

# Second synthesis of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> observation-based emission estimates

WP8

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# D8.2: Second synthesis of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>

# observation-based emission estimates

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# CoCO2: Prototype system for a Copernicus CO<sub>2</sub> service

Coordination and Support Action (CSA) H2020-IBA-SPACE-CHE2-2019 Copernicus evolution – Research activities in support of a European operational monitoring support capacity for fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

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# List of Acronyms

Acronyms used throughout the report are listed here, except for the names of models or datasets:

AD: Activity Data **BU: Bottom-Up BUR: UNFCCC Biennial Update Reports** CO2MVS: CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring and Verification Support CoCO2: Protype system for a Copernicus CO<sub>2</sub> service (EU Horizon 2020 project) CRF: UNFCCC Common Report Format DGVM: Dynamic Global Vegetation Model FCO<sub>2</sub>: Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions FFCO<sub>2</sub>: Fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions **EF: Emission Factor** GHG: Greenhouse Gas GST: Global Stocktake IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change LULUCF: Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry NGHGI: National Greenhouse Gas Inventory TD: Top-Down

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

VERIFY: Observation-based system for monitoring and verification of greenhouse gases (EU Horizon 2020 project)

# **Executive Summary**

This is the second of three versions of this deliverable. In this version, the section on net land  $CO_2$  fluxes has been rewritten, the section on  $CH_4$  has had extensive updates and expansion, and the section on fossil  $CO_2$  emissions has been revised with the latest data available.

The aim of the deliverable is to identify, quantify and explain divergences between global inventories, atmospheric inversions, process models and national inventories submitted to the UNFCCC. We present consistent comparisons of  $CO_2$  and  $CH_4$  emission estimates based on inventories and observations for various countries to highlight interesting aspects. We cover fossil  $CO_2$  emissions, net land  $CO_2$  fluxes, and anthropogenic  $CH_4$  emissions. Most of the data products are from the VERIFY project, with a gradual inclusion of  $CoCO_2$  products as the project evolves. The first edition of this deliverable was December 2021, this is the second version (December 2022), with a third and final version due in December 2022. Each version of the deliverable is planned to be an evolution of the previous, with better discussions of the comparisons between the datasets.

Progress has been made on making comparisons across datasets, but significant gaps remaining in harmonising system boundaries and providing relevant information on uncertainty. For fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the importance of adjusting for harmonised system boundaries was demonstrated and that describing differences requires detailed comparison of components (e.g., fossil fuel category or sectors). The fossil CO<sub>2</sub> inversions show proof of concept, but so far lack uncertainty information for a full analysis. For net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes, comparisons were made with inventories in three groups: 1) bookkeeping models, 2) process-based models, 3) inversions. System boundary issues remain highly problematic in the land-sector, even when comparing similar models together, and this is an area that requires significantly more research. For CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, divergences between inventories can be linked back to differences in activity data or emission factors, but this data can be difficult to obtain. For the inversions, the general magnitudes and trends agree, but uncertainties remain large. More effort is needed on providing relevant uncertainty information, particularly more detail on the priors, and the extent to which observations are constraining results leading to statistically significant differences with inventories.

A consistent conclusion across all components analysed is the difficulty of harmonising datasets into a comparable format. The tradition of comparing datasets as published is easy, but problematic. To reconcile differences between alternative datasets requires a much deeper understanding of each dataset, such as the methods and input data sources, and particularly providing considerably more information on uncertainties to help understand when differences are statistically significant. Often the necessary data is not available or time consuming to access. A systematic reconciliation and comparison often require a close dialogue with data providers. Throughout this document we discuss some of the key challenges in making comparisons and lay the foundation for the final report in December 2023.

# 1 Introduction

# 1.1 Background

Emissions and removals of greenhouse gases (GHGs), including both anthropogenic and natural fluxes, require reliable quantification, including estimates of uncertainties, to support credible mitigation action under the Paris Agreement. Reported inventory-based emissions and removals are generally estimated using 'bottom-up' inventory estimates. 'Top-down', observation-based estimates can provide complimentary monitoring and verification of the bottom-up emission estimates. These independent estimates can be performed at multiple scales and for a variety of applications: the global and continental scale for science purposes,

country scale for reporting to the UNFCCC, sub-country scale for urban planning, and point sources like large power plants for verification (Pinty et al., 2019), to name just a few examples.

In this report, bottom-up inventory estimates are generally assumed to follow the IPCC reporting guidelines, and we contrast them with top-down inventory estimates from inversion models. Bottom-up inventory estimates are in general a combination of activity data (e.g., fuel use) and associated emission factors (e.g., emissions per fuel use). However, in many cases, bottom-up inventory estimates can be a complex combination of different approaches, including the use of actual continuous gas measurements at specific point sources or modelling based on numerous data sources (e.g., transport emissions modelling using traffic data and fleet databases). The development of bottom-up inventory estimates with higher spatial (gridded) and temporal (daily, hourly) resolution may also rely on different observational datasets. The term 'bottom-up' can therefore connote several different things.

Top-down observational estimates combine prior inventory estimates with a variety of observations to provide valuable constraints on the inventories (Deng et al., 2022). The main distinction is that top-down estimates generally use an inversion, or some other sort of model, together with a variety of observations, to provide estimates of emissions that can then be compared with the bottom-up inventory estimates. Since atmospheric concentrations respond to the sum of all emissions and removals, inversion-based estimates are less suited to provide information on individual sectors (unless they are geographically separated), though due to high resolution, observation-based approaches are particularly suited to identify point sources or small geographical areas like cities.

Bottom-up inventories and top-down observational estimates are complementary and should be used together to improve and build trust in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (NGHGIs) reported to the UNFCCC. With dense observation networks and measurements of auxiliary parameters such as isotopic composition of GHG or concentrations of co-emitted gases, additional source-specific information can be gained to support the validation of national emission inventories at smaller spatial scales. Observation-based estimates can be particularly valuable for trace gases with large uncertainties in their emissions (Maksyutov et al., 2019).

In the context of providing recommendations for the implementation of an observation-based operational anthropogenic  $CO_2$  emissions Monitoring and Verification Support (CO2MVS) capacity within the Copernicus programme, one objective of CoCO2 is to provide inputs to the Global Stocktake (GST) process, in the form of anthropogenic  $CO_2$  and  $CH_4$  emission products for the first GST (2023), at a spatial scale consistent with GST requirements. CoCO2 identified the relevant needs for the periodic GST through the development of a User Requirement Document (URD). The work described in this document represents the starting point for future syntheses to serve future GSTs.

This document is an extension of reconciliation reports and country analysis produced under the VERIFY project (Andrew, 2020; Petrescu et al., 2020; Petrescu et al., 2021a; Petrescu et al., 2021b; Petrescu et al., 2022), but this document has a more global focus. We identify and analyse  $CO_2$  and  $CH_4$  emissions from a selection of countries to identify differences with UNFCCC National GHG Inventories (NGHGI), and thereby identify countries or sectors where observation-based estimates can complement NGHGIs. We choose countries that show interesting or relevant differences. This document is the second in a series of three, due at the end of each year of the project (December 2021, December 2022, December 2023). This report is structured as follows: Chapter 1 presents the background, scope and objectives of this work, Chapter 2 the methodologies, Chapter 3 focuses on the fossil and net land  $CO_2$ fluxes, Chapter 4 presents the  $CH_4$  results both total and sectoral, and the report ends with discussions, conclusions and outlines future needs for research.

# **1.2 Scope of this deliverable**

The scope of this deliverable is to compare annual GHG estimates from inventory-based, model-based, and observation-based inventories and compare them with UNFCCC NGHGIs for a selection of countries. We use data products from VERIFY and CoCO2 and focus on fossil  $CO_2$  emissions, net land  $CO_2$  fluxes, and anthropogenic  $CH_4$  emissions. For space requirements we only shows for a few select countries, with figures for additional countries presented in the annex.

Changes compared to the first version of the deliverable (D8.1, due December 2021)

- Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - Updated to most recent data
  - Reduced discussion on inversions and no updates available
- Land CO<sub>2</sub> flux
  - Updated to most recent data
  - Separated figures into data types (inventories, land surface models, inversions)
- Anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions
  - Updated to most recent data
  - Added uncertainty reduction maps for one inversion (CTE-CH4)
  - Started the discussion on priors to explain differences between results from different datasets.

Changes for the third and final version of the deliverable (D8.3, due December 2023)

- Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - Update to most recent data
  - o Include uncertainty bounds on figures
  - o Include inversions
  - Include some regional datasets: Asia (MEIC and REAS), Africa (CoCO2)
- Land CO<sub>2</sub> flux
  - Update to most recent data
  - Try and make system boundaries more consistent in each figure
  - Provide deeper explanation of differences
- Anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions
  - Update to most recent data and include new datasets
  - Compare priors between all datasets (activity data and emission factors)
  - $\circ~$  Plot natural CH\_4 emissions for all top emitters (thought to be the culprit for
    - increased global emissions during the past decades)

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# 2 Methodologies

#### 2.1 Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> emissions and removals from UNFCCC

UNFCCC National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (NGHGI, 2022) emissions (CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>) and removals (CO<sub>2</sub>) are compiled by individual countries, with Annex I Parties to the UNFCCC required to report emissions inventories annually using the Common Reporting Format (CRF). The reported data is generally for the period 1990 to N-2 (two years before the current year), but some countries provide data for earlier or later periods. The non-Annex I Parties report their estimates in Biennial Update Reports (BURs) submissions to the UNFCCC, but since these reports are in irregular formats and require manual compilation to obtain a cross-country dataset, we use a precompiled dataset<sup>1</sup> (Deng et al., 2022).

#### 2.2 Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

The different fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emission data and methods are summarised in Table 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>downloaded from <u>https://zenodo.org/record/5089799#.YdRTzGjMJaR</u>

The bottom-up inventory-based fossil CO<sub>2</sub> estimates are presented and split per fuel type and reported for the last year when all data products are available, an update to Andrew (2020).

