

U.S. Government Leadership in Reducing Methane Emissions

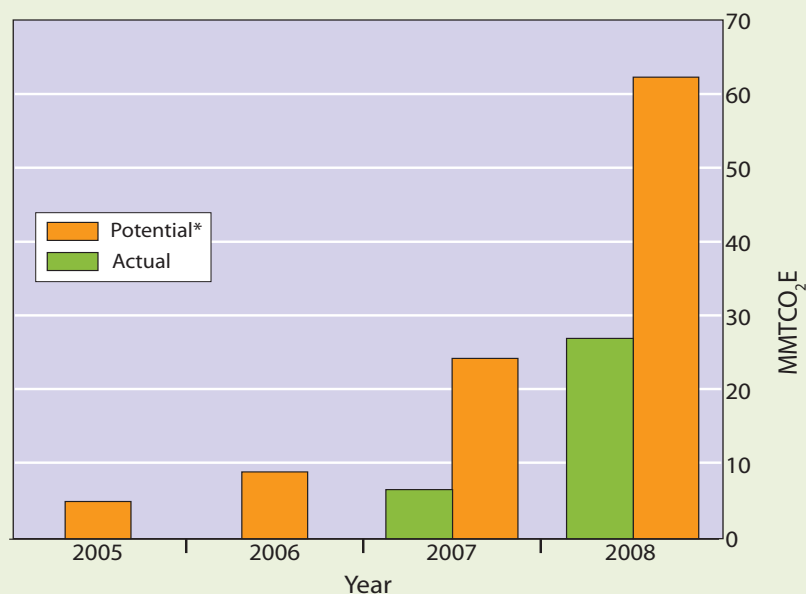
The United States has been a strong supporter of Methane to Markets since the beginning of the Partnership, and it continued its support in 2008. In 2004, the United States pledged up to \$53 million over a five-year period to facilitate the development and implementation of methane projects in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. As this funding has been committed, it is supporting a broad range of efforts through the Partnership, such as training and capacity building, market development, feasibility assessments, and technology demonstrations.

United States Awards Grants for International Methane Projects

In 2009, EPA awarded more than \$4 million in competitive grant funding to applicants proposing methane reduction projects in Methane to Markets Partner Countries. This was the third EPA Methane to Markets grant solicitation. As with previous solicitations, it was highly competitive. Nearly 100 proposals were submitted for work in 19 different countries. EPA anticipates awarding funding for 28 cooperative agreements for methane capture and use work in 13 Partner Countries. In 2008, EPA awarded more than \$4.5 million in grant funding to projects in 12 Partner Countries and all four sectors.

Figure 3

Annual Reduction of Methane Emissions From U.S.-Supported Projects, 2005–2008



* Potential emissions reductions include actual reductions from U.S.-supported projects now online.

A Multi-Agency Effort

U.S. government efforts under the Methane to Markets Partnership are led by EPA and involve the collective efforts of the following major agencies and departments of the federal government:



EPA is the lead U.S. agency and, as host of the Administrative Support Group, coordinates and administers Partnership activities both domestically and internationally. EPA builds on the success of its voluntary methane reduction programs, which have been instrumental in reducing U.S. methane emissions in 2007 by more than 14 percent below 1990 levels.



U.S. Department of Energy contributes expertise in natural gas and CMM technologies.



U.S. Department of State leads international climate change policies and activities and supports the development of methane projects.



USAID
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U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provides technical expertise in the economic reform of energy sectors to create markets that support private sector projects in developing countries and those with economies in transition.



U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) facilitates development in emerging markets by promoting U.S. partnerships in high-priority overseas projects.



U.S. Department of Agriculture lends technical expertise in the animal waste management sector.

