CRF Reporter Software

6th Joint UNECE Task Force & EIONET Meeting on Emission Inventories and Projections

Rovaniemi, Finland
19-21 October 2005

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Background

- **Decision 18/CP.8 – Reporting Guidelines**
  Requested the secretariat to develop new software for reporting in the common reporting format in order to facilitate Parties’ inventory submissions

- **Decision 13/CP.9 – LULUCF**
  Tables of the common reporting format for the land use, land-use change and forestry categories adopted

  Invited Parties to use the CRF Reporter to report inventory submissions due in 2005 and requested the secretariat to integrate the LULUCF CRF tables into the CRF Reporter by August 2005 to allow for reporting by Annex I Parties in 2006 using integrated software
Why revised CRF software?

- Previous spreadsheet format required significant resources to import, and verify data consistency, with numerous interactions with Parties.

- Spreadsheet format was not very user friendly for Parties in terms of input and data management.

- Furthermore, taking into account:
  - Increasing amount of data to be reported and management
  - Need to incorporate revisions of the CRF (CRF 2002, LULUCF 2003)
  - Strict timeline demands of the inventory review process
  - Complex nature of CRF and underlying data structure

  … it would have become increasingly difficult to process and manage data in a timely, highly quality manner using previous procedures and spreadsheet-based software.

- CRF Reporter should facilitate the data reporting and processing, and improve the overall quality of data and assessments.
CRF Reporter
Features & Functionality

- User friendly CRF category-based navigation tree
- Automatic aggregation and calculations
- Category level documentation – information for sectoral CRF documentation boxes
- Cell level comments – specific comments for input values
- Notation key handling
  - Standardization
  - Easy propagation
  - No aggregation errors
  - Request for explanation for IE and NE
CRF Reporter
Features & Functionality (II)

- Chart window – graphical visualization of input values
- Integrated instructions and hints – assist user in following the reporting requirements
- Recalculation explanation panels/dialogs – provision of explanation at data entry level or final compilation level
- Handling of non-sectoral CRF table requirements, including associated documentation boxes
  - Key categories information for CRF Table 7
  - Recalculation information for CRF Table 8a
  - Methods information for CRF Table Summary 3
  - Completeness information for CRF Table 9
  - Trend information for CRF Table 10
CRF Reporter
Features & Functionality (III)

- Completeness and consistency checks integrated
- Input of contact and submission information (who, when, what)
- Management of submission history – information on previously submitted information
- Work flow assistance – import and export features to assist in a decentralized inventory working environment - sectoral experts can work independently, data can be bulk imported from national databases
- Generation of outputs/submissions – can produce Excel CRF sheets and official data exchange file (XML) for submission
CRF Reporter Work Flow Overview

CRF Reporter Software

- National database
- Data file (XML)
- Input
  - Manual Input Forms
  - Bulk import
- Calculations, checking, data management
  - Consistency Checks, Submission Preparation
  - Internal storage
- Output
  - XML data file
  - Excel file with CRF tables
Use Statistics – Use by Parties

- Initial version of software deployed in December 2004 to 41 Annex I Parties
- In 2005 had 11 active users (interacting via CRF helpdesk system (online or email))
- Four Annex I Parties reported their 2005 inventory submissions using new CRF Reporter software
  - New Zealand
  - Canada
  - Romania
  - Hungary
- One non-Annex I Party requested software
Software Use in 2006

In line with the decisions of the COP and conclusions of the SBSTA:

• All Annex I Parties should use the CRF Reporter (version 2) for reporting their inventories in 2006

This is crucial for a number of reasons:

• The substantive requirements of the revised CRF will be available in the new software, allowing Parties to meet their reporting commitments

• Reporting in multiple software (formats) will lead to some difficulties in comparability across Parties and in conducting consistent reviews across Parties

• The resource and technical burden on the secretariat to support the management and processing of data from multiple software will be significant
Summary

- Initial version of CRF Reporter was used by a limited number of Parties – 4 Parties (<10%) report using CRF Reporter software in 2005 (approx. 10 used/tested)
- Secretariat has implemented online user support system for Parties
- Informal technical meetings with Parties to facilitate process were held
- Parties were involved in testing
- Deployment of second version early September
- Hands-on user workshops to assist/prepare Parties/secretariat
- All Annex I Parties to report in 2006 using version 2 of the CRF Reporter
User interface

1. Menu bar
2. Toolbar
3. View bar
4. Navigation tree
5. Data grid
6. Recalculation panel
7. Documentation
8. Chart window
9. Status bar
Navigation tree

The node allows browsing of aggregated values of its child nodes.

The node is intended for structuring of the navigation tree and does not have a separate input form, e.g. the node "1.A Fuel Combustion". Select any child node to browse or enter data.

The node allows browsing of aggregated values of its child nodes.

The node is a special type of "other – please specify". In this node the user can add custom-specific child nodes required in GHG emission inventory submissions.

Completeness status

Node incomplete. 0% of data in corresponding category and its sub-categories have been entered.

Node partially complete. Data in corresponding category and its sub-categories have been partially entered.

Node complete. 100% of data in corresponding category and its sub-categories have been entered.
Data grid

By default the first year is the Party’s base year.

Combo boxes to select values from a list.

Data precision for data grid numeric cells and reports can be modified.
Further Information

General questions regarding CRF Reporter
Contact: Mr. James Grabert (jgrabert@unfccc.int)

For technical questions
Contact: Helpdesk CRFHelpDesk.unfccc.Int
Or if necessary by email at CRFSupport@unfccc.int
Toolbar – Menu structure(I)

File
- Use default database: Ctrl+D
- Open database: Ctrl+O
- Save: Ctrl+S
- Save As without password...
- Export data: Ctrl+E
- Import data: Ctrl+I
- Restore database: Ctrl+R
- Backup database: Ctrl+B
- Exit

Edit
- Copy Cell Range: Ctrl+C
- Paste Cell Range: Ctrl+V
- Delete Cell Range
- Reset: Ctrl+Z
- Cross-cutting information
  - Trend Tables
  - Recalculation
  - Methods
  - Key categories
  - Information on additional greenhouse gases

Submission
- Consistency checks in time series: Ctrl+N
- Recalculation checks: Ctrl+L
- Completeness checks: Ctrl+M
- Generate CRF tables: Ctrl+R
- Generate party profile
- Start new submission
- View Submissions history
- Current submission information
- Prepare official submission: Ctrl+P
- Recalculate all variables
- Recalculate All Node Status
- Recalculation
- Methods
- Key categories
- Information on additional greenhouse gases
Toolbar – Menu structure (II)

Inventory

Options

Help