

Publications

Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories

- IPCC Guidelines Top Page
- [Summary of the revisions](#)
- [Vol.1 Reporting Instructions](#)
- [Vol.2 Workbook](#)
 - [French version](#)
 - [Russian version](#)
 - [Spanish version](#)
- [Vol.3 Reference Manual](#)
- [Software for the Workbook](#)

The *IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* are approved internationally and developed through an international process which has included:

- wide dissemination of drafts and collection of comments from national experts;
- testing of methods through development of preliminary inventories;
- country studies which ensure that methods are tested in a wide variety of national contexts;
- technical and regional workshops held in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Central Europe and Western Europe;
- informal expert groups convened to recommend improvements on specific aspects of the methodology.

The *IPCC Guidelines* were first accepted in 1994 and published in 1995. UNFCCC COP3 held in 1997 in Kyoto reaffirmed that the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* should be used as "methodologies for estimating anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases" in calculation of legally-binding targets during the first commitment period.

The *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines* contain three volumes, each of which provides assistance to the analyst in the preparation of national GHG inventories. The Workbook (Volume 2) is also available in [French](#), [Spanish](#) and [Russian](#). [Click here](#) for a summary of the changes between the *1995 Guidelines* and the *Revised 1996 Guidelines*.

The series consists of three volumes:



[The Reporting Instructions \(Volume 1\)](#) provides step-by-step directions for assembling, documenting and transmitting completed national inventory data consistently, regardless of the method used to produce the estimates. These instructions are intended for all users of the *IPCC Guidelines* and provide the primary means of ensuring that all reports are consistent and comparable.



[The Workbook \(Volume 2\)](#) contains suggestions about planning and getting started on a national inventory for participants who do not have a national inventory available already and are not experienced in producing such inventories. It also contains step-by-step instructions for calculating emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄), as well as some other trace gases, from six major emission source categories. It is intended to help experts in as many countries as possible to start developing inventories.



[The Reference Manual \(Volume 3\)](#) provides a compendium of information on methods for estimation of emissions for a broader range of greenhouse gases and a complete list of source types for each. It summarises a range of possible methods for many source types. It also provides summaries of the scientific basis for the inventory methods recommended and gives extensive references to the technical literature.



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IPCC honoured with the
2007 Nobel Peace Prize

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