Cooperation on Climate and Air Pollution in East Asia

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OUTLINE

1. Air Pollution Cooperation in East Asia
2. Air Pollution and Climate Cooperation in East Asia
3. Conclusions

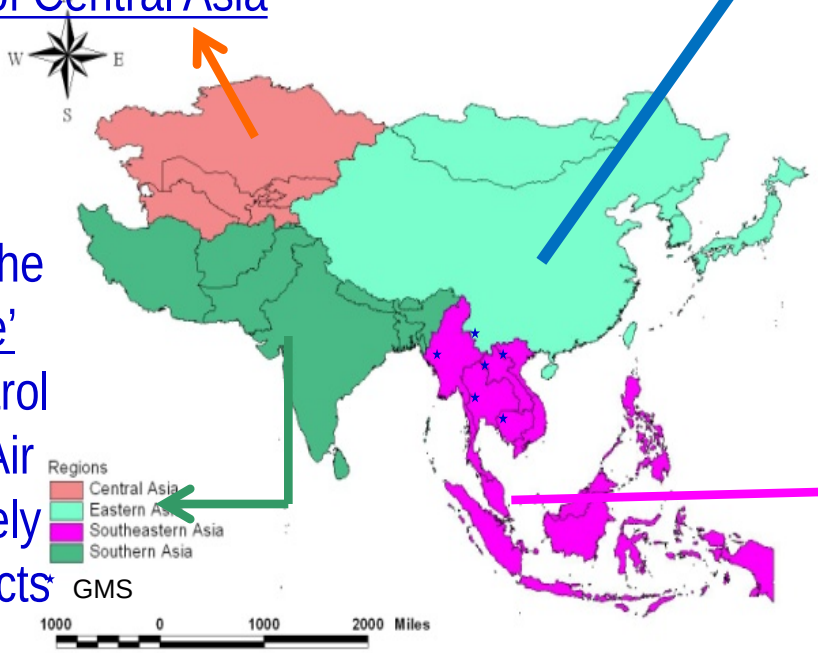
Existing UNEP-related regional/sub-regional air pollution initiatives in Asia

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)

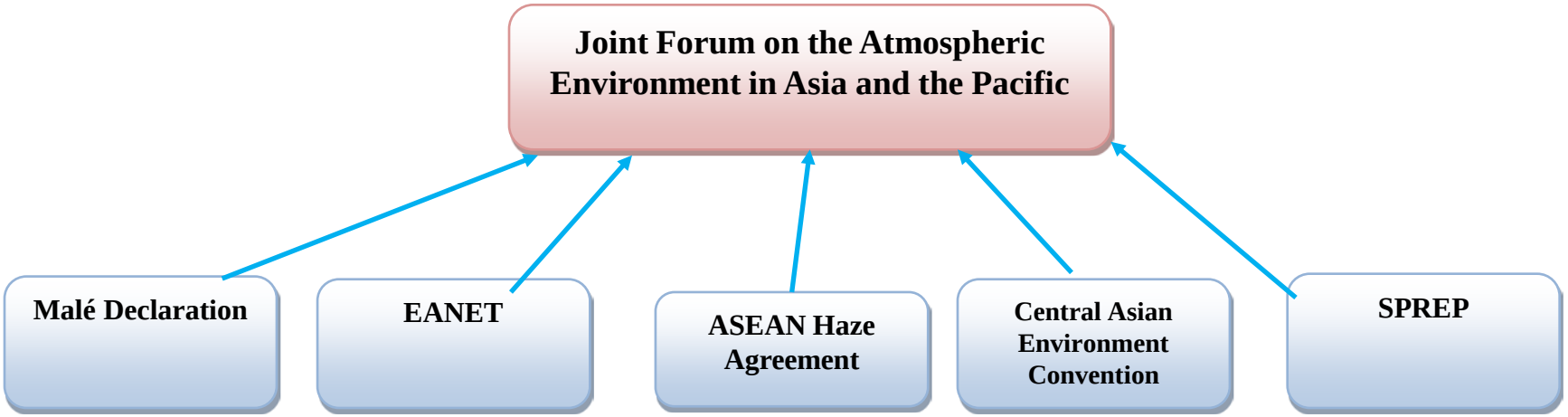
Southeast Asia:

