exists for implementing economically viable capture and use projects.

The United Kingdom and Argentina have agreed to be co-chairs of the new subcommittee. Over the next year the subcommittee will:

- Develop an action plan to identify barriers to project development and concrete actions the Subcommittee can take to help overcome those barriers.
- Recruit Project Network members from the private sector, development banks, and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations.
- Develop outreach and communication materials.
- Participate on the newly created Project and Technology Expo Taskforce.
- Work with the Administrative Support Group (ASG) to develop Web content and information materials for this sector.

All Partners are invited to nominate representatives to this new subcommittee. Please send nominees to the ASG at asg@methanetomarkets.org.

Planning for a Project and Technology Expo in 2007

The Steering Committee agreed to develop a Project and Technology Expo to catalyze near-term project development. The event is in the planning stages and is tentatively scheduled for early 2007. The Expo will provide an opportunity to showcase economically feasible projects that have been characterized and identified through cooperation under the Partnership.

One major goal in developing such an event will be for Partners and Project Network members to work together to build up project pipelines in each of the sectors for inclusion in this event. In addition, the

event will include a technology track at which information on key methane capture and use technologies can be highlighted.

The Steering Committee has charged the ASG with coordinating a task force consisting of at least one member from each subcommittee along with representatives from Partner countries to develop a work plan and identify options. The task force will report its recommendations to the Steering Committee in March 2006.

Partners interested in nominating someone to this task force should contact the ASG at asg@methanetomarkets.org or +1.202.343.9683.

International Solid Waste Association Joins the Project Network

The International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) officially joined the Methane to Markets Project Network on 7 November 2005 at its Annual Congress in Buenos Aires.

Joining the Project Network contributes directly to one of ISWA's strategic goals: focusing on waste management and how it affects climate change. ISWA held its first meeting on the topic in Buenos Aires where the organization pledged to work with its membership around the world to identify potential methane recovery and use projects in the landfill sector for the Partnership. ISWA will also participate in workshops and events to facilitate project development and information exchange, as well as conduct emissions inventories, feasibility studies, and demonstration projects.

ISWA is an international, independent, nonprofit association with 1,100 members from over 70 countries around the world. Its mission is to promote and develop sustainable waste management internationally. For more information about ISWA, please visit www.iswa.org.

Help Us Expand the Project Network Around the Globe



The Partnership encourages all member countries and Project Network members to recruit colleagues, peers, and sister agencies and organizations into the Project Network. Only with a large, vibrant Project

Network will the Partnership reach its fullest potential. Members will benefit as well, as new project opportunities and lessons learned are shared within the Partnership and collaborations emerge.

Joining is easy. Visit the Methane to Markets Web site (www.methanetomarkets.org), click on "Join the Partnership," and submit a short online application to join the more than 170 Project Network members from around the globe.

Upcoming Methane to Markets Conferences and Related Events

Be sure to visit www.methanetomarkets.org for the most recent information on Partnership conferences and events.

Methane to Markets Steering Committee Meeting

Scheduled for end of 2006

Note that unlike the meeting in Buenos Aires in 2005, the subcommittees will not meet at this time. However, subcommittee co-chairs should plan to attend to provide the Steering Committee with updates on progress. The specific date and locations for this meeting will be announced when finalized.

Agriculture Meetings

31 January 2006

First Annual Manure Bio-Conversion Technology Conference, Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

8–10 March 2006

"Managing Nutrients and Biomass for a Sustainable Rural Economy," Ontario Environment Industry Associates, London, Ontario, Canada.
www.istmm.com

March 2006

"Biogas in Alberta from Concept to Reality—Thinking Outside the Barrel," Alberta Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD)

25–26 April 2006

AgSTAR National Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA
www.epa.gov/agstar

Coal Meetings

31 January–1 February 2006

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
www.unece.org/ie/se/coal/adhoc.html

2–3 February 2006

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 8th Session of Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal in Sustainable Development, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
www.unece.org/ie/se/coal/adhoc.html

Landfill Meetings

18–19 January 2006

9th Annual LMOP Conference and Project Expo
“Saving the Planet One Landfill at a Time”
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
www.epa.gov/lmop/conf/index.htm

Oil & Gas Meetings

27–28 April 2006 (tentative)

2006 Methane to Markets Oil & Gas Subcommittee Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico

General

15–16 December 2005

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Regional, Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development with Focus on Energy, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
Contact: Catherine.Pierre@unece.org
www.unece.org/ie/se/pp/rerimf05.html

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