Wrap-up Session: Summary of the Opening Session and Session I, II, and IV

Chair of the Opening Session: Mrs. Prasertsuk Chamornmarn
Chair of Session I: Dr. Retno Gumilang Dewi
Chair of session II: Dr. Baasansuren Jamsranjav
Chair of session IV: Dr. Sumana Bhattacharya

Rapporteur: Elsa Hatanaka (NIES/CGER/GIO)

WGIA12, 4-6 August 2014
Opening Session

Presentations

– Dr. Takefumi Oda (GIO)
  • Overview of WGIA12
– Mr. Yu Kamei (MOEJ)
  • Japan's climate change policies
– Dr. Natthanich Asvapoositkul (ONEP, Thailand)
  • Thailand's climate change policies
Opening Session

Interest was shown and clarifications were sought on:

**Japan's**

- L²-Tech-JAPAN Initiative to promote leading and low-carbon technologies
- Finance scheme for JCM (Joint Crediting Mechanism) projects

**Thailand's**

- Process and challenges of making the DRAFT Climate Change Master Plan (2013-2050)
- Mid-term goal of reducing GHG emissions 7 to 20% by 2020 compared to BAU, for the energy and transportation sectors
NCs, BURs, ICA, and QA/QC

The following was shared in Session I & II:

- Reporting requirements and MRV framework under the UNFCCC
- Support available from international organizations
- QA/QC activities
  - their possible relevance to ICA for BURs under UNFCCC
  - documented in NCs – ASEAN countries
  - new tool for QA/QC – FAOSTAT Emissions Database
  - Lao PDR’s experience with its SNC
Reporting requirements under the UNFCCC for NAI Parties

Decision 1/CP.16

Enhanced reporting - paragraph 60-66

Frequency for national communications
a) Submission every four years

Submit biennial update reports (BURs)
a) Updates of national GHG inventories/report
b) Mitigation actions/ their effects
c) Support needed & received

International Consultation and Analysis (ICA)
a) BURs
b) Modalities and guidelines

Ms. Alma Jean’s presentation in Session I
Decision 2/CP.17

Reporting requirements under the UNFCCC for NAI Parties

- **Adopted**
  a) Guidelines for the preparation of biennial update reports (Annex III)
  b) Modalities and guidelines for ICA (Annex IV)

- **Submission**
  a) NAI Parties should submit their first BUR by December 2014
  b) Subsequent BUR shall be submitted every two years
     • Summary of parts of NC
     • Stand alone update report

- **Inventory year**
  a) Minimum, no more than **four years prior** to the date of submission/more recent
  b) Subsequent...does not **precede** by more than four years

- **Enhanced support (AI):**
  a) First round of the ICA (NA-I) will commence within six months of submission of the first round of BUR
  b) The guidelines **should be reviewed and revised as appropriate/COP Decisions**
Support available internationally

- Technical assistance from the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE), global/regional training workshops etc

- GEF’s financial assistance through programmes like the following:
  - UNEP-GEF Global Support Programme for Preparation of NCs to the UNFCCC (up to USD$500,000 through expedited procedures)
  - UNEP-GEF Global Support Programme for Preparation of BURs (up to USD$352,000 through expedited procedures)

Presentation by Ms. Alma Jean in Session I

Presentation by Mr. Conrado Heruela in Session I
QA/QC activities (1)

- **Quality Control**: routine technical activities performed by personnel compiling the inventory
- **Quality Assurance**: review procedures conducted by personnel not directly involved in the inventory compilation
- QA/QC procedures as integral parts of the inventory process to ensure “TCCCA”
  - ICA process as QA?
  - Probably more a new opportunity for quality improvement of GHG inventories and BURs
QA/QC activities (2)

QA/QC, mentioned in NCs?

