

U.S. Government Leadership in Reducing Methane Emissions

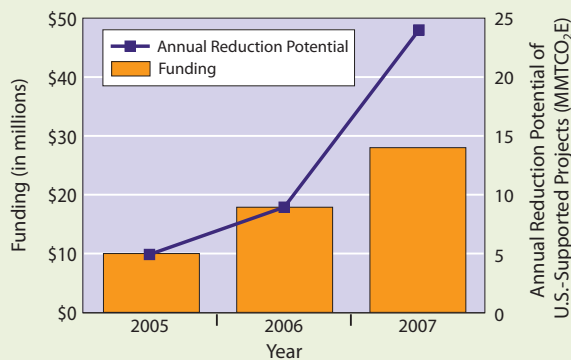
In support of the Methane to Markets Partnership, the United States has pledged up to \$53 million over a five-year period to facilitate the development and implementation of methane projects in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. As this funding is committed, it is supporting a broad range of efforts through the Partnership, such as the export of the successful U.S. voluntary programs, training and capacity-building, market development, feasibility assessments, and technology demonstrations. 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.

EPA Grants for Methane Projects

The United States, for the second year, held a grants competition to support projects that identify, characterize, or implement methane capture and use opportunities in developing countries or countries with economies in transition that are Methane to Markets Partners. Institutions from 16 Partner Countries submitted more than 80 proposals, seeking a combined \$35 million in project support. After reviewing all the submissions, EPA awarded more than \$4.5 million to 20 applicants from Argentina, Brazil, China, Ecuador, India, Korea, Mexico, Mongolia, Nigeria, Poland, Thailand, and Ukraine. These awards build significantly on the solicitation from last year, in which \$2.9 million was awarded to applicants from 11 Partner Countries to fund nearly 30 proposals. EPA's Web site (www.epa.gov/methanetomarkets) provides more details on this program and other methane-related activities.

Figure 5

U.S. Government Funding for Methane to Markets and Annual Reduction Potential, 2005–2007



U.S. government contributions were critical in making 2007 the most successful year of the Partnership to date. U.S. government funding for the Partnership in fiscal year (FY) 2007 was \$10.2 million, bringing the total U.S. financial commitment to the Partnership since its inception to \$28.5 million (see Figure 5). 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

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 2005 by more than 11 percent below 1990 levels.



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



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.

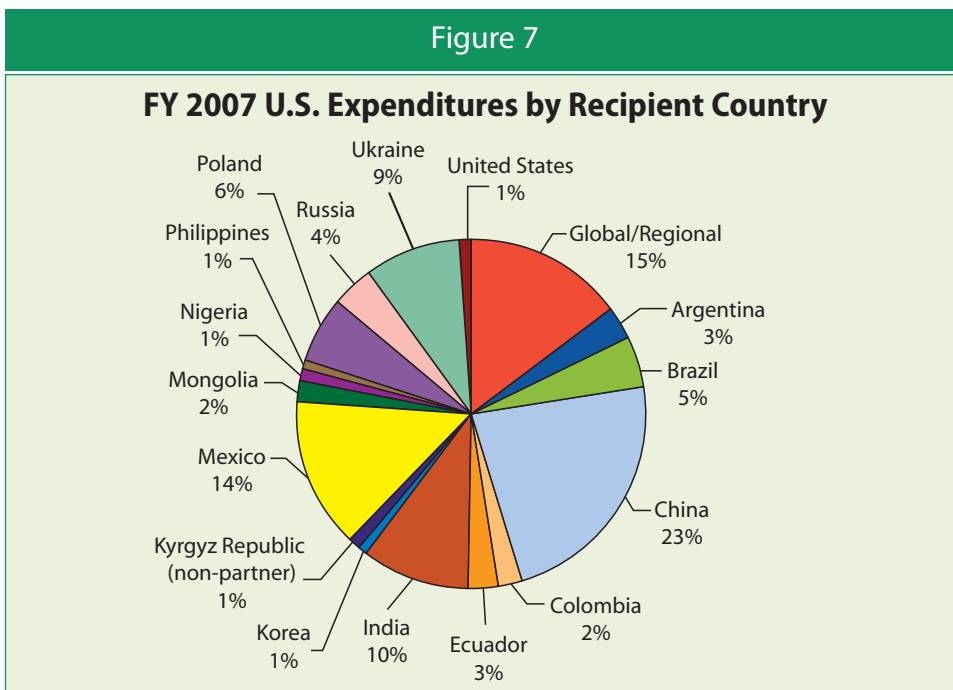
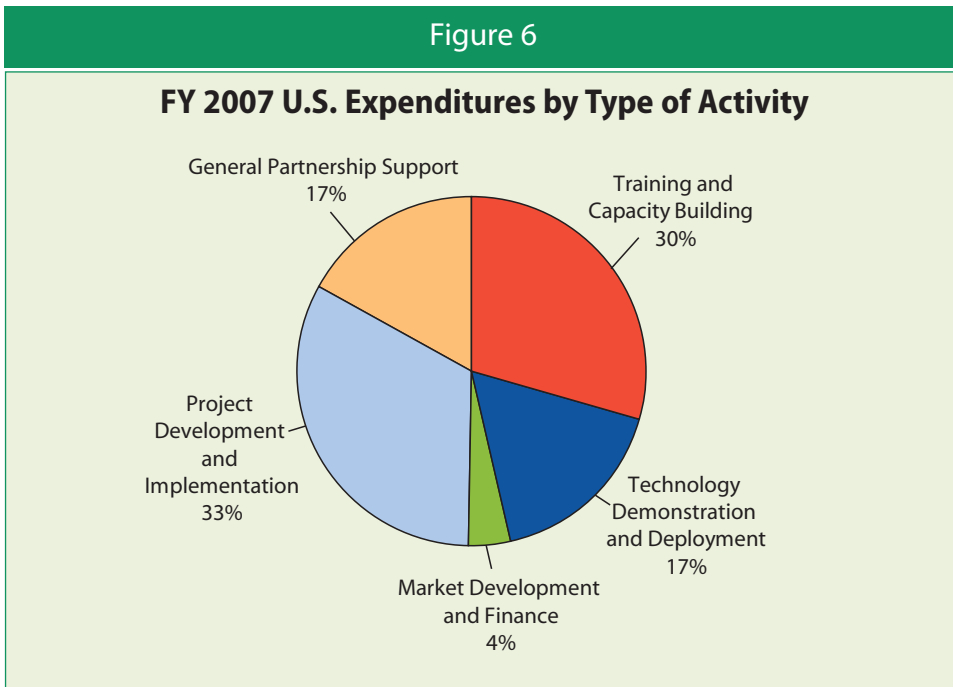


U.S. Trade and Development Agency facilitates development in emerging markets by promoting U.S. partnerships in high-priority overseas projects.



(see Figure 6). The United States expends these resources across more than a dozen Partner Countries and regions (see Figure 7). 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 24 MMTCO₂E. This is nearly triple the results from activities undertaken in 2006.



U.S. government expenditures continue to leverage funding from other sources (see Figure 8). For example, EPA awarded the Thai Ministry of Agriculture a grant for \$700,000 to reduce methane from swine farms. This grant is leveraging \$7 million from the World Bank to deploy large-scale anaerobic digesters.

Most importantly, the Methane to Markets Partnership continues to deliver near-term results in addressing the global challenge of climate change and clean energy development. By conducting technology transfer, improving local capacity, and marketing project opportunities across borders and sectors, the Partnership is developing local,

clean energy resources while reducing GHG emissions.

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 2007.

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.

Figure 8

