



METHANE TO MARKETS PARTNERSHIP LANDFILL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

9th Session of the Landfill Subcommittee Monterrey, Mexico 29 January, 2009

Meeting Minutes for Review

Summary

The 9th Session of the Landfill Subcommittee was held in conjunction with the Methane to Markets Partnership Meeting in Monterrey, Mexico. The complete subcommittee agenda and session proceedings are posted on the [Methane to Markets Web-site](#).

The main agenda items included:

- Discussion of Steering Committee Charges to Landfill Subcommittee
- Planning for 2010 Partnership Expo
- Regional Subcommittee Meetings
- Reports from Partner Countries and Project Network members
- Refining the role of Partner Country Delegates

Opening Remarks and Introductions

Co-chair Gabriel Blanco opened the meeting and thanked all the attending delegates for contributing their time to this important day of discussion. Mr. Blanco briefly discussed the schedule and goals of the meeting. He also requested comments from all attendees on whether or not participants had any other important topics to add to the agenda.

Charges from the Steering Committee

The ASG landfill subcommittee coordinator reviewed the earlier presentation containing the steering committee focal topics and charges to the landfill subcommittee.

Country-Specific Action Plans

The Steering Committee still encourages completion of country-specific action plans. Prior to this 9th Meeting of the Landfill Subcommittee Canada, China, and the United States have completed these action plans. The ASG encourages other participants to complete and submit these action plans.

Project Network Engagement

The Steering committee charges each subcommittee with fostering existing relationships with PN members and actively recruiting new PN members, especially financial institutions.

As part of the revisions to the Partnership Web-site, the ASG is planning to develop a robust service and technology provider directory. The ASG is looking for support from PN members in each sector to ensure that the contacts for their company and the organization's description of services and technologies are accurately listed.

The landfill sector has consistently committed to conducting their subcommittee meetings in conjunction with other energy or industry-related events. The sector will continue to look for opportunities for pairing these meetings with larger events in order to attract members from the private sector.

Subcommittee Communications and Outreach

The ASG will be responsible for completely updating the Partnership Web-site in 2009. The ASG would welcome comments from the landfill subcommittee on any preferences of the types of information featured on landfill sector portion of the Web-site. Additionally, the Steering Committee encouraged all delegates and PN members to review and update the projects listed in the project tracking system portion of the Web-site.

Partnership-wide Accomplishments Report

The Steering Committee approved a schedule for delivering a report to document an overview and history of the Methane to Markets Partnership framework and participants, as well as a list of activities and achievements since the Partnerships inception. Henry Ferland noted that the schedule is driven by a goal to deliver the report in time for the December 2009 UNFCCC COP 15 meeting in Copenhagen. He added that since the subcommittee members are most involved and experienced with the project activity and accomplishments within their respective sectors, each subcommittee delegate and PN member will be responsible for submitting an update on their updates. The subcommittees will also provide a technical review of the consolidated report, before the final report is printed for publication. Mr. Ferland added that important dates for the subcommittee to remember are as follows:

- Mid-February: Call for project activities and accomplishments from delegates and PN members (60-day response period)
- Mid-July: Subcommittee review of the landfill sector portion of the report (45-day review period)

Amanda Singleton asked what types of activities and accomplishments should be submitted for this report. Mr. Ferland replied that the ASG will accept all submissions, but that only a limited number will be able to be highlighted in the report text. He envisions an Appendix to the report to document all submitted project activities and accomplishments. He added that the types of submissions most relevant to the report include:

- Operational and under construction projects. These types of accomplishments provide the most concrete method for communicating emissions reductions related to the Partnership.
- Contracts and negotiations, or construction activities for projects under development. If possible, these projects should also include an estimate of potential emission reductions once the project is complete.
- Capacity building activities (e.g., workshops, O&M trainings, models, grantee deliverables). In order to recognize the important activities that often must proceed project development, the Partnership does not want to limit the report to only operational projects.

