

CHAPTER 7

GOOD PRACTICE AND IMPLICATIONS FOR REPORTING

Contents

| | | | |
|----|-------|--|------|
| 5 | 7 | Good Practice Guidance and Implications for Reporting..... | 7.3 |
| 6 | 7.1 | Introduction..... | 7.3 |
| 7 | 7.2 | Reporting and documentation | 7.3 |
| 8 | 7.2.1 | Changes to reporting categories in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines | 7.3 |
| 9 | 7.2.2 | Mapping the changes to categories in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines..... | 7.6 |
| 10 | 7.2.3 | Documentation | 7.7 |
| 11 | 7.2.4 | Reporting tables | 7.8 |
| 12 | 7.2.5 | Worksheets..... | 7.8 |
| 13 | 7.3 | UnCertainties | 7.8 |
| 14 | 7.3.1 | Overview of Uncertainty Analysis | 7.8 |
| 15 | 7.3.2 | Methods for quantifying uncertainty | 7.9 |
| 16 | 7.4 | Impact on key categories..... | 7.13 |
| 17 | 7.4.1 | Overview of key category analysis | 7.13 |
| 18 | 7.4.2 | Key category analysis including the categories impacted by the Wetlands Supplement | 7.13 |
| 19 | 7.5 | Completeness | 7.17 |
| 20 | 7.6 | Time Series Consistency | 7.17 |
| 21 | 7.6.1 | Overview of time series issues | 7.17 |
| 22 | 7.6.2 | Methods for producing consistent time series | 7.18 |
| 23 | 7.7 | Quality Assurance and Quality Control | 7.19 |
| 24 | 7.7.1 | Overview of quality issues | 7.19 |
| 25 | 7.7.2 | Quality Assurance and Quality Control Methods..... | 7.19 |
| 26 | | Annex 7 Worksheets | 7.20 |
| 27 | | References..... | 7.21 |

First-order Draft

28

Figures

| | | | |
|----|------------|---|------|
| 29 | Figure 7.1 | Filling data gaps by multivariate statistical analysis and | |
| 30 | | recalculation of the time series of carbon in dead wood | |
| 31 | | in the Netherlands national greenhouse gas inventory..... | 7.18 |
| 32 | Figure 7.2 | Validation of the Forest DNDC model by comparison of modelled | |
| 33 | | against measured values of aboveground biomass in <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> in Australia (Miehle | |
| 34 | | et al. 2006). | 7.19 |
| 35 | Figure 7.3 | Validation of Ikonos satellite-derived land cover using an error matrix | |
| 36 | | comparing remote sensing-derived wetlands classes in Florida, USA against field observations | |
| 37 | | (Chadwick 2011)..... | 7.20 |

38

Tables

| | | | |
|----|-----------|---|------|
| 39 | Table 7.1 | Mapping between the categories and guidance in the <i>2006 IPCC Guidelines</i> | |
| 40 | | and the changes to those introduced by the <i>Wetlands Supplement</i> | 7.6 |
| 41 | Table 7.2 | Selection of wetlands with published uncertainties | 7.11 |
| 42 | Table 7.3 | Suggested aggregation level of analysis for Approach 1 for afofu and waste sectors..... | 7.14 |

43

Equations

| | | | |
|----|--------------|---|------|
| 44 | Equation 7.1 | Fractional uncertainty | 7.9 |
| 45 | Equation 7.2 | Combining uncertainties – addition and subtraction..... | 7.9 |
| 46 | Equation 7.3 | Combining uncertainties – multiplication..... | 7.9 |
| 47 | Equation 7.4 | Monte Carlo analysis – general form of a variable | 7.12 |
| 48 | | | |

7 GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE AND IMPLICATIONS FOR REPORTING

7.1 INTRODUCTION

2013 *Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands (Wetlands Supplement)* contains updated and new methodological guidance for greenhouse gas emissions and removals from drained and rewetted peatlands and organic soils as well as from specific human-induced changes in coastal, inland mineral soil, and constructed wetlands. The methodological guidance is given in chapters 2 to 6:

- Cross-cutting guidance on organic soils (supplemental guidance to *2006 IPCC Guidelines*, Chapter 2, on generic methods relating to organic soils on all land-use categories, especially Forest Land, Cropland and Grassland)
- Rewetting and restoration of peatlands and other organic soils
- Managed coastal wetlands
- Managed inland mineral soil wetlands
- Constructed wetlands—wastewater treatment systems.

The supplementary methodological guidance can introduce changes to the estimation and reporting of emission and removals according to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (hereafter *2006 IPCC Guidelines*) in all land-use categories (forest land, cropland, grassland, wetlands, settlements and other land) and of some sources of N₂O emissions from managed land in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Sector as well as to CH₄ and N₂O emissions related to wastewater treatment (constructed wetlands) in the Waste Sector. The changes come from more detailed methodologies to update the relevant emissions/removals as well as from methodologies for categories not covered by the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. The 2013 Wetlands supplement maintains the 2006 IPCC approaches in estimation of the emissions and removals in the AFOLU chapter. The general guidance in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* is also applicable.

This chapter gives good practice guidance relevant to the methodologies provided in Chapters 2 to 6 of this *Wetlands Supplement* by addressing the following crosscutting issues:

- reporting including mapping the supplementary guidance into the categories of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*
- uncertainty estimation
- key category analysis
- completeness
- time series consistency including guidance on estimation of historic emissions
- quality control and quality assurance.

This chapter summarises the good practice guidance on the above-listed and crosscutting issues given in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* but inventory experts need to refer to Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* for the detailed guidance on the specific crosscutting issues. The crosscutting issues specific to the categories and methodologies included in Chapters 2 to 6 are also addressed in those chapters. Here the category-specific information is summarized and complemented.

7.2 REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION

7.2.1 Changes to reporting categories in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines

Chapter 1 gives an overview of the purpose of the *Wetlands Supplement* as well as a description of its contents (Section 1.6.3) including the specific guidance provided and the linkage to the guidance in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. In Section 1.7 the estimation and reporting of emissions and removals from managed wetlands is addressed through a case study and Table 1.5 provides the extension of reporting categories in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*.

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93 In the sections below, the information presented in Chapter 1 is complemented with more details on the reporting
94 aspects of the *Wetlands Supplement*. The changes in the methodologies are addressed in the sections below based
95 on the Tier 1 methodologies in Chapters 2 to 6 to assess the need for changes to the reporting and background
96 information tables of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* (Volume 1, Chapter 8).

97 **7.2.1.1 CO₂, CH₄ AND N₂O EMISSIONS FROM ORGANIC SOILS**

98 The guidance in Chapter 2 for estimation of CO₂ emissions from organic soils implies changes for all land-use
99 categories compared to the guidance given in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* where the Tier 1 methodology was
100 simply a multiplication of areas of organic soils with appropriate emission factors by land-use category and
101 climate zone (boreal/temperate/tropical). For peat extraction also data on the nutrient status of the lands drained
102 impacted the emission factors. The supplementary methodology in Chapter 2 is using the same approach as in
103 the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* and no changes in the reporting tables or background tables in the *2006 IPCC*
104 *Guidelines* are need due to these changes. The detailed information on the activity data and emission factors as
105 well as other parameters used in the estimation should be provided in the national inventory report.