ASEAN member countries are working under the framework of ASEAN Haze Agreement

UNEP-related regional/sub-regional initiatives

Joint Forum on the Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific

Closer cooperation among regional/sub-regional air pollution networks to enhance exchange of information/experiences and capacity building



Meeting of the Joint Forum on Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific, 10-11 March 2010

Selected Existing Regional Air Pollution Cooperation Frameworks in East Asia

ABC	Atmospheric Brown Clouds • Global/regional	• Includes air+climate
EANET	Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia • Northeast + Southeast Asia	• Mainly monitoring • Narrow scope
Joint Forum	Joint Forum on the Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific • Asia-wide	• Network of networks (UNEP)
TEMM	Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting • Northeast Asia (China, Japan, Korea)	• Regular meeting • Collection of projects
LTP	Long Range Transboundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia • Northeast Asia (China, Japan, Korea)	• Research project • Broader scope (but not climate)
NEASPEC	Northeast Asia Program on Environmental Cooperation • Northeast Asia (6 countries)	• Secretariat is ESCAP-SRO • Project based
CAA	Clean Air Asia (formerly CAI-Asia) • Asia-wide	• Multistakeholder partnership

Membership in Selected Existing Frameworks

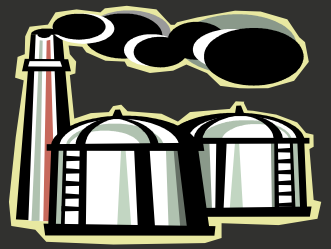
Countries	EANET	ASEAN Haze	NEASPEC	LTP	TEMM	CCAC
China	●		●	●	●	●
Japan	●		●	●	●	●
S. Korea	●		●	●	●	
N. Korea			●			
Mongolia	●		●			
Russia	●		●			
Cambodia	●	●				
Indonesia	●	Not ratified				
Lao PDR	●	●				
Malaysia	●	●				
Myanmar	●	●				
Philippines	●	●				
Thailand	●	●				
Vietnam	●	●				
Brunei		●				
Singapore		●				

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-beneifits, 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

CCAC
CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR COALITION
TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANTS

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

OPTION	CONSIDERATIONS
UNEP	• United Nations • Environment ministries • Coordinates EANET, others
UNESCAP	• United Nations • Foreign ministries • Coordinates NEASPEC • Limited capacity
Joint Forum	• Links existing UNEP networks • Limited institutionalization
CAA	• Multistakeholder partnership

Japan's Policies on Co-benefits: Co-benefit Projects in the Asian Region

❖New Budget Request (Ministry of Environment)

❖FY 2013 => FY2014 (215 => 658 mil. Yen)

Background

- 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.

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

Japan's Policies on Co-benefits: Promotion of the Co-benefit Approach

❖New Budget Request (Ministry of Environment) FY2014 (101 => 105 mil. Yen)

Project Summary (General Budget)	
Promotion activities	• Support the Asia co-benefit Partnership to help mainstream co-benefits
Implementation cooperation	• Joint research to develop quantitative methodologies to evaluate co-benefit effects (including related capacity building)
Support for research	• Support developing analytical models to contribute to Japan's environmental policy. (Support civilian organizations and IIASA)

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.