2010 Partnership Expo

The Steering Committee has now established a schedule and location for the next Partnership Expo. The Expo is scheduled for February, March, or early April 2010 in New Delhi, India. The steering committee has asked the landfill subcommittee to serve in three capacities in preparation for this event:

- Obtain updates on the projects presented at the 2007 Expo. This exercise will be conducted in order to present Partnership Achievements since 2007, and these achievements will also be featured in the Partnership-wide Accomplishments report.
- Identify new projects to feature at the next Expo. Similar to the previous Expo, the Subcommittee will be responsible for identifying landfills in search of project development and for collecting and presenting technical information about the landfills on a poster and handouts. The subcommittee should plan to submit these ideas by November 2009. The ASG will ensure that these materials are printed and displayed at the Expo.
- Provide assistance in developing the sector-specific policy and technical sessions. Mr. Ferland noted that previously each sector developed an agenda and self-selected the speakers. He added that perhaps the subcommittee may want to consider a call for abstracts within specific topic categories for the 2010 event. Mr. Blanco opened the floor to input on how to develop the technical program. He reserved a brainstorming discussion about potential topics of interest for the technical sessions for a period later in the agenda.

With respect to a call for abstracts, Brian Guzzone indicated that the subcommittee must consider criteria for evaluating abstracts, a schedule for reviewing the abstracts, and a task force of delegates and/or PN members that are willing to review the abstracts. Bryce Lloyd echoed the importance of establishing criteria for evaluating abstracts, and emphasized a need to limit the commercialism contained within the abstracts. Jose Luis Davila added that based on his experience it is difficult to determine through an abstract whether or not a presentation would be commercial or not. He suggested that perhaps the subcommittee and ASG consider a call for presentations so that the actual presentations can be reviewed. The subcommittee would allow for a selected presenter to revise the presentation to include updated data, but having the presentation up front would help the committee evaluate the speakers. Mr. Davila added that perhaps the 10th Landfill Subcommittee would be good timing for reviewing and selecting abstracts/presentations to be included in the 2010 Expo.

Hearing several good ideas for topics and speakers, Mr. Blanco added that perhaps the subcommittee could make a direct solicitation for certain speakers or institutions that are of interest to our subcommittee, and the call for abstracts/presentations could be reserved for any unfilled lectures remaining on the technical program. Mr. Lloyd and Cesar Chavez both agreed with limiting the call for abstracts/presentations to certain organizations and institutions before opening the call for to everyone in the Partnership.

Mr. Blanco proposed that the ASG will distribute an e-mail with a list of tasks to be done in preparation for the Expo, and he expects some members of the subcommittee to volunteer for review of the abstracts/presentations. The ASG will be responsible for coordinating a deadline for submitting the abstracts/presentations and also establishing a deadline for the landfill subcommittee to review the abstracts/presentations. The ASG will need to coordinate this schedule with all four sectors of the Partnership.

Topics for Partnership Expo Landfill Technical Program

Sebastian Berstein Llona noted that the Steering Committee indicated that the subcommittee should develop ideas for both landfill-specific topics as well as cross-sector topics. He added that one cross-sector topic could be focused on biogas treatment/filtration technologies since these technologies tend to work similarly no matter what the source of the biogas.

Gabriel Blanco suggested that the timing of the 2010 Expo will be very close to end of Kyoto Protocol 2008 to 2012 emission reduction commitment period. Mr. Blanco added suggested a Plenary or cross-sector discussion on how the Partnership and other global climate policies will co-exist and collaborate could be informative.

Mr. Chavez noted that the 2007 Expo had a very strong presence of technology providers, government officials, project developers, and carbon market brokers. He added that there was a lack of a presence of funding organizations (e.g., Danish Fund, Spanish Fund, and British Fund) for projects as well as a lack of larger companies that are responsible for linking the individual projects with these funds. He encouraged the subcommittee and steering committee to recruit these types of attendees to the 2010 Expo.

Mr. Lloyd indicated that another segment of biogas energy projects absent from the 2007 Expo were utilities. Perhaps there could be a cross-sector session on interconnection topics and the Partnership could invite more utilities to attend.

Sergio Gasca noted that alternative uses of biogas are not traditionally included in our talks (e.g., vehicle fuels, district cooling and heating). He suggested one of the sessions be devoted to alternative biogas beneficial use technologies.