The top-down atmospheric inversions fossil  $CO_2$  estimates for the year 2019 are from an inversion assimilating satellite observations. To overcome the current lack of  $CO_2$  observation networks suitable for the monitoring of fossil fuel  $CO_2$  emissions at national scale, this inversion is based on atmospheric concentrations of co-emitted species: CO and NO<sub>2</sub>. While the spatial and temporal coverage of these CO and NO<sub>2</sub> observations is large, the conversion of the information on these co-emitted species into fossil fuel  $CO_2$  emission estimates is complex and carries large uncertainties. We have not been able to fully characterise the uncertainty in the inversions, therefore limiting our ability to compare to inventories. In this second version of the report, we use the same inversion data as from the first version of the report. The fossil  $CO_2$  inversions are a CoCO2 product.

## 2.3 Net land CO<sub>2</sub> flux

The net land  $CO_2$  fluxes include  $CO_2$  emissions and removals from LULUCF activities, based on inventories, process models and inversion estimates (Table 2). We considerably rewrite the net land  $CO_2$  flux section in the second version of the report. We split the figures into three sets, based on bottom-up inventory-based estimates, land-surface models, and inversions.

For the bottom-up inventory-based estimates, we present the net land CO<sub>2</sub> flux (emissions and removals) from the LULUCF sector reported to UNFCCC (2022), three bookkeeping models (BLUE, H&N, OSCAR based on (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b)), global inventories (FAO), and a newly published dataset (Grassi et al., 2022a).

For the land-surface models, we use an ensemble of dynamic global vegetation models (DGVMs) TRENDYv10 from GCP2021 (Friedlingstein et al., 2022a). The TRENDYv10 results do not have a managed land mask applied.

For the top-down observational-based estimates, we use inverse model results from GCP2021 (Friedlingstein et al., 2022a), and an improved CAMS inversion including lateral fluxes and managed land masks(Chevallier et al., 2005; Chevallier, 2021) which is a CoCO2 product. The GCP2021 inversions do not have a managed land mask applied.

			CO <sub>2</sub> anthropogenic						
	Data/model name	Contact / lab	Species / Period	Reference/Metadata					
	UNFCCC NGHGI (2022)	UNFCCC	Anthropogenic fossil CO <sub>2</sub> 1990-2020	IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC, 2006) UNFCCC NIRs/CRFs (UNFCCC, 2022)					
BU	Compilation of multiple CO <sub>2</sub> fossil emission data sources (Andrew, 2020): EDGAR, BP, EIA, CDIAC, IEA, GCP, CEDS, PRIMAP	CICERO	CO <sub>2</sub> fossil country totals and split by fuel type 1990-2020 (or last available year)	EDGAR v7.0_GHG (Crippa et al., 2022) BP 2022 report (BP, 2022) EIA (EIA, <i>no date</i> ) CDIAC <u>https://energy.appstate.edu/CDIAC</u> updated from (Gilfillan and Marland, 2021) IEA (IEA, 2022) CEDS (O'Rourke et al., 2021) GCP (Friedlingstein et al., 2022a) PRIMAP-hist (Gütschow and Pflüger, 2022)					
TD	Fossil fuel CO <sub>2</sub> inversions	LSCE	Inverse fossil fuel CO <sub>2</sub> emissions 2005-2020	VERIFY Deliverable D2.12 (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021a), an as-yet unpublished update of Deliverable D2.11 (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021b)					

## Table 1: Data sources for the fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions included in this study

#### Table 2: Data sources for the land CO<sub>2</sub> emissions included in this study

Product Type / file or directory name	Contact / lab	Variables / Period	References						
		Inventories							
UNFCCC NGHGI (2022)	UNFCCC	LULUCF Net CO <sub>2</sub> emissions/removals	IPCC, 2006 Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Prepared the National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Programme. IGES, Jac https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/, 2006.(IPCC, 2006)						
			UNFCCC Annex 1 CRFs <u>https://unfccc.int/ghg-inventories-annex-i-parties/2022</u> ( <u>UNFCCC, n.db)</u>						
			UNFCCC BURs: <u>https://unfccc.int/BURs</u> (UNFCCC, n.da) via (Deng et al., 20						
		Bookkeeping models	•						
BLUE	MPI/LMU Munich	Net C flux from land use change, split into the contributions of different types of land use (cropland vs pasture expansion, afforestation, wood harvest)	(Hansis et al., 2015) as updated in (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b)						
H&N	Woodwell Climate Research Center	C flux from land use and land cover	(Houghton and Nassikas, 2017) as updated in (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b)						
OSCAR	IIASA	C flux from land use and land cover	(Gasser et al., 2020) as updated in (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b)						
FAO	FAOSTAT	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions/removal from LULUCF sectors	(Federici et al., 2015; Tubiello et al., 2021)						
Grassi	JRC	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions/removal from LULUCF sectors	(Grassi et al., 2022a)						
	_	Process-based model	<u>s</u>						
TRENDY v10 (2020)	MetOffice UK	Land related C emissions (NBP) from	(Friedlingstein et al., 2022a) and references therein.						
	1	Inversion models							
GCP 2021	GCP	Total CO <sub>2</sub> inverse flux (NBP)	(Friedlingstein et al., 2022a) and references therein.						
Global inversions (CTE, CAMS, CarboScope, UoE, CMS-Flux, NISMON-CO2)		6 inversions							
CAMS via CoCO <sub>2</sub>	LSCE	CO <sub>2</sub> fluxes, includes lateral fluxes and a managed-land mask	(Chevallier, 2021)						

# 2.4 Anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions

The bottom-up inventory-based estimates for  $CH_4$  anthropogenic emissions come from three global inventories: EDGAR (v4.3.2, v6.0 and v7.0), FAOSTAT and GAINS (Table 3). These estimates are not completely independent from NGHGIs (see Figure 4 in (Petrescu et al., 2020)) as they integrate their own sectorial modelling with the UNFCCC data (e.g. common activity data (AD) and IPCC emission factors (EFs)) when no other source of information is available.

We do not report data for the natural CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, but they are available from the VERIFY project as wetlands and "other natural emissions", the latter including geological sources, inland waters (lakes, rivers and reservoirs) and biomass burning (Saunois et al., 2020). The natural emissions were subtracted from inversions (see section 4, following the methodology described by Deng et al. (2022)).

The top-down observational-based estimates from atmospheric inversions combine atmospheric observations, transport and chemistry models and estimates of GHG sources with their uncertainties, to estimate emissions. Emission estimates from inversions depend on the data set of atmospheric measurements and the choice of the atmospheric model, as well as on other settings (e.g., prior emissions and their uncertainties). For CH<sub>4</sub>, we use data from both regional (EU27) and global inversions developed in the VERIFY project, the CIF intercomparison (Berchet et al., 2021), CoCO2 CH<sub>4</sub> results from CAMS v19r and v21r, and from the GCP (Saunois et al., 2020). Inversion priors are based on both GOSAT and SURF observations, as well as EDGAR v4.3.2 and v6(Table 3).

Product name	Variables / Period	Contact / lab	References
	Inventories (a		
UNFCCC CRFs and BURs	CH₄ totals and sectoral emissions with uncertainties 1990-2020	MS inventory agencies	UNFCCC CRFs https://unfccc.int/ghg-inventories-annex-i-parties/2022 UNFCCC BURs : https://unfccc.int/BURs via (Deng et al., 2022)
EDGARv4.3.2	CH₄ totals and sectoral emissions 1990-2012	EC- JRC/PBL	(Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019)
EDGAR v6.0	CH₄ totals and sectoral emissions 1990-2018	EC- JRC/PBL	(Crippa et al., 2021) (Crippa et al., 2019) (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019) (Solazzo et al., 2021)
EDGARv7.0	CH <sub>4</sub> totals and sectoral emissions 1990-2020	EC- JRC/PBL	(Crippa et al., 2021; Crippa et al., 2022)
GAINS	CH₄ sectoral emissions 1990-2015	IIASA	(Höglund-Isaksson, 2012; Höglund-Isaksson, 2017; Höglund- Isaksson et al., 2020) (Gómez-Sanabria et al., 2018)
FAOSTAT	CH₄ agriculture emissions, and Energy, IPPU & Waste 1990-2020	FAO	(FAOSTAT, 2022) (Tubiello, 2019; Tubiello et al., 2021)
CAPRI	CH4 agricultural emissions 1990-2014 and 2016, 2018	EC-JRC	(Britz and Witzke, 2014)

Table 3: Data sources for the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{CH}}_4$  emissions included in this study

			(Weiss and Leip, 2012)				
	Atmospheri	c inversions					
GCP CTE-CH4	Prior and posterior CH <sub>4</sub> fluxes with uncertainties from SURF (2005-2018) and GOSAT (2010-2017)	FMI	(Saunois et al., 2020) and model specific references in Appendix B, Table B4, (Petrescu et al., 2021b) (Tsuruta et al., 2017)				
CTE-CH4 VERFY S4, S5	Prior and posterior CH <sub>4</sub> fluxes with uncertainties(2005-2018)	FMI	(Tsuruta et al., 2017) (Thompson et al., 2022)				
CAMS v19r CAMS v21r	Prior (1999-2019) and posterior NOAA based CH <sub>4</sub> fluxes (1999-2019) and NOAA-GOSAT based (2009-2019) Prior (1979-2021) and posterior NOAA based CH <sub>4</sub> fluxes (1979-2021) and NOAA-GOSAT based (2009-2021)	ΤΝΟ	https://confluence.ecmwf.int/display/CKB/CAMS%3A+Reanalysis+d ata+documentation				
FLEXPART – CIF FLExKFv2021 VERIFY	Prior and posterior CH₄ fluxes from VERIFY and VERIFY- CIF intercomparison	NILU, EMPA	(Brunner et al., 2012) (Brunner et al., 2017) (Berchet et al., 2021)				

# 2.5 Other methodological issues

In the figures presented in this report, we essentially plot the various inversions and inventory methods on the same figure, to allow a visual comparison. There has not been a full uncertainty analysis, that would for example, quantify if one dataset has a statistically significant difference to another. Very few datasets provide uncertainty information. Methods to present the results, including uncertainties, need to be improved. Additionally, methods are needed to assess the statistical significance of any differences, given reported uncertainties.

## 2.5.1 System boundary issues

System boundary issues are a challenge for all comparisons made here. Independent estimates often have different system boundaries. These can sometimes be minor, but at other times (e.g., land) be significant. Relevant system boundary issues are discussed in each section below, but here we discuss some key issues.

