FAO Training Workshop on National Systems for GHG Inventories

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Experience with National Systems for GHG Inventories

UNFCCC secretariat



National Systems for Annex I Parties

- Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol
 - National systems are required for Annex I Parties which are Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
- Guidelines for National Systems (decision 19/CMP.1)

• Definition of the national systems

"A national system includes all institutional, legal and procedural arrangements made within a Party included in Annex I for estimating anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, and for reporting and archiving inventory information"

Objectives of the national systems

- Ensure transparency, consistency, comparability, completeness and accuracy of the inventories
- Ensure the quality of the inventory and related activities: collecting activity data, selecting methods and emission factors, estimating emissions and removals, implement uncertainty analysis and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) activities, and verification
- Assist Annex I Parties in meeting their commitments under the Kyoto Protocol (Articles 3 and 7)
- Facilitate reviews of GHG inventory















Functions of the National System for Annex I Parties

- General functions (decision 19/CMP.1)
 - Establish and maintain the institutional, legal and procedural arrangements
 - Ensure sufficient capacity for timely performance of the functions
 - Prepare and report national annual inventories and supplementary information

Specific functions (decision 19/CMP.1)

- Inventory planning: designate a single national entity; define and allocate specific responsibilities; elaborate an inventory QA/QC plan; establish processes for the official consideration and approval of the inventory; plan ways to improve the inventory
- Inventory preparation: collect data, process information and prepare emission estimates in accordance with the IPCC guidelines; identify key categories; prepare an uncertainty analysis; implement QA/QC procedures, compile information for reporting in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol
- Inventory management: archive inventory documentation; provide review teams with information and clarifications









Problems with the national systems identified during the annual reviews

- Ensure the institutional arrangements on a long-term basis, by means of framework agreements or memoranda of understanding (MoU) and financial support
- Specify the role and responsibilities of the institutions and agencies involved in the inventory preparation in the context of the national system
- Clarify agreements for the transfer of data and for collaboration between organizations
- Elaborate, implement and document detailed QA/QC plans
- Ensure resources for the timeliness of submissions and responses to reviews
- Ensure sufficient coverage by the national system of the KP-LULUCF activities







Questions of implementation on national systems

 Review teams may identify unresolved problem pertaining to language of a mandatory nature influencing the fulfilment of commitments, and if they are not resolved, these can be listed in the review report as questions of implementation (decision 22/CMP.1)

Questions of implementation to date

- Q1: The institutional and procedural arrangements, the arrangements for the technical competence of the staff; and the capacity for timely performance of the national system were not in accordance with the guidelines for National Systems, so that, for some categories, emission estimates were not prepared in accordance with the IPCC Guidelines
- Q2: The institutional arrangements and arrangements for technical competence of staff within the national system involved in the inventory development process were insufficient to enable the adequate planning, preparation and management of the Party's annual submission in accordance with the NS guidelines. The inventory was not sufficiently transparent, consistent, comparable, complete and accurate









Non Annex I Parties and the post-2012 climate regime

- Enhance reporting in national communications from non-Annex I Parties, including inventories and more frequent biannial updates (decision 1/CP.16 (Cancún))
- National systems are mandatory for Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, other Parties have developed institutional frameworks for GHG inventory preparation with some elements of the national systems
- The development and implementation of the institutional frameworks for GHG inventory preparation by developing countries in the post-2012 regime can benefit from the experience of Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, while adapting to different levels of development, commitments and priorities



Examples of elements and issues to be considered in the design of institutional frameworks for non-Annex I Parties







Inventory planning

- Formalize, as much as possible, responsibilities and cooperation among organizations, including agreements or laws for data collection
- Document the structure for the inventory preparation and management, including the roles and responsibilities of every organization (e.g. entity with overall responsibility, data providers, emission estimates)
- QA/QC activities as an integral part of the inventory process
- Develop and update improvement plans with actions and a time frame to enhance data collection, methodologies and reporting
- Define and implement archiving and documentation systems
- Investment in capacity building strengthening the skills of human resources, and the development of organizations and the institutional and legal frameworks
- Identify and secure regular and sufficient financial resources

Thank you for

listening!