

Russia-Japan Joint Workshop on GHG Inventories
16-17 March, 2004
Moscow, Russia

Chairmen's Summary

1. The Russia-Japan Joint workshop on Greenhouse Gases Inventories was held in Moscow, Russia, on 16 and 17 March, 2004. It was organized by the Japan Ministry of the Environment and the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring. The Workshop was attended by governmental officials and scientists from both countries. The overall workshop was chaired by Dr.Victor Blinov Deputy Head of Department of Roshydromet , on behalf of the head of Roshydromet Dr.A.Bedritsky and Mr.K.Takemoto, Deputy Director-General, Global Environmental Bureau, the Japan Ministry of the Environment.

Opening Session

2. The opening session was chaired by Dr.V.Ivanov, ERINA. Dr.V.Blinov and Mr.K.Takemoto welcomed participants to the Workshop and described activities in Russia and Japan respectively relating to GHG inventories and capacity building. They also expressed their hope that the Workshop would help to improve GHG inventories in both countries and further contribute to climate policy of the world. Dr.V.Blinov, host country, briefly reviewed the history of Russian climate change policy and stressed the importance of this Workshop towards as the first step for the close cooperation for more complete GHG inventory.

Mr.Takemoto also briefly described the strategic necessity of exchange of opinions on GHG inventories between two neighboring countries, touching on the review of the "National Policy Program of Countermeasures for Global Warming".

Session 1: Development of National System for Data Collection on GHG Inventory

3. Session 1 was chaired by Dr.H.Nakane of the Global Inventory Office (GIO) of National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan. During this session, the main focus was on institutional arrangements for GHG inventories.

4. To begin with, two speakers from Japan shared their country's experiences with GHG inventories and National Communications. Mr.Y.Sakaguchi of the Ministry of the Environment spoke about Japan's history of GHG inventory, starting with research into CO₂ emissions during the 1980s, the submission of the first National Communication to the UNFCCC in 1994, the benefits of in-country reviews done by other Parties. Now Japan National GHG Inventories are prepared annually, on a routine cycle. In terms of institutional arrangements, he also described the coordinating role played by his ministry, and the creation of various committees and the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Office (GIO). Mr.T.Aizawa, of the GIO of the National Institute for Environmental Studies, described the GHG inventory compiling system that Japan has made, including development of methodologies and reporting over the years, and the annual cycle and data management system used today for it.

5. Next, Russian two speakers made presentations for data collection and processing system on GHG inventories. Mr.V.Rodin of Goscomstat briefly explained the Russian national statistical system for data collection for GHG and its relation with other related central or local governmental organizations. Mr.A.Nakhutin of Roshydromet also described the total system of GHG inventory reporting system which includes the roles of ICCCP (Inter-governmental Committee of Climate Change Policy) and other related ministries, and submission to UNFCCC.

6. During the following discussion, difference in tasks between Goscomstat and Roshydromet in making GHG inventory is cleared. Questions on the number of working experts for Japanese GHG report preparation system are raised by Russian side.

Session 2: Technical Issues for the Preparation of Inventories (2.Agriculture and Forest Sector)

7. Session 2 was chaired by Dr. A.I. Nakhutin of IGCE ,Roshydromet. During this session, the main focus was on technical issues relating to GHG inventories in the agriculture and forest sector.

8. Mr. M.L. Gitarsky of IGCE, Roshydromet gave a presentation on some specifics of GHG inventories in the forest sector in Russia, while Ms. A.A. Romanovskaya, also of IGCE, focused on carbon emission and sinks in abandoned lands of Russia in her presentation.

Mr. Gitarsky informed that net stock of CO₂ in the forest sector for the period of 1990-2002 was estimated to be 4.5 billion tons (discrepancy 30%) and the emissions from forest fires were the 2nd largest. Ms. Romanovskaya said that total soil carbon balance in Russia was negative during 1990-2002, however the observed tendency of the soil organic carbon in specific land suggests rise of its accumulation speed in coming years.

9. Prof. M. Amano of Waseda University gave a presentation on the GHG sink evaluation procedure in forestry, while Dr. H. Tsuruta of the Center for Climate Research at Tokyo University outlined the GHG inventory system in agriculture. The former focused on specifics of carbon distribution in the forest ecosystems in Japan and pointed on the need for further improvement of measurement system of sink by utilizing inland and remote sensing technologies. The latter highlighted that the local conditions need to be taken into consideration for estimating emissions and emission factors of different types of soil

10. During the discussion, high rate of discrepancies in estimating emissions resulted from the biological processes was pointed out. Prof. Amano pointed out that the discrepancy in estimation accuracy might be reduced to 13% at best from the current 17-18% in Japan. Issues on deforestation and afforestation were raised and discussed.