#### 2.5.1.1 Country gridding

A general system boundary issue is masking of gridded results to the country level, where it is important that it is known how modelling groups have defined emissions in each grid cell and to ensure the mask correctly captures country and economic zone effects, in line with how official NGHGIs are reported.

#### 2.5.1.2 Land masks

In a UNFCCC context, the net uptake on land (LULUCF) is defined based on a 'managed land proxy'. This proxy was originally intended to represent anthropogenic activities, and is defined to cover land "where human interventions and practices have been applied to perform production, ecological or social functions" (IPCC, 2006). Countries do not report spatial grids of their manged land definitions, but "intact" and "non-intact" forest area has been found to be a good proxy for unmanaged and managed land (Grassi et al., 2021). Applying a non-intact forest area mask to the net land  $CO_2$  flux in an inversion model or DGVM is one way to approximate the system boundary of LULUCF in NGHGIs.

#### 2.5.1.3 International shipping and aviation

For a careful comparison of inversions (gridded) results with UNFCCC NGHGIs (country) several factors needed to be considered.

International transport is not included in country totals in NGHGIs, but it is reported as a "memo" based on the sale of bunker fuels in each country (not the use of bunker fuels). A flight starting in France and landing in Poland would be classed as international, even though all the emissions occurred over EU territory. An inversion using satellite information, might see the emissions over each country in the flight path, but that would not appear in the NGHGI. The same problem applies to flights with a landing or take-off in the EU but landing a country outside of the EU. International shipping has the same issues, whether a shipping leaving Europe to cross the Atlantic or a ship along the Rhine crossing country borders.

Despite this potential system boundary issue, it is unclear whether it is important yet. Inversions currently relying on in-situ observations would not be affected by this, as the observations would not detect the emissions emitted at cruising altitude. For this reason, the TNO emission inventories (from CoCO2 WP2), include landing and take-off of all flights, domestic and international, but not the emissions at cruising altitude. This could nevertheless be an issue for shipping, but the size of the source is probably below the detection limit of current inversion methodologies. As methods improve, and as satellite data are increasingly used, these second-order effects will need a more detailed assessment.

# 3 Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (FCO<sub>2</sub>) can be separated into emissions from the oxidation of fossil fuels (FFCO<sub>2</sub>) and chemical transformation of fossil carbonates into CO<sub>2</sub>. Care needs to be taken to ensure consistency in comparisons, as some methods compare FCO<sub>2</sub> and others FFCO<sub>2</sub>. This is discussed further in the relevant sections.

#### 3.1 Inventory-based estimates

Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 show fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (FCO<sub>2</sub>) from global datasets, both globally and for the EU27. 'Raw' totals from these datasets have differing system boundaries, meaning they don't all include the same set of emissions sources. Harmonising is an attempt to remove these differences in coverage to provide more comparable estimates, partly to prevent the false inference of uncertainty relating to the spread of raw estimates. Further details are provided by Andrew (2020). Figures 1 and 3 show unharmonized inventories, while Figures 2 and 4 show harmonised inventories. Importantly, our harmonization process is constrained by the level of detail published in individual datasets, and the harmonization is necessarily partial, not ending up exactly with apples-for-apples comparisons, but closer than comparing unharmonized data.



Figure 1: Comparison of unharmonized global fossil  $CO_2$  emissions from multiple inventory datasets.





# Figure 2: Comparison of global fossil $CO_2$ emissions from multiple inventory datasets with system boundaries harmonised as much as possible. Harmonisation is limited by the disaggregated information presented by each dataset.

Most datasets agree well within expected system boundary differences (Andrew, 2020). As reported in the previous version of this report (December 2021), we discovered that EIA's estimates were high, and investigation showed that the emissions estimates had grown twice despite the underlying energy data remaining virtually unchanged. Contact with the EIA revealed they had introduced two separate errors leading to double-counting, and their correction led to a drop in EIA's estimates of global fossil  $CO_2$  emissions by about 1 Gt  $CO_2$ .



Figure 3: Comparison of EU fossil  $CO_2$  emissions from multiple inventory datasets. CDIAC does not report emissions for countries that did not exist prior to 1992. The uncertainty whiskers in the top-right indicate the approximate uncertainty for EDGAR and UNFCCC.

#### CoCO<sub>2</sub>



Figure 4: Comparison of EU fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from multiple inventory datasets with system boundaries harmonised as much as possible. Harmonisation is limited by the disaggregated information presented by each dataset. CDIAC does not report emissions for countries that did not exist prior to 1992.

For the bottom-up inventory-based estimates, it is possible to produce the figures for all countries. Figure 5 repeats the figures for two-largest emitters, China and USA, and figures for the next-largest emitters can be found in the Annex: India, Russia, Japan, Iran, Germany, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and Indonesia. For China, the EIA estimates are significantly higher than others, and Andrew (2020) offers some explanation for this. Otherwise, the datasets are similar in most instances, but further work is ongoing to uncover the reasons for remaining divergences between these datasets.



# CoCO<sub>2</sub>



Figure 5: Comparison of China (top) and USA (bottom) fossil  $CO_2$  emissions from multiple inventory datasets with system boundaries harmonised as much as published data detail allows.

# 3.2 Atmospheric inversions

The best top-down observation-based constraint on national scale estimates of anthropogenic  $CO_2$  emissions in Europe over more than the past decade are satellite measurements of  $NO_2$  and CO, which are "proxy" species co-emitted with  $CO_2$  by fossil fuel combustion (FFCO<sub>2</sub>). Results from the first atmospheric inversions of the European FFCO<sub>2</sub> emissions in VERIFY (Konovalov and Lvova (2018); Petrescu et al. (2021a)), indicated that there were much larger uncertainties associated with the assimilation of CO data than to that of  $NO_2$  data for such a purpose.

In the first and second (current) version of this report we present selected results from outputs from the VERIFY project (deliverable D2.11 and deliverable D2.12), which developed an atmospheric inversion workflow quantifying monthly and annual budgets of the national emissions of FFCO<sub>2</sub> in Europe (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021b; Fortems-Cheiney et al., 2021). This workflow, implemented in the Community Inversion Framework (CIF; Berchet et al., 2021), estimates the  $NO_x$  emissions that when fed into a regional chemical transport model (CHIMERE; Menut et al., 2013) best match satellite-measured NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, while simultaneously minimising the difference between these estimated NO<sub>x</sub> emissions and those from the prior inventory dataset, TNO-GHGco-v2 or TNO-GHGco-v3 (Denier van der Gon et al., 2020). This is a minimisation of least-squares optimisation process, solved iteratively (Rodgers, 2000; Chevallier et al., 2005). This workflow is applied over the period 2005-2020, on a  $0.5^{\circ} \times 0.5^{\circ}$  grid. Ratios of FFCO<sub>2</sub> emissions to NO<sub>x</sub> emissions directly derived from TNO-GHGco-v3 for five sectors (energy, industry, residential, road transport and the rest of the sectors), for each country and each month are then used to estimate fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the NO<sub>x</sub> estimates produced by the inversion modelling. Several critical aspects of this workflow need to be highlighted: (i) Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet (2021a) have not reported estimates of the uncertainty in the final FFCO<sub>2</sub> emissions yet (ii) the FFCO<sub>2</sub> emission budgets provided by the TNO-GHGco-v3 inventory are based on the emissions reported by countries to UNFCCC, which are assumed to be accurate in Europe, therefore the inversion prior estimate (which is also its first guess in the variational inversion framework) is consistent with the inventory estimates.

For the EU27+UK, inversion products (emissions provided by the TNO-GHGco-v2 inventory and the maps of total Nox anthropogenic Emissions) yield credible numbers compared to nine inventory estimates from datasets with global coverage (Figure 6). After modelling was complete it was discovered that the prior fossil emissions estimates provided by TNO included non-combustion emissions (prior estimates were FCO<sub>2</sub>, and not FFCO<sub>2</sub>), the effect of which has not yet been determined.



Figure 6: EU27+UK total CO<sub>2</sub> fossil emissions, as reported by nine global inventory data sources: BP, EIA, CEDS, EDGAR, GCP, IEA, CDIAC, PRIMAP-hist and UNFCCC NGHGIs with a top-down, fast-track CIF-CHIMERE atmospheric inversion (black dot) (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021b). The data represent EU27+UK for the year 2019 split per fuel type. 'Others' are emissions not categorised by fuel, and international bunker fuels are not usually included in total emissions at sub-global level. Neither EDGAR nor PRIMAP-hist publishes a break-down by fuel type, so only the totals are shown.

Figure 7 shows the annual posterior fossil-CO<sub>2</sub> estimate from Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet (2021b) compared with the prior estimates for the EU27. As discussed above, the similarity of the inversion estimates with the inventory estimates here does not indicate a verification of the inventory estimates, but rather suggests that the workflow functions well and that the inversion was not pulled away from its prior estimate by major lack of fit to the satellite NO<sub>2</sub> data. Further work will be needed to make the inversion outputs more independent and less reliant on (prior) inventory estimates before they can be used for verification, and to derive robust estimates of the posterior uncertainties. Despite the agreement with the inventory estimates is likely very high (probably similar to that reported by Konovalov and Lvova (2018)) due to high uncertainties in both the NO<sub>x</sub> inversions and the conversion into FFCO<sub>2</sub> emission estimates. This work is continuing.



# Figure 7: Comparison of inversion results for the EU with prior FFCO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated by the TNO-GHGco-v3 inventory (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021b). Note that the proximity of the inversion results to the prior estimates is not a direct indicator of verification, without additional information on the prior and posterior uncertainty and supporting statistical analysis (see discussion in the text).

