

Planned improvements in the EU GHG inventory

- LULUCF and KP-LULUCF chapters -

By R. Abad Viñas, G. Grassi, T. Priwitzer.
H03 Unit –JRC (<http://forest.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>)
JRC technical workshop 2015 on LULUCF reporting.
Arona (NO), Italy
May 2015.



- 1.- Recommendations from the Draft EU ARR 2014.**
- 2.- The use of the notation keys for the CP2.**
- 3.- Outline of the KP-LULUCF chapter for the CP2.**

Overall assessment of the EU GHG inventory on LULUCF:

Completeness

- **LULUCF:** Not Complete (individual MS reported NE for several mandatory categories in several pools).
- **KP-LULUCF:** Complete (individual MS reported NE for several non-mandatory categories in several pools).

Transparency on recalculations: Sufficiently transparent.

Time series consistency: Sufficiently consistent.

QA/QC procedures: Sufficient.

Transparency: Not sufficiently transparent.

Specific recommendations



LULUCF chapter

10 recommendations

Category	Recommendation	Reiteration
General	Work with MS with a view to reporting mandatory pools and categories which are currently not estimated in order to increase the completeness of the inventory.	Yes
FLrFL	Improve the transparency in the NIR, in particular, to discuss in detail the main drivers leading to inter-annual variations , in particular for the most recent years	Yes
LcFL	Improve the transparency of reporting, including the provision of updated information from MS and internal QA/QC checks in order to ensure that the aggregated reporting is complete and consistent among MS.	Yes
CLrCL	Provide justifications for the overall trend on the area of cropland remaining cropland, the pools dead organic matter and soil organic carbon and living biomass.	No
LcCL	Provide transparent explanations in the annual submission indicating the key drivers for the changes in the trend and recalculations .	No
	Work with the MS to improve the completeness of their reporting and use higher-tier methods in order to enhance accuracy.	Yes
GLrGL	Continue progress efforts with Italy (main contributor to the inter-annual change) on the reporting of carbon stock change in living biomass and document the reasons for inter-annual variations in the NIR.	No
	Provide general information about the key drivers that explain the variations in each MS when significantly affecting the EU aggregate estimates	No
LcOL	Include transparent explanations in the NIR for the inter-annual variations and also work with the member States to improve the consistency of their reporting	Yes
B. burning	Include the reasons for the use of the notation key "NE" when applicable and make efforts to increase the completeness of reporting.	No



KP- LULUCF chapter

5 recommendations

Category	Recommendation	Reiteration
General	Work with and support MS to improve consistency in the use of notation keys and further improve the transparency of its future submissions.	No
AR	Improve its QA/QC procedures to ensure that identified reporting errors do not occur. (partly related to the use of the notation key)	No
D	Encourage Parties to use the appropriate notation keys and provide a synthesis of the explanations and justifications provided by member States in the NIR.	No
	Improve further the consistent use of notation keys and transparency of their use.	No
FM	Work with the MS to ensure future reporting on forest management is complete, transparent and does not lead to underestimation of emissions or overestimation of removals.	Yes



Some specific examples:

1. Table 5(KP-I) A.1.3: AR (Units of land otherwise subject to elected activities under Article 3.4 (information item)). Different NK (**NE/NO/NA**) under apparently same circumstances.
2. Table 5(KP-II)5: wildfires on areas of AR “harvested” reported as NE but no occurrence of such areas in table 5(KP-I)A.1.2.
3. Organic soils areas reported as NO/NA and carbon pool reported as NO/NA/NE.
4. NK included without information (mainly for IE and NE)



UNFCCC reporting guidelines CP1

“**NO**” (not occurring) for **activities or processes** in a particular source or sink category that **do not occur** within a country.

“**NE**” (not estimated) for existing emissions by **sources** and removals by **sinks** of GHG which have **not been estimated** *

“**NA**” (not applicable) for activities in a given source/sink category that **do not result in emissions or removals** of a specific gas.

“**IE**” (included elsewhere) for emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases estimated but included elsewhere in the inventory instead of the expected source/sink category.

* Even if emissions are considered to negligible, Parties should either report the emission estimate if calculated or use the notation key “NE”.

UNFCCC reporting guidelines CP2

“**NO**” (not occurring) for **categories or processes**, including recovery, under a particular source or sink category that **do not occur** within an Annex I Party country.

“**NE**” (not estimated) for AD and/or emissions by **sources** and removals by **sinks** of GHGs which have **not been estimated** but for which a corresponding activity may occur within a Party*. (**New concept of insignificant**)

“**NA**” (not applicable) for activities under a given source/sink category that **do occur** within the Party but **do not result in emissions or removals** of a specific gas.

“**IE**” (included elsewhere) for emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs estimated but included elsewhere in the inventory instead of under the expected source/sink category.

*The notation key “NE” could also be used when an activity occurs in the Party but the 2006 IPCC Guidelines do not provide methodologies to estimate the emissions/removals

Concept of insignificant

Furthermore, a Party may consider that a **disproportionate amount of effort** would be required to collect data for a gas from a specific category that **would be insignificant in terms of the overall level and trend** in national emissions and in such cases **use the notation key “NE”**. The Party should in the NIR **provide justifications** for exclusion in terms of the likely level of emissions. An emission **should only be considered insignificant if the likely level of emissions is below 0.05 per cent of the national total GHG emissions** (total GHG emissions without LULUCF for the latest reported inventory year) **and does not exceed 500 kt CO₂ eq. The total national aggregate of estimated emissions for all gases and categories considered insignificant shall remain below 0.1 per cent of the national total GHG emissions**. Parties should use approximated AD and default IPCC EFs to derive a likely level of emissions for the respective category. **Once emissions from a specific category have been reported in a previous submission, emissions from this specific category shall be reported in subsequent GHG inventory submissions;**

If demonstrated to be insignificant, use the notation key **NE**

Notation keys



"NO" : for C pools, GHG sources or AD (e.g. no organic soil areas, pools assumed in balance under Tier 1 or demonstrated to be not a source)

"NE" : pools not estimated, considered to be insignificant, or IPCC Guidelines do not provide methodologies.

