

Joint Statement on Technical Collaboration and Data Transparency on Methane Abatement from LNG Value Chain

On June 20, 2024, we, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI), the Ministry of Environment of Japan (MOE), Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security (JOGMEC) and National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan hereby issue this joint statement to pursue specific technical collaboration and data transparency to accelerate the reduction of methane emissions across the LNG value chain in collaboration with the International Methane Emissions Observatory hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (IMEO).

Recognizing that METI and JOGMEC have been supporting the implementation of the Coalition for LNG Emission Abatement toward Net-zero (CLEAN), including the world's first disclosure of methane emissions data by project, and promoting the development of effective and practical methods in region, aligning with international standards and utilizing the knowledge gained from joint pilot projects with upstream companies;

Recognizing that MOE and NIES have been developing GOSAT series satellites that provides the world stakeholder with greenhouse gas emission data including methane in collaboration with relevant organizations;

Recognizing that UNEP's IMEO has been at the forefront of catalysing methane mitigation globally and harmonizing industry action so as to enhance climate stability and security of supply;

Recognizing that METI has joined Australia, Canada, the European Union and Germany to provide a voluntary financial contribution to implement the activities of IMEO related to providing open, reliable, and actionable data to reduce methane emissions, while collaborating with the policies and measures implemented by the Government of Japan to reduce methane emissions from the LNG value chain;

We affirm the importance of technological progress and data transparency in this field to accelerate the reduction of methane emissions from the LNG value chain and pursue the following collaboration:

1. METI, JOGMEC and UNEP's IMEO will jointly pursue efforts to provide more transparent data, including the intent to reach data disclosure by project, regarding methane emissions from the LNG value chain, in a harmonized manner.
2. UNEP's IMEO will contribute to the publication of the CLEAN Annual Report by providing data, information and other related support.
3. JOGMEC and UNEP's IMEO will collaborate on the validation of technologies related to methane emission detection from LNG facilities in the Asia-Pacific area through controlled release research.

4. MOE, NIES and UNEP's IMEO will collaborate on the usage of data from GOSAT-GW when it becomes available, and IMEO will integrate the data from GOSAT-GW into IMEO's Methane Alert and Response System (MARS), which notifies government and industry stakeholders of large emissions to enable swift mitigation.