

National Workshop on Greenhouse Gas Inventory Development

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

2 – 6 November 1998

General Workshop - 2 November, Monday

The National Workshop on Greenhouse Gas Inventory Development was held 2-4 November in Kingstown, St. Vincent. The first day of the workshop (Monday) was the General session with representatives for government ministries, the private sector, local consultants and the press. Welcoming remarks were provided by Mssrs. Thomas and Browne, the Permanent Secretary and Minister of Health and the Environment for St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) and by Dr. Murray, the National Focal Point (itinerary attached).

After a break and interviews with the press, the primary program for the workshop began continuing through the remainder of the morning and early afternoon. Topics addressed included:

- Climate Change: Historical Context and Prospects,
- Implications of Climate Change,
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
- Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Climate Change (CPACC),
- National Communications on Climate Change,
- Greenhouse Gas Inventories,
- IPCC Methodology for Developing GHG Inventories, and
- Approach to Be Taken for SVG.

Course materials were distributed to follow during these discussions (a copy is attached).

Following the workshop presentation, participants broke into one of two working groups by sector or geographic region depending on the issue to be addressed. The working groups addressed:

- GHG Inventories by Sector,
- Vulnerability to Climate Change by Geographic Area,
- Adaptation/Mitigation by Geographic Area, and
- Initiatives to Reduce GHG Emissions by Sector.

Technical Workshop – 3–4 November, Tuesday/Wednesday

The Technical Workshop for GHG Inventory Development was held the second and third days. Participants included:

- Clive Bishop, Domestic Consultant to the project,
- Morrison Baisden, Domestic Consultant to the project,
- Reynold Murray, National Focal Point, and
- Edmund Jackson, Environment Division, Ministry of Health and the Environment.

Also participating were:

- William Hinds, UNCED, University of the West Indies, Barbados,
- Steve Pollinais, Government of Trinidad and Tobago, and
- Emmanuel Iwusha, University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

Seven or eight other workshop participants from various ministries joined the technical workshop through all or part of the two days.

The technical workshop provided an overview of the IPCC methodology in greater detail than was presented in the general session. Handouts and a computer demonstration of the IPCC worksheets were provided during the first part of the morning. With that background, energy use statistics for 1997 for St. Vincent & the Grenadines and for Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) were examined and discussed. Participants then broke into three work groups – two groups working with energy statistics for SVG and one group (the non-SVG participants) working with energy statistics for T&T. Each of the groups compiled energy use and emissions tables using the Reference Approach to compiling GHG Inventories.

On Wednesday morning, energy use and emissions worksheets were completed using the Reference Approach. Then sectoral tables were examined again with examples for the cement and food and beverage from the industrial sector; land use change and biomass assessment from the forestry sector; grazing animals and crop production from the agricultural sector, and waste water and solid waste management from the waste sector. In the afternoon, participants entered the energy use information onto spreadsheet programs to calculate CO₂ emissions.

Field Work – 5–6 November, Thursday/Friday

On Thursday morning, the Focal Point, domestic consultants, and international consultant met to confirm the interview schedule for the remainder of the week and to chart out the remainder of interview process. Mr. Baisden and I met with staff of the Census Bureau to request detailed industrial information used in compiled

Gross Domestic Product. A letter was prepared to address issues of confidentiality that was approved. Interviews were conducted with:

- St. Vincent Electricity Services (VINLEC),
- Texaco Oil Company, and
- Shell Oil Company.

VINLEC is the sole source supplier of the electricity for SVG including all energy used for industrial purposes with the exception of back-up generators. Information is available for the target years of 1990, 1994, and 1997 by sector.* Texaco and Shell are the only importers of petroleum products; no domestic production exists. Information is available on energy use by fuel type for the target years and sectoral assignments can be made.

On Friday, interviews were conducted with St. Vincent Brewing, Ltd. and East Caribbean Metals/Plastics to collect energy use information, to examine production technology, and to discuss energy conservation alternatives. St. Vincent Brewing Company produces Hairoun Beer, the only beer produced on St. Vincent, and soft drinks. The company has a modern facility and, in part due to high energy prices on SVG, is one of the most energy efficient breweries in the Caribbean. East Caribbean Metal Works is a steel fabrication plant producing miscellaneous steel products including fencing, nails, and corrugated roofing. The plant also fabricates PVC materials.

The last interview of the day was with Mr. Stewart, the owner and operator of a large banana plantation. The farm is one of the better managed operations on St. Vincent but is somewhat typical of medium to large scale operations. Chemical fertilizers are applied at the recommended levels and plant residue is allowed to decay in the fields as a fertilizer supplement; no crop residue is burned.

Following the initial interviews, a staff meeting was held to assess information availability. The information appears to be adequate to compile the GHG inventory although some effort and creativity will be required for areas such as fuel bunkering and land use change. The domestic consultants, Mssrs. Baisden and Bishop appear competent to carry out the information gathering process. Mr. Jackson is capable of assisting with data input as he seems to understand spreadsheets. We will continue to communicate during the interview and data entry process.

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- IPCC Guidelines have asked for data for the years 1990 and/or 1994. Because St. Vincent and the Grenadines are a pilot project for the region, the years 1990, 1994, and 1997 (the most recent year available) are used here.

James B. London
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