



**Below are highlights of completed GETF projects implemented in the United States:**

***Virginia Regional Environmental Management System (V-REMS) Partnership***

Through a cooperative agreement sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense and the White House Council on Environmental Quality, GETF has provided support to the V-REMS Initiative since project inception. The program focuses on the Defense Supply Center Richmond and public sector organizations in the Richmond, Virginia area. V-REMS takes the EMS framework one step further by taking it from individual facility fencelines and applying it to an entire region. GETF has provided facilitation support services to include meeting agenda development and preparation, hosting of meetings and conference calls, development of white papers, presentations, and fact sheets, and the hosting and managing of a secure virtual private office.

***Delaware DNREC Private and Public Sector EMS Workshops***

GETF provided materials and facilitation for three EMS workshops, a two-day session for private sector participants and a one-day session for public entities. The goal of the sessions was to assist Delaware DNREC with its initial EMS training/awareness in meeting the objectives of the State of Delaware Executive Order No. 44. GETF's approach incorporated lessons learned and keys to success gathered from prior EMS technical assistance and training experience focusing on all elements of EMS implementation. Trainings included hands-on, practical case study exercises to enhance understanding. As follow-up to the training sessions, GETF developed CD-ROMs with workshop materials, web links, and select EMS-related documents to further assist DNREC with EMS promotion efforts.

***EMS Support for the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA)***

GETF provided environmental management system (EMS) technical support and training to nine chemical demilitarization sites across the United States. GETF activities at the Army's incineration and neutralization facilities included strategic environmental planning, compliance and EMS auditing, and conducting ISO 14000 training. Support also included on-site EMS implementation support, conducting environmental impact analyses and assisting in the identification and application of effective environmental objectives and targets. CMA will use the lessons learned from its stockpile weapons EMS pilots to implement EMSs at its non-stockpile weapons areas and installations as part of their sustainability objectives.

***National Biosolids Partnership Measurement of EMS Benefits Leading to Public***

GETF facilitated research and template development allowing the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) program to collect valuable performance measurement data in each of the four NBP Key Outcome Areas: Better Relations with Interested Parties, Regulatory Compliance, Quality

Management Practices, and Environmental Performance. The vision of the NBP program states that measured “success” within each of the four outcome areas will lead to enhanced public acceptance. GETF worked directly with top management and select workgroup members to ensure that data collection templates resulting from this effort are useful and directly applicable for program participants.

### ***EMS Practitioner’s Forum***

GETF assembled representatives of private and public sector organizations from across the U.S. to participate in the *EMS Practitioners Forum* held in December 2002. Practitioners with hands-on experience in developing and maintaining EMSs provided their expertise to Forum participants on how to ensure sustainability (economically and environmentally) through the use of EMSs. Lessons learned, keys to success, and barriers were discussed. GETF provided the turn-key support, including workshop logistical coordination, agenda development (through a facilitated steering committee), facilitation and preparation of workshop proceedings. Results from this workshop have been cited in government and industry policy discussions on EMS.

### ***EMS and Financial Incentives Roundtable***

GETF conducted a workshop in 2001 on Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and Financial Incentives and a second workshop on the same subject in 2003 at the University of Pennsylvania. The workshops were designed to educate the insurance, bond, and investment communities on ways EMS can help the financial community integrate environmental improvement into their daily operations as a process management tool and help mitigate business risks. GETF facilitated a follow-up workshop in Washington, DC to assess the current financial incentives for companies that implement an EMS and form a working group with financial leaders to create a “proof of concept” that the financial community can use to understand the linkages between traditional management systems and EMSs.