



Looking Forward

Methane is a potent GHG, with a relatively short atmospheric lifetime. Reducing methane emissions is thus an important component of the United States' climate action strategy, since reductions will slow warming in the short term while delivering near-term economic, environmental, and energy benefits. The Methane to Markets Partnership has made tremendous progress over the last four years in removing the barriers to cost-effective methane emission reductions around the world. As the Methane to Markets Partnership continues to grow, the United States will remain strongly committed to supporting its success. Over the next few years, the United States will focus on several key areas of participation in the Partnership, including:

- **The 2010 Partnership Expo.** The United States is eager to play a leadership role once again in the upcoming Partnership Expo, tentatively scheduled for early 2010. The Partnership Expo has proven to be an effective means of matching project development opportunities with relevant skills and resources, and U.S. government agencies will aggressively promote partnerships to bring these opportunities to fruition.
- **Partner country-specific action plans in each sector.** The Partnership achieves its goals principally through commitment and action on the part of its Partner Countries. The United States is looking forward to working with all of the Methane to Markets Partner Countries over the coming year to discuss the potential for new methane reduction

strategies in the context of country-specific action plans. The United States is committed to continuing its support of the Partnership's technical subcommittees, creating roadmaps for project development, and charting opportunities for developers, financiers, and policy-makers alike.

- **Technical assistance and financial support for project development in all four Methane to Markets sectors.** The United States will continue its active support for methane reductions in all four sectors of the Partnership. The United States has already committed more than \$10 million in FY 2008. Several U.S. government agencies will be continuing to conduct trainings, provide grants, support pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and undertake other activities to build on their multi-year initiatives already underway.

The Partnership has been extremely successful in raising awareness about the importance of focusing global efforts on methane. More importantly, Methane to Markets has engaged the private sector along with 27 Partners from all over the world. These actions have not only led to real GHG emission reductions but also have proven to be a good complement to efforts under the Kyoto Protocol—providing technical assistance and capacity-building essential to ensure long-term project development success. Next year, the United States will work with Partners to secure a continued and expanded commitment to the Partnership, with a mind to enabling greater efforts to reduce methane emissions in support of existing and post-2012 climate frameworks.