Rachel Goldstein suggested that based on the presentation of barriers discussed in Monterrey, topics related to leachate treatment and biogas treatment would be important to the larger 2010 Expo audience. Further, based on U.S. EPA experience with providing technical support, in the form of studies and pumping trials, several landfill owners have asked EPA what to do next after the study is complete. Perhaps some sessions on how to develop a request for proposals, as well as how to technically review the proposals received would be a helpful topic for landfill owner/operators in the audience.

Report Out from ISWA Singapore Regional Roundtable

Mr. Blanco provided an overview of Regional Subcommittee meetings. The idea for Regional meetings was suggested as a way of improving attendance, encouraging Project Network attendance, reducing travel costs, and provide for more substantive meeting content. Mr. Blanco added that a difficulty with a regional meeting structure is that the ASG resources would be spread across multiple meetings for each sector and in order to cover the costs of multiple meetings, it may be necessary for sponsorship of some portion of the event. Mr. Blanco also added that the Partnership should define the regions and what the available budget would be for each meeting.

Based on the suggestion made during the 8th Landfill Subcommittee meeting, a pilot meeting was held in conjunction with the 2008 ISWA Annual Congress in Singapore. The meeting was a smaller group of experts representing China, ISWA, United States, Turkey, and Argentina. There was a productive discussion with ISWA on collecting international landfill data for the Partnership International Landfill Database and plans to conduct landfill operator training. Mr. Blanco also added that since the new

President of the ISWA Board of Directors was the former chair of the Landfill Subcommittee, he is optimistic about further cooperation between ISWA and the Partnership. The meeting also covered an in-depth discussion on biogas modeling, specifically the concern of what has been projected according to Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Project Design Documents compared to what has been achieved as reported in the CDM monitoring reports. Alex Stege presented a paper on this topic during the meeting and offered to provide the ASG with a copy to post on the Partnership Web-site. Going forward, Mr. Blanco asked other meeting attendees for comments on the structure of regional meetings.

Mr. Lloyd agreed that it is very difficult to have landfill owners travel internationally. He added that even if the travel is local, the meeting should be paired with a specific training event. Mr. Guzzone emphasized that more technical content at the meetings was essential for continued Project Network support at the events. Mr. Blanco agreed with the idea and suggested that if Project Network members were more directly involved with the content of the meeting, the ASG may be able to share meeting finance with members of the Project Network.

Mr. Chavez added that since the Partnership is international, there still needed to be an international group of delegates to provide direction to the regional subcommittee work. He suggested that global meetings should be reserved for the steering committee, while sector-specific meetings should be more regionally focused.

Sergio Garza noted that travel will become increasingly difficult in the current economic climate. He encouraged the ASG to use video conferences and post a recording of the event and presentations to the Partnership Web-site. Use of this technology would extend the reach of the Partnership to municipalities and others that could not attend the meeting in person.

Partner Country Updates

Argentina

Mr. Blanco presented an update on the Argentina national strategy for solid waste management. As of January 2009, there are eleven plans (4-provincial; 7 municipal) written for managing solid waste. These eleven plans have been financed by support from the World Bank and several consultants currently working in Argentina to implement these plans.

The second phase of the national strategy is to close the open dumps. After that, each plan will have specific mention of how to sort and manage waste. Plans include construction and improvement of landfills as well as the construction of LFG recovery plants. Mr. Blanco introduced Estella Santalla to discuss additional biogas project assessment and development activities. Ms. Santalla noted that the Universidad Nacional del Centro in Argentina has evaluated five different landfills for biogas recovery under its pilot program. These landfills have been evaluated for technical availability of gas, economic feasibility of using the gas, as well as the social impacts of using the gas. She closed by mentioning that Argentina's goals are to collect better waste acceptance data and data on sites for entry into the International Landfill Database and work with the Partnership to develop a local biogas model using Argentina local climates and waste stream data.