While we still lack quantified posterior uncertainty estimates, they are currently thought to be high. Therefore, the agreement of the inversion result with inventory estimates is encouraging but is insufficient to confirm either of the estimates. The close agreement tells us that the inversion approach has not found sufficient evidence that the inventories are incorrect. Some reasons for this are lack of spatial coverage, sensitivity to the surface in the data, and the relatively high level of observation uncertainties. Country-level results show in some cases near-perfect agreement between the inversion modelling output and inventory estimates (Figure 28). However, this generally results from insufficient satellite data (because of cloud cover) for these countries, and/or that emissions of  $NO_2$  are low (e.g., rural areas), such that minimal 'correction' is obtained to adjust the prior (inventories). Thus far the work involved has been aimed at proving the concepts and building the required modelling infrastructure and workflow. One of the main constraints to reducing uncertainty in this approach is the current lack of observation networks dedicated to the monitoring of FFCO<sub>2</sub> emissions, such as the planned constellations of satellite CO<sub>2</sub> spectro-imagers (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021b): "the uncertainties in the FFCO<sub>2</sub> inversions presented here are still too high to attempt at using these inversions to improve the current knowledge on the FFCO<sub>2</sub> national scale emission budgets in Europe, although further progresses are expected". Focusing on nationalscale inversion configurations for European countries and on recent years during which the availability and resolution of CO<sub>2</sub> and pollutant data has significantly increased, CoCO<sub>2</sub>'s WP4 (T4.4) should make a step forward towards an assessment of national scale FFCO<sub>2</sub> emission budgets in Europe.

Inversion results for countries outside of Europe are not yet available from the combined projects VERIFY, CHE, and  $CoCO_2$ . Some progress has been made in  $CoCO_2$  (Task 4.4) for the USA. Given  $CoCO_2$ 's additional focus on the global top-10 emitters, effort will need to be invested in sourcing inversion results, potentially from collaborators outside of Europe (e.g., Basu et al., 2020).

# 4 Net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes

The net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes are based on inventories, process models, and atmospheric inversions estimates from VERIFY, extended to include a CoCO<sub>2</sub> inversion (using CAMS). In the first version of this report, the inventory datasets (UNFCCC, FAOSTAT, BLUE, Houghton & Nassikas), the TRENDYv10 ensemble (min, median, max), the atmospheric inversions (min, mean, max), plus a CAMS inversion including lateral fluxes (CoCO<sub>2</sub> activity) and a managed land mask (Chevallier, 2021) were all included on the same figure (Figure 8). The problem with this figure is that it mixes too many datasets with many different system boundaries. In this version of the deliverable, we will break this figure into three separate figures depending on the key methodology used.



# Figure 8: A comparison of inventories and inversions land $CO_2$ fluxes for the EU28 (EU27+UK). Shaded areas show maxima and minima of the TRENDY (grey) and GCP inversion (yellow) collections.

System boundary issues plaque comparisons of net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes. The question of how to define whether these carbon fluxes are anthropogenic is at the core of this issue (Grassi et al., 2018). The carbon cycle and land surface modelling communities (e.g., IPCC assessment reports) define anthropogenic carbon fluxes on land differently to the inventory community (e.g., IPCC guidelines), though methods are being developed to bridge the differences (Grassi et al., 2021). There are two dimensions to this complex problem: 1) what land areas have anthropogenic changes (what is 'managed land'), and 2) are environmental factors (CO<sub>2</sub> fertilisation, climate, etc) or disturbances anthropogenic? The IPCC Guidelines (used in UNFCCC NGHGI) have country determined 'managed land' areas and include direct and indirect (environmental) factors. Bookkeeping approaches (BLUE, H&N, OSCAR) consider direct effects on land reported as having a land use transition, but exclude indirect effects. Land surface models (TRENDY) and inversions consider all land and all effects, but therefore need to disaggregate results to the appropriate level to facilitate comparisons with other datasets. Depending on the share of land managed versus transitioning, and the size of the direct and indirect effects, the differences can be substantial (Grassi et al., 2018; Petrescu et al., 2020). Therefore, comparison of independent estimates of net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes need to consider the effect of these system boundary issues. The CoCO<sub>2</sub> CAMS inversion includes a managed land mask and therefore provides additional knowledge to aid in comparisons.

To reduce the effect of these system boundary issues and facilitate a more meaningful discussion of system boundary issues, this second version of the deliverable splits the comparisons into three figures: 1) Bookkeeping and inventory-based estimates, 2) inventory-based land-surface models, and 3) inversion-based estimates. In each of these figures, the comparisons are made relative to the UNFCCC NGHGI estimates (Annex I countries) or the estimates of Grassi et al. (2022a) (non-Annex I countries). Each of these figure types will be discussed in turn.

## 4.1 Bookkeeping and inventory-based estimates

Figure 9 (EU27) and Figure 10 (Brazil) show the inventory estimates for the bookkeeping models – OSCAR, BLUE, Houghton & Nassikas – together with the inventory-based estimates (FAO and Grassi et al. (2022a)), compared with the UNFCCC NGHGI. These countries are selected to facilitate a discussion on the comparisons. The three bookkeeping models consider direct effects only, for identified land-use transitions. They, therefore, exclude indirect effects and emissions from land that does not transition (e.g., forests remaining forests). The three inventory estimates (FAO, Grassi et al 2022a, NGHGI) are based on the IPCC Reporting Guidelines, though with different level of Tiers, but are otherwise expected to give similar results. Grassi et al (2022a) is based on the UNFCCC NGHGI data reported in 2021 (Annex I countries), which differ slightly to the UNFCCC NGHGI data reported in 2022. Overall, FAO uses a simpler approach and the forest land areas based on country statistics from the FAO/FRA process which may differ to NGHGIs. However, within uncertainties, the agreement is reasonable between FAO, Grassi et al. (2022a), and UNFCCC NGHGI.

There are often large differences between the bookkeeping models and the inventory-based estimates. First and foremost, the bookkeeping models and the inventory-based methods are estimating different things: the bookkeeping models include direct effects of land-use transitions, the inventories include direct and indirect effects of the larger managed land (Grassi et al., 2018). Thus, any alignment between bookkeeping models and inventory estimates should be coincidental. However, in some cases, there may be physical rational behind similarities. Since most of the EU land area is managed and the Houghton and Nassikas bookkeeping model takes a country level approach using FAO data, then the similarity in estimates for the EU could imply the indirect effects are relatively small (Petrescu et al., 2020). BLUE and OSCAR use an alternative grid-based land-use product (LUH2), which may explain their higher estimates, through processes such as shifting cultivation. However, since most of the Brazilian forest area is unmanaged, then the similarities in the estimates would require different drivers. While each country requires a deeper analysis of the underlying areas and implied emission factors (carbon densities) to reconcile the differences between estimates, any agreement between these datasets should be considered coincidental. Work is ongoing to better map between these estimates (Grassi et al., 2022b).





Figure 9: Net land  $CO_2$  flux for bookkeeping type models for the EU27. Romania has been removed from the EU27 total due to carbon stock data.



#### Figure 10: Net land CO<sub>2</sub> flux for bookkeeping type models for Brazil.

#### 4.2 Inventory-based land-surface models

As process-based land surface models, the Dynamic Global Vegetation Models (DGVMs), can provide additional details to inventories, and allow modelling of future evolution of the net land  $CO_2$  flux. The process-based models are forced by climate and therefore have interannual variability, while bookkeeping models and inventories are based on data or methods that essentially smooth out variability. This makes comparisons more complicated.

A total of 17 DGVMs follow a consistent protocol to allow model comparisons (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b). The different simulations in the TRENDY protocol are:

- S0 is a control simulation using fixed pre-industrial (1700) atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and a time-invariant pre-industrial land cover distribution,
- S1 applies historical changes in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and Nitrogen inputs,
- S2 applies S1 and climate,
- S3 applies S2 and changing land cover distribution and wood harvest rates.

The 'natural' land sink is given by S2 and the net land  $CO_2$  flux is given by S3, the difference (S3-S2) is directly comparable to the estimated land use flux from the bookkeeping models (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b). There are two main choices on how to compare the TRENDY results with the UNFCCC NGHGIS:

- 1. Compare with inventories and the TRENDY estimated net CO<sub>2</sub> land flux (S3)
- 2. Compare with bookkeeping models and the TRENDY LUC estimate (S3-S2).

Neither of these comparisons with the UNFCCC NGHGIs has a consistent system boundary, with a mapping required to make consistent comparisons (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b; Grassi et al., 2022b). We nevertheless make the comparisons here to facilitate a discussion of the system boundary issues.

Figure 11 shows a comparison of the bookkeeping models, DGVMs, and the Grassi et al (2022) inventory. There is a good agreement between the DGVMs and bookkeeping models, as has been discussed in the Global Carbon Budget (Friedlingstein et al., 2022b). However, there is a large discrepancy with the global inventory estimates due to the different definitions used by the science community and the inventory community (Grassi et al., 2018). Though this figure is global, it is a good illustration of why the bookkeeping models, DGVMs, and inventories are not suitable for meaningful comparisons. While bookkeeping models and DGVMs can produce similar estimates, bookkeeping models only account for land-use change and harvest (but without any forest demography structure) at constant  $CO_2$  and climate, whereas DGVMs account for all fluxes but generally not for forest disturbances and their impact on forest sinks. The inventory estimates include a large share of managed forests, where  $CO_2$  fertilisation and other environmental factors over a significantly larger land area, turn an emission source into a sink.



Figure 11: A comparison of the global LULUCF from the bookkeeping models, the TRENDY DGVM individual results and median, and the Grassi et al (2022) inventory estimates. Note that the TRENDY results are from Friedlingstein et al 2022a, but the bookkeeping models from Friedlingstein et al 2022b.

Figure 12 compares the total net land CO<sub>2</sub> flux with the Grassi et al (2022) global inventory. The rationale behind this choice is that the NGHGIs countries generally report larger areas as managed, though, not all areas. If all areas were assumed managed, then the TRENDY net land CO<sub>2</sub> flux would presumably be more similar to the Grassi et al. (2022a) inventory estimate. In Friedlingstein et al. (2022b), a reconciliation is made between the bookkeeping models and the inventory-based estimates, by combining the bookkeeping model estimates (analogous to S3-S2) with the non-intact forest share ( $\alpha$ ) of the total land sink (S2), which could be expressed as (S3-S2)+ $\alpha$ S2=( $\alpha$ -1)S2+S3. A study still under review at the time of writing provides a more detailed discussion of reconciling bookkeeping models and inventory estimates using the TRENDY ensemble (Grassi et al., 2022b), by estimating country level values of  $\alpha$  to make the adjustment between the different datasets (they use the bookkeeping models directly, not the TRENDY S3-S2). The outcome of this analysis can be included in the next version of the deliverable (December 2023).