106 The *2006 IPCC Guidelines* did not provide a methodology for the estimation of CH₄ emissions associated with
107 drainage whereas Chapter 2 provides a methodology to address CH₄ emissions from ditches. Otherwise CH₄
108 emissions from drained organic soils are assumed negligible. The estimation of the CH₄ emissions from ditches
109 requires data on ditch width and ditch spacing. This information is in some cases needed by peatland type (raised
110 bog/fen or blanket bog). These emissions could be reported under the specific land-use categories where
111 drainage occurs or alternatively under Category 3C8 Other Non-CO₂ GHG emissions not included elsewhere.

112 The methodology for N₂O emissions from drainage is the same as in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* but the default
113 emissions factors are updated. In accordance with the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* the N₂O emissions from drainage
114 of organic soils should be reported as aggregated to N₂O emissions from managed soils and, if data available, the
115 emissions can be provided by land-use category. The N₂O emissions from drainage/management of histosols are
116 reported under Category 3C4 Direct N₂O Emissions from Managed Soils.

117 The AFOLU reporting tables in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* do not require changes due to the changes in
118 supplementary methodology provided for drainage of organic soils. The worksheets addressing the calculations
119 of all greenhouse gas emissions from drainage of organic soils will however be extended to take into account
120 changes in methodologies as well as changes in the subdivision at which the updated emission factors are
121 provided.

122 For easy assessment of all greenhouse gas emissions associated with drainage, it is *good practice* to provide a
123 summary of all greenhouse gas from drainage by land-use category in the national inventory report.

124 *Extended background tables and worksheets will be only included in the Second Order Draft.*

125 **7.2.1.2 REWETTING**

126 Guidance on CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O emissions from rewetting is not included in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. Chapter
127 3 of this *Wetlands Supplement* provides this guidance. Tier 1 methodologies for rewetted peatlands and organic
128 soils are given for CO₂ emissions/removals from soils including moss and grass vegetation and dead organic
129 matter and also for dissolved organic carbon pools. The guidance addressing CH₄ emissions cover emissions
130 from the rewetting as well as burning of biomass and peat on rewetted lands. N₂O emissions from rewetted soils
131 are considered insignificant and assumed to be zero under Tier 1. When rewetted lands contain perennial woody
132 vegetation, the guidance in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*, Sections 4.2, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6, should be used.

133 The reporting of rewetting would be dependent on the resultant land-use after the rewetting. The rewetted land
134 could remain in the same land-use category, e.g. when agricultural land with organic soil is rewetted to form a
135 grazing marsh. The rewetting could also involve a land-use change, e.g. when a forest with organic soil is
136 rewetted and the tree coverage declines below the threshold of the national forest definition. It is *good practice*
137 to report emissions/removals from rewetting in the relevant land-use categories.

138 Biomass and peat burning on rewetted lands would be reported in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* Table 3.4 AFOLU
139 Background Table Biomass Burning under relevant sub-categories under Category 3C1 Emissions from biomass
140 burning. The table could be modified so that it would be possible to specify the subcategory for which the
141 burning is reported. Also, emissions from burning soils (peat) should be reported under relevant sub-categories
142 under Category 3C1. The definition of Category 3C1 in Table 8.2 in Chapter 8, Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC*
143 *Guidelines* needs to be extended accordingly.

144 *Extended background tables and worksheets will be only included in the Second Order Draft.*

145 **7.2.1.3 COASTAL WETLANDS AND INLAND MINERAL SOIL** 146 **WETLANDS**

147 Guidance on CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O emissions from managed coastal wetlands and inland mineral soil wetlands is
148 not included in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. Chapters 4 and 5 of this *Wetlands Supplement* provide this guidance.

149 Guidance in Chapter 4 (Coastal wetlands) is provided in three discrete sections that cover Management Changes
150 in Coastal Wetlands (Section 4.3), Drainage of Coastal Wetlands (Section 4.4), Rewetting and Restoration of
151 Coastal Wetlands (Section 4.5), and as defined in Table 4.1. This chapter covers coastal wetlands that have been
152 cleared or degraded, restored, or created, and where resource extraction occurs with little or no apparent
153 degradation (e.g., selective logging of mangrove trees). New methods are presented for soil carbon Tier 1 level
154 estimation whereas methods for biomass, dead organic matter and non-CO₂ emissions follow those of previous
155 2006 IPCC guidance.

156 In Chapter 5 (Inland mineral soil wetlands), guidance and methodologies mainly follow the *2006 IPCC*
157 *Guidelines*, in particular the generic guidance given in Volume 4 Chapter 2. Chapter 5 provides additional
158 information to be used in applying the methods in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and should be read in conjunction
159 with Volume 4 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. Management changes that affect CO₂ and non-CO₂ (CH₄ and N₂O)
160 emissions in inland mineral soil wetlands include water level management as well as activities that impact
161 vegetation (such as grazing, vegetation removal, and cultivation, nutrient amendments). Emissions from these
162 activities can be estimated with guidance provided in Chapter 5. Specifically, new default soil C stock data are
163 provided and an emission change factor approach is presented for estimating changes in CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O
164 emissions from activities including restoration and drainage.

165 These wetlands can occur in any of the six IPCC land-use categories. For example, a mangrove or riverine
166 wetland with trees may be classified as a forest, while a marsh may be used for grazing and classified as
167 grassland. The precise details of this classification are specific to each country so it is not possible to say exactly
168 how a coastal wetlands or inland wetland on mineral soil may be classified. This guidance applies to all coastal
169 wetlands and inland wetlands on mineral soils, however they are classified. The classification is important when
170 reporting these emissions, and there is no intention to change in any way how land is classified, however there
171 may be a need to sub-divide some land types to reflect differing management actions.

172 *Extended background tables and worksheets will be only included in the Second Order Draft.*

173 **7.2.1.4 CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS**

174 Supplementary guidance on CH₄ and N₂O emissions from wastewater treatment and discharge is provided in
175 Chapter 6 on Constructed Wetlands. Constructed wetland systems are fully human-made wetlands for
176 wastewater treatment, which apply various technological designs, using natural wetland processes, associated
177 with wetland hydrology, soils, microbes and plants. Thus, constructed wetlands are engineered systems that have
178 been designed and constructed to utilize the natural processes involving wetland vegetation, soils, and their
179 associated microbial assemblages to assist in treating wastewater. Methodologies are based on the load of
180 nitrogen and organic carbon into the systems. The CH₄ emissions are calculated based on the conversion of
181 biological or chemical oxygen demand data and correction factors related to the flows in these constructed
182 wetlands (free water surface, vertical subsurface flow and horizontal subsurface flow). The N₂O emissions are
183 calculated based on the amount of nitrogen in the wastewater.

184 Reporting of CH₄ and N₂O emission from constructed wetlands will be done under category 4D Wastewater
185 treatment and discharge. The emissions will be divided into Categories 4D1 Domestic wastewater treatment and
186 discharge and 4D2 Industrial Wastewater treatment and discharge according to source of wastewater treated in
187 the constructed wetlands.

188 The areas of constructed wetlands should be reported as part of settlements. If the establishment of the
189 constructed wetland involves a land use conversion, the area changes should be reported under the specific land-
190 use categories and the notation key "IE" should be used for the CH₄ and N₂O emissions. Any changes in carbon
191 stocks due to the land-use conversion, e.g. due to cutting of trees or removing of other vegetation, should be
192 reported under land converted to settlements.

