Learning from Emissions and Policy Tracking Systems in China, Germany, Italy, and the United States

Alexander Vasa, Valerio Micale, Julia Zuckerman
Climate Policy Initiative
12 March 2013
About Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) is a global policy effectiveness analysis and advisory organization.

Our mission is to assess, diagnose, and support nations’ efforts to achieve low-carbon growth.

CPI’s headquarters are in San Francisco, and we also have operations in Europe, the Americas, and Asia.
Global findings

1. Defining goals and measuring progress is a critical component of policy effectiveness.

2. Countries have a wide range of emissions and policy tracking systems that are helping them achieve their mitigation goals.

3. International processes can and do support effective domestic efforts.

4. Tracking climate policies in a rigorous, comparable way is a priority across the countries in our study. National systems to track emissions are currently more effective than systems to track mitigation actions.
Agenda

Definitions
Scope of our study
Country findings
Global findings
Q&A
Measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems are the institutions and processes countries use to:

- Measure GHG emissions and the impact of mitigation actions
- Report the results
- Verify the accuracy of reported information

These processes help nations achieve their goals by:

- Tracking achievement of domestic policy targets
- Informing future policymaking
- Informing domestic and international stakeholders
CPI’s Work on MRV

What we studied:
National systems for tracking emissions and mitigation actions in China, Germany, Italy, and the United States

Our approach:
Describe MRV systems and their institutional and policy context
Evaluate how well systems are performing, identify good practices and gaps based on six criteria:
Transparency, Comparability, Reliability, Usefulness, Timeliness, Completeness
Identify emerging needs for MRV, assess how well countries are positioned to meet emerging needs
Germany: Institutional and policy context

Tracking emissions:
- Annual GHG inventory
- Annual facility-level reporting for EU ETS participants to EU registry

Tracking mitigation actions:
- National Communication to UNFCCC
- Biennial EU Monitoring Mechanism reporting
- Energy Concept/Energy Transition Monitoring
- Annual reporting on renewable energy
- Individual policy tracking systems (e.g. Feed-in-tariff)
Germany: Key findings

GHG emissions inventory is very comprehensive, with strong institutional expertise
Individual policy tracking is strong, especially for renewable energy

Priorities:
Developing relevant indicators for the monitoring of the Energy Transition
Adapting and updating energy statistical system
Analysing of economic and environmental impacts, and cost-effectiveness of policy packages
Expanding methodology for evaluating energy efficiency programs
Italy: Institutional and policy context

Tracking emissions:
- Annual GHG inventory
- Facility-level reporting for EU ETS registry

Tracking mitigation actions:
- National Communication to UNFCCC
- Biennial EU Monitoring Mechanism reporting
- Annual reporting on energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Individual policy tracking systems
Italy: Key findings

GHG emissions inventory is very comprehensive, with strong institutional expertise.

Italy has begun to measure and report on its energy efficiency and renewable energy policies in a more integrated, consistent way.

Priorities:

Expanding methodology for evaluating energy efficiency programs and establishing a catalogue of low-carbon technologies.

Including information on economic impacts; and extending cost-effectiveness analysis.
China: Institutional and policy context

Tracking emissions:
- Two GHG inventories: 1994, 2005
- Post-2014, biennial update reports with GHG data

Tracking mitigation actions:
- National Communications to UNFCCC
- Statistics Indicators, Monitoring, and Examination (SME) system for energy statistics
- Progress reports: China’s Policies and Actions for Addressing Climate Change
China: Key findings

Progress reports give a regular update across a broad range of policies and actions
Lack of transparency around methods
Focus on energy data

Priorities:
More frequent, timely emissions reporting
Strengthening capacity at the provincial/local level
Improving transparency and reliability of data
United States: Institutional and policy context

Tracking emissions:
- Annual GHG inventory
- Energy GHG reporting
- Facility-Level Information on GHG Tool (FLIGHT)

Tracking mitigation actions:
- National Communication to UNFCCC (U.S. Climate Action Report)
- Agency-level program evaluation and reporting
- General government oversight mechanisms

ghgdata.epa.gov
United States: Key findings

Very strong GHG inventory and other emissions tracking capabilities

Lack of national climate policy architecture is reflected in lack of regular, consistent reporting on policies and their impact

Priorities:

Coordinating national climate reporting across diverse policy portfolio

More regular post-implementation assessment of policy impact and cost-effectiveness

Connecting state and national information
Global findings

1. **Defining goals and measuring progress** is a critical component of policy effectiveness.

2. Countries have a **wide range of emissions and policy tracking systems** that are helping them achieve their mitigation goals.

3. **International processes** can and do support effective domestic efforts.

4. **Tracking climate policies in a rigorous, comparable way** is a priority across the countries in our study. National systems to track emissions are currently more effective than systems to track mitigation actions.
Q & A

[Enter a question for staff]
Thank you!

Reports and fact sheet online:

Contact us:
julia.zuckerman@cpisf.org
alexander.vasa@cpiberlin.org
valerio.micale@cpIVENICE.org
Additional slides
Good practices

Criteria for effective emissions and policy tracking systems:

- Transparency
- Comparability
- Reliability
- Usefulness
- Timeliness
- Completeness

International resources on good practices:

- International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV
  [http://mitigationpartnership.net/](http://mitigationpartnership.net/)

- Greenhouse Gas Protocol:
  Policies and Actions Standard, Mitigation Goals Standard