# Figure 12: The global net land $CO_2$ flux for the TRENDY DGVM individual results and median compared with the inventory estimate from Grassi et al. (2022a).

Figure 13 (EU27) and Figure 14 (Brazil) show some sample country level results to illustrate the challenges and differences.

For the EU27, the UNFCCC NGHGI is very similar to the S3 simulation (bottom), which could be expected if all EU27 land is managed and direct and indirect effects are considered: essentially, the NGHGI and the net land  $CO_2$  flux from DGVMs have very similar system boundaries in the case of the EU. The differences between the bookkeeping models, DGVMs, and the UNFCCC NGHGI are larger (top), as indicated earlier, and this is since different models and methods separate out the contributions to the total emissions using different assumptions.

For Brazil, the results contrast with the EU. A large part of Brazil is not defined as managed land, thus the Grassi et al. (2022a) inventory and the DGVM (S3) have different system boundaries: the DGVMs suggest that Brazil is a sink (larger area), while the inventory suggests otherwise (smaller area). On the other hand, the bookkeeping models, DGVMs, and inventories are more comparable in Brazil, likely indicating they use similar system boundaries (areas).

These examples indicate that it is easy to overinterpret comparisons between inventories, bookkeeping models, and DGVMs, as they all capture different components and land areas.

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While some estimates may match in one country, they can diverge in another, purely because of system boundary issues. Differences in methods and data give additional uncertainties. The key system boundaries to consider are the land area under consideration, and wither direct or direct and indirect effects are included.



Figure 13: A comparison of UNFCCC NGHGIs for the EU27 and the TRENDY DGVM individual results and median with bookkeeping models and S3-S3 (top) and S3 (bottom).

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# Figure 14: A comparison of UNFCCC NGHGIs for Brazil and the TRENDY DGVM individual results and median with bookkeeping models and S3-S3 (top) and S3 (bottom).

#### 4.3 Inversion-based estimates

A comparison of inversions with inventories gives yet another method to compare the net land  $CO_2$  flux. Here, the six inversions from the Global Carbon Budget 2021 are used (Friedlingstein et al., 2022a), initially without a managed land mask or lateral transport adjustments. Figure 15 shows the inversions and their mean compared to inventory estimates for the EU27 and Brazil. The mean of the inversions is much lower than the inventory for the EU27, in contrast to what was found for the TRENDY DGVM results (S3). For Brazil, the results are similar, but this is not expected since the inversions should capture a much larger land area than the inventory alone. These inversions have not been adjusted for lateral fluxes, nor a managed



land mask. The next version of this report (December 2023) will include the lateral fluxes for the individual inversions; however, we now look at the potential size of this effect.

# Figure 15: The net land CO2 flux from six inversions (thin lines) and median and inventory estimates for the EU27 (top) and Brazil (bottom).

The CAMS inversion has been repeated to include lateral carbon fluxes and a managed land mask. These inversions are shown for the EU28 (not available for the EU27) and Brazil, in Figure 16. While this is only available for one set of inversions (CAMS), the results give a clear indication of the trend. In both cases shown, the use of a managed land mask and adjusting for lateral fluxes brings the inversions much closer to the inventory-based estimate. Similar results are found for other regions, depending on the area of managed land and the size of the lateral fluxes. The findings of Chevallier (2021) suggest that the land mask has a small effect on the results, suggesting that the lateral flux corrections are the dominant driver of the



differences. This needs more confirmation as these results are further analysed in the CoCO2 project.

Figure 16: The CAMS inversions without (green) and with (orange) adjustments for lateral carbon fluxes and a managed land mask for Brazil and the EU28. The uncertainty band for one standard deviation is shown for the adjusted inversion.

# 4.4 Summary discussion of net land

In this revised section on net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes, the issues in comparing estimates on land were highlighted. Without adjusting datasets for consistent system boundaries, one could argue that there is little to be gained in comparing different land use data products. A key driver of the results is likely to be the land areas covered, which are not routinely provided by different datasets. If land areas are available, then back calculation of implied carbon densities and their changes over time can be compared to provide additional interpretation of different data products. This can be used to estimate the potential size of direct and indirect effects, or even

potential sizes of lateral carbon fluxes. <sub>CO2</sub>There are some recent studies that develop methods to reconcile different bookkeeping and inventory estimates using DGVMs as a bridge between estimates (e.g., Grassi et al 2022b), but much further work is needed to move more in the direction of verification.

# 5 Anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions

Methane is the second most important GHG after  $CO_2$  but more potent because of its higher radiative efficiency.  $CH_4$  contributes to ~17% of the total global GHGs emissions using a Global Warming Potential (GWP,  $CO_2$ -eq), but around 50% of current observed warming (IPCC AR6) due to its potent but short-lived nature. Sector wise, the primary sources of anthropogenic  $CH_4$  emissions are agriculture, fossil fuel production, and waste management. In this report, we compare and analyse data for top  $CH_4$  emitter countries, from observationbased bottom-up and top-down sources and compare them to national inventories reported to UNFCCC, from the Common Reporting Format tables (CRFs) for Annex I parties or from the Biannual Updated Reports (BURs) for the non-Annex I parties.



# Figure 17: Total global CH<sub>4</sub> anthropogenic emissions from seven inventories, updated from Minx et al., 2021. The FAO independently estimates CH<sub>4</sub> from agricultural, but uses EDGARv6 and PRIMAP-hist for the remaining sectors.

Figure 17 presents the total global anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from seven inventories. All the datasets Figure 17 agree in terms of increasing trends during the last two decades, with differences in absolute emissions values. The differences between inventories are mainly caused by methodologies of producing or using AD, EFs or technological abatement (Minx et al., 2021). For example, the EPA inventory uses the reported emissions by the countries to the UNFCCC (often Tier 3) while other inventories produce their own estimates using a consistent approach for all countries and country-specific AD and EFs. FAOSTAT and EDGAR mostly apply a Tier-1 approach to estimate CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, while GAINS uses a Tier-2 approach. CEDS is based on pre-existing emissions estimates from FAOSTAT and EDGAR, which are then scaled to match country-specific inventories, largely those reported to the UNFCCC (Minx et al., 2021). For EU27 the use of AD and EFs and linkages between data sources has been summarized in Figure 4 in Petrescu et al., 2020.

Table 4 presents the ranking of top world emitter countries by inventory and sectors and their contribution (%) to the total country emissions. The ranking of most of the countries across the three inventories agree well, except for Indonesia, where EDGARv6.0, v7.0 and GAINS report a very large contribution from the Energy sector while UNFCCC (BUR) reports three

times lower emissions. Indonesia reports that the waste sector has the highest contribution to the country's emissions. For Argentina, the largest contribution is from agriculture, while the inventories rank the contributions from energy and waste differently.

The contribution (2010-2020/2021) of the 10 largest emitters (China, India, USA, EU27, Brazil, Indonesia, Russia, Mexico, Australia, and Argentina) to the total global anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions is 58% for EDGARv6.0, 56% for EDGARv7.0, and 62% for GAINS (2010-2015).

Table 4: Ranking of top world emitter countries by inventory and sectors and their contribution (%) to the total CH4 country emissions. The numbers were calculated based on the average from 2010 to the last available inventory year. EDGARv4.3.2 data is not shown in this table since it ends in 2012.

			Inventory estimates													
		Energy					Agriculture				Waste					
1	Countries	UNFCCC	EDGARv6	EDGARv7	FAOSTAT	GAIN5	UNFCCC	EDGARv6	EDGARv7	FAOSTAT	GAINS	UNFCCC	EDGARve	EDGARv7	FAOSTAT	GAINS
2	China	49%	42%	43%	51%	49%	41%	35%	35%	24%	33%	10%	21%	22%	25%	18%
3	USA	44%	44%	43%	47%	46%	36%	36%	37%	33%	32%	20%	20%	20%	20%	22%
	India	12%	9%	9%	15%	15%	74%	67%	67%	64%	67%	14%	23%	24%	21%	18%
	EU27	20%	21%	22%	24%	17%	52%	47%	47%	45%	54%	28%	31%	31%	31%	29%
	Brazil	6%	4%	4%	8%	3%	78%	71%	71%	66%	81%	16%	24%	25%	26%	15%
	Russia	57%	61%	63%	63%	76%	15%	15%	14%	13%	9%	27%	23%	23%	24%	15%
	Indonesia	14%	43%	50%	51%	51%	30%	38%	31%	29%	34%	56%	19%	19%	20%	15%
	Mexico	12%	20%	19%	21%	18%	59%	43%	43%	38%	50%	29%	37%	38%	41%	33%
	Australia	33%	30%	30%	27%	33%	55%	59%	59%	64%	53%	12%	11%	11%	9%	14%
	Argentina	8%	17%	18%	18%	13%	73%	72%	71%	70%	74%	19%	11%	11%	12%	13%
	average 2010	-last year														

# 5.1 Inventory-based estimates

For total and sectoral anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from the inventory data we compare emissions time series from 1990-last available reported year from three EDGAR versions (v4.3.2, v6 and v7) which cover all sectors (Energy, Industry Processes and Products (IPPU), Agriculture and Waste), GAINS model which covers all sectors but IPPU which is nevertheless a small flux (~1%) compared to other sectors and from the UNFCCC CRFs and BURs. We include EDGARv4.3.2 as it is still used as a prior in some inversion models. For the sectoral emissions we also analyse the data from FAOSTAT (2022) and CAPRI model (only for EU27). We identified in most inventories, in this or similar order, the following top emitters: China, India, USA, Brazil, EU27, Russia, Indonesia, Mexico, Argentina and Australia.

For the total and sectoral  $CH_4$  emissions we chose to exemplify EU27 and Australia due to interesting discrepancies we found between the data sources, both in terms of values and trends. All other country figures are found in the Annex.

