

**Seminar on Physics and Chemistry  
of the Atmosphere  
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**Policy-relevant methane data from the perspective of the  
International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO)**

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**Abstract**

Mitigating methane emissions is currently one of the most effective ways to slow the rate of climate change, which is needed in addition to reducing the combustion of fossil fuels. However, little data is available on methane emissions at the scale and granularity needed to prioritize and track mitigation efforts. The mission of UNEP's International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) is to provide open, reliable, and actionable data to the individuals who act to reduce 150 million tons of methane emissions per year by 2030. It does so by catalyzing the collection, reconciliation and integration of measurement data from own and external science studies, satellite data, company reports, and emission inventories. The initial focus of the science studies was on the global oil and gas sector where the largest technical and economic mitigation potential lies currently. This has later been expanded to the coal sector, and now involves also the waste sector with plans for studies in agriculture. This seminar will provide an overview of the ongoing study locations, measurement methods, policy and advocacy context for these studies as well as insights focused on a selection of locations.