Brazil

Ms. Josilene Ferrar presented on several aspects of Brazil's solid waste management and biogas recovery programs. A copy of her presentation can be viewed on the [meeting proceedings page](#). Most waste in Brazil is going to open dumps. However, the state of Sao Paulo has much more advanced waste disposal. Ms. Ferrar also summarized the current statistics for biogas recovery in the state of Sao Paulo, which currently has 14 landfills flaring methane gas. With respect to solid waste regulations, Brazil has pending legislation for a national Solid Waste Management plan. With respect to recent training events and materials, Mr. Ferrar reported that several ministries in Brazil have prepared materials to instruct stakeholders how to participate in the CDM process. Additionally, the Brazil Ministry of Cities and CIFAL conducted training on biogas recovery and use and sponsored a site visit to the Banderiantes landfill.

Ms. Ferrar encouraged other delegates to become promoters of Methane to Markets within their respective climate organizations. She added that she spoke at a Methane to Markets side event at the recent UNFCCC Council of Parties meeting in Poznan, Poland to communicate Brazil's work under the Partnership. She also presented her organization's Web-site which contained links to a Brazil biogas model called "Biogas" and several links with information on all meeting and upcoming training events, how to conduct a greenhouse gas inventory, how to develop a CDM project in Brazil, as well as links to Methane to Markets, and U.S. EPA LMOP.

Chile

Mr. Jose Fernandez of Chile Commission on Energy introduced himself as a new member of the subcommittee. He added that Chile's interest in landfill biogas is focused in the area of town gas and pipeline distribution. He added that several companies recently proposed pipeline quality projects and technology in Chile. However, upon review of the company business plans and technologies, his department found that after a short period of time the companies submitting proposals no longer existed. He encouraged the subcommittee to develop a service and technology provider directory and also possibly provide written features of certain technologies in its quarterly newsletter. Given that Methane to Markets does not have any conflict of interest in selling these technologies, the Partnership could provide a vital education role to stakeholders evaluating their project and technology options.

Colombia

Ms. Sandra Lopez provided an update on landfill biogas recovery in Colombia. A copy of her presentation can be viewed on the [meeting proceedings page](#). At present, the U.S. EPA has supported Colombia with four assessment reports in Dona Juana, Medellin, Lomo de los Cocos, and La Pradera. There are plans to complete two additional studies at Villa Karina and El Tejar landfills. Nationwide, She added that Colombia has an existing database of landfills within their country. However the types of data tracked in their database do not overlap the data requested in the Partnership International Landfill Database. She is working with others to reconcile the two databases and hopes to provide an update on the Colombia's landfill data in 2009. Ms. Lopez also provided an updated status of CDM projects in Colombia and noted that the Medellin project was the only landfill CDM project in operation in Colombia. Ms. Lopez closed by noting that the largest barriers to biogas recovery and use in Colombia

were difficult determination of biogas ownership and the regulations pertaining to landfill and utility operations.

Mexico

Mr. Cesar Chaves and Sergio Gasca presented Mexico's new National Solid Waste Management Plan and current activities under the Partnership in Mexico. A copy of their presentation can be viewed on the [meeting proceedings page](#). Mr. Gasca emphasized that there have been many changes to waste management policies since 2003. Under the Partnership SEMARNAT has largely worked to disseminate information in the form of Pre-feasibility studies and assessment reports to provide support for expanding knowledge about using landfill biogas. SEMARNAT is now designing and an information reporting and collecting system in order to analyze the energy potential of landfills in Mexico. With respect to barriers to project development, Mr. Chavez noted that interconnection with electric utilities is a significant challenge in Mexico. In addition, he noted that the process of CDM project verification was a very time consuming and administrative burden. He suggested that the Partnership may want to participate in discussions during the UNFCCC COP 15 meeting of how to make the verification process more efficient. Mr. Blanco noted that the COP is currently reviewing what sectors can qualify as offsets, what protocols can be used, and how to improve the verification process. He added that the COP must balance of a more efficient process with project integrity that reflects real emission reductions of greenhouse gases.

