



**Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP)
11th Advisory Group Meeting
Meeting Summary**

**19 January 2021, 14:00-16:00 (JST)
Virtual via Webex**



Meeting summary

On 19 January 2021, the Eleventh Advisory Group meeting of the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) was virtually held due to COVID-19. Approximately twenty members from government agencies, international organisations and research institutions joined the meeting and discussed the following: 1) reformulation of ACP and 2) initial concept note for the 2nd phase of ACP.

The ACP Advisory Group then agreed to:

- 1) reflect comments for the preliminary concept of the 2nd phase of ACP;
- 2) revise the concept note to align with ongoing development of other initiatives i.e. EANET

Meeting Minutes:

14:00 - 14:10 (10 minutes)

Opening and Introduction

1. Opening remarks: Co-chair, Mr. Takashi Ohmura, IGES

The ACP co-chair, Mr. Takashi Ohmura, welcomed participants to the first online Advisory Group meeting that had been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that the concept note for the 2nd phase of the ACP was prepared and shared prior to the meeting with the Advisory Group members based on some changes to air pollution activities in the region. He further underlined that it is time to discuss those new development and how the ACP could contribute to that change.

2. Objective of the meeting: ACP Secretariat, IGES

Dr. Eric Zusman of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and the ACP Secretariat, shared the objectives of the meeting. The primary goal is about how the ACP could be transformed to become more effective and useful for policymakers in Asia. The meeting would cover discussion on a draft concept note, receive feedback and inputs on that note, and then incorporate feedback into that revised note by the end of fiscal year of 2020 which is March 2021.

3. Self-introduction by participants

Dr. Zusman began the meeting by suggesting that participants offer a brief self-introduction. Participants followed with self-introductions. New attendees included Li Yuanyuan of the Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy (PRCEE), Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China; Ramlal Verma of the Regional Resource Center for Asia and Pacific (RRC.AP); Bulganmurun Tsevegjav of the Asian Development Bank (ADB); Isabelle Louis of UN Environment Programme (UNEP); and Chris Malley and Eleni Michalopoulou of the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). The Secretariat reported Ms. Emi Yoshinaga, United Nations University Institute for the Advance Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and Dr. Kevin Hicks of the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) were unable to participate in the meeting.

14:10 - 14:40 (30 minutes)

Discussion 1: Concept Note for the 2nd Phase of ACP

Facilitator: Co-chair, Mr. Takashi Ohmura

1. Update on Regional and International Co-benefits Policies and Activities

Dr. Zusman provided a presentation that reviewed regional and international co-benefits policies and activities as background on the draft concept note. He began by underlining a climate, air pollution, and sustainable development crisis in Asia. At the same time, he observed there were also signs of progress in Asia, including the adoption of ambitious climate targets and links between air pollution and climate change in relevant policies and plans; emerging capacities to develop co-benefits projects; and funding for actions that deliver co-benefits. Those signs of progress could be advanced with recommendations in the ACP White Paper 2020 offered on how policymakers could 1) mobilise finance, 2) strengthen policies and institutions, and 3) build capacities to implement co-benefits solutions (such as those in UNEP's *Air Pollution in Asia and the Pacific: Science-based Solutions*). As there are discussions in Asia on expanding the scope of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) to include a wider range of pollutants (beyond those contributing to acid deposition) as well as creating a project based financing mechanism, there is also a possibility a transformed ACP could help work on and strengthen coordination across organizations working to mobilise finance, strengthen policies and institutions, and build capacities to implement co-benefits solutions. Therefore, he suggested to discuss the following three questions:

1. How can policymakers in Asia achieve co-benefits from addressing climate and air pollution together in the context of sustainable development?
2. Should the ACP be focusing on the below areas to help policymakers achieve co-benefits (promote science-based policies; mobilise finance to implement solutions; build critical capacities; coordinate partners and communicate impacts)?
3. Can using ACP as a bridge for EANET help governments/organizations work together to achieve these co-benefits?

Mr. Ohmura then elaborated on the possible linkages between and ACP and EANET, suggesting that it is a recent development that advisory group members had not discussed previously. He explained that the discussions began on a change in EANET that would concentrate on expanding its scope and activities. EANET with participation of 13 countries in East Asia works chiefly on monitoring the state of acid deposition; its activities and work programme is determined through a formal set of inter-governmental meetings. As acid rain has become less serious than other air pollution problems (notably PM2.5), discussions have turned to how EANET could better address other air pollution problems. With the draft reorganisation illustrated in the Appendix, he suggested that a reformulated ACP could serve as a bridge to fill the gap between EANET and other regional initiatives. Mr. Ohmura emphasised that idea and concept note require discussion with EANET and its secretariat which is hosted by UNEP; but he hoped that ACP Advisory Group members should provide their feedback so as to reflect into and develop further the draft concept note.

