

Chair's summary
In-session workshop on climate change mitigation

**Non-CO₂ emissions,
including methane recovery and utilisation**

SBSTA 27
Chair: Ermira Fida

The workshop on Non-CO₂ emissions, including methane recovery and utilization organized was organized on Friday, 7 December 2007. The workshop was the last one in a series of five thematic workshops decided upon at SBSTA 23 in Montreal in 2005. The workshop was organized in two sessions. The first one focused on reduction of fluorinated gases and non-CO₂ gases, and the second one dealt with approaches to mitigate greenhouse gases in the agriculture and waste sector. Speakers addressed a wide range of issues related to non-CO₂ emissions successful policies and legislations, partnerships and co-operations activities, concrete efforts and on possible ways forward and lessons learned.

All presentations given during the workshop and their abstracts can be found on the UNFCCC web site. The workshop was open to all participants and was well attended. .

I would like to offer some observations on the presentations and discussions the took place during the workshop.

- Reductions in emissions of methane and other non-CO₂ gases over the next 50 years could make a contribution to slowing global warming similar to reductions in CO₂.
- In some developed countries non-CO₂ emissions fell by about 50% compared to base-year levels and are continuing to fall due to implementation of several projects related to cost-effective reduction of land-fill methane from waste and N₂O emissions from industrial processes.
- National and regional efforts including implementation of legislative framework related to emissions from air-conditioning systems in motor vehicles, regulations on fluorinated greenhouse for promotion of innovative substitutes of low greenhouse warming potential can be an important market stimulating factors when supported by ambitious policies.
- Legislation promoting closed substance cycle waste management and ensuring environmentally compatible waste disposal can be a successful tool to reduce non CO₂ greenhouse gases. Such a measure combined with waste treatment and power and heat production could lead to further reductions of utilisation of fossil fuels in conventional plants.
- Several national level policies related to mitigating emissions of non-CO₂ greenhouse gases are fostering intensive cooperation with industry. This public private partnership leads to reduce uncertainty in emissions levels, identify mitigation options, implementation conditions and reduction measures.

- To ensure the sustainable agricultural development, rural clean development programs and eco-household program were established and supported on national and local level.
- Cooperation efforts and partnerships to reduce non CO₂ emissions, have proved to be an important factors for realising the reduction potential in a large scale. To further enhance the recovery and utilization of several non CO₂ gases, strengthening collaboration at the international level can be a key strategy for developing countries as they can recieve financial and technological support and participate at technology development projects.
- Establishment of carbon market mechanism such as national emissions trading scheme may be effective for lifting some of the barriers to exploration of research and innovation framework and further implementation of currently available technologies for non-CO₂ greenhouse gases mitigation.

Finally I would like to thank the presenters for their valuable contributions and the secretariat for its support in organizing productive and interesting workshop.