

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Networked Environmental Information System for Global Emissions Inventories (NEISGEI)

Expected date of initiation: 2003

Expected date of completion: ongoing

Partners Involved:

Governments: United States (U.S. EPA, NSF, and others)

Intergovernmental organizations: North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation

Major groups:

Other: IGBP/IGAC's Global Emissions Inventory Activity

Leading Partner: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

NEISGEI consists of 1) a globally distributed database of air pollutant emissions information in well documented formats at the local, regional, national, and global scales; 2) computer software that will enable users to retrieve, compile, and analyze relevant emissions information from the globally distributed database using the World Wide Web; and 3) a global network of air emissions experts in government, industry, and academia.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

NEISGEI will support the objectives of Agenda 21 and the Millennium Declaration by helping to improve the information basis for the management of urban air quality, transboundary flows of air pollutants, and the linkages between air pollution and climate change.

Expected results:

Please provide a brief description:

NEISGEI will evolve incrementally, beginning with a variety of pilot projects following a similar philosophy. The pilot projects will focus mainly on sharing existing datasets. Over time, the

focus will move to improving data quality and comparability and providing the methodologies for generating new datasets where none exist today.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

Specific pilot projects are still being identified. One potential application is the development of a North American database of air pollutant emissions being developed under the Commission on Environmental Cooperation. This effort has set a target of completing the database for the electricity sector by the end of 2004.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

NEISGEI activities will be coordinated through periodic workshops supplemented by electronic communication and websites. It is expected that communication between projects will be facilitated by a support center funded by the leading partner.

Arrangements for funding

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

Funding for each project contributing to the development of NEISGEI is expected to have separate funding. Funding for initial pilot projects is currently being pursued through U.S. government agencies and the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation. As contributing projects are identified, the lead partners will work with contributing partners to identify appropriate sources of funds.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

While NEISGEI will begin by focusing on linking existing emissions databases, future activities will include the development of tools to aid in the development of emissions databases for areas in which data is unavailable. Thus, we hope that NEISGEI will become an important tool for air quality managers in developing countries, allowing them to take advantage of the collective global expertise on emissions estimation and apply relevant information to their local needs.

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

All software and datasets developed in NEISGEI activities will be made publicly available and periodic workshops will be held to introduce new users to the available tools and information.

Outreach activities to potential users in developing countries will begin as relevant capabilities are developed in the system.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

Please provide a brief description:

NEISGEI is being developed in conjunction with the emissions inventory efforts of the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation, involving the governments of Canada, Mexico, and the United States. We are seeking other partners throughout the world.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:

(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

We expect progress in developing the NEISGEI system to be tracked on a central World Wide Web site funded by the leading partners.

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available): <http://capita.wustl.edu/neisgei/>

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