2. Overview of the Concept Note

Dr. So-Young Lee of the Secretariat of ACP briefly went over the concept note prepared with the guidance from co-chairs and Ministry of Environment, Japan. The overarching objectives of the 2nd phase of ACP could be to complement newly organized EANET for the effective implementation through science-based policy analysis and multi-stakeholders coordination; and also offering capacity building and creating a project-based funding mechanism that could implement solutions on-the-ground. As these objectives are the extension of the current ACP activities, they are in line with but offer a natural extension of the ACP. To achieve objectives, four essential operational elements could be introduced: 1) promotion of science-based policies; 2) mobilising finance to implement solutions; 3) strengthen essential capacities; and 4) enhance coordination across partners and. After sharing details of each elements, she pointed out the possible organisational structure of new Advisory Group with more specified roles, such as Working Groups that focus on developing activities and projects that reinforced those operational elements.

3. Summary of Initial Feedback

For the summary of initial feedback, especially in written form, Dr. Lee expressed the ACP's appreciation to RRC.AP and Clean Air Asia (CAA) as well as oral communication from UNEP. RRC.AP suggested some of potential partnership including with the Malé Declaration, the Atmospheric Brown Cloud (ABC) programme, the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) as well as its Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) project working with ASEAN member countries that could be part of the ACP activities. CAA shared feedback with emphasis on its continuing work to operationalize the Guidance Framework (under its Integrated Better Air Quality project) which is strengthening the implementation of policies and that could become the concrete outputs for the operational element one. CAA also recommended highlighting the role of the ACP White Paper to support the envisioned projects. Besides, for the 4th operational elements regarding the coordination of partners, CAA suggested to have a coordination platform that could well align with existing ones to maximise synergies and leverage resources.

14:40 - 15:50 (70 minutes)

Discussion 2: Feedback on Concept Note for the 2nd Phase

Facilitator: Co-chair, Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana, Thammasat University

The ACP co-chair, Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana, opened the second session for the discussion from the participants and reminded them of the original objectives of the ACP – promotion of the concept of co-benefits in the region. He suggested that this objective had been achieved over the last 10 years. The way forward is making the ACP more action-oriented as well as capitalizing on the opportunities of potential EANET reform to strengthen actions on the ground. In this connection, it is timely to consider how to link with not only EANET but also other initiatives in the region.

Dr. Ramlal Verma of the Regional Resource Center for Asia and Pacific (RRC.AP) shared his comments on the concept note that the South Asia and Central Asia were not a point of focus. Since Dr. Verma belongs to South Asia, he suggested having partnership with those initiatives that cover South Asia. Such a partnership would be beneficial for the ACP. On this point, he noted that the ACP may want to work more with Malé Declaration, the intergovernmental network of the eight South Asian countries established in 1998 to address air pollution and its transboundary impacts through regional cooperation and capacity building. The South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, an inter-governmental network that

promoted and supported protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region could be another initiative with potential for partnership. He also shared the financial support from the APN to be part of ACP activities as well as the Atmospheric Brown Cloud (ABC) programme so as to include the atmospheric science community. As RRC.AP is an implementing partner of the EANET Secretariat, his awareness of its development is high and he agreed working with EANET was critical to enhancing networking in South Asia.

Dr. Supat agreed that it would be important to cover other initiatives on air pollution and climate change in the region.

Ms. Anand Tsog of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism Mongolia supported the overall idea of the draft concept note that plans to be more active on expanding the scope of the ACP work and she noted that would be important and timely. Honestly speaking, often science-based initiatives tend to limit to link up with actual implementing unit; therefore, it would be an appropriate combination of cooperating with EANET to fill in the implementing role. Plus, as scientific data and analysis usually less well adopted into policy making process, it might be requested to find efficient tool to reflect science into reality. All suggested four elements would work well and more coherent approach could be emphasised as the recent UNDP's training on coherently analyse from different sectors i.e. energy, climate, water, land and so forth. Identifying co-benefits, conducting analyses for policy makers, providing decision making tools would help policymakers arrive at more coherent as well as tangible outcomes.

Ms. Kaye Patdu of APCAP, UNEP noted that of