

Scoping the first multi-sector study of methane emissions on the African continent.



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DONOR : European Union Delegation to Nigeria	BENEFITTING COUNTRIES OR REGIONS: Nigeria	SECTOR : Multisector	Subsector, if applicable:
STATUS : Project initiation	TIMELINE: Scoping st	TIMELINE: Scoping started 2024	

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IMEO SCIENCE OBJECTIVE: -> Advance science studies in support of countries targeting methane mitigation.

KEY FINDINGS

The objective of the scoping study is to determine the availability of methane data, establish a research consortium, and develop a feasibility study and quantification plan for a full two-year Baseline Study in Nigeria. To proceed to the full Baseline Study, the proposal must be approved by IMEO's Scientific Oversight Committee. The potential Nigeria Baseline Study would be the first multisector (oil and gas, waste and agriculture) scientific study of anthropogenic methane emission on the African continent, and one of the first in the world.

RATIONALE

Nigeria, like many countries, faces challenges in setting effective methane reduction targets and tracking progress due to a lack of measurement-based emissions data across sectors. As a Global Methane Pledge Champion, the country has demonstrated its leadership in methane reduction efforts, and is in great need of improved data to support this.





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SIGNIFICANCE FOR DECISIONMAKERS

For Policymakers:

Nigerian government and policy stakeholders will benefit from the potential Baseline Study through:

1. Improved understanding of methane emissions at both national and sectoral levels;

2. Enhanced ability to set realistic targets and track progress toward emission reductions;

3. Identification of priority areas for mitigation efforts;

4. Support for national reporting to the UNFCCC with more comprehensive and contextualized data.



STUDY APPROACH/ACTIVITIES

The scoping study will include a synthesis of the current status of methane emission estimates from Nigeria, including data quality metrics, gaps and recommendations for improvement. A workshop will be held in Nigeria to bring together potential project partners from academia, industry, and government. Finally, a feasibility study and quantification plan will be developed, detailing the Baseline study needs, required actions and accompanying logistical, legal and other requirements and the risks.



CATALYZING ACTION

In October 2024 IMEO has facilitated an in-country training workshop on oil and gas methane to engage key stakeholders across government, industry and civil society. This programming will build knowledge and capacity needed to leverage methane data for mitigation efforts.

OTHER SUPPORTERS/STAKEHOLDERS

Principal Investigator: Queen Mary University of London, UK

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The UN Environment Programme's International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) exists to provide open, reliable, and actionable data to the individuals with the agency to reduce methane emissions. IMEO does this by integrating and reconciling data across sources, including its global methane science studies. IMEO supports measurement and research studies around the world to close the knowledge gap on methane emissions and provide policy-relevant insights to decisionmakers.