→ Some ASEAN countries – 1) data comparison etc with other countries done, 2) future needs discussed, but description is mostly brief

→ The remaining half of the countries - no description

• New tool for QA/QC – FAOSTAT Emissions Database
  – IPCC 2006 GLs Tier 1 estimates for Agriculture + Tier 1 Approach 1 estimates for Land Use, provided ONLINE
QA/QC activities (3)

- Lao PDR’s experience with its SNC
  - Recalculation at the final stage for key sources of emissions and removals – LULUCF and Agriculture
  - Mutual Learning with Japan – LULUCF sector
  - External Peer Review from UNDP and other international experts and experts in the region
  - National Steering Committee Review by experts not directly involved in inventory

Presentation by Ms. Thounheuang Buithavong in Session II
Summary of Session I & II

Questions raised and points noted:

- Challenges faced to submit BUR by the end of this year, but good quality NCs and BURs will make funding possible from other financial mechanisms
- Co-ordination of capacity building needed
- How strict is the '- 4 years' requirement for inventory reporting in the BURs? >>> UNFCCC has clarified that, if submitted later than the deadline of Dec 2014, the reported year should be adjusted
- What exactly is the aim of ICA? >>> To increase the transparency of mitigation actions and their effects - calling for high quality GHG inventories
- The first step in the ICA process, the technical analysis of the BUR by the team of technical experts, is only supplementary to domestic QA
QA/QC efforts should focus on key categories and recalculated categories, and categories where data and methodology change occurred, and focus should be given to pre-submission QA more than post-submission QA.

No clear guidance for inclusion of QA/QC to BURs, but sharing of additional information on good practices through BURs will be useful for other countries.

Documenting QA/QC activities is important - for continuity of reporting, and consistency in work for later teams to be put in charge.
Strengthening the network and enhancing MRV (1)

The following information was shared in Session IV:

- Science-based low carbon development policy-making in Asia by LoCARNet
- Support activities related to MRV by APN
- Capacity building support related to MRV for local governments by IGES/KUC
- Capacity building support related to MRV by CITC
- Promoting the understanding of the MRV concept by IGES
- Support available through the Joint Crediting Mechanism by NEDO
Strengthening the network and enhancing MRV (2)

- Strong need to minimize the use of the remaining carbon budget, and move to a low carbon society - and Asia needs to be a key actor in the action. Good quality inventories contribute to achieving a low carbon Asia.

- APN's support for regional cooperation in global change research strengthens science/policy dialogue, and improves the scientific and technical capabilities in the region - including projects on GHG inventories and MRV systems.

- City governments play an important role for sustainable & low-carbon city development, and capacity building is needed (including that for GHG inventories). National governments could help, with their experience and support.
Strengthening the network and enhancing MRV (3)

- CITC established as a one-stop technical and training center for climate change mitigation and adaptation in the SE Asia region, offering knowledge in 1) GHG inventory management, 2) Mitigation mechanisms, 3) Low carbon society development, and 4) Sustainable GHG management

- MRV Guidebooks for developing countries, and for Policy Makers now available, with Q&A sections and best practices – editions to be continuously updated

- The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) aims at contributing to sustainable development by facilitating diffusion of leading low carbon technologies and implementing mitigation actions – feasibility studies and demo projects on-going
Questions raised and points noted:

- Energy-use and economic growth need to be decoupled - Japan succeeded during the oil crisis to a certain extent, and hopes to support other Asian countries so that the opportunity to choose low-carbon development paths isn't lost.
- MRV might be different by the size/type of municipality.
- What are possible co-benefits of local mitigation actions? >>> Improvement in waste management, traffic management, health sector etc.
- How are reference scenarios verified? >>> The JCM Joint Committee for each country will approve it, and a third party entity will check against GLs whether it is appropriate.
- How do NAMA projects etc under the UNFCCC coincide with JCM reference scenarios? >>> JCM is at the project level and is different from NAMA reference levels.
- Are there preferences of sectors for JCM projects? >>> The JCM Joint Committee for each country will take the decision.
Questions raised and points noted: (cont)

- How can harmonization be done for local and national level inventories/mitigation actions? >>> Difficult, but national level policy implemented at the local level may be captured, or national level-use intended IPCC GLs and software may be used at the local level.

- Generally, a strong interest was shown on the details of support available and the specifics of MRV implemented, together with interest for the harmonization between local and national, where local-level actions are reflected in national level inventories and low-carbon development decision-making. This knowledge-sharing will contribute to the planning and verification of NAMAs, and also help form the basis for Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).
Information is available at:

• You can download relevant information (presentations) from the WGIA website:
  http://www-gio.nies.go.jp/wgia/wgiaindex-e.html

For WGIA12, presentation materials in PDF format will be soon available on the following file exchange server:

  https://fxs.nies.go.jp/
  ID: wgia_for_all
  Password: 2ZDEOR2f       (Valid until August 30th)