Cooperation on Climate and Air Pollution in East Asia

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Mark Elder and Eric Zusman, IGES
OUTLINE

1. Air Pollution Cooperation in East Asia

2. Air Pollution and Climate Cooperation in East Asia

3. Conclusions
Existing UNEP-related regional/sub-regional air pollution initiatives in Asia

Central Asia

5 Central Asia countries formulated the Framework Convention on Preservation of Environment for Sustainable Development of Central Asia

South Asia:

8 countries are cooperating under the framework of Male’ Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia

East Asia:

13 countries, which includes Northeast and Southeast Asia, working under the framework of the East Asia Network on Acid Deposition Monitoring (EANET)

Southeast Asia:

ASEAN member countries are working under the framework of ASEAN Haze Agreement
Close cooperation among regional/sub-regional air pollution networks to enhance exchange of information/experiences and capacity building.

Joint Forum on the Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific

- Malé Declaration
- EANET
- ASEAN Haze Agreement
- Central Asian Environment Convention
- SPREP
## Selected Existing Regional Air Pollution Cooperation Frameworks in East Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Additional Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABC</td>
<td>Atmospheric Brown Clouds</td>
<td>Includes air + climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Global/regional</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EANET</td>
<td>Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia</td>
<td>Mainly monitoring, narrow scope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Northeast + Southeast Asia</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Forum</td>
<td>Joint Forum on the Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>Network of networks (UNEP)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Asia-wide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEMM</td>
<td>Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting</td>
<td>Regular meeting, collection of projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Northeast Asia (China, Japan, Korea)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LTP</td>
<td>Long Range Transboundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia</td>
<td>Research project, broader scope (but not climate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Northeast Asia (China, Japan, Korea)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEASPEC</td>
<td>Northeast Asia Program on Environmental Cooperation</td>
<td>Secretariat is ESCAP-SRO, project based</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Northeast Asia (6 countries)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAA</td>
<td>Clean Air Asia (formerly CAI-Asia)</td>
<td>Multistakeholder partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Asia-wide</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Membership in Selected Existing Frameworks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>EANET</th>
<th>ASEAN Haze</th>
<th>NEASPEC</th>
<th>LTP</th>
<th>TEMM</th>
<th>CCAC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>●</td>
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<td>●</td>
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<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
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<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Not ratified</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brunei</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
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Overall Problems with Existing Frameworks (From the standpoint of air pollution)

- Overall: too cautious and lacking in ambition, voluntary
- Duplication & overlap, extra cost
- Insufficient scope: need more emphasis on mitigation, linkage between air pollution & climate change
- Limited effectiveness
- Insufficient funding
- Should strengthen linkage to policy & implementation
Potential Links between Air Pollution Frameworks and Climate

- Additional scientific research (especially monitoring)
- Awareness raising on air and climate issues
- Capacity building
- Policy dialogues
- Projects

Question: to what extent can existing frameworks make these links? May be challenging to incorporate into some existing frameworks.
Challenges to linking climate and air pollution in existing frameworks

- Most frameworks limit the scope of pollutants. Expansion to air pollutants like O3 and PM2.5 may be easier. Can they be further expanded to Hg or others?

- However, in the past, it has been difficult to expand the scope of existing initiatives/ frameworks once they were established.

- Strong effort may be needed to persuade governments about the priority of co-benefits, and the appropriateness of using existing initiatives/ frameworks

- Many developing countries need comprehensive capacity building, including for scientific research

  - Not very optimistic about using existing frameworks in short term
  - May be better to focus on domestic use first, to attract governments’ interest. International cooperation frameworks can facilitate actions.
Situation of CCAC in East Asia

Promising new network
- Voluntary
- Multistakeholder partnership
- Focus on SLCP co-benefits
- New funding (including contribution from Japan)

Activities in Asia
- Development of national action plans
- Regional/sub-regional workshops
- Conduct regional assessment

Challenges
- Only 2 E. Asian countries are members (Japan, S. Korea)
- Uncertain prospects for new members
- Unclear links between CCAC & existing mechanisms
KEY ISSUES:

• What is the best forum to discuss air pollution and climate change issues in East Asia?
• Who may coordinate discussions?
• (Besides existing intergovernmental networks)

POSSIBLE OPTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPTION</th>
<th>CONSIDERATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNEP</td>
<td>• United Nations&lt;br&gt;• Environment ministries&lt;br&gt;• Coordinates EANET, others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCAP</td>
<td>• United Nations&lt;br&gt;• Foreign ministries&lt;br&gt;• Coordinates NEASPEC&lt;br&gt;• Limited capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Forum</td>
<td>• Links existing UNEP networks&lt;br&gt;• Limited institutionalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAA</td>
<td>• Multistakeholder partnership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Japan’s Policies on Co-benefits: Co-benefit Projects in the Asian Region

- Address worsening air & water pollution, not only PM2.5 in China but also in other Asian countries.
- Use a co-benefit approach for environment & climate, especially PM 2.5
- Strategically promote capacity building for co-benefits using Japanese technology & experience utilizing existing activities & promoting bilateral credit offsets.

