

## IV IPCC-NGGIP Technical Support Unit(TSU)



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Recognising the problem of potential global climate change, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1988. It is open to all members of UNEP and WMO.

The role of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is to assess on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation.

The National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Programme (NGGIP) is one of the four pillars of the IPCC. Its objectives are; firstly to develop and refine internationally-agreed methodology and software including good practice guidance for the calculation and reporting of national greenhouse gas emissions and removals; and secondly to encourage the widespread use of this methodology and guidance by countries participating in the IPCC and by signatories of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The NGGIP is managed by the Task Force Bureau (TFB).

The Technical Support Unit (TSU) for NGGIP was established at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in September 1999 with substantial co-operation from the IPCC, OECD, IEA and related organisations. It is funded by the Government of Japan. It assists the Co-chairs of the TFB and serves the needs of the NGGIP and provides all the administrative and technical support needed by the programme.

In 2004, the TSU had nine staff. An intern was conducting research under the TSU Inventory Internship programme which was launched in 2003 to provide opportunity to young researchers/scientists to familiarise themselves with the IPCC methodologies for national GHG inventories through applied studies on the science relevant to specific sector(s).

Major recent achievements of the TSU were the publication of the IPCC reports on *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry*, and on *Definitions and Methodological Options to Inventory*

*Emissions from Direct Human-induced Degradation of Forests and Devegetation of Other Vegetation Types*. Both reports were formally accepted by the IPCC and welcomed by the SBSTA of the UNFCCC in 2003. They appeared in print in April 2004 and have been widely distributed by the TSU.

The TSU is now managing the process of preparing new inventory guidelines. These *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* are being prepared in response to an invitation from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. During 2004 the TSU held six authors meetings; in Oslo, Norway; Le Morne, Mauritius; Washington, USA; Arusha, Tanzania; Ottawa, Canada; and Manila, The Philippines. About 240 authors from around the world have contributed to produce the first order draft. In 2005 an extensive review process begins.

The TSU prepares reports by asking for nominations of authors by national governments. From these nominations a list of authors is selected whose experience covers the technical areas of the proposed report as well as giving the authorship the widest possible geographic representation. For the report as a whole a steering committee is formed to guide the process while contributing lead authors are nominated for each chapter who are responsible for that chapter's completion.

The IPCC Emission Factor Database (EFDB), a dynamically evolving software tool vetted by its Editorial Board together with the TSU, was launched in 2002, and the CD-ROM version was made available in 2003. The TSU held the 3rd annual meeting of the Editorial Board in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in March 2004. This database will contain emission factors and other data needed by expert to estimate national greenhouse gas emissions. The database has been made available to assist national experts by sharing knowledge and experience in estimating emissions. The EFDB does not guarantee that each factor is suitable for a particular use but it does provide the background data needed by experts to judge the applicability of the information themselves.

In addition TSU staff members have represented the IPCC on inventory matters at a number of meetings such as UNFCCC workshops/meetings on Harvested Wood Products, Inventory Training and non-Annex 1 na-

tional communications, the UNDP workshop for Capacity Building for Improving GHG Inventories, the meeting of UNECE Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections, the workshop on GHG Inventories in Asia

Region organized by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan as well as scoping meetings for the IPCC fourth Assessment Report.



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2006 IPCC Guidelines: The First Authors/Experts Meeting on Cross-Cutting Issues and Reporting Tables (Oslo)



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2006 IPCC Guidelines: The Sixth Authors/Experts Meeting - Consolidation of First Order Draft (Manila)