# 5.1.1 EU27

For EU27 the total  $CH_4$  anthropogenic emissions from all three EDGAR versions are consistently higher than the UNFCCC CRFs, while GAINS is lower. The datasets generally agree on reduction trends (1990-2015): 31% for UNFCCC, 34% GAINS, 34% EDGARv6.0, and 28% for EDGARv7.0. This also holds for Agriculture and Waste which, together, have the highest share of the total emissions (88%, Table 4). For Energy, all datasets have similar reduction trends (41% - 56% 1990-2015) and this is due to the updates and use of Tier 1


Figure 18: EU27 total anthropogenic sectoral emissions as: a) total, b) Energy, c) Industry and Products in Use (IPPU), d) Agriculture and e) Waste from UNFCCC (2022) submissions and all sectors excl. LULUCF (EDGAR v4.3.2, v6.0 and v7.0, GAINS and FAOSTAT) and CAPRI for Agriculture only. The means represent the common overlapping period 1990-2015. Last reported year in this study refers to 2020 (UNFCCC and FAOSTAT), 2015 (GAINS), 2012 (EDGARv4.3.2), 2018 (EDGARv6.0) and 2021 (EDGARv7.0).

Since 2022, FAOSTAT includes estimates for all IPCC economic sectors: Energy, IPPU, Waste and Other. These data are sourced from the PRIMAP-hist v2.4 dataset (Gütschow et al., 2022). Emissions totals from agrifood domain are computed following the Tier 1 methods of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines for National greenhouse gas (GHG) Inventories. Emissions from other economic sectors as defined by the IPCC are also disseminated in the domain for completeness. Emissions are calculated based on data from the UN Statistical Division (UNSD), the International Energy Agency (IEA) and other third-party. Overall, the bottom-up inventories for EU27 do a good job in capturing magnitudes and trends, particularly for Agriculture. IPPU remains the sector which is underestimated by all three EDGAR versions and we hypothesize this has to do with the mapping of activities in EDGAR compared to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines.

#### 5.1.2 Australia

For Australia, most discrepancies are between GAINS and the other data sources, and mainly for Energy and Waste. For Waste emissions, GAINS has an increasing trend, as opposed to EDGAR and UNFCCC, and this is since GAINS is modelled taking into account the socioeconomic status of the countries (e.g., the drivers used to project future municipal solid waste generation are GDP per capita and urbanization rate (Gómez-Sanabria *et al* 2018)) which are high in Australia.

EDGAR data is in fair agreement with UNFCCC during the last decade, in particular for Waste and Agriculture while for Energy we see a better match with UNFCCC starting 2013. This is caused by a drop in the solid, gas and oil use, and it reflects in the decline of the implied EFs for underground coal mines which decreased after 2012 (<u>https://unfccc.int/documents/273478</u>, Vol.1) while for oil wells the trend coincides with the closure of offshore and onshore wells after 2012. Perhaps a smaller contribution to the

decrease is the split of oil and gas emissions reported for flaring after 2009. Prior to 2009, the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA) data did not provide splits for flaring between oil and gas sources and, therefore, flaring emissions were reported in the oil/gas combined category. With the introduction of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme (NGER) for the inventory year 2009, separate emissions data has been available for the individual oil and gas flaring categories and therefore the flaring emissions been reported for 2009 onwards in those respective categories have (https://unfccc.int/documents/273478, Vol.1). GAINS Energy estimates are going upwards and we hypothesize that GAINS continues to take into account the emissions coming from the open holes of the abandoned mines, while the other inventories do not account for it.

For agriculture, FAO reports very fluctuating emissions showing a clear seasonal pattern. We found that this is due to FAO's inclusion of savannah fires into their Agriculture emissions. The other two BU inventories do not report savannah fires as part of their agricultural emissions but into LULUCF (4A Forest land and 4C Grassland) which is not included in this figure.



Figure 19: Australia total anthropogenic sectoral emissions as: a) total, b) Energy, c) Industry and Products in Use (IPPU), d) Agriculture and e) Waste from UNFCCC (2022) submissions and all sectors excl. LULUCF (EDGAR v4.3.2, v6.0 and v7.0, GAINS and FAOSTAT). The means represent the common overlapping period 1990-2015. Last reported year in this study refers to 2020 (UNFCCC and FAOSTAT), 2015 (GAINS), 2012 (EDGARv4.3.2), 2018 (EDGARv6.0) and 2021 (EDGARv7.0).

#### 5.1.3 Nordic countries

Across the Nordics countries, there are also large variations in CH<sub>4</sub> (and N<sub>2</sub>O) between the UNFCCC NGHGIs and different EDGAR estimates (v6 and v7), Figure 20. Methane emissions reported by EDGAR for Sweden, Norway and Finland are significantly higher than official reporting. For some sectors, EDGAR uses the same method for all countries. For example, fugitive emissions of methane in the oil and gas sector are estimated based on the level of production of oil and gas. EDGAR's methane emissions estimates for Norway (solid blue line) follow the pattern of its total production of oil and gas, not its reported emissions of methane. For Sweden, the differences lie in the waste sector. For Finland, the differences lie in both oil and gas and the waste sector. These differences can be up to an order of magnitude at the sector level.





Figure 20: A comparison of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O in the Nordic countries for UNFCCC, EDGARv6 (shown as EGR2021), and EDGARv7. For CH<sub>4</sub> the differences are significant.

### 5.2 Atmospheric inversions

For total anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from inversions we updated the data presented in the first version of this deliverable (D8.1) and we compare time series from 2000 to last available reported year from UNFCCC CRFs and BURs, emission data sets (EDGARv4.3.2, EDGARv6.0, EDGARv7.0 and GAINS) against global atmospheric CH<sub>4</sub> inversions from Deng et al. (2022) separated in those based on the assimilation of surface data (SURF) and those assimilating GOSAT satellite column CH<sub>4</sub> data.

#### 5.2.1 USA

The USA atmospheric inversion estimates, given the uncertain inventory estimates, compare well, and confirm a stabilising trend in emissions. However, for the  $CH_4$  emissions from oil and natural gas production regions in the USA, some inversions using remote sensing data from TROPOMI (Shen et al., 2022) on the SentineI-5P satellite are estimated 45% to 60% higher emissions than reported by US EPA (Schneising et al., 2020; Weller et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2020) and those will probably match better the GAINS estimates. However, TROPOMI results are not taken up in the figure, because of the relative short time frame of the TROPOMI observations.



Figure 21: Total anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions (Tg CH<sub>4</sub> yr<sup>-1</sup>) for USA from inventories (EDGARv4.3.2, v6, v7 and GAINS) plotted against UNFCCC national reports (CRFs and BURs) and global inversion ensembles a) CH<sub>4</sub> emissions based on satellite concentration observations (GOSAT) and b) from global model surface stations (SURF). The inversion ensembles are presented for the 4 methods (1, 2, 3.1 and 3.2) as described in section 1.4 of Deng et al. (2022).

#### 5.2.2 EU27

For EU27 we present next to reported data to UNFCCC (2022), anthropogenic CH4 emissions from regional top-down observation-based inversions as provided to the VERIFY project such as: CTE VERIFY (inclusive (S4) and core(S5)), CIF intercomparison (FFELXPART-CIF), FLEXkF\_VERIFY and CAMS v19r and v21r respectively. We show both results based on GOSAT (Figure 22) and on in-situ observation SURF (Figure 23). The total CH<sub>4</sub> inverse fluxes were further corrected for the natural fluxes which were subtracted from the inversions total flux. The natural emissions were those used in the latest VERIFY synthesis and are presented in Fig. 4b of Petrescu et al. (2022). Deng et al., 2022 applies its own methodologies to extract the anthropogenic flux from the total flux.



EU27: Comparison of anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from TD observation-based GOSAT estimates

Figure 22: Total anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions (Tg CH<sub>4</sub> yr<sup>-1</sup>) for EU27 from UNFCCC national reports (CRFs) compared to GOSAT obs-based global and regional inversion ensembles from a) CTE-CH4 b) Deng et al. (2022) methods (m1, m2, m3.1 and m3.2), and c) CAMSv19 and v21.

Each inversion provided both prior and posterior fluxes. As presented in Table 7 most inverse system use priors of anthropogenic emissions from EDGARv6.0 or v4.3.2. One difference in the results could be attributed to the spatial resolution which differs between inverse systems (CTE 1x1 degree, CAMS 3x2 degree) and the transport models used for allocating emissions to sources. Also, in CAMS, if a 3x2 grid cell included both ocean and countries, then the ocean part of the cell has been assigned to the included countries according to their ratio of presence in that cell. In the final version of this deliverable (D8.3), we plan to analyse prior and posterior data and their uncertainties and to complete the figures for all top emitters with TD results, including prior dataset vs posterior estimated fluxes, for both natural and anthropogenic fluxes.



EU27: Comparison of anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions from TD observation-based SURF estimates

# Figure 23: Total anthropogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions (Tg CH<sub>4</sub> yr<sup>-1</sup>) for EU27 from UNFCCC national reports (CRFs) compared to VERIFY simulations (CIF) and SURF observation-based global and regional inversion ensembles from a) CTE-CH4 b) Deng et al. (2022) methods (m1, m2, m3.1 and m3.2), c) FELXPART-CIF and FLEXkF and d) CAMSv19r and v21r.

For both GOSAT and SURF based estimates, Deng et al (2022) compares best with the UNFCCC reported values due to methodologies used to separate  $CH_4$  anthropogenic emissions from inversions to compare them with national inventories. The calculations of anthropogenic emissions by each method were performed separately for GOSAT inversions and in situ (SURF) inversions.

Four Once data on global natural CH<sub>4</sub> fluxes (wetlands, fire, geological and inland waters) will be available, we will update and asses their importance in correcting the inverse results, for a valid comparison with UNFCCC NGHGIs. The CTE system provided us with runs from the IG3IS project and GCP2021, which will processed for the next D8.3 report.

For reference, the UNFCCC reported uncertainties are in the range of 11.4% - 14.6%.

#### 5.3 Uncertainties from inverse systems

CTE-CH4 inversion system referenced by Tsuruta et al. (2017) provided prior and posterior fluxes and uncertainties (standard deviation) from surface inversions for 2005-2018 (those used by Thompson et al. (2022)). There are two sets of inversions: "VERIFY\_inclusive" (or S4 run in VERIFY) which uses as many available stations as possible, and "VERIFY\_core" (or S5 run in VERIFY) which only uses stations covering a sufficiently long period. The degrees of freedom in the state vector of the system was low, and therefore, the uncertainty estimates may not differ much between the two. Below we present three examples of uncertainty reduction maps, produced with data from the CTE system and which exemplifies how

important the increase in the number of observation stations (2006-2018) is in reducing uncertainties in flux estimates.