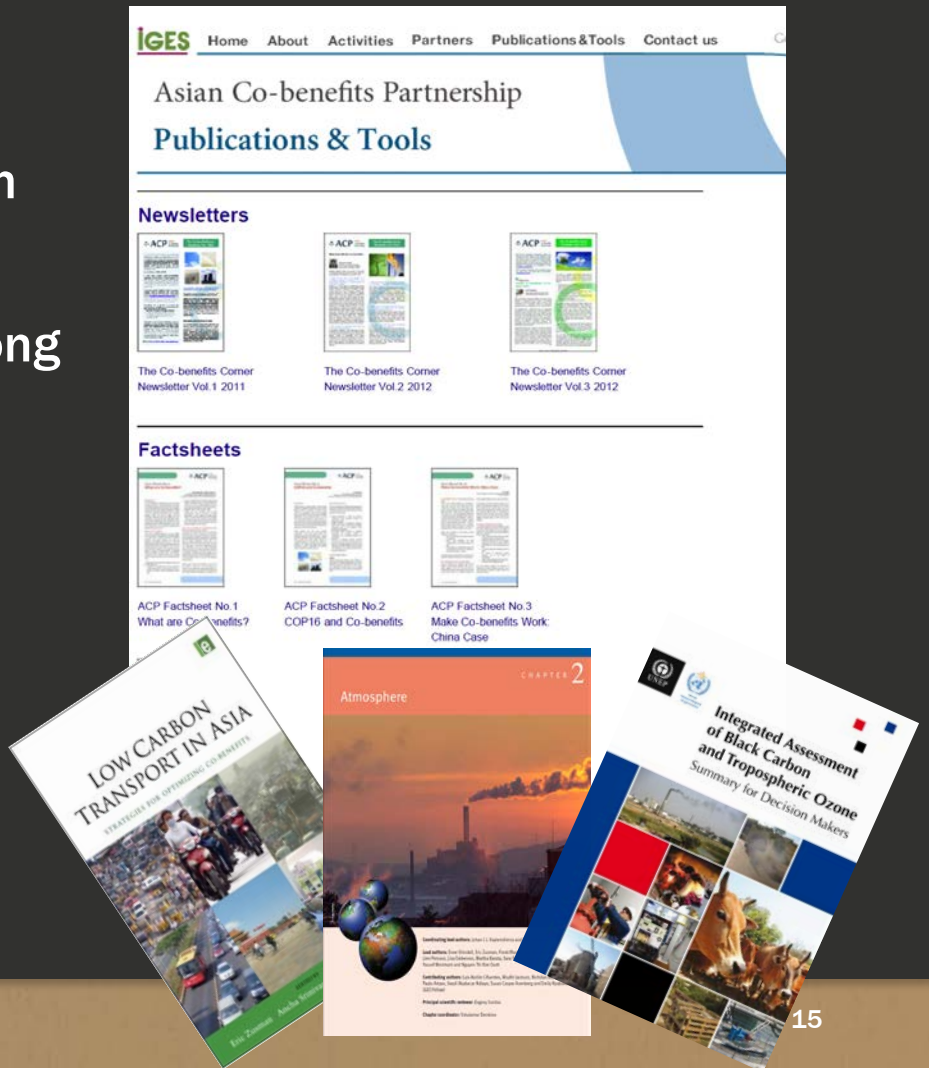
Asia Co-benefit Partnership (Overview)