**Background**
- Support for existing regional activities (UNEP & CAA)
- Capacity & system building (subcontracted to private sector & local groups)
- Model/pilot projects to test application of Japanese co-benefit tech.

**Project Overview/Scheme**
- Support for existing regional activities (UNEP & CAA)
- Capacity & system building (subcontracted to private sector & local groups)
- Model/pilot projects to test application of Japanese co-benefit tech.

**Objectives, expected results**
- Promote capacity dev. & best use of Japanese env. tech. to Asian developing countries
- Mitigate pollution, promote decarbonization in Asia, & reduce air pollution in Japan
- Promote bilateral offset credits

- New Budget Request (Ministry of Environment)
  - FY 2013 => FY2014 (215 => 658 mil. Yen)
## Project Summary (General Budget)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Promotion activities</th>
<th>Support the Asia co-benefit Partnership to help mainstream co-benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementation cooperation</td>
<td>Joint research to develop quantitative methodologies to evaluate co-benefit effects (including related capacity building)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for research</td>
<td>Support developing analytical models to contribute to Japan’s environmental policy. (Support civilian organizations and IIASA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Project Summary (Special Budget)

| Research / project support            | Model projects & technology testing to promote capacity development including human resources keeping in mind the importance of supporting the introduction of technology from the bilateral credit offset mechanism. |
Asia Co-benefit Partnership (Overview)

- A platform to improve information sharing and stakeholder coordination on co-benefits in Asia.
- Goal: support mainstreaming of co-benefits into decisions in Asia.
- Partners: ADB, CAA, ESCAP, UNU, UNEP, GAP Porum, China, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand etc.

IGES is the secretariat
Asia Co-benefit Partnership Activities

- Information sharing and knowledge management, including knowledge generation and dissemination
- Enhanced communication among ACP members
- Development of co-benefits policies and projects in Asia
- Strengthening of regional cooperation to promote co-benefits
Research on Co-benefits in Asia (examples)

*This is not an exhaustive list; it is meant to convey the growing interest in estimating co-benefits

**INDIA**
- TERI-estimating climate co-benefits; inserted into climate national action plan
- RITES-supporting co-benefits modeling in Hyderabad

**KOREA**
- KEI-estimating co-benefits of transport and energy policies in Korea

**JAPAN**
- IGES-research on co-benefits in transport and waste sectors as well transregional air pollution
- OECC-Disseminating co-benefit project tool for CDM projects in China & Southeast Asia

**CHINA**
- ERI-Estimating co-benefits using GAINS model
- Tsinghua University/PRCEE-Several studies on co-benefits in Beijing and national study
- Shanghai Academy of Environmental Sciences-Estimate of co-benefits in Shanghai

**PHILIPPINES**
- CAI-Asia-supporting series of research and outreach activities on co-benefits, including community of practice
Chinese government is very interested in co-benefits (for cost savings)

Chinese government funds domestic co-benefits research

Chinese researchers use the concept of co-control, not co-benefit.

China is already implementing large scale co-benefit measures in a broad sense (e.g. energy efficiency)

China’s interest in joining formal multilateral cooperation frameworks or networks is not clear. Some bilateral cooperation is occurring.
## Conclusions

### Optimistic Points
- Existing frameworks in East Asia could link with co-benefits in principle.
- Linkage areas may focus particularly on monitoring, modeling, capacity building, mitigation, adaptation, etc.
- Japan is promoting international cooperation
- China is promoting domestically

### Challenges
- Existing intergovernmental networks may not easily incorporate SLCP/co-benefits in the short term
- Unclear links between CCAC and existing mechanisms
- Many developing countries need comprehensive capacity building, including for scientific research

### Other Points
- Maybe promote domestically first; international cooperation to facilitate
- Consider co-control, not just co-benefits
- Co-benefits approach requires coordination between and within climate and air pollution authorities.
Thank You!

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