

UNEP's International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO): Bringing together policy-relevant methane emissions data

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The International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) was launched in 2021 at the G20 summit by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). UNEP's IMEO exists to provide open, reliable, public, policy-relevant data to facilitate actions to reduce methane emissions. UNEP, through IMEO, aims to fill gaps in knowledge and refine global understanding of the location and magnitude of methane emissions across different anthropogenic sectors. As countries and industry establish ambitious mitigation targets, accurate and measurement-based emission estimates are critical to accelerate emission reductions and assess progress by tracking changes in emissions over time. UNEP's IMEO is collecting and integrating diverse methane emissions data streams, including from satellites, science studies and measurement-based industry reporting to establish a global, centralized public record of empirically verified methane emissions. In this presentation, we will provide insights from measurement campaigns across the world with a focus upon coal mine methane studies. Preliminary results will be presented from the evaluation of methane emissions from underground coal mining in Poland and surface coal mining in Australia.