# Figure 24: VERIFY\_inclusive (S4) inversion run, uncertainty reduction maps computed as $(1 - \Delta post/\Delta prior)$ for 2006 and 2018 with different sets of observation stations.



## Figure 25: VERIFY\_core (S5) inversion run, uncertainty reduction maps computed as $(1 - \Delta post/\Delta prior)$ for 2006 and 2018 with different sets of observation stations.

From the two VERIFY results, the S4 run with all stations (Figure 24) shows higher uncertainty reductions in 2018 compared to 2006 because of more measurements available. Most reductions are observed in Central Europe (the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland). For S5 with core stations (Figure 25) the reductions are smaller, and observed in E Poland, N Italy and Spain.

The differences between the two years shown in the uncertainty maps are mostly due to the assimilated observation network sites. Some sites show weaker or stronger effects on the reduction of uncertainty. For those showing less effect, the main reasons are i) uncertainty assigned to the observations (i.e. how much weight/trust we put on it), ii) differences between prior/observations are large (i.e. 'wrong' magnitude or distribution of prior emissions, or bad transport modeling), and iii) prior emissions around the sites are simply very small, and therefore the inversion does not change fluxes much (i.e. prior flux uncertainty is small). For the sites that have a higher effect on uncertainty reduction, these reasons are important to be included in the inversion.

CTE-CH4 also provided us with GOSAT assimilated fluxes, for 2010-2017. In Figure 26 we present the uncertainty reduction maps between 2010 and 2017. Because the covariance structure is not the same as the latest surface inversion and Europe is optimized on 1x1 grid,

but with long spatial correlation (100 km vs 500 km), it is not possible to examine the effect of the satellite information by comparing to the CTE-CH4 surface inversions presented here. However, it is interesting to note how satellite data assimilation infers changes on a regional scale. Unlike surface stations, satellite data have more power to constrain northern emissions than central Europe.



# Figure 26: <u>CTE-CH</u><sub>4</sub> GOSAT inversion run, uncertainty reduction maps computed as $(1 - \Delta post/\Delta prior)$ for 2010 and 2017.

Because the covariance structure is not the same as the latest surface inversion and Europe is optimized on 1x1 grid, but with long spatial correlation (100 km vs 500 km), it is almost impossible to examine the effect of the satellite information by comparing to the CTE-CH<sub>4</sub> surface inversions presented here. However, it is interesting to note how satellite data assimilation infers changes on a regional scale. Unlike surface stations, satellite data have more power to constrain northern emissions than central Europe.

#### 5.4 Priors

One important reason for differences in simulated results are the priors used by inverse models. We subtracted from total prior/posterior fluxes natural emissions from the VERIFY project to be able to quantify the anthropogenic emissions and compare them with the prior emissions.

Some differences between prior emissions and prior simulated fluxes of the same run (CTE-GOSAT) or differences between runs (GOSAT versus VERIFY) can be explained (Figure 27): versions of some products (e.g., EDGAR) might differ so for example CTE-GOSAT used as anthropogenic prior EDGARv4.3.2FT up to 2017 (defined by the GCP protocol) while CTE-VERIFY core and inclusive runs used priors from simulated  $CH_4$  fluxes from the JSBACH-HIMMELI process-based model which used as anthropogenic fluxes EDGARv6.0.

In Table 7 (Annex) we list the models and their priors (anthropogenic and natural) as used by the top-down inversions. A more in detail analysis and disaggregation of these priors is needed to be able to explain differences between model results (e.g., as those of Figure 18, Figure 19, Figure 20, Figure 21, Figure 22, and Figure 23.



Figure 27: Anthropogenic CH4 prior and posterior emissions with their uncertainties from CTE-CH<sub>4</sub> - GOSAT, CTE-VERIFY inclusive (S4) and core (S5) runs compared to UNFCCC (2022) inventories and with prior anthropogenic datasets (EDGARv4.3.2 and v6.0)

## 6 Deviations and counter measures

At the time this report was written, except for CAMS WP6 contribution, we did not receive data/uncertainties from CoCO<sub>2</sub> products. We based most of our analysis on data already processed in the VERIFY project. For the final update of this report (December 2023) we hope to include more CoCO<sub>2</sub> material and more targeted comparisons and analysis.

## 7 Conclusion

This deliverable presents comparisons of inventory-based and observation-based inventory approaches, building on earlier work in VERIFY (Petrescu et al., 2021a; Petrescu et al., 2021b), and applied here to the largest emitters or countries that can be used to draw out interesting lessons. We highlight the differences and discrepancies between UNFCCC NGHGI, independent inventories, process-based models, and atmospheric inversion estimates. The analysis focused on the fossil  $CO_2$  emissions, net land  $CO_2$  fluxes, and  $CH_4$  total and sectoral anthropogenic emissions.

For fossil  $CO_2$  emissions, figures highlighted the differences between datasets and the importance of harmonising datasets to make more relevant comparisons. We had limited data on  $CO_2$  inversions but showed and discussed inversion results for Europe. The results show a general consistency between inventories and  $NO_2$  based inversions, but without additional analysis of prior and posterior uncertainties it is not possible to assess the consistency

quantitively. Future work will focus on improved uncertainty analysis, and additionally, expand to cover other key fossil CO<sub>2</sub> emitters.

For net land  $CO_2$  fluxes, a variety of datasets are available to provide country-level estimates: bookkeeping models, process-based models, inversions-based estimates, in addition to inventories. In this version of the report, comparisons were made with inventories in three groups of figures: 1) bookkeeping models, 2) process-based models, 3) inversions. In each case, the issues of system boundaries were discussed. Under some conditions, where key assumptions in different datasets match, it is possible to make meaningful comparisons between datasets. However, in most cases, key assumptions do not align (such as managed land areas, direct versus indirect effects), and this inhibits meaningful comparisons in many cases. In this report, no effort was made to reconcile the bookkeeping models and land surface models comparable with each other, and with UNFCCC inventories. An active area of research is understanding the differences between datasets, to provide sufficient confidence to disseminate more broadly. The inversions also exhibit significant uncertainty, partially reflecting a lack of observations. However, a certain consistency with other studies was found for the larger countries, between some results assimilating surface measurements and others assimilating satellite measurements. The CoCO<sub>2</sub> CAMS inversions now include lateral fluxes and managed land masks, to properly compare with UNFCCC NGHGIs.

For CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, we make comparisons with a variety of inventory-based estimates and inversions. CH<sub>4</sub> emissions have increased in the last three decades, but have declined in the USA and EU (regulations) and Russia (dissolution of the Soviet Union). For the inventories, divergences between data sets can generally be attributed to different methodology and tiers used by each of the investigated inventories, when data is available to make comparisons (such as adctivity data and emission factors).. For the inversions, the general magnitudes and trends agree, but uncertainties are too large to be more specific. Uncertainty reduction maps can be used to identify the importance of specific observations, with the location or the time period of observations. The use of a variety of priors across different inversion systems can also inhibit comparability with inventories. For a more robust analysis, more detail is needed on prior and posterior uncertainties, to help identify statistically significant differences between datasets.

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## **Document History**

Version	Author(s)	Date	Changes
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V2	VU Amsterdam, CICERO, LSCE	23/12/2022	Includes reviewer comments in track changes
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## **Internal Review History**

Internal Reviewers	Date	Comments		
Claire Granier (LAERO)	30/01/2023	All comments addressed in the final version		
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## **Estimated Effort Contribution per Partner**

Partner	Effort
VU Amsterdam	2
CICERO	2
LSCE	2
Total	6

## 9 Annex 1: Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> figures

This Annex presents additional figures comparing fossil CO<sub>2</sub> estimates from inventory sources for the top-ten emitters globally.



#### CoCO<sub>2</sub>











### $CoCO_2$







CoCO<sub>2</sub>







#### CoCO<sub>2</sub>



## $CoCO_2$





## 10 Annex 2: Additional fossil CO<sub>2</sub> inversion figure

Figure 28: Comparison of inversion results (red lines) for each EU country with  $FFCO_2$  prior emissions estimated by the TNO-GHGco-v3 inventory (blue lines), Mt CO<sub>2</sub> (Fortems-Cheiney and Broquet, 2021b). Note that the proximity of the inversion results to the prior estimates is not a direct indicator of verification, without additional information on the prior and posterior uncertainty and supporting statistical analysis (see discussion in the text).

## 11 Annex 3: Net land CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes figures

Additional net land CO<sub>2</sub> flux figures available on request (too many to include in this Annex)

## 12 Annex 4: Methane figures

This Annex presents additional figures comparing CH<sub>4</sub> estimates from inventories and inversions sources for the top emitters globally.

# Table 5: Contribution from BU and TD of top 10 emitters (Tg CH4) to the global anthropogenic budget (average of 2010-last available year).

							Inversions estimates (Tg CH4 yr-1)						
	Total anthrop	ogenic, invento	ries (Tg CH4 yr-1)		Deng et al., 2022 Deng et al., 2022		Deng et al., 2022		Deng et al., 2022				
			method 1		method 2		method 3.1		method 3.2				
UNFCCC	EDGARv6	EDGARv7	FAOSTAT	GAINS	SURF	GOSAT	SURF	GOSAT	SURF	GOSAT	SURF	GOSAT	
55	64	66	57	53	44	53	46	51	51	54	47	50	
27	25	24	25	30	29	26	25	19	32	29	28	25	
20	28	31	28	30	32	28	30	28	38	30	34	26	
16	21	19	19	18	20	20	16	16	16	16	14	15	
16	21	21	20	16	22	23	22	23	30	38	21	29	
12	15	16	15	30	19	18	17	16	23	19	23	19	
8	12	13	12	10	12	11	12	9	7	11	8	11	
6	6	7	6	5	5	5	5	4	4	3	5	4	
4	5	6	5	5	5	5	4	4	2	3	4	4	
4	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	3	4	6	6	
avg 2010-2020	avg 2010-2018	avg 2010-2021	avg 2010-2020	avg 2010-2015									

Table 6: Uncertainties estimated for  $CH_4$  sources at the global scale: based on ensembles of inventories and inversion estimates, national reports, and specific uncertainty assessments of EDGAR. Note that this table provides uncertainty estimates from some of the key literature based on different methodological approaches. It is not intended to be an exhaustive treatment of the literature.