Philippines

Mr. Albert Marino introduced himself as a new member of the Partnership and provided an introduction to waste management in the Philippines. The Philippines has a total of 20 Landfills and four of these are located in the Manila metropolitan area. Mr. Marino added that only one of these landfills is a modern engineered landfill, while the rest of the sites are open dumps. Prior studies have estimated the energy potential from these landfills to be capable of producing 50 MW of electric generating capacity. At present, one landfill is working with an Italian company to develop a biogas recovery project. Only one of which is an engineered LF. One of the landfills is utilizing methane, with the help of an Italian company. Mr. Marino noted that the major barriers to project development in the Philippines are a lack of knowledge on LFGE technologies, and the lack of engineered landfills. He added that an additional barrier is that most landfills are owned by municipal governments. The short political terms of the officials make project financing difficult. In addition to the municipally-owned landfills, one landfill, which is located on a former U.S. Air force base, is owned by a government-corporation and the large site in Manila is owned by the metropolitan authority. Recently there has been movement towards constructing more regional landfills within the country.

United States

Ms. Rachel Goldstein provided an update of the United States landfill biogas industry and recent activities in support of the Partnership. As of 2009, the U.S. maintained a database of approximately 2,300 landfills and 475 landfill gas projects nationwide. Ms. Goldstein then distributed two reports recently completed as a result of collaboration between the U.S. and the International Energy Agency (IEA).

The first report provided an assessment of landfill biogas potential in India. The India report summarized renewable energy, organic waste diversion, and landfill management that impact the future of landfill

biogas recovery throughout India. The second report summarized global energy policies that promote the use of landfill biogas as a renewable resource. Ms. Goldstein added that during the 2007 Partnership Expo in Beijing, the Subcommittee commented that policy-tracking tool would be useful for project developers and government officials working to develop and promote landfill gas energy within other countries. In 2008, the U.S. identified that the IEA was in the process of upgrading a renewable energy policy tracking database of its own. Ms. Goldstein noted that this database was not specific to landfill biogas policies and the U.S. worked with IEA to generate a more comprehensive database module and document dedicated to policies promoting beneficial use of landfill biogas. To collect policy data, the IEA interviewed partner countries and reviewed existing literature and databases. The IEA also tracked the development of new country-policies to improve landfill design and operations. The report reviews countries with the most expansive landfill gas energy project portfolios and concluded that these countries also have the most progressive policies for supporting biogas utilization projects. The most common policy incentives for promoting biogas utilization were feed-in tariffs, tax relief, interconnection standards and technology demonstration funds. Ms. Goldstein clarified that the scope of this report was a review of all available policies and was not limited to only those policies within Methane to Markets Partner Countries.

Project Network Updates

Colegio de Ingenieros Ambientales de Mexico (CINAM)

Mr. Juan Manuel Munoz Meza of CINAM inquired about how to join the Project Network and he also indicated that CINAM could be available to present on how to design landfills that comply with the new Mexico regulations on solid waste management.

GTZ

Mr. Pablo Heredia of GTZ provided his perspective on earlier comments made with respect to waste and renewable energy policies in Partner Countries. GTZ has analyzed several global waste policies, and he noted that even if there is legislation requiring closure of open dumps, implementing compliance with these regulations stagger far behind the compliance deadlines in the regulation. He added that there has been very little discussion about the responsibility of the companies that manufacture the materials that are eventually disposed of in the landfill, and generate biogas. Mr. Heredia also asked the landfill subcommittee if there were plans to create a database for all Partnership projects.

Mr. Blanco responded by noting that the subcommittee has two separate databases. The first database tracks international landfills and currently there are approximately 300 landfills in this database. The second database tracks activities of all Partnership sectors, not just landfills. This project tracking database includes information on pre-feasibility studies, grants, and workshops related to methane recovery and utilization. Mr. Blanco added that since the Partnership is voluntary, the data contained in these tools is not always up-to-date or comprehensive.

Metrogas Chile

Mr. Llona provided an update of Metrogas interest in methane biogas projects. Metrogas is a large distributor of town gas. Town gas has a lower BTU quality than natural gas and it is distributed to 180,000 customers in Santiago. Mr. Llona added that most of the landfills in Chile are privately owned and Chile has 12 landfill gas flaring projects. He added that none of these projects are using the gas

beneficially. Mr. Llona closed by noting that Santiago relies very heavily on imported fuels and his company is very interested in negotiating projects with both landfills and anaerobic digesters.

OWT Hong Kong

Mr. Bryce Lloyd provided an overview of some recent project innovations at his company. He indicated that his company recently completed a pressure-swing adsorption project in China. The project uses 17,000 m³ biogas per hour. Currently his company is working on a tender for a similar project that will make town gas. He added that due to the costs of biogas treatment technologies required for higher quality biogas projects, these types of energy utilization projects are restricted to very large landfills.

QED Environmental

Mr. David Kaminski noted that several presentations during the workshop focused on leachate management. He asked Partner Countries to elaborate on what they think are the largest barriers for controlling leachate in each of their countries.

Mr. Gasca responded with two main barriers for leachate control in Mexico. First, although the national plan for solid waste management has a standard to regulate the control of leachate, there is a gap between the statutory requirements and how landfills are complying with the standard. The lack of compliance is due to economic conditions that do not allow for adequate leachate management, as well as a lack of access and understanding of the technologies available to control leachate. Mr. Gasca added that currently 2,400 different municipalities are responsible for landfills and that as the country transitions to a regional waste management infrastructure, this may allow for better economies of scale for leachate technologies.

Mr. Blanco responded with three major barriers to leachate control in Argentina. First, retrofitting open dump sites with leachate control technologies is more expensive and challenging from an engineering design perspective since these open dump sites did not foresee any problems with leachate. Second, for engineered landfill sites with leachate control systems installed, the landfills suffer from a lack of knowledge of how to maintain and operate the leachate systems overtime. Lastly, there is a lack of funds available for training on how to use the leachate control systems.

Mr. Sebastian reiterated the problems aforementioned by his colleagues in Mexico and Argentina. In Chile, the smaller municipally-owned landfills typically have very limited resources. But, when larger private sector waste management companies operate the landfills, they are able to leverage capital, training, and technologies necessary to control leachate.

Mr. Kaminski thanked the delegates for their thoughts and he recognized the challenges of limited finance and untrained personnel. He added that perhaps if the issue of leachate management was presented as a method of improving biogas flows, and thus an increase in carbon credit revenues, there could be more incentives for introducing leachate management technologies at the landfills. He added that his company has done several studies where leachate removal has improved gas flows anywhere from 20 to 30 percent up to 70 to 80 percent. Perhaps the additional carbon credit revenues could be used to pay for the installation and training of personnel for managing leachate control systems. He also offered to conduct some web seminars on leachate management.

Rhodia

Mr. Arnaud Staib discussed the current market for biogas project financing. Due to the financial crisis, there are lower manufacturing rates worldwide. Lower manufacturing rates have in turn reduced emissions, thus requiring firms to purchase less offsets through the Clean Development Mechanism. Due to the lower demand for CERs, the prices of CERs on the world market has reduced from €20, to around €10 in January 2009. These lower prices will impact the future development of any projects in the coming months/years. Do to the depressed pricing and the general global economy, an industrial company like Rhodia would want to pay a much lower price than in previous years. He added that a flare-only project would be more likely in the short term because investment in additional electric generating equipment is much larger and much more difficult to finance in this difficult credit climate. Mr. Staib said that industries would be very interested in having Methane to Markets prepare some information on pricing of equipment installation and operational costs for flares and various other energy project costs, according to the country of installations.

SCS Engineers

Alex Stege and Jose Luis Davila introduced themselves and provided an overview of their current work under the Partnership. SCS Engineers has been developing U.S. EPA gas models for Mexico and Central America. Additionally, they have been conducting pre-feasibility studies in Argentina, Mexico, Colombia, Ukraine, and India. Mr. Stege's work focuses on modeling whereas Mr. Davila's work focuses on design and implementation of landfill gas energy projects.

Discussion on Project Network Member Reports

Ms. Goldstein replied to Mr. Staib's request for cost data that these types of numbers are available for domestic U.S. biogas projects, by using the U.S. EPA LFGcost model. She added that in order to get costs for projects in other countries, the Partnership would need to rely on Partner Country delegates and Project Network members working in these countries to collect data on the costs of various project elements.

Mr. Gasca cautioned against the Partnership providing a generalized cost model. He added that once these tools are created, they can easily become outdated and since these tools carry the logo or stamp of approval from an international Partnership such as Methane to Markets, there are several companies that would use these tools to incorrectly inform municipalities and other project decision makers about the feasibility of a project.

Mr. Chavez added that if any projects were financed by the Partnership, the Partnership should consider fully disclosing the financial investment structure, sales price, and any problems incurred during development of the project. Additionally, they should have to identify what problems they had, how much did they make from sales. Currently the Partnership is focused on spending a majority of its funds on studies, with no final expectation of what the project outcomes are. He suggested that the Partnership consider funding actual project capital on a smaller number of projects that can achieve emission reductions rather than spending money on studies.

Mr. Blanco thanked everyone for their reports and added that the subcommittee and the Partnership have to think very carefully on how to communicate project successes. Oftentimes, the Partnership has limited

power over what happens to projects after the study or initial grant was complete. He added that biogas projects happen in various states and due to barriers with local policies, interconnection, and the CDM verification process itself; these projects sometimes take significant amounts of time for a project to complete any transactions of carbon credits under the CDM.

Redefining the Role of Delegates

Mr. Blanco suggested ways to improve and better engage the Partner Country delegates in the Partnership. During the meeting of Buenos Aires, the delegates decided that there was a need to improve the communication between the secretariat and each of the delegates and in turn, the delegates and the in-country project stakeholders. The advantages of using a focal point that the delegates know their country much better than the Partnership secretariat does and by serving as a focal point, the delegate can help inform how the Partnership will distribute resources for grants, workshops, and studies within each Partner Country. In this way the delegate can make the distribution of resources most efficient. Mr. Blanco also added that he did not want the role of focal point to become a bottleneck for Partnership activities. He recognized that Partner Country Delegates are often very busy people and noted that perhaps not all of the countries would want to serve in such large capacity. Thus, the subcommittee decided during the last meeting to allow each country to decide on how it wanted to proceed.

Ms. Lopez indicated that focal point would help facilitate the landfill sector activity in her country. However, she indicated that she worked for the Ministry of Environment as well as a support for the CDM process so her Methane to Markets role is additional her main tasks. However, she would still be very interested in being a focal point.

Mr. Chavez indicated that the current landfill subcommittee delegates are not provided with that much power to make decisions on allocating funding or deciding on where workshops should be located. For the role of focal point to work in Mexico, the upper level government would have to empower its subcommittee delegates to make these decisions.

Ms. Ferrar indicated that she already believes her organization, CETESB, is serving as a focal point for the state of Sao Paulo in Brazil. She did note that with respect to decision making on funding and how workshops are prioritized, her jurisdiction is limited to a single state in Brazil. Currently there are no nationwide delegates serving on the landfill subcommittee.

Mr. Blanco proposed the following to the subcommittee: if your country would like to have a Partner Country Delegate serve as a focal point for all landfill sector Partnership activities in your country, please notify the Secretariat. The Secretariat will then provide all stakeholders working in that country with the contact information for the new focal point and inform the stakeholders of your preference to have Partnership activities worked through this contact.

Next Subcommittee Meeting

Ms. Josilene Ferrar proposed that the 10th Landfill Subcommittee be held in Sao Paulo in October 2009. The Secretariat asked if there were other solid waste or renewable energy conferences being held in Sao Paulo during that time, such that the meeting could be paired with another relevant event. Ms. Ferrar said she would research the calendars of other events and get back to the Partnership within a month.

Alternately, she suggested that CETESB could help plan a technical workshop and a site visit to a Brazil landfill to pair with the subcommittee meeting. Mexico also offered to host the next meeting, but would be happy to concede to Brazil's offer. Mr. Jose Luis Davila suggested that delegates volunteering to serve on the 2010 Partnership Expo Task Force could come one day early or stay one day late to review abstracts or presentations of potential speakers in order to finalize the technical program for the landfill sector.

The ASG has issued a request for comments on the meeting location so that other delegates that were not present during the subcommittee meeting to a chance to volunteer.



**Landfill
Subcommittee Meeting
Attendees
Monterrey, Mexico
29 January 2009**

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