Session 3: Technical Issues for the Preparation of Inventories (3.Industrial Process and Waste Sector)

11. Session 3 was chaired by Dr. H.Tsuruta, Center for Climate Research, Univ. of Tokyo. In this Session, GHG Inventory system in industrial process and waste sector was presented and discussed.

12. From Russian side, Ms.I.Gritsevich of the Center of Energy Efficiency presented the GHG Inventory system for energy sector. She described the history and international cooperation for preparing the GHG inventory of local regions and pointed out the necessity of strengthening efforts for national level rather than local level.

13. From Japanese side, Mr.T.Morimoto, GIO, National Institute for Environmental Studies presented the technical issues in industrial process and waste sector. He briefly explained the methodologies, emission factors and activity data for each source in industrial process and waste sector which are now used in Japan. Then Dr.Nakane presented technical issues in F-gas emissions in Japan, including methodologies for GHG inventories and reporting system to Japanese Ministers' Meeting for Global Warming and finally UNFCCC.

14. During the following discussions, data collection system for covering industries is focused in two countries. Experts' training system, key sources of F-Gas in Japan and data collection system in industrial sector are questioned from Russian side.

Session 4: Specific Issues in Integrated National Inventory System

15. Session 4 was chaired by Dr.Y.Tonooka, Saitama Univ.,Japan. In this session, some topics for regional GHG inventory were presented and discussed.

16. From Russian side, practices in GHG inventory of Nizhny Novgorod Region were presented by Mr.N.G.Solovjov and Mr.V.V.Solovjov. They introduced about regional programs and measures towards reduction of GHG emissions in the region and shared with their experiences on implementing JI projects with the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Then from Japanese side, Dr.Aizawa introduced Japanese guidelines for local government on GHG inventory system and experiences on implementation those guidelines in several regions in Japan.

Then Mr. V.P. Anufriev, of Ural Center for Energy Conservation and Ecology of Russia informed about their efforts in developing GHG inventory for local energy companies and stressed the need for capacity building of local specialists. In this connection he proposed to hold a Russian-Japan joint seminar on implementation of Kyoto Mechanisms in cooperation with local administration of the Ural region.

17. During the discussions, it was recommended that the results of the research works and particular projects on the issues should be made available to local authorities that support in their further decision making processes.

Session 5: Technical Issues for the Preparation of Inventories (1.Energy Sector)

18. Session 5 was chaired by Mr. Gitarsky of Russia. This session focused on the energy sector as a most important part of GHG inventory.

19. From Russian side, Mr.A.I.Nakhutin made an overall presentation on data collection system and making of GHG inventories in industrial and waste sectors and inventories of F-gases.

Then two presentations were made from Mr.A.A.Solovjanov and Ms.V.M.Mikeshevich,

representatives of big energy companies of Gazprom and Unified Energy System of Russia respectively. They shared with their experiences on developing GHG inventory at their companies.

20. From Japanese side, Dr.Y.Tonooka made a presentation of GHG inventory in energy sector. He informed that CO₂ emission from fuel combustion in Japan increased by 9.5% in FY2001 compared from the figure in 1990. He noted that methane and N₂O emissions from natural gas fueled vehicles and motorcycles were not estimated and further development is needed in estimating N₂O emission factors of road transportation in order to achieve higher efficiency.

Session 6: Inventory Verification

21. Session 6 was chaired by Dr.H.Nakane. This session focuses on inventory verification.

22. Mr.T.Aizawa and Mr.M.L.Gytarsky made presentations on verification of inventories of Japan and Russia respectively. Mr.T.Aizawa presented actual verification process in Japan, focusing on QA/QC procedure and further direction for improvement as described in Good Practice Guidance (2000). Mr.M.L.Gytarsky also presented Russian system of verification.

During the following discussions, both sides frankly exchanged their opinions and problems to be solved in the near future, especially on the actual and more effective way of utilizing varieties of experts' knowledge.

Concluding Session

23. Participants concluded that the following items are important topics for further information exchange and cooperation between two countries:

- (a) Data collection and management
- (b) Enhancement of regional participation in climate policy development
- (c) More effective technical exchange in agriculture, forest and other sectors
- (d) To establish effective and science-based methodologies for each item in GHG inventories
- (e) To develop country/regional specific emission factors
- (e) To consider a possibility of development of a practical manual for GHG inventories

24. Both countries shared the following ideas for a future workshop on GHG inventories, taking into account of the importance to continue this type of cooperation;

- (a) Possible venue—Niigata, Japan.
- (b) Year: FY2004
- (c) Contents of workshop—possible topics include:
 - Items included above mentioned in section 23, in the “Closer and more practical cooperation”
 - Sharing experiences, solving problems, exchanging lessons learned on the use of GHG inventories, for example uncertainty analysis, processes for quality control, quality assurance

25. The participants agreed that it is very important to continue a dialogue for decision making process in both countries, and to disseminate the outcome of this workshop through Internet system and mass-media.