

# Country update: Australia

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- Committed to emissions reduction target of five per cent below 2000 levels by 2020
- Australian Government Direct Action Plan (replacing Clean Energy Future Plan)
- Includes \$2.55 billion Emissions Reduction Fund
  - Australian Government will purchase lowest cost abatement from a wide range of sources
  - Financial incentive for businesses, households and landowners to proactively reduce emissions
- Operates alongside existing programs to reduce emissions growth, e.g. Renewable Energy Target, energy efficiency standards.

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## Carbon Farming Initiative:

- Voluntary carbon offsets scheme
- Land managers can earn additional income from reducing emissions and sequestering carbon in vegetation and soils using approved methodologies:
  - 14 methodologies approved
  - 92 registered methane reduction projects

## Filling the Research Gap program

- Supporting research into technologies, strategies and innovative management practices to reduce methane abatement from the land sector
- 88 Projects with a value over \$74 million, including:
  - National Agriculture Manure Management Program
  - National Livestock Methane Program
  - Ruminant Pangenome Program



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## Coal Mining Abatement Technology Support Package:

- Funding for research, development and demonstration of safe methane abatement technologies and processes to reduce fugitive methane emissions from Australian coal mines.
- Five Projects: \$35.5 million funding from Australian Government, matched at least 1:1 by industry funding (total value over \$81 million).
- Projects address three industry priorities:
  - Indirect Abatement of methane emissions – avoidance and pre-drainage
  - Direct Abatement – capture and use of ventilation air methane
  - Abatement Safety – research, design, demonstration and knowledge sharing

# Work with Existing Methane Initiatives

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- Australian Government engagement in CCAC:
  - Australia joined the CCAC in October 2012
  - Participation is led by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
  - Involved in three initiatives:
    - Promoting HFC Alternative Technology and Standards
    - Reducing Black Carbon Emissions from Heavy Duty Diesel Vehicles and Engines
    - Accelerating Methane and Black Carbon Reductions from Oil and Natural Gas Production
  - GMI participation led by the Department of Industry
- GMI Strengths
  - Methane specific focus
  - Engagement on coal mine methane abatement
- CCAC Strength
  - Political and financial support
  - Progress since launch



# Optimizing International Collaboration on Methane Mitigation

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- Australia supports continued collaboration on methane mitigation through the GMI post-2015
- Australia supports increased collaboration between GMI and CCAC on sector-specific issues
- Australia supports efforts to streamline administrative functions, while ensuring no loss of corporate knowledge

# Roadmap for Decision-Making

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- The Australian Government is willing to participate off-line in a forum with the other members of the GMI Steering Committee to develop a road-map for the next 12 months.
- Able to participate through teleconference, webinar or written (email) feedback.
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