

A light blue world map is centered in the background of the slide, showing the continents of North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. The map is semi-transparent and serves as a backdrop for the text.

UNECE as a key player in promoting Coal Mine Methane (CMM)

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Methane**

What is Coal Mine Methane (CMM)?

CMM is the methane released from coal seams during mining. Once emitted to the atmosphere, it becomes a potent greenhouse gas.

Many Uses

Natural Gas Pipeline/
Town Gas



Internal Combustion
Engines



Manufacturing -
Eg., Methanol, DME,
Desalination (shown here)



CNG/LNG



Mine Ventilation Air



Microturbines

Heating

Many Benefits

- Improved mine safety and productivity
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Productive use of an otherwise wasted energy resource
- Additional revenue centre
- Skilled job creation
- Positive corporate image

UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on CMM

Programme of Work:

- Mine Safety
- Status of CMM Project Acceptance and Performance on Carbon Markets
- Downstream CMM Utilisation
- Project Finance
- Cooperation
- New mandate 2009-2010

Mine Safety

- Highest priority among Ad Hoc Group of Experts
- Reviewing legal/regulatory frameworks to promote sound degasification practices and making link between upstream and downstream improvements
- Cooperative Project on Methane Capture and Use to Improve Mine Safety: best practice guidance on methane control (UNECE-M2M-WCI)

CMM Use

- Finalized Glossary of Coal Mine Methane Terms and Definitions (ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2008/3) – working paper
- Undertaking to draft a technical guidance to best practices for methane drainage and utilization and publish by early 2010 (UNECE-M2M-WCI)
- Workshops/Conferences
 - Poland - February 2008
 - Russia – June 2008
 - Beijing, China – December 2008 →

A faint world map is visible in the background of the slide, rendered in a light blue color that matches the overall theme.

**First meeting of the Drafting Group of Technical
Experts for a Cooperative Project on Methane
Capture and use to Improve Mine Safety
(UNECE-US EPA-WCI)
*Beijing, China, 3 December 2008***

**8th International Symposium on CBM/CMM and
Carbon Trading in China
&
International Workshop on Mine Methane
Emission Reduction in China
*Beijing, China 4-5 December, 2008***

China Coal Information Institute

*Sponsored by: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and State Administration of
Coal Mine Safety, P.R. China*

Project Finance

Extra-budgetary project to facilitate financing of CMM projects in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

- Project brought several useful insights into market barriers
- Future activities may best focus on:
 - Improved gas drainage and safe management
 - First step is understanding what is the technical potential for safe gas drainage and transportation
 - Then identify and work with a few mines to improve drainage/transportation
 - Showcase potential: requires mines open to this
 - Project execution: improve project delivery. This is tough:
 - First step is recognizing projects have many technological risks
 - Second, identify the main risks and outline approaches to minimize these
 - Ideally, showcase effective implementation at a few different projects
 - Market identification: while potential with big operators is known, discover “second tier”. This is tough:
 - Has to be information and contacts at the company/mine level, not country-level
 - “Second tier” includes technical options, most prominent are technologies to harness ventilation air methane
 - Has to include lots of time working with mine-level experts to identify and develop potential
 - Project finance:
 - All of the above actions would help to identify projects that may be developed for finance facilitated by UNECE

US-EPA grant, completed September 2008

Project Finance

Stakeholders View of UNECE Involvement

- Investors/Financial community - positive
 - Projects vetted by credible organization
 - Neutral role in market stimulation
 - UN endorsement is positive for public relations
- Mining companies/project sponsors – future beneficiaries
 - Public nature of cooperation difficult
 - Large companies do not believe they need assistance
 - Want more engineering support for methane degasification to enhance safety – UNECE currently does not have this capacity
 - Do see benefit of positive public image associated with UN
- Governments - generally positive
 - Very supportive of training
 - See UN as another vehicle for supporting mine safety and environmental protection

Cooperation



- Environment for Europe
- Methane to Markets Partnership
- UNDP/UNIDO
- ILO
 - Mine safety



Thank You!

Mr. Jacek Skiba, Vice-Chair

Ms. Carlotta Segre, Secretary

UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane

www.unece.org/energy/se/cmm.html