193 *Extended background tables and worksheets will be only included in the Second Order Draft.*

194

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7.2.2 Mapping the changes to categories in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines

Table 7.1 shows how the supplementary guidance and new categories introduced in the *Wetlands Supplement* are linked to the guidance and categories in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. This summarises the descriptions given in the above sections on the changes introduced.

| TABLE 7.1 MAPPING BETWEEN THE CATEGORIES AND GUIDANCE IN THE 2006 IPCC GUIDELINES AND THE CHANGES TO THOSE INTRODUCED BY THE WETLANDS SUPPLEMENT. | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Source of emissions/ sink for removals | 2006 IPCC Guidelines | | Wetlands Supplement | |
| | Category | Guidance by | Category | Guidance by |
| Drainage of organic soils | | | | |
| CO ₂ | 3B1 to 3B6 Forest land, Cropland, Grassland, Wetlands, Settlements and Other land Category 3B4ai Peatlands remaining peatlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land-use category, for wetlands specific to peat extraction climate zone nutrient status for peatlands | 3B1 to 3B6 Forest land, Cropland, Grassland, Wetlands, Settlements and Other land Category 3B4ai renamed as Peat extraction lands remaining peat extraction lands, respective change to 3B4bi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land-use category climate zone drainage class |
| CH ₄ | - | - | 3B1 to 3B6 Forest land, Cropland, Grassland, Wetlands, Settlements and Other land or 3C8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land-use category climate zone peatland type ((bog or fen, tropical peat) ditch area (width, spacing between ditched) |
| N ₂ O | 3C4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> drained organic soils | 3C4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land-use category climate zone |
| Rewetting of peatlands and organic soils | | | | |
| CO ₂ , CH ₄ and N ₂ O | - | - | 3B1 to 3B6 Forest land, Cropland, Grassland, Wetlands, Settlements and Other land Subcategories for rewetted land remaining rewetted lands and lands converted to rewetted lands should be introduced for the land-use categories under which the activity takes place. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> climate zone peatland type (bog or fen, tropical peat) |
| Coastal Wetlands | | | | |
| CO ₂ , CH ₄ and N ₂ O | - | - | 3B4aiii (Other wetlands remaining wetlands) or 3B4biii (Land converted to other wetlands) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> climate zone/region vegetation type salinity (where applicable/available) |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> management activity including restored and drained |
| Inland Mineral Soil Wetlands | | | | | |
| CO ₂ , CH ₄ and N ₂ O | - | - | 3B4aiii (Other wetlands remaining wetlands) or 3B4biii (Land converted to other wetlands) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> climate zone/region level of inundation (permanent and seasonal) management activity (restored, created or drained) |
| Constructed wetlands | | | | | |
| CH ₄ , N ₂ O | - | - | 4 D Wastewater treatment and discharge | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOD/COD load and technology of the constructed wetland (type of flow) |
| CO ₂ | 3B5 | No specific guidance but C stock changes from land-use change covered by the general methodologies | 3B5 | | No specific guidance but C stock changes from land-use change covered by the general methodologies in the <i>2006 IPCC Guidelines</i> |

201

202 7.2.3 Documentation

203 Chapter 8 in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* provides guidance on reporting complete, consistent and
 204 transparent national greenhouse gas inventories. Detailed guidance on documentation relevant to the
 205 supplementary guidance provided in this report is provided in Chapters 2 to 6.

206 Reporting in accordance with the *Wetlands Supplement* involves combining guidance from two sets guidance,
 207 this Supplement and the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. The estimation of emissions and removals requires in some
 208 cases a combination of methodologies which, if care is not taken, can lead to double-counting or omission of
 209 emissions or removals. The reporting of emissions and removals from specific activities, e.g. rewetting and
 210 drainage, is disaggregated among land-use categories and/or generic categories for reporting of non-CO₂
 211 emissions. National circumstances will also affect the reporting much. In some countries the categories will have
 212 a significant impact on the national total emissions, in others they will be almost non-existent.

213 Transparent reporting will require that the following generic issues are documented in the national inventory
 214 report:

- 215 • a summary of the areas and emissions by land-use category and gas for organic soils, rewetting, coastal
 216 wetlands, inland mineral soil wetlands and constructed wetlands;
- 217 • information on how completeness has been assessed and double-counting avoided for reporting of CO₂
 218 emissions when methodologies based on flux measurements and stock change methods are combined for a
 219 specific activity or land-use category as well as related to reporting of dissolved organic carbon.

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221 **7.2.4 Reporting tables**

222 The *Wetlands Supplement* does not impact the Reporting Tables in Annex 8A.2 of Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC*
223 *Guidelines*.

224 *The background tables included in Annex 8A.2 will be extended to take into account the changes introduced by*
225 *the Wetlands Supplement (see sections above) and will be provided in Annex 7 in the Second Order Draft of the*
226 *Wetlands Supplement.*

227 **7.2.5 Worksheets**

228 Annex 7 provides also worksheets for each sub-category that can be used to estimate emissions based on Tier 1
229 methods and appropriate emission/stock change factors and activity data.

230 *The worksheets will be provided in the Second Order Draft.*

231

232 **7.3 UNCERTAINTIES**

233 **7.3.1 Overview of Uncertainty Analysis**

234 Uncertainty is an expression of the degree to which the value of a variable is unknown (IPCC 2007). In
235 greenhouse gas inventories, uncertainty derives from quantifiable errors and variation in methods and data.
236 Because of uncertainty, the true value of a variable is sometimes not known, but it is possible to estimate the
237 possible range of values of the variable.

238 For greenhouse gas inventories, quantification of uncertainty is important because it allows inventory agencies to
239 ascertain if estimated changes in greenhouse gas emissions and removals over time are larger than the
240 uncertainty or range of possible estimates for an individual year. In wetlands, the magnitude of carbon stocks are
241 often much larger than annual changes, so large uncertainties in carbon stock estimates may make it difficult to
242 determine if estimated annual changes are real or a result of uncertainty. In this way, uncertainty analysis can
243 indicate areas for future improvement of inventory methods.

244 In greenhouse gas inventories, major quantifiable sources of uncertainty include:

- 245 • field measurement errors
- 246 • remote sensing inaccuracies
- 247 • missing or incomplete data series
- 248 • misreporting or misclassification
- 249 • data bias or unrepresentative sampling
- 250 • random sampling error
- 251 • spatial variation
- 252 • spatial or temporal autocorrelation
- 253 • model inaccuracies

254 Uncertainty analysis generally proceeds through these steps:

- 255 • Identification of primary sources of uncertainty.
- 256 • Estimation of uncertainties of individual variables.
- 257 • Combination of individual variable uncertainties into total estimates of emissions or removals for a key
258 category or a land-use category for a geographic area.

259 This section summarizes scientific methods (approaches) for each of these steps for the three tiers of greenhouse
260 gas inventory methods. It summarizes material from the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*, including Volume 1, Chapter 3
261 (Frey et al. 2006) and Volume 4, Chapter 7, and summarizes any new methods for the wetlands sub-categories
262 described in Chapters 2 to 6 of this *Wetlands Supplement*. This section aims to summarize new methods specific

263 to the *Wetlands Supplement* and assess them across the wetlands subtypes. To the extent possible, it provides
 264 published examples that illustrate new methods. Inventory compilers should consult the detailed information in
 265 the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and this *Wetlands Supplement*.

266 7.3.2 Methods for quantifying uncertainty

267 The measure of uncertainty for national greenhouse gas inventories is the 95% confidence interval (CI). It is
 268 good practice to report the 95% CI for individual variables, including activity data, emissions factors, biomass
 269 densities, other parameters, and for total greenhouse gas emissions or removals from a key category or a land-use
 270 category for a geographic area.

271 **Approach 1** - Use the measures of uncertainty given in the default tables in this *Wetlands Supplement* and the
 272 *2006 IPCC Guidelines* for individual variables. To combine individual variable uncertainties into total estimates
 273 of emissions or removals for a key category or a land-use category for a geographic area, use basic uncertainty
 274 combination methods (Mandel 1984), identified in Chapter 3 (Frey et al. 2006) of Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC*
 275 *Guidelines*.

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277
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EQUATION 7.1 FRACTIONAL UNCERTAINTY

$$U_i = \frac{0.5 \times CI_i}{\mu_i}$$

279

280 Where:

281 U_i = uncertainty of a variable expressed as a fraction, from 0 to 1.0, of the mean of the variable282 CI_i = 95% confidence interval of the variable283 μ_i = mean value of the variable

284

285
286

EQUATION 7.2 COMBINING UNCERTAINTIES – ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION

$$U_{total} = \frac{\sqrt{(U_1 \times x_1)^2 + (U_2 \times x_2)^2 + \dots + (U_n \times x_n)^2}}{|x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n|}$$

287

288 Where:

289 U_{total} = fractional uncertainty of the sum of the variables290 U_i = uncertainty of a variable expressed as a fraction, from 0 to 1.0, of the mean of the variable291 x_i = value of a variable; $x_i < 0$ for subtraction

292

293
294

EQUATION 7.3 COMBINING UNCERTAINTIES – MULTIPLICATION

$$U_{total} = \sqrt{U_1^2 + U_2^2 + \dots + U_n^2}$$

295

296 Where:

297 U_{total} = fractional uncertainty of the product of a set of variables298 U_i = uncertainty of a variable expressed as a fraction, from 0 to 1.0, of the mean of the variable

299

300 Refer to the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* (Frey et al. 2006) for detailed steps of basic uncertainty combination,
 301 including calculation of uncertainties of temporal trends.

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302 This *Wetlands Supplement* presents guidance to take into consideration the sources of uncertainty, either in
 303 activity data or emissions factors that are important specifically for wetlands and organic soils. The definitions of
 304 wetland sub-categories and delineation of their surface areas can, by themselves, be sources of uncertainty.
 305 While the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* generally stratified land-use categories by ecological zone (Aalde et al. 2006)
 306 or climate zone, this *Wetlands Supplement* can stratify wetland sub-categories by other properties. Sources of
 307 uncertainty and new tables that provide inventory compilers with default uncertainty values include:

- 308 • **Organic soils** – Surface areas and emissions factors are a function of drainage class, which requires
 309 estimates of the depth of the water table. Emissions from drainage ditches area is a function of the width and
 310 spacing of ditches.
 - 311 • Table 2.1 - Tier 1 CO₂ emission/removal factors for organic soils in all land-use categories
 - 312 • Table 2.3 - Tier 1 CH₄ emission/removal factors for organic soils in all land-use categories
 - 313 • Table 2.5 - Tier 1 N₂O emission/removal factors for organic soils in all land-use categories
- 314 • **Rewetted peatlands** – Surface areas are a function of time from rewetting.
 - 315 • Table 3.3 - Default DOC emission factors for rewetted peatlands and organic soils
 - 316 • Table 3.4 - Default emission factors for CH₄ from rewetted peatlands and organic soils
- 317 • **Coastal wetlands**
 - 318 • Table 4.3 - Default values for carbon stored in coastal wetlands (SOCREF) based upon average carbon
 319 density measured in top 1 m
 - 320 • Table 4.4 - Ratio of below-ground biomass to above-ground biomass (R)
 - 321 • Table 4.5 - Default biomass conversion and expansion factors (BCEF), tonnes biomass (m³ of wood
 322 volume)⁻¹ (IPCC 2006)
 - 323 • Table 4.6 - Default values for above-ground biomass of mangrove and tidal salt marsh wetlands
 - 324 • Table 4.7 - Default values for above-ground growth in mangrove and tidal salt marsh wetlands
 - 325 • Table 4.8 - Default values for above-ground biomass and net growth of seagrasses
 - 326 • Table 4.9 - Tier 1 Default values for dead wood and litter carbon stocks
 - 327 • Table 4.11 - Emission factors for coastal wetland soils changed through aquaculture, salt production or
 328 extraction
 - 329 • Table 4.12 - Emission factors for CH₄ from coastal wetlands with altered Hydrology
 - 330 • Table 4.13 - Emission factors for N₂O emission from coastal wetlands
 - 331 • Table 4.14 - Annual Emission Factors (EF) for Drained Soils for Tier 1 estimation
 - 332 • Table 4.15 - Relative Stock Change Factors for Drained Coastal Wetlands for Tier 1 level estimation
 - 333 • Table 4.16 - Annual removal factors for rewetted and restored soils for tier 1 estimation
 - 334 • Table 4.17 - Emission factors for CH₄ from “intact” coastal wetlands for Tier 1 estimation
- 335 • **Inland mineral soil wetlands** – Emissions are a function of time under management.
 - 336 • Table 5.1 - Default reference soil organic carbon stocks for IMS wetlands
 - 337 • Table 5.2 - Default CH₄ emission factors for permanently inundated IMS wetlands
 - 338 • Table 5.3 - Default CH₄ emission factors for seasonally inundated IMS wetlands
 - 339 • Table 5.4 - Emission factors for estimating N₂O emissions from IMS wetlands
 - 340 • Table 5.5 - Emission factors due to drainage or restoration of IMS wetlands (to be completed)
 - 341 • Table 5.6 - Soil CO₂ emission factors for IMS wetlands to be used in Equation 5.4
- 342 • **Constructed wetlands** – Emissions estimates require maximum CH₄ producing potential, vegetation, and
 343 temperature correction factors, human population (for estimating wastewater flow), and protein consumption
 344 (for estimating N₂O emissions). Other sources of uncertainty include the degrees to which wastewater is
 345 treated in constructed wetlands or in semi-natural treatment wetlands, the fraction of organics that is
 346 converted anaerobically to CH₄ during wastewater collection, and the amount of industrial organic waste
 347 from small or medium scale industries that is discharged into constructed wetlands.

348 • Table 6.5 - Default uncertainty ranges for domestic and industrial wastewater

349 • Table 6.7 - Nitrous oxide methodology default uncertainties

350 It is *good practice* to use measures of uncertainty specific to a country or an ecosystem type, when available. Use
 351 published uncertainty estimates for similar ecosystems when country-specific estimates are not available. To
 352 combine individual variable uncertainties into total estimates of emissions or removals for a key category of a
 353 land-use category for a geographic area, use Equations 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3. Table 7.2 lists a selection of wetlands
 354 with published data for individual variables and examples of combination of variables.

| Continent | Country | Wetland | Reference |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Africa | Botswana | Okavango Delta | Mladenov et al. 2005 |
| | Madagascar | estuary | Ralison et al. 2008 |
| | Senegal | estuary area | Sakho et al. 2011 |
| Asia | China | constructed wetland | Chen et al. 2011 |
| | Indo-Pacific | mangroves | Donato et al. 2011 |
| | Indonesia | peat swamps and oil palms | Murdiyarto et al. 2010 |
| North America | Canada | restored wetlands | Badiou et al. 2011 |
| | Costa Rica | tropical inland wetlands | Bernal and Mitsch 2008 |
| | USA | streams and rivers | Butman and Raymond 2011 |
| South America | Argentina | river marsh | Vicari et al. 2011 |
| | Brazil | Pantanal | Schöngart et al. 2011 |
| | Peru | Amazonian peatland | Lähteenoja et al. 2012 |
| Global | Global | coastal ecosystems | McLeod et al. 2011 |
| | Global | freshwater wetlands | Kayranli et al. 2010 |
| | Global | freshwater wetlands methane | Bastviken et al. 2011 |
| | Global | restored wetlands | Moreno-Mateos et al. 2012 |
| | Global | wetlands carbon and methane | Mitsch et al. 2010 |

355
 356 Approaches to reducing uncertainty for the wetlands sub-categories in the *Wetlands Supplement* include:

357 • **Organic soils** – Use spatially disaggregated CO₂ flux measurements to develop local emission factors,
 358 correcting for carbon losses through leaching of dissolved organic carbon or runoff. For emissions estimates
 359 in boreal zones, include winter emissions, which can account for 10-30% of net annual emissions (Alm et al.
 360 1999).

361 • **Rewetted peatlands** – CO₂ and CH₄ emissions are often a function of present vegetation composition and
 362 previous land use history, so stratification of an area by these properties can improve emissions estimates.

363 • **Coastal wetlands** – More detailed stratification of land by drainage and other management systems can
 364 improve emissions estimates.

365 • **Inland mineral soil wetlands** – No new uncertainty issues identified.

366 • **Constructed wetlands** – No new uncertainty issues identified.

367
 368 **Approach 2** – For individual variables, calculate the 95% CI from the PDF of measurements of each variable.
 369 Derive the PDF from a random sample. Capture the principal forms of spatial and temporal variation in the
 370 sample or calculate different PDFs for the principal spatial and temporal strata.) The *2006 IPCC Guidelines*,
 371 Volume 1, Chapter 3, Section 2.2.4 (Frey et al. 2006), provide methods to develop PDFs.

372 To combine individual variable uncertainties into total estimates of emissions or removals for a land-use
 373 category or a geographic area, use the Monte Carlo method (Metropolis and Ulam 1949), identified by the *2006*
 374 *IPCC Guidelines* (Frey et al. 2006) as Approach 2. The Monte Carlo method is a statistical technique that

First-order Draft

375 quantifies the uncertainty of a variable based on a large number of randomized realizations of the value of the
376 variable based on its mean value, the standard error of the mean, and a PDF of the standard errors.

377 For example, the diameter at a height of 1.3 m of a tree (d_{bh}) is an essential variable in estimating its carbon mass.
378 In a typical forest inventory, a person measures the tree once and records the measurement. If the measurement
379 were immediately repeated, the result may be slightly different due to the shape of the trunk, how the diameter
380 tape drapes around the trunk, where the person estimates the 1.3 m height for measurement, possible errors in
381 transcribing the value, and other factors. Repeating the measurement 100 or 1000 times would generate a PDF
382 that might typically take the form of a normal distribution. The 95% CI of the distribution is a measure of the
383 uncertainty of the d_{bh} measurement.

384 Monte Carlo analysis consists of running a calculation for a statistically significant number of replications,
385 typically 100 to 10 000, producing a probability density function of the result, and calculating the 95% CI of the
386 PDF. For any equation, the Monte Carlo form of a variable (Equation 7.4) can replace all the variables in the
387 equation. The large number of realizations of the result effectively combines the uncertainties of individual
388 variables.

EQUATION 7.4
MONTE CARLO ANALYSIS – GENERAL FORM OF A VARIABLE

$$x_i = mean_x + (random_i \times SE_x)$$

392 Where:

393 x_i = value of realization i of a variable,

394 i = statistically significant number of realizations, typically 100 – 10 000

395 $mean_x$ = mean value of a variable

396 $random_i$ = random number for realization i , from -1 to 1, taken from a set of random numbers that form a
397 probability distribution function specific to the variable

398 SE_x = standard error of the mean value of the variable

399 Refer to the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* (Frey et al. 2006) for detailed steps of Monte Carlo analysis, including
400 selection of an appropriate PDF for a variable and its random numbers. Inventory agencies and scientists have
401 quantified uncertainty in greenhouse gas inventories in a range of cases, including the national inventories of
402 Austria (Winiwarter and Muik 2010), Finland (Monni et al. 2007), and the Netherlands (Ramírez et al. 2008) and
403 high-biomass ecosystems in California, USA (Gonzalez et al. 2010) and Canada (Kurz et al. 2008).

404 Approaches to reducing uncertainty for the wetlands sub-categories in the *Wetlands Supplement* include:

- 405 • **Organic soils** – Quantification of impacts of land-use and management on emissions can improve emissions
406 estimates. Examples include organic matter additions to agricultural land that can increase substrate supply
407 for methane production in ditches, short-term pulses of ditch CH₄ emission associated with land-use change,
408 and nutrient-enriched soils that are a legacy of past land-use.
- 409 • **Rewetted peatlands** – Determination of spatial variation of peat type and depth, vegetation composition,
410 soil temperature, mean water table depth, the provision by vegetation of substrates for CH₄ production, and
411 transport by vegetation of CH₄ from saturated soil to the atmosphere can improve emissions estimates.
- 412 • **Coastal wetlands** – Quantification of the effects of coastal grassland management, including grazing, fire,
413 liming, and fertilization, can improve emissions estimates.
- 414 • **Inland mineral soil wetlands** – No new uncertainty issues identified.
- 415 • **Constructed wetlands** – Provide separate estimates for anaerobic and aerobic constructed wetlands.

416

417 **7.4 IMPACT ON KEY CATEGORIES**

418 **7.4.1 Overview of key category analysis**

419 Methodological choice for individual source and sink categories is important in managing overall inventory
420 uncertainty. Generally, inventory uncertainty is lower when emissions and removals are estimated using the most
421 rigorous methods provided for each category or subcategory in the sectoral volumes of these Guidelines.
422 However, these methods generally require more extensive resources for data collection, so it may not be feasible
423 to use more rigorous method for every category of emissions and removals. It is therefore good practice to
424 identify those categories that have the greatest contribution to overall inventory uncertainty in order to make the
425 most efficient use of available resources. By identifying these key categories in the national inventory, inventory
426 compilers can prioritize their efforts and improve their overall estimates. The purpose, general rules and
427 approaches for the key category analysis of the whole greenhouse gas inventory are presented in Chapter 4 of
428 Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*.

429 According to Section 4.2 in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* the general rules for performing the key
430 category analysis are

- 431 • The key category analysis should be performed at the level of IPCC categories or subcategories at which the
432 IPCC methods and decision trees are provided.
- 433 • Each greenhouse gas emitted from each category should be considered separately, unless there are specific
434 methodological reasons for treating gases collectively.
- 435 • Emissions and removals from a category should also be considered separately, where possible and relevant
436 to the methodology used.

437 The Table 4.1 in Section 4.2 in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* also gives a recommended level at which
438 the key category analysis should be performed. Countries may however choose to perform the quantitative
439 analysis at a more disaggregated level than suggested.

440 The key category analyses are performed using two approaches. Approach 1 is based on level and trend
441 assessments. In the level assessment, categories of the inventory are listed in the order of absolute values of the
442 emissions or removals, and the largest categories contributing to 95 per cent of the total emissions are considered
443 as key categories. The trend assessment analyses the contribution of a category to the trend as well as if the trend
444 of the category is significantly different from the trend of the inventory. The categories contributing most to the
445 trend and which add up to contributing 95 per cent to the trend are considered key categories. Approach 2 is
446 based on similar assessments but the results of the uncertainty analysis are taken into account. The most
447 significant categories contributing together 90 per cent to the uncertainties of the total emissions or the trend are
448 considered key categories.

449 **7.4.2 Key category analysis including the categories 450 impacted by the Wetlands Supplement**

451 The suggested level for CO₂ emissions (carbon stock changes) reported under the land-use categories in the
452 AFOLU Sector according to Table 4.1 in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* is to divide the emissions or
453 removals for each land-use category to lands remaining in the category and lands converted to it. In addition, the
454 inventory compilers should determine which pools and subcategories are significant. This approach is sensible,
455 as the CO₂ emissions/removals from the land-use categories are generally estimated using the same or similar
456 generic methodologies and also the same activity data (area data).

457 The *Wetlands Supplement* introduces more detailed guidance for organic soils by the introduction of the impact
458 of the drainage class into the methodological approach in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. It introduces also new
459 subcategories to some land-use categories, mostly under the land-use category Wetlands. Also the wastewater
460 treatment category in the Waste Sector is complemented with one additional subcategory (constructed wetlands).
461 The supplementary methodological guidance for these categories is mainly different by land-use category.
462 Therefore it suggested to that the inventory compilers consider the land-use categories for which the
463 emissions/removals are estimated using the supplementary methodologies separately in the key category analysis.
464 The suggested level for the key category analysis for the AFOLU and Waste Sectors is included in Table 7.3.
465 The changes to the Table 4.1 in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* are highlighted with shading.

First-order Draft

| TABLE 7.3 SUGGESTED AGGREGATION LEVEL OF ANALYSIS FOR APPROACH 1 FOR AFOLU AND WASTE SECTORS ^a | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Source and Sink Categories to be Assessed in Key Category Analysis | | Gases to be Assessed ^c | Special Considerations |
| Category Code ^b | Category Title ^b | | |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use | | | |
| 3A1 | Enteric Fermentation | CH ₄ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which animal categories are significant. For <i>key categories</i> , decision trees for livestock population characterisation as well as for CH ₄ emissions estimation should be followed. |
| 3A2 | Manure Management | CH ₄ , N ₂ O | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which animal categories and waste management systems are significant. For <i>key categories</i> , decision trees for livestock population characterisation as well as for CH ₄ or N ₂ O emissions estimation should be followed. |
| 3B1a | Forest Land Remaining Forest Land | CO ₂ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools (biomass, DOM, mineral soils, organic soils) are significant and should then follow the guidance for key categories in decision trees for carbon stock changes for the significant pools. This category would include rewetted lands classified as forest land remaining forest land ^e |
| 3B1b | Land Converted to Forest Land | CO ₂ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools and subcategories are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as land converted to forest land ^e |
| 3B2a | Cropland Remaining Cropland | CO ₂ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as cropland remaining cropland ^e |
| 3B2b | Land Converted to Cropland | CO ₂ | Assess the impact of forest land converted to cropland in a separate category. ^d If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools and subcategories are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as land converted to cropland. ^e |
| 3B3a | Grassland Remaining Grassland | CO ₂ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as grassland remaining grassland. ^e |
| 3B3b | Land Converted to Grassland | CO ₂ | Assess the impact of forest land converted to grassland in a separate category. ^d If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools and subcategories are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as land converted to grassland. ^e |

| Source and Sink Categories to be Assessed in Key Category Analysis | | Gases to be Assessed ^c | Special Considerations |
|--|---|--|--|
| Category Code ^b | Category Title ^b | | |
| 3B4ai + 3B4bi | Peat Extraction lands (Remaining as and converted to Peat Extraction lands) | CO ₂ , N ₂ O, CH ₄ | Assess the impact of peat extraction including the use of horticultural peat together for lands remaining and converted to peat extraction. If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which subcategories and pools are significant. |
| 3B4aii | Flooded land remaining Flooded land | CO ₂ | |
| 3B4aiii | Wetlands remaining wetlands (excluding 3B4ai and 3B4aii) | CO ₂ , N ₂ O, CH ₄ | This category would include rewetted land, coastal wetlands and inland mineral soil wetlands remaining in the relevant categories and not reported under any other land-use categories. If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which subcategories and pools are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as wetlands remaining wetlands. ^e |
| 3B4b | Land Converted to Wetlands (excluding 3B4bi) | CO ₂ , N ₂ O, CH ₄ | This category would include lands converted to rewetted land ^e , coastal wetlands and inland mineral soil wetlands and not reported under any other land-use categories. Assess the impact of forest land converted to wetland in a separate category (see below). ^d If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools and subcategories are significant. This category would include rewetted lands classified as land converted to wetlands. ^e |
| 3B5a | Settlements Remaining Settlements | CO ₂ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools are significant. The areas of constructed wetland should be included under this category. This category would also include rewetted lands classified as settlements remaining settlements. ^e |
| 3B5b | Land Converted to Settlements | CO ₂ | Assess the impact of forest land converted to settlements in a separate category. ^d If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which pools and subcategories are significant. The areas of land converted to constructed wetland should be included here. This category would include rewetted lands classified as land converted to settlements. ^e |
| 3C1 | Biomass Burning | CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O | CO ₂ emissions should be included only for those sources which are not covered under reporting of CO ₂ emissions /removals in categories 3B1 to 3B6. If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which subcategories are significant. |
| 3C2 | Liming | CO ₂ | |
| 3C3 | Urea Application | CO ₂ | |

First-order Draft

| TABLE 7.3 SUGGESTED AGGREGATION LEVEL OF ANALYSIS FOR APPROACH 1 FOR AFOLU AND WASTE SECTORS ^a | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Source and Sink Categories to be Assessed in Key Category Analysis | | Gases to be Assessed ^c | Special Considerations |
| Category Code ^b | Category Title ^b | | |
| 3C4 | Direct N ₂ O Emissions from Managed soils | N ₂ O | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which subcategories are significant. |
| 3C5 | Indirect N ₂ O Emissions from Managed soils | indirect N ₂ O | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which subcategories are significant. |
| 3C6 | Indirect N ₂ O Emissions from Manure Management | indirect N ₂ O | |
| 3C7 | Rice Cultivations | CH ₄ | |
| 3D1 | Harvested Wood Products | CO ₂ | Use of <i>key</i> category analysis is optional. |
| 3 | Miscellaneous | CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O | Assess whether other sources or sinks in the AFOLU Sector not listed above should be included. Key category analysis has to cover all emission sources and sinks in the inventory. Therefore all categories not presented above should be either aggregated with some other category, where relevant, or assessed separately. |
| Waste | | | |
| 4A | Solid Waste Disposal | CH ₄ | If this category is <i>key</i> , the inventory compiler should determine which subcategories are significant. |
| 4B | Biological Treatment of Solid Waste | CH ₄ , N ₂ O | |
| 4C | Incineration and Open Burning of Waste | CO ₂ , N ₂ O, CH ₄ | |
| 4D | Wastewater Treatment and Discharge | CH ₄ , N ₂ O | Assess whether domestic or industrial wastewater treatment is a significant subcategory. Emissions from constructed wetlands are included in this category. |
| 4 | Miscellaneous | CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O | Assess whether other sources in the Waste Sector not listed above should be included. Key category analysis has to cover all emission sources in the inventory. Therefore all categories not presented above should be either aggregated with some other category, where relevant, or assessed separately. |
| 5A | Indirect N ₂ O Emissions from the atmospheric deposition of nitrogen in NO _x and NH ₃ | indirect N ₂ O | |
| 5B | Other | CO ₂ , N ₂ O, CH ₄ , SF ₆ , PFCs, HCFs | Include sources and sinks reported under 5B. Key category assessment has to cover all emission sources in the inventory. Therefore all categories not presented above should be either aggregated with some other category, where relevant, or assessed separately. |

| TABLE 7.3 SUGGESTED AGGREGATION LEVEL OF ANALYSIS FOR APPROACH 1 FOR AFOLU AND WASTE SECTORS ^a | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Source and Sink Categories to be Assessed in Key Category Analysis | | Gases to be Assessed ^c | Special Considerations |
| Category Code ^b | Category Title ^b | | |
| ^a In some cases, inventory compilers may modify this list of IPCC categories to reflect particular national circumstances. ^b The categories should include the respective codes and be consistent with the IPCC terminology. ^c All the gases in this column are to be assessed separately, except 'Miscellaneous' category, where gases can be assessed jointly. There may also be some new gases other than those listed here, and those should also be assessed separately. ^d In the quantitative key category analysis, conversion of forest land is spread out under the different land-use change categories. Countries should identify and sum up the emission estimates associated with forest conversion to any other land category and compare the magnitude to the smallest category identified as key. If its size is larger than the smallest category identified as key it should be considered key. ^e In the quantitative key category analysis, emissions/removals from rewetting are spread out under the different land-use change categories. Countries should identify and sum up the emission/removal estimates associated rewetting to any other land category and compare the magnitude to the smallest category identified as key. If its size is larger than the smallest category identified as key it should be considered key. | | | |

466

467 7.5 COMPLETENESS

468 Completeness means that inventory estimates have been prepared for all categories and gases. Complete
 469 greenhouse gas inventories will include estimates of emissions and removals from the sources and sinks for
 470 which methodological guidance is provided in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* and the *Wetlands supplement* unless
 471 the specific sources and sinks do not occur on the national territory. The decision tree in Figure 1.1 in Chapter 1
 472 of this report and Table 7.1 above provides guidance on the links between guidance in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*
 473 and the *Wetlands Supplement* to facilitate countries in ensuring complete coverage of all relevant categories in
 474 the inventory.

475 A country may consider that a disproportionate amount of effort would be required to collect data for a category
 476 or a gas from a specific category that would be insignificant in terms of the overall level and trend in national
 477 emissions. The *Wetlands Supplement* addresses sources and sinks for which the significance varies considerably
 478 by country. For instance, some wetland types occur only in some regions of the world, the amount of organic
 479 soils may be very small in some countries and tidal effects on the emissions are applicable only to coastal
 480 countries. In circumstances where the supplementary guidance is not applicable to a country or
 481 emissions/removals have not been reported due to their insignificance, they should use the notation keys "NO"
 482 (not occurring) and "NE" (not estimated) respectively. For details on the use of the notation keys, the inventory
 483 compilers should refer to together with a justification for exclusion in terms of the likely level of emissions or
 484 removals and identify the category as 'Not Estimated' using the notation key 'NE' in the reporting tables (refer to
 485 Section 8.2.5 in Volume 1 of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*), The inventory compiler should note that it is good
 486 practise to provide justification for each emission estimate for which the notation key "NE" is used.

487 7.6 TIME SERIES CONSISTENCY

488 7.6.1 Overview of time series issues

489 Greenhouse gas inventory methods should be consistent for an entire time series so that each year in the time
 490 series can be validly compared with other years. This provides countries with information to robustly assess
 491 temporal trends in their greenhouse gas emissions and removals and the effectiveness of emissions reduction
 492 actions. Circumstances that will affect time series consistency include:

- 493 • changes and refinements to methods due to scientific advances
- 494 • addition of new categories
- 495 • technological change
- 496 • data gaps
- 497 • correction of errors

498 In a consistent time series, changes in emissions or removals over time will be due to real phenomena in the field
 499 rather than any influence of the above set of circumstances in the calculations.

First-order Draft

500 This *Wetlands Supplement* includes substantial changes to the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* methods and refines the
 501 subcategories within the wetlands land-use category. For some countries, this will make necessary the
 502 recalculation of results from previous years to produce a consistent time series.

503 This section summarizes material from and adds recent scientific information to sections from the *2006 IPCC*
 504 *Guidelines*, including Volume 1, Chapter 5 (Irving et al. 2006) and Volume 4, Chapter 7. Inventory compilers
 505 should consult the detailed information in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*.

506 7.6.2 Methods for producing consistent time series

507 The guidance for producing consistent times series for the categories in the *Wetlands Supplement* is addressed
 508 below taking the tier used to estimate the emissions/removals into account as the requirements for activity data
 509 and emission factors as well as other parameters are very different depending on the tier used, and thus impact
 510 the methods by which times series consistency is ensured.

511 **All tiers** - Recalculate an entire data series when changing from the *1996 IPCC Guidelines*, *2003 Good Practice*
 512 *Guidance*, and *2006 IPCC Guidelines* to the *Wetlands Supplement*, when methods are refined due to scientific
 513 advances, when new data becomes available, when quality control finds errors in previous estimates, and when
 514 wetlands are reported as a new category separate from previously reported land-use categories (e.g. reporting
 515 mangroves as wetlands rather than forests). For data gaps, it is good practice to clearly report which results are
 516 calculated from measurements and which are modelled.

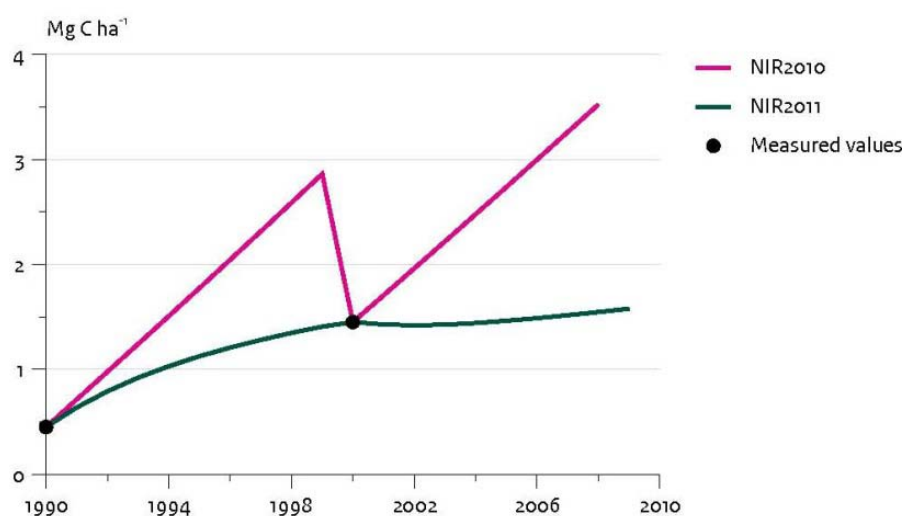
517 **Tier 1** – Use the activity data for years available in the default sources in the *Wetlands Supplement* and the *2006*
 518 *IPCC Guidelines*. Report data from years of measurement only.

519 **Tier 2** - To fill data gaps, examine all available historical sources, administrative records, aerial photographs, or
 520 remote sensing. Use linear interpolation to fill historical data gaps.

521 **Tier 3** –To fill data gaps, interpolate using a function that models empirical trends or underlying processes.
 522 Some examples include field validation of model dead wood time series in the Netherlands national greenhouse
 523 gas inventory (van der Maas et al. 2011; Figure 7.1), data gap filling of CO₂ fluxes from Everglades National
 524 Park, USA (Barr et al. 2010), and filling of night-time gaps in ecosystem respiration in Lake Victoria wetlands,
 525 Uganda (Saunders et al. in press). The case of the Netherlands is just an example that illustrates recalculation of
 526 a time series to improve consistency. When field measurements of dead wood showed that modelled estimates
 527 were not accurate, the inventory agency revised the parameters in its dead wood model and recalculated the
 528 entire time series (van der Maas et al. 2011; Figure 7.1). Refer to the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* (Irving et al. 2006)
 529 for detailed steps of filling historical gaps by splicing and for the use of surrogate parameters.

530 **Figure 7.1** Filling data gaps by multivariate statistical analysis and recalculation of the
 531 time series of carbon in dead wood in the Netherlands national greenhouse
 532 gas inventory.

Figure 7.1 Carbon stock in dead wood, based on the National Forest Inventory (NFI).



533

534 Note that the graph clearly distinguishes between measured and modelled values (van der Maas et al. 2011).

535 7.7 QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY 536 CONTROL

537 7.7.1 Overview of quality issues

538 Quality assurance and quality control are procedures to ensure the accuracy of calculated results. Effectively
539 implemented quality procedures can reduce uncertainties of greenhouse gas inventories. Quality control (QC) is
540 a system of routine technical activities that inventory compilers undertake to assess and maintain the condition of
541 data and results as they compile the inventory. Quality assurance (QA) is a planned system of review of finished
542 inventory results conducted by personnel not directly involved in the inventory.

543 This section summarizes material from and adds recent scientific information to sections from the *2006 IPCC*
544 *Guidelines*, including Volume 1, Chapter 6 (Winiwarter et al. 2006) and Volume 4, Chapter 7. Inventory
545 compilers should consult the detailed information in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*. The guidance below is
546 organised taking the tier used to estimate the emissions/removals from the categories included in this *Wetlands*
547 *Supplement* into account to emphasize that specific QA/QC measures will depend on the tier level of the
548 methodology.

549 7.7.2 Quality Assurance and Quality Control Methods

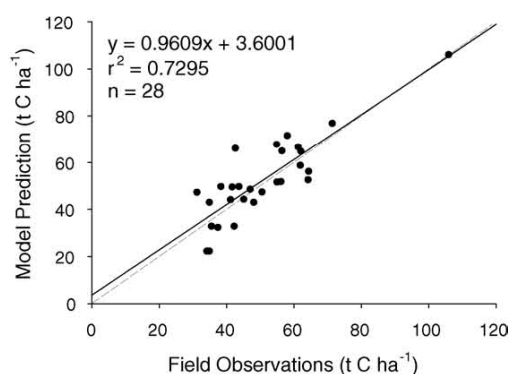
550 **All tiers** – Provide routine and consistent checks to ensure data integrity, correctness, and completeness. Identify
551 and address errors and omissions. Document and archive inventory material and record all quality control
552 activities. Check labelling, transcription, and other clerical related to data entry (See complete list in *2006 IPCC*
553 *Guidelines*, Volume 1, Table 6.1). Double-check outlying values against data sources. Check final results against
554 previous years and published values. Compare inventories with results from similar ecosystems in other
555 countries. Conduct an area-balance for land-use category areas and a mass-balance for greenhouse gas emissions
556 and removals. Develop automated data control procedures. It is good practice to prioritize key categories for
557 more extensive quality assurance and quality control.

558 **Tier 1** - Double-check that correct default values were used.

559 **Tier 2** - Double-check data sheets against local data sources used for activity data, emissions factors, and other
560 variables.

561 **Tier 3** - Validate computer models against field measurements and include the error in the calculation of
562 uncertainty (Section 7.2.1). The validation measure can be correlation of predicted and measured values (Figure
563 7.2; Miehle et al. 2006), fractional agreement of modelled and measured values (Figure 7.3; Chadwick 2011), or
564 other measures. Separate the data set used for calibration of a model from the data set used for validation of the
565 model. It is good practice to establish a system of repeated monitoring of permanent plots or benchmark sites for
566 continued validation of model output against field data over time. When more than one model is available for a
567 particular parameter, inter-comparison of model output can provide indications of the robustness of individual
568 model output. Furthermore, comparison of Tier 3 models with estimates using Tier 1 and Tier 2 methods can
569 serve that same purpose. IPCC (2011) provides numerous specific examples of model development, calibration,
570 and validation.

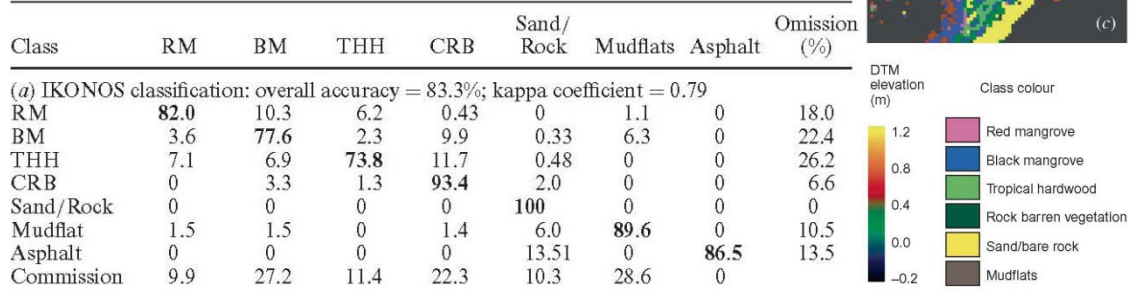
571 **Figure 7.2** Validation of the Forest DNDC model by comparison of modelled against
572 measured values of aboveground biomass in *Eucalyptus globulus* in Australia
573 (Miehle et al. 2006).



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First-order Draft

575 **Figure 7.3** Validation of Ikonos satellite-derived land cover using an error matrix
 576 comparing remote sensing-derived wetlands classes in Florida, USA against
 577 field observations (Chadwick 2011).



578

579

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582 Annex 7 Worksheets

583 *Worksheets will be developed for the Second Order Draft.*

584

585

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