	Estimated uncertainty in USA inventories <sup>a</sup>	Janssens- Maenhout et al. (2019) EDGARv4.3.2 uncertainty at $2\sigma$	Solazzo et al. (2021) EDGARv5 uncertainty at $2\sigma$	Global invento- ries uncertainty range <sup>b</sup>	Saunois et al. (2020) BU uncertainty range <sup>c</sup>	Saunois et al. (2020) TD uncertainty range <sup>c</sup>
Total global anthropogenic sources (incl. Biomass burning)					±6 %	±6 %
Total global anthropogenic sources (excl. Biomass burning)		±47 %	-33 % to +46 %	$\pm 8\%$	±5 %	
Agriculture and Waste					$\pm 8~\%$	±8 %
Rice		±60 %	31 %-38 %	±22 %	±20 %	
Enteric fermentation Manure management	$\pm 10$ to 20 % $\pm 20$ % and up to $\pm 65$ %			±5%	±8 %	
Landfills and Waste	±10 % but likely much larger	±91 %	78 %–79 %	±17 %	±7 %	
Fossil fuel production & use					$\pm 20~\%$	±25 %
Coal	-15 % to +20 %	±75 %	65 %	$\pm40\%$	$\pm 28~\%$	
Oil and gas	-20 % to +150 %		93 %	±19 %	±15 %	
Other		±100 %	±100 %	±64 %	$\pm 130\%^{*}$	
Biomass and biofuel burning					±25 %	±25 %
Biomass burning Biofuel burning		Included in "Other"	147 %	±24 %	±35 % ±17 %	

a Based on (NASEM, 2018)

b Uncertainty calculated as ((min-max)/2)/mean\*100 from the estimates of year 2017 of the six inventories plotted in Figure 1. This does not consider uncertainty on each individual estimate.

c Uncertainty calculated as ((min-max)/2)/mean\*100 from individual estimates for the 2008-2017 decade. This does not consider uncertainty on each individual estimate, which is probably larger than the range presented here.

\* Mainly due to difficulties in attributing emissions to small specific emission sector.

#### Table 7: A description of the priors used in different inversions

Project	Model/				Prior C	O2 anthropogenic						
	ensemble											
VERIFY	EUROCOM	Fossil: EDGAR v4	EDGAR v4.3 (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019), BP statistics, and TNO datasets									
VERIFY	CIF-CHIMERE	Fossil: EDGAR v4	EDGAR v4.3 (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019), BP statistics, and TNO datasets									
VERIFY	CarboScopeRegi onal	Fossil: EDGAR v4	EDGAR v4.3 (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019), BP statistics, and TNO datasets									
VERIFY	LUMIA	Fossil: EDGAR v4	EDGAR v4.3 (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019), BP statistics, and TNO datasets									
GCP 2021	All	GridFEDv2021 an	FEDv2021 and v2022, are also based on EDGARv4.3.2 (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019).									
Friedlingstein												
et al., 2021												
Project	Model	Prior CH₄	Prior CH₄ natural									
		anthropogenic										
			Wetlands/mineral soils	Geological	Fire	Termites	Soil sink	Ocean/Lakes	Wild animals			
VERIFY	CTE-CH4_FMI	Fossil,	JSBACH-	GCP_CH4 Etiope	RCO plus	Castaldi as	LPX-Bern	Weber (in prep) for oceans				
		agriculture and	HIMMELI	et al., 2019	GFED4s.1	GCP_CH4	DYPTOP (Stocker	and ULB for lakes in				
		waste: EDGAR					et al., 2014)	Europe, 0 for the rest of the				
		v6.0						world				
VERIFY	FLExKF- CAMSv19r)_E MPA		JSBACH- HIMMELI			GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	GCP/ULB				
VERIFY	FLEXINVERT		LPX-Bern DYPTOP (Stocker et al., 2014)		GFED4s	Ito and Inatomi, 2012	LPX-Bern DYPTOP (Stocker et al., 2014)	(Tsuruta et al., 2017)				
			et al., 2014)				et al., 2014)					

VERIFY	TM5_4DVAR JRC		GCP_CH4_2019	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> 2019 (global total: 15 Tg CH <sub>4</sub> yr <sup>-1</sup> )		GCP_CH4_2019	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	GCP_CH4_2019	
CAMSv19r Segers et al., 2020		EDGAR v4.3.2	LPJ-wsl		ACCMIP- MACCity and GFAS	Sanderson /GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert /GCP	Oslson climatology
VERIFY-CIF	FLEXPART- CIF NILU	EDGARv6	JSBACH- HIMMELI	Etiope,2019	EDGAR-v6 (biofuel) and GFED-v41s (biomass)	Castaldi as GCP_CH4		(Weber et al., 2019) ULB inland waters	
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	GELCA- SURF_NIES		VISIT (Ito and Inatomi, 2012)	n/a	GFEDv3.1 then GFAS v1.2 after 2011	Sanderson (TransCom-CH <sub>4</sub> / GCP)	VISIT (Ito and Inatomi, 2012)	n/a	
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	MIROCv4- SURF_JAMAST EC		VISIT (Ito and Inatomi, 2012) (global total range : 173-197 Tg CH <sub>4</sub> yr <sup>-1</sup> )	EtiopeandMilkov,2004(global total: 7.5Tg CH4 yr <sup>-1</sup> )	GFEDv4s (global total range : 14-35 Tg CH <sub>4</sub> yr <sup>-1</sup> )	Sanderson (TransCom-CH <sub>4</sub> ) (global total: 20.5 Tg CH <sub>4</sub> yr <sup>-1</sup> )	VISIT (Ito and Inatomi, 2012)	Lambert/Houweling (TransCom-CH <sub>4</sub> ) (global total: 18.5 Tg CH <sub>4</sub> yr <sup>-1</sup> )	
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	NICAM- SURF_NIES		VISIT (Ito and Inatomi, 2012)	GCP based on Etiope 2015	GFEDv4s / GCP	Sanderson (TransCom-CH4 / GCP)	VISIT (Ito and Inatomi, 2012)	Lambert/Houweling (TransCom-CH <sub>4</sub> / GCP)	
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	TOMCAT- SURF_ECMWF		JULES emissions from Mc Norton 2016a	Tomcat 2006	GFED V4	Matthews and Fung 2006	Patra et al. 2011	Tomcat 2006 Matthews and Fung 1987 - all emissions total rescaled to Schwietzke et al. 2016	

GCP	NTFVAR-	VISIT (Ito and	Etiope and	GFAS v1.2	Ito and Inatomi	VISIT (Ito and	TransCom-CH4	
Saunois et al	GOSAT_NIES	Inatomi, 2012)	Milkov, 2004		2012	Inatomi, 2012)		
2020								
2020								
GCP	NTFVAR-	VISIT (Ito and	Etiope and	GFAS v1.2	Ito and Inatomi	VISIT (Ito and	TransCom-CH4	
Saunois et al.,	SURF_NIES	Inatomi, 2012)	Milkov, 2004		2012	Inatomi, 2012)		
2020								
GCP	LMDZ-	Bloom 2017	n/a	GFED V41s	Sanderson /GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert /GCP	
Saunois et al	GOSAT1_LSCE							
2020								
2020								
GCP	LMDZ-	GCP - ensemble	GCP based on	GFED V41s	Sanderson /GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert /GCP	
Saunois et al.,	GOSAT2_LSCE	mean ESSD	Etiope 2015					
2020		Saunois et al . 2016						
CCD					0 1 1000	D:1 11/CCD		
GCP		Kaplan 2002	n/a	GFED V41	Sanderson 1996	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert and Schmidt 1993	
Saunois et al.,	LMDZ- GOSAT3	Rescaled by			/GCP			
2020	CALTEC	Bergamaschi 2007						
	H							
	LMDZ-							
	GOSAT4_ CALTEC							
	Н							
	LMDZ-							
	GOSAT5_ CALTEC							
	Н							
	LMDZ-							
	GOSAT6_							
	Н							

	LMDZ- SURF1_C ALTECH LMDZ- SURF2_C ALTECH							
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	TM5-CAMS- GOSAT_TNO	Kaplan climatology	n/a	GFED V31 climatology after 2011	Sanderson /GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert /GCP	Oslson climatology
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	TM5- GOSAT1_EC	WETCHIMP ensemble mean;	$\begin{array}{ll} GCP\_CH_4 & 2019 \\ (global total: 15 \\ Tg CH_4 yr^{-1}) \end{array}$		Sanderson /GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert /GCP	Oslson climatology
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	TM5- GOSAT2_EC	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	$\begin{array}{ll} GCP\_CH_4 & 2019 \\ (global total: 15 \\ Tg \ CH_4 \ yr^{-1}) \end{array}$	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _201 9	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	GCP_CH4_2019	GCP_CH4_2019	
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	TM5- SURF1_EC	WETCHIMP ensemble mean;	$\begin{array}{ll} GCP\_CH_4 & 2019 \\ (global total: 15 \\ Tg CH_4 \ yr^{-1}) \end{array}$		Sanderson /GCP	Ridgwell /GCP	Lambert /GCP	Oslson climatology
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	TM5- SURF2_EC	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	$\begin{array}{ll} GCP\_CH_4 & 2019 \\ (global total: 15 \\ Tg \ CH_4 \ yr^{-1}) \end{array}$	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _201 9	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	
GCP Saunois et al., 2020	CTE- GOSAT_FMI	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	Etiope 2015	GCP_CH4_201 9 (=GFED4s)	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	GCP_CH4_2019	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _2019	
GCP	CTE- SURF_FMI	GCP_CH4_2019	Etiope 2015	GCP_CH <sub>4</sub> _201 9 (=GFED4s)	GCP_CH4_2019	GCP_CH4_2019	GCP_CH4_2019	

Co	С	02	2
00		$\mathbf{U}_{2}$	2

Saunois et al.,					
2020					



Figures with total and sectoral  $CH_4$  anthropogenic emissions from inventory estimates (Tg  $CH_4$  yr<sup>-1</sup>), for the top emitter countries:

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Figures with total anthropogenic  $CH_4$  emissions from inventories vs inversions estimates (Tg  $CH_4$  yr<sup>-1</sup>), for the top emitter countries.





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