*Special Session: Subnational Methane Action*
**May 30, 2024** |  9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (Pacific Time)
**Skyline Room Claremont Hotel**

Methane is a short-lived greenhouse gas (GHG) with more than 80 times the global warming impact of carbon dioxide over a 20-year timeframe. Therefore, reducing methane emissions is key to slowing climate change impacts in the near term.

On May 8 - 9, 2024,  the U.S.-China Working Group on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s co-led by Senior Advisor to the President for International Climate Policy John Podesta and China's Special Envoy for Climate Change Liu Zhenmin, met in Washington, D.C. One key outcome of this meeting was that both countries agreed to commit to "*promote bilateral cooperation and conduct capacity building on deploying abatement technologies, as well as developing and/or improving respective MRV systems and standards aiming to achieve significant methane emissions control and reductions in the 2020s*."

Subnational climate action is important to the implementation of the *Sunnylands Statement on Enhancing Cooperation to Address the Climate Crisis,* as well as the commitment both countries made regarding methane cooperation earlier this month. Therefore, this Special Session on Subnational Methane Action will delve into the challenges and opportunities associated with subnational methane emissions reduction in different sectors as well as the monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of methane. Participants will explore innovative policy frameworks, potential technologies, and best practices at the subnational level to mitigate methane emissions effectively while promoting sustainable development and economic growth.

**AGENDA**

**Moderators**
- **Ken Alex**, Director, Project Climate,  Center for Law, Energy and the Environment; Senior Advisor, California-China Climate Institute

**Presentation**

9:30 a.m.  Opening remarks
- **Rick Duke**, Deputy Special Envoy for Climate, U.S. Department of State

9:45 a.m.  China's Subnational Actions in Mitigating Methane
- **ZHANG Jing**, Director, Hainan Provincial Department of Ecology and Environment
- **QI Ye**, Professor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou), Acting Head, Chair Professor

10:00 a.m.  California's Actions in Mitigating Methane

- **Yana Garcia**, Secretary for Environmental Protection, California Environmental Protection Agency

**Group Discussion**

10:10 a.m.    Group Discussion: Opportunities for U.S. and China Collaboration on Methane

10:10 a.m.    Methane Mitigation Policy, Incentives and Technology

Key Themes:
- ❖ *What technologies are necessary and affordable?*
- ❖ *How to leverage policy and investment to apply technical innovation*
- ❖ *Opportunities for subnationals to support implementation of Sunnylands*

*Key Discussants*
- **Matt Botill**, Division Chief, California Air Resources Board
- **TIAN Chengchuan**, Director General, Foreign Cooperation Office, Ministry of Ecology and Environment
- **Carolina Urmeneta**, Program Director (PD) Waste & Circular Economy, Global Methane Hub
- **SUN Xiaopu**, Senior China Counsel, Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development

10:50 a.m.    Methane Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification

*Key themes:*
- ❖ *Major Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Systems*
- ❖ *Methods to leverage policy and investments*
- ❖ *Lessons learned from both countries*

*Key Discussants*
- **Riley Duren**, CEO, Carbon Mapper
- **LIN Jiang**, Nat Simons Presidential Chair in China Energy Policy, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- **ZHU Mengye**, Assistant Research Professor, Center for Global Sustainability, University of Maryland
- **Millie Chu Baird**, Vice President, Office of the Chief Scientist, Environmental Defense Fund
- **WONG Chuen Fai**, Commissioner for Climate Change, HKSARG

11:25 a.m. Highlights of Key Subnational Collaboration Opportunities under the Sunnylands Statement
- **WANG Yi**, Vice Chairman of National Experts Panel on Climate Change, Researcher of Institute of Science and Development of Chinese Academy of Sciences
- **Ken Alex,** Director, Project Climate,  Center for Law, Energy and the Environment; Senior Advisor, California-China Climate Institute