- 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

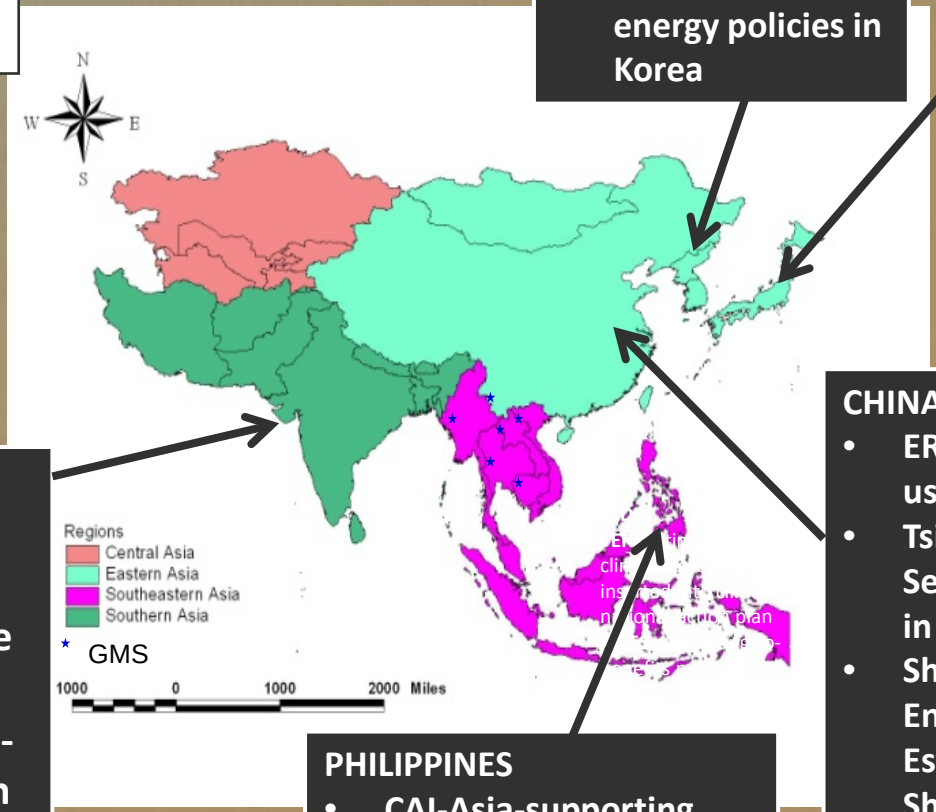


Research on Co-benefits in Asia (examples)

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

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



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

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**

China & Climate/Air Pollution Co-benefits

- 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.

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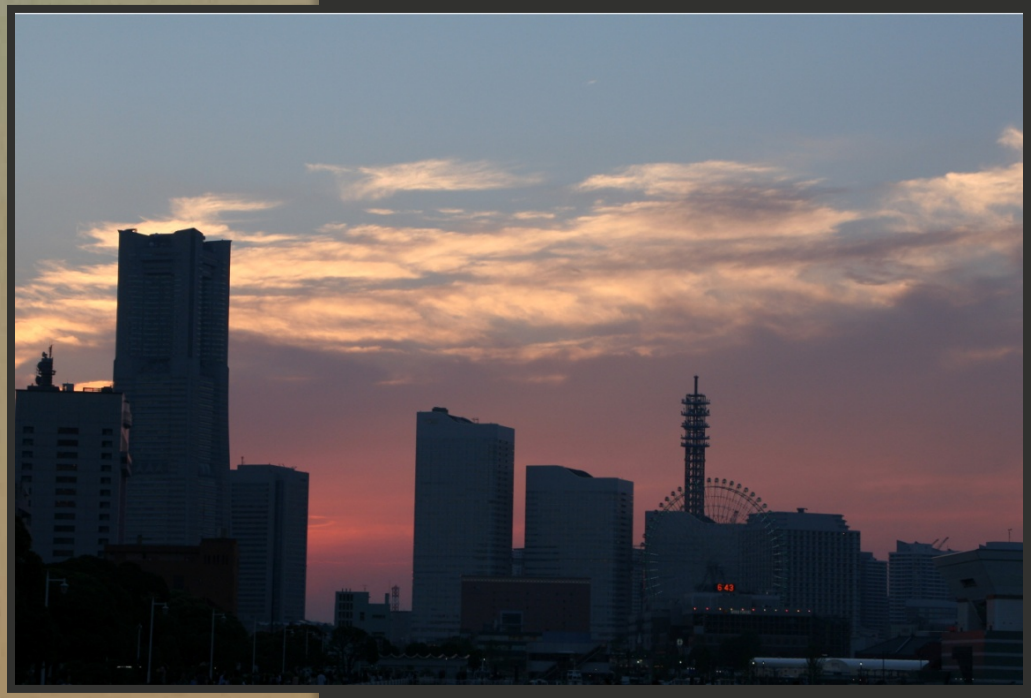

Thank You!

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