

Observations on the current status of GHG MRV?

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What we do...



1. Community building

- Networking
- Ethical norms/codes



**Greenhouse Gas
Experts Network**

GHGMI Member Code of Conduct
(Version 1, March 2009)

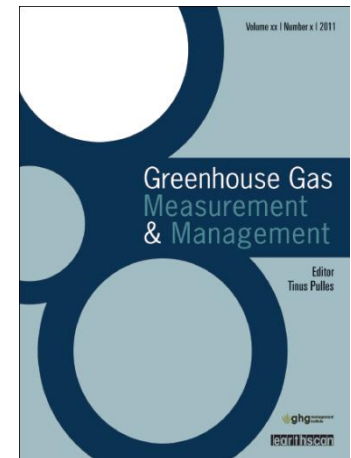
2. Education & training

- Global online curriculum



3. Research

- Peer-reviewed journal
- Textbooks



4. Professional certification

- Institutions & infrastructure



My talk...



1. A little on how I think about GHG MRV
and
2. Some observations and questions about
the current state of GHG MRV

GHG MRV infrastructure



- Scientific knowledge/technologies
- Legal/regulatory
- Information management and decision support systems
- Technical & management standards (rules, codes)
- Human resources and educational systems

Data quality characteristics?



- Not a linear scale...
 - Point estimates: combination of *accounting* and *science*
 - Uncertainty in trend or change relative to baseline (not absolute total)
 - Robustness of metrics to manipulation and gaming
 - Ease of verification for compliance
 - Clarity of attribution
 - Fairness (or perceived fairness)
 - Designed conservativeness (bias)

Data applications



- What are we using data for?
 - Scientific inquiry
 - Marketing & PR
 - Voluntary programs & consumer education
 - Regulatory compliance & trading

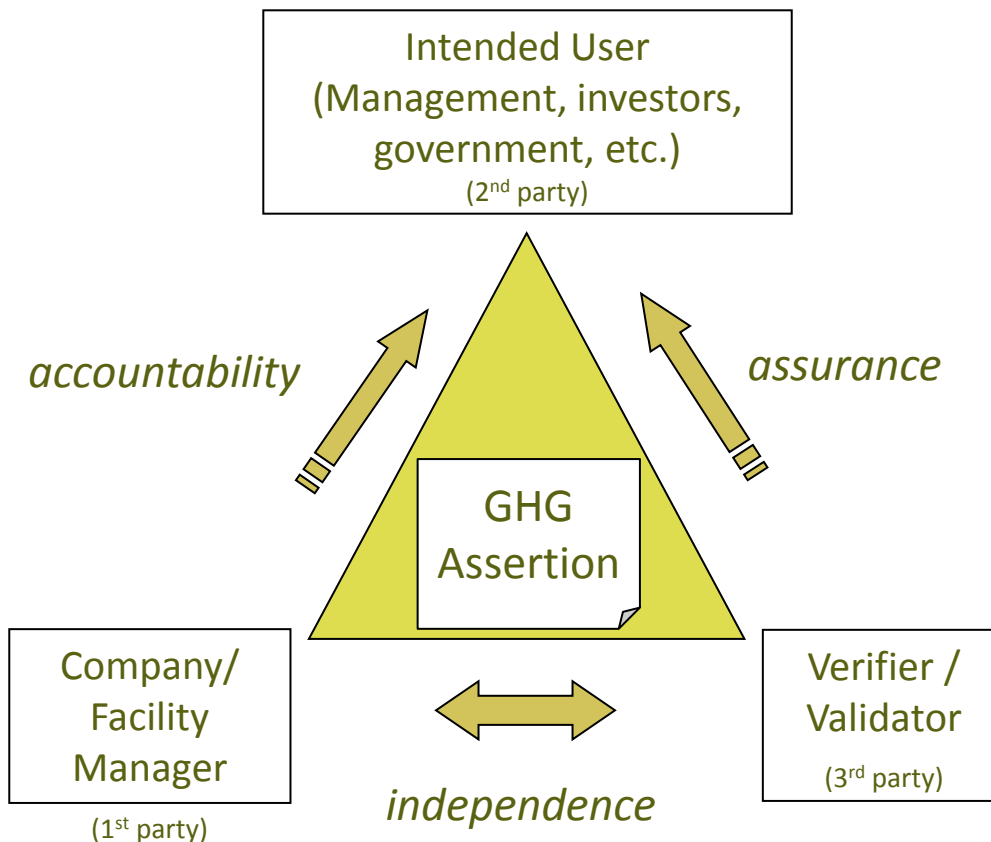
Assigning accountability for a global public good



GHG accounting frameworks

1. Global
2. National
3. Sub-national (province, state, municipality)
4. Sectoral/program/policy (NAMAs, REDD)
5. Entity (organization, company, or individual)
6. Product/Supply chain/Technology (life-cycle)
7. Facility/Installation
8. Project/Activity

More complex relationships



1st (Reporter/Seller)

2nd (Buyer/User)

3rd (Auditor)

GHG program

Accrediting body

Public (watchdog)

Professional community

Comments:

National level



- What is the future of national GHG inventories in a world without a global treaty framework?
 - National reporting and review not currently scalable...MRV system lacking capacity and resources even ahead of non-Annex I reporting
- Do we need an IPCC guidelines for NAMAs and sectoral approaches?

Comments:

Corporate level



- Do we really need MRV at the corporate level?
- What is it for?
 - Where does it fit in the my data quality framework?
 - Are we investing in the best form of GHG MRV?

Comments:

Supply-chain/product level



- Do we really expect most products to have a GHG label on them in the future?
 - Why has this not happened with other environmental pollutants already?
- Can an LCA really produce comparative or regulatory quality data across products?

Comments:

Project level



- Overall carbon markets are now shrinking
- Voluntary carbon markets now larger than compliance markets?
- Push for standardized approaches to scale and increase credibility of offsets
 - Who will pay for research, development, governance and maintenance? Will bottom up work?
 - Additionality...we refuse to specify a cause (intervention)

Comments:

Verification



- Do we have the relationship between third-party verifiers, accreditation bodies, and GHG program administrators/ regulators correct?
 - Who should be working for or with who?
 - Can GHG programs completely outsource data quality assurance?
- Individual professionalization...
 - where the field needs to go to assure competency