

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Capacity Building for National GHG Inventory Systems in Developing Countries

Program Fact Sheet



Overview

EPA assists developing countries, Non-Annex I countries under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), expand their capacity to estimate and track their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. A high quality GHG inventory is an essential tool for planning mitigation activities, projecting future emissions, and identifying sectors for emission reduction projects. An inventory is also a core element of National Communication reports to the UNFCCC.

EPA has developed a capacity-building framework designed to help countries build sustainable GHG inventory management systems, and also provides technical support for developing GHG emission and sink estimates for agriculture, forestry, and other sectors. This work complements activities that non-Annex I countries are taking under the UNFCCC.

Through this capacity-building program, EPA is partnering with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the UNFCCC, and other partners and donors to provide technical assistance to various regions and countries. Current activities are with country partners in Southeast Asia and Eastern and Southern Africa.

EPA's Approach to Building Sustainable National Inventory Systems

The foundation for EPA's approach to assisting developing countries in building their capacity to produce high-quality national GHG inventories is based on lessons learned over 15 years of working alongside developing country experts in many regions around the world, in addition to leading development of the U.S. national GHG inventory.

EPA's capacity-building activities focus on assisting countries to produce a national GHG inventory report, mainly for the agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sectors, although the Agency also provides inventory assistance with other sectors. The two complementary areas of technical assistance provided to developing countries include:

- Improving the institutional capacity of a country to establish a sustainable system for producing regular national GHG inventories.
- Providing technical assistance on methods, activity data collection, and documentation.

Technical Assistance

EPA provides tools and technical assistance in these areas, including:

- Working with inventory compilers to document their national inventory systems in the pre-defined National System Templates, which facilitates identification of key gaps and areas for targeted assistance.
- Collaborating with countries to obtain and process high-quality satellite data and aerial imagery needed to implement IPCC land-use methodologies.
- Training country experts on the ALU (Agriculture and Land-Use) software tool, enabling countries to estimate emissions and removals from all AFOLU categories.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/capacitybuilding>