

Looking Forward



The ongoing cooperative efforts to reduce methane emissions through GMI are having a significant impact on global climate change in the near term, while delivering valuable long-term energy, economic, and environmental benefits. Since 2004, through GMI and its predecessor, the Methane to Markets Partnership, the United States has supported the development of more than 550 methane reduction projects, helped dismantle barriers to project development, and promoted projects that complement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC's) flexibility mechanisms. Under the Obama administration, the U.S. government is continuing to promote the Initiative's success, urging more robust action and stronger financial commitments, engaging the private sector, and ensuring that GMI evolves in a manner that supports and complements the UNFCCC.

In particular, the United States will focus on these key areas:

- **Promoting Emission Reductions.** The U.S. government will continue to actively support methane recovery and use and abatement opportunities in the agriculture (manure management), coal mines, landfills, oil and gas systems, and municipal wastewater sectors. Through development of the U.S. Action Plan, the United States will identify and seek ways to work collaboratively with its Partner Countries; the private sector; and multilateral organizations such as the World Bank, the Interamerican Development Bank, and the United Nations.

- **Coordinating the Next Expo.** The United States will take a leadership role in coordinating and implementing the GMI Partnership Expo, to be held in late 2012 or early 2013. This Expo will provide a focal point for methane-related policy and technical issues. It will galvanize project identification and provide a forum to showcase project opportunities and successes for investors, technology providers, and project developers.

The United States is proud of the Initiative's collective achievements, which demonstrate that developed and developing countries—along with the private sector—can effectively work together to address global climate change. In the coming year, the United States will work with GMI Partners and Project Network members to encourage continued engagement and expanded commitment to the Initiative, with the purpose of enabling greater methane mitigation efforts while advancing clean energy development and stronger economies around the world.