"NA" : to be used for non elected activities (Art.3.4) and in CRF table 4.1 for specific land use transitions (LUM) when approach 1 is used.

"IE" : when emissions/removals were included elsewhere.

"R" (reported) : to be used in the KP table NIR-1 for carbon pools reported in tables 4(KP-1)X

"NR" (not reported) : to be used in the KP table NIR-1 for carbon pools not reported in tables 4(KP-1)X

"IO" (instantaneous oxidation) : to be used in KP table NIR-1 for carbon stock changes in harvest wood products (HWP) and 4(KP-1)X when appropriated.

"C" (confidential) : for emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs of which the reporting could lead to the disclosure of confidential information

Irrespective on the possible different interpretation of NK, it essential providing clear explanations in text comments to specific cells, in the documentation box and/or the NIR

How to structure the LULUCF information in the NIR?

- **Chapter 6 (LULUCF):** Decision 24/CP.19 (Revision of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories for Parties included in Annex I to the Convention) includes an outline of the LULUCF chapter which basically cover the same information as in the CP1.

http://www.informea.org/uploads/decisions/unfccc/_13317_53ecca14cca8e_10a03-24e.pdf

- **Chapter 11 (KP-LULUCF) :** No annotated outline is included in the Decision 24/CP.19

Proposed draft for the NIR outline for chapter 11 on KP-LULUCF
based on the structure of the previous NIR KP-LULUCF chapter, but taking into account the new LULUCF provisions for CP2.



(in red are the information related to the new LULUCF provisions)

11.1 General information

11.1.1 Definition of forest and any other criteria

(This include also definition of natural and planted forests)

11.1.2 Elected activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol

11.1.3 Description of how the definitions of each activity under Article 3.3 and each mandatory and elected activity under Article 3.4 have been implemented and applied consistently over time

11.1.4 Description of precedence conditions and/or hierarchy among Article 3.4 activities, and how they have been consistently applied in determining how land was classified.

11.2 Land-related information

11.2.1 Spatial assessment unit used for determining the area of the units of land under Article 3.3

11.2.2 Methodology used to develop the land transition matrix

11.2.3 Maps and/or database to identify the geographical locations, and the system of identification codes for the geographical locations

11.3 Activity-specific information

11.3.1 Methods for carbon stock change and GHG emission and removal estimates

11.3.1.1 Description of the methodologies and the underlying assumptions used

11.3.1.2 Justification when omitting any carbon pool or GHG emissions/removals from activities under Article 3.3 and elected and mandatory activities under Article 3.4

11.3.1.3 Information on whether or not indirect and natural GHG emissions and removals have been factored out

11.3.1.4 Changes in data and methods since the previous submission (recalculations)

11.3.1.5 Uncertainty estimates

11.3.1.6 Information on other methodological issues

11.3.1.7 The year of the onset of an activity, if after 2013



11.4 Article 3.3

11.4.1 Information that demonstrates that activities under Article 3.3 began on or after 1 January 1990 and before 31 December 2012 and are direct human-induced

11.4.2 Information on how harvesting or forest disturbance that is followed by the re-establishment of forest is distinguished from deforestation

11.4.3 Information on the size and geographical location of forest areas that have lost forest cover but which are not yet classified as deforested

11.4.4 Information related to the natural disturbances provision under article 3.3

(including Background level of emissions, and its margin, and methods and data for calculating it; information on the exclusion of emissions, and subsequent removals, from the accounting; information required in para 2(f) of annex to decision 2/CMP.8, bullets (i) to (vi))

11.4.5 Information on Harvested Wood Products under article 3.3

(including information on whether AR HWP have been estimated separately from FM HWP and information demonstrating that HWP originating from Deforestation have been accounted for on the basis of instantaneous oxidation)

11.5 Article 3.4

11.5.1 Information that demonstrates that activities under Article 3.4 have occurred since 1 January 1990 and are human-induced

11.5.2 Information relating to Forest Management

11.5.2.1 Conversion of natural forest to planted forest

(information on how emissions arising from conversion of natural forests to plantation have been accounted for)

11.5.2.2 Forest Management Reference Level (FMRL)

(including how methodological consistency is ensured and how recommendations received in the technical assessment have been addressed)



11.5.2.3 Technical Corrections of FMRL

(including the rationale of technical correction, the method used, the technical corrections associated with recalculations of the HWP contribution and of the background level of emissions associated with natural disturbances, if any)

11.5.2.4 Information related to the natural disturbances provision under article 3.4

(including Background level of emissions, and its margin, and methods and data for calculating it; information on the exclusion of emissions, and subsequent removals, from the accounting; information required in para 2(f) of annex to decision 2/CMP.8, bullets (i) to (vi))

11.5.2.5 Information on Harvested Wood Products under article 3.4

(including methods and data applied for estimating net C stock changes from HWP, and relevant information required in para 2(g) of annex to decision 2/CMP.8, bullets (i) to (vii))

11.5.3 Information relating to Cropland Management, Grazing Land Management and Revegetation, **Wetland Drainage and Rewetting** if elected, for the base year

11.6 Other information

11.6.1 Key category analysis for Article 3.3 activities, forest management and any elected activities under Article 3.4

11.7 Information relating to Article 6

Thank you for your attention