Figure 4

FY 2008 U.S. Expenditures by Type of Activity

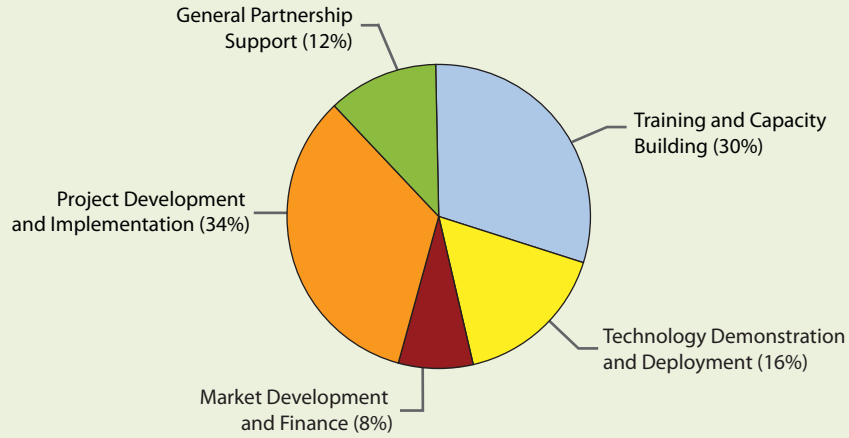
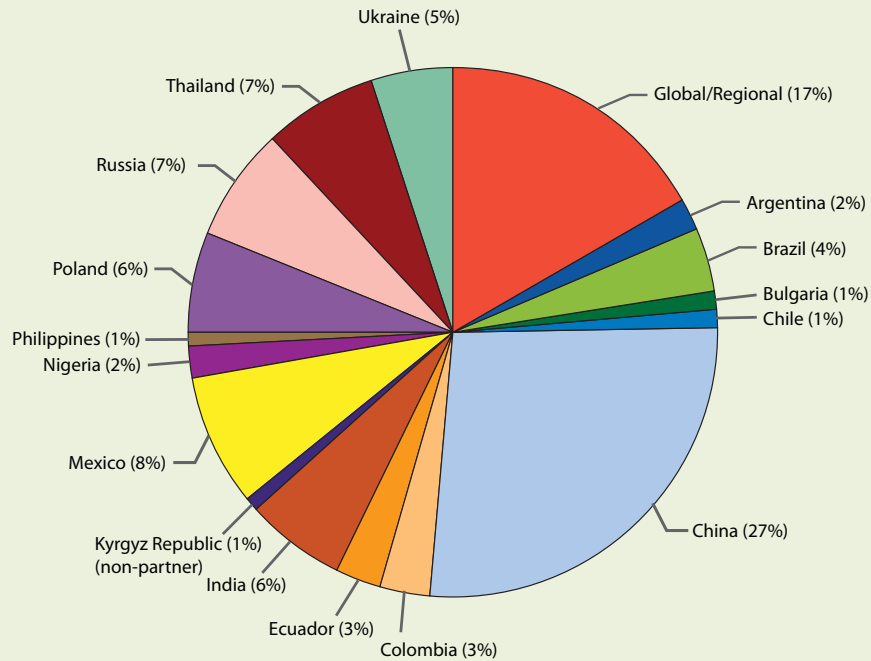


Figure 5

FY 2008 U.S. Expenditures by Recipient Country



Leveraging the efforts of fellow Partner Countries along with the expertise and investment of the United States and the international private sector is central to the U.S. commitment.

U.S. government contributions were critical in making 2008 another successful year. U.S. government funding for the Partnership in fiscal year (FY) 2008 was \$10.4 million, bringing the total U.S. financial commitment to the Partnership since its inception to approximately \$40 million. These resources continued supporting pre-feasibility and feasibility studies at potential project sites, while addressing market, institutional, and other barriers to project development and building capacity through technology transfer and training (see Figure 4). The United States expends these resources across more than a dozen Partner Countries and regions (see Figure 5) and successfully

leverages funding from other sources (see Figure 6). These efforts are directly leading to the development of full-scale projects in many Partner Countries. When fully implemented, these projects will deliver estimated annual emission reductions of more than approximately 61 MMTCO₂E.

EPA also maintains www.epa.gov/methanetomarkets, which details contributions and responsibilities of the six major federal agencies involved in the Partnership. The Web site also features basic information on methane capture and use, related EPA voluntary programs, and links to Partnership newsletters and press releases.

The following sector-specific updates provide a brief overview of some of the most notable U.S. government-sponsored activities in the Partnership's four sectors that were funded in 2008.

