

**Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse  
Gas Emissions and Sinks:  
1990 — 2000**

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# Preface

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prepares the official *U.S. Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks* to comply with existing commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).<sup>1</sup> Under a decision of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, national inventories for most UNFCCC Annex I parties should be provided to the UNFCCC Secretariat each year by April 15.

In an effort to engage the public and researchers across the country, the EPA has instituted an annual public review and comment process for this document. The availability of the draft document is announced via Federal Register Notice and is posted on the EPA web page.<sup>2</sup> Copies are also mailed upon request. The public comment period is generally limited to 30 days; however, comments received after the closure of the public comment period are accepted and considered for the next edition of this annual report. The EPA's policy is to allow at least 60 days for public review and comment when proposing new regulations or documents supporting regulatory development – unless statutory or judicial deadlines make a shorter time necessary – and 30 days for non-regulatory documents of an informational nature such as the Inventory document.

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.unfccc.de>

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.epa.gov/globalwarming/emissions/national>