

**STAKEHOLDER MEETING**  
**ON INTEGRATING METHANE MEASUREMENT, REPORTING AND**  
**VERIFICATION (MRV) AND ABATEMENT INTO EU POLICIES:**  
**CASE STUDIES AND BEST PRACTICES IN THE AGRICULTURE,**  
**ENERGY AND WASTE SECTORS**

**9 June 2020, 14.00 – 17.00hs (Brussels time)**

**Registration open until June 5 using the following link:**

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/MethaneStakeholderEvent>

**Submit your contributions by May 29 to: [ener-cross-sector-methane@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ener-cross-sector-methane@ec.europa.eu)**

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**Setting the scene**

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas (up to 85x greater atmospheric warming potential compared to CO<sub>2</sub>) and an ozone precursor (harmful to human health and the environment). Human activity is responsible for around 60% of methane released into the atmosphere, it is released as a by-product of some farming and waste treatment practices, as well as through fossil fuel extraction, transportation, and consumption.

Unlike CO<sub>2</sub> which takes around 100 years to breakdown in the atmosphere, methane breaks down after roughly 12 years, therefore if methane emissions are reduced it can have a short-term impact on temperature pathways. Estimates suggest that anthropogenic methane emissions could be responsible for around 0,5 degrees Celsius of warming by 2050.

At present, the EU has no integrated methane measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and abatement policy, although methane is firmly within the scope of national emissions reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Satellite data has shown that methane measurement by Member States has been less than rigorous. The EU, collectively, is at the lowest level of MRV allowed under UNFCCC guidelines (Tier 1), trailing behind countries such as the United States.

With the European Green Deal, the Commission has made the fight against climate change one of its flagships priorities and has set the objective of reaching climate neutrality by 2050 (Climate Pact). In this context, DG ENER is currently engaged in benchmarking all sectors for methane MRV and assessing tentative ideas for abatement. The MRV segment would propose a coordinated and comprehensive way for the EU to achieve Tier 3 MRV (the highest level within the UNFCCC framework) under the von der Leyen Commission. At the same time, the development of this system would be functional to later adopting a solid and long-term abatement strategy.

## **Core subject and purpose of the event**

For the sake of developing a uniform, coherent and efficient system, DG ENER would like to invite you to share with us **best practices from both EU Member States and third countries on MRV** (first half of the event) **and abatement** (second half of the event).

Concerning EU countries, we welcome contributions relating to any EU Member State. Regarding non-EU countries, we limit the focus to **China, India, United States, Russia and Brazil**. This restricted selection for non-EU countries was made weighing up the world biggest economies and the world biggest methane emitters. Submissions relating to non-EU countries not included in the above-mentioned group will not be accepted.

Due to the **inherent cross-sectoral nature of methane emissions regulation**, both for EU and non-EU countries **we welcome contributions in the following sectors: energy, agriculture and waste**. In addition, we would be interested to hear about practices in those countries which link development aid to higher methane emissions MRV or to abatement.

## **Structure and Format**

The event will take place on **9 June 2020 at 14.00hs** and will last three hours.

- The **first half** (one and a half hour) will be dedicated to **best practices on MRV**
- The **second half** (one and a half hour) will be dedicated to **best practices on abatement**

Due to the current exceptional circumstances, **the event will take place via WebEx**. Further information on the registration and additional practical arrangements will follow.

**Stefan Moser, Head of Unit for Energy Security and Safety in DG ENER**, will act as moderator throughout the event. **Drew Shindell, Nicholas Distinguished Professor of Earth Science at Duke University**, will introduce the event with a keynote speech. Subsequently, the moderator will give the floor to the presenters.

Representatives that wish to address the event should notify their intention by May 29 to [ener-cross-sector-methane@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ener-cross-sector-methane@ec.europa.eu). In your request, please make clear during which part of the event (MRV or abatement) and regarding which sector (energy, agriculture or waste) you wish to take the floor. This request must include a **one-pager** with the content of the proposed intervention. Presentations are limited to **three-minutes maximum** (no PowerPoint). Please note that all received contributions will be made publicly available on our website. Due to the time constraints of the event, the Commission will make a selection of presenters on the basis of balancing different stakeholder views. Confirmation of presentation slots will be sent via e-mail prior to the event. Attendees may have the chance to address each of the presenters with questions on their presentations.

We welcome your contributions to the ambitious goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.  
#reducemethane