The 2013 Supplement to the 2006 Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands (the Wetlands Supplement) provides guidance for incorporating wetlands into national greenhouse gas inventories. The guidance allows countries to increase the coverage and accuracy of their inventory reporting. In turn, this assists countries to better understand their wetlands and develop policies accordingly. A small number of countries have taken up the guidance to various extents, and improved reporting and coverage of emissions from wetlands in their inventories. Many countries are yet to attempt this but countries are increasingly indicating an interest in implementing the supplement. Some countries have indicated that a lack of country specific data for emissions and activities, experience and guidance, are barriers to implementing the Wetlands Supplement.

A technical exchange would share the experiences of those countries that have already begun incorporating the supplement and approaches to overcoming common challenges such as gathering data. In addition to co-hosts Australia, who first reported on mangroves and tidal marshes using the supplement in 2017, a range of other countries who have experience implementing, or interest in, the supplement have been invited. This includes Indonesia, Japan, UAE, Chile, UK, USA, China, Thailand, PNG, Fiji and others. This event will also provide a forum for updating countries on the latest technologies and science available on wetlands by leading scientists in the field and experts in measurement, reporting and verification. This exchange would give countries greater confidence to implement the Wetlands Supplement.

While the Wetlands Supplement covers all wetlands, this exchange proposes to focus on coastal ecosystems, or blue carbon (mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses), initially given their importance as globally significant carbon stocks and for coastline resilience. Many of the lessons will be relevant to other wetland categories.

Objectives

- Raise awareness of the supplement, using accurate, current and technically robust information
- Demonstrate pathways for implementation
- Provide up-to-date wetlands science and technology information
- Facilitate peer-to-peer learning
- Create a community of practice on implementation
- Deliver a product to support implementation efforts (for example, a workshop report)

Agenda outline

Day one
- Updates on coastal ecosystems science
- Case studies
- Government exchange

Day two
- Activity data and remote sensing
- Models and tools
- Project level to national level reporting
- Implications for policy development
- Next steps

If you would like to attend, please send an expression of interest by email by 28 May to: zoe.sinclair@environment.gov.au cc: bluecarbonpartnership@environment.gov.au