



Implementation of “mutual learning” among WGIA countries

Advantage and potential problems

13 July 2010, Vientiane, Lao P.D.R.
8th Workshop on GHG Inventories in Asia

Kiyoto Tanabe

Greenhouse Gas Inventory Office of Japan (GIO)
National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)

Background (1)



- WGIA has been promoting exchange of information and experience among member countries particularly on:
 - results of GHG emission estimates
 - major problems encountered in inventory compilation
 - examples of efforts to improve inventory quality ...etc.
- However, not much about:
 - details of methods/data your neighbors used for the latest GHG inventories.



Background (2)



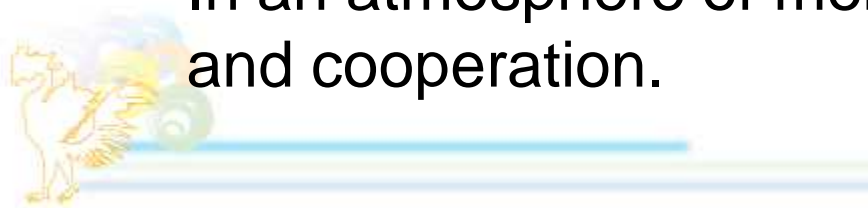
- Generally, inventory compilers may well be interested to know what the other countries have done for the sector they are in charge of.
 - How were activity data collected?
 - How were EFs selected or developed?
 - How were methods chosen?
- Recently, such desire became more and more obvious among inventory compilers for waste sector in Korea and Japan.
- Consequently, they decided to take action to meet it come true in collaboration with each other.



Action taken by Korea & Japan (1)



- Meetings for peer review of each other's GHG inventory (Waste Sector)
 - Held twice so far on a voluntary and informal basis.
 - 1st meeting: October 2008 in Seoul, RoK
 - 2nd meeting: November 2009 in Tsukuba, Japan
 - Attended by experts who actually produced waste sector inventories.
 - Studied actual latest inventories.
 - Through Q&A to each other. (Two-way, not one-way)
 - In an atmosphere of friendliness and cooperation.



Action taken by Korea & Japan (2)



<Before the meeting>

1. Send materials to be studied to each other.
 - National inventory report
 - Reporting tables in the common reporting format
 - Other background spreadsheets used for calculations
2. Prepare a questionnaire and send it to each other.

<At the meeting>

1. Answer the questionnaire, showing additional materials.
2. Exchange advice, suggestion or recommendation on how to improve each other's inventory.

<After the meeting>

1. Have on-line follow-up discussion if necessary.



Benefits demonstrated (1)

- Studying other country's inventory, asking them questions, and getting their answers help you to:
 - Obtain useful information/data that could be used for your own inventory.
 - Find good examples to follow to make your own inventory report more transparent.
 - Understand better the methodologies for inventory.
 - Enhance your own capacity for inventory compilation.
- When coming up with questions to others, you will carefully consider what you understand and what you do not.

The better you get to know others,
the better you will know yourself!!



Benefits demonstrated (2)

- Receiving questions and comments help you to:
 - Detect and correct errors in your inventory.
 - Improve transparency of your inventory.
 - What is obvious to yourself may not be obvious to the others!!
 - Get an idea on how you can obtain better data which yourself have not been aware of.



Being looked at by others will
make you more and more
handsome and beautiful!!



Benefits demonstrated (3)



- Thus, overall, Q&As to each other will help both to:
 - Recognize the advantages (good points) their own inventories already have.
 - Recognize the potential problems that need to be solved in their own inventories.
- In addition, by meeting face to face and having frank discussion, inventory compilers from both countries get more and more friendly with each other
 - it is an asset to both!!



Mutual learning!!

- Key factors for success or important features of this meeting were:
 - Active participation of experts who actually produced the inventories.
 - Two-way communication of questions and answers, not one-way communication like examiner vs. examinee.
 - Motivation shared by participants – the interest in each other’s inventory.
 - Its aim was not criticize or audit.
 - This is a learning process, NOT a review process like the one for Annex I Parties to UNFCCC.

→ **This is “mutual learning”!!**



Let's promote "mutual learning"



- Why don't you try "mutual learning" with your neighbors as Korea and Japan did?
- Let's promote the implementation of "mutual learning" among WGIA countries!
- Please consider:
 - What sector you wish to focus on?
 - What country you wish to do it together?
 - Look for the best partner!
 - WGIA secretariat will assist you!



Look for your partner

- You may wish to do it with a country, for example,
 - whose GHG emission profile is similar to yours, e.g.:
 - Lao PDR and Cambodia (Agriculture) ?
 - Thailand and Philippines (Agriculture) ?
 - whose energy CO₂ emission per capita is at a similar level to yours, e.g.:
 - India and Indonesia (Energy)?
 - whose social or natural conditions are similar to yours.
 - Etc. etc., ... what else...?
- The simplest and best way might be just to ask your colleagues what country/sector they wish to learn about.



Potential problems

- You may be concerned about:
 - Language to be used
 - English, French, or other languages...?
 - Do not worry too much!! When meeting face to face, you will be able to somehow communicate!
 - Materials to be prepared
 - It would be very nice if you could prepare:
 - national inventory report (describing methods used in detail)
 - reporting tables in the common reporting format or the like
 - background spreadsheets showing original data and calculation procedures
 - Even if it is not possible, mutual learning could be somehow done using any materials that are available, hopefully.
- **Where there's a will, there's a way!!**



Proposal from WGIA secretariat



- Let's seek the possibility of implementing “mutual learning” back-to-back with WGIA9 next year.
 - Subject to the availability of funds, inventory compilers from a couple of WGIA countries could be invited to form one or two combinations for mutual learning.
 - WGIA secretariat staff members may join in each of the combinations to assist and facilitate discussion.
 - Not possible to support all the WGIA countries at a time. It will be on a **first-come-first-served** basis.
 - So, if you are interested to join, let us know as early as possible!!
- Any other forward-looking suggestions are welcomed!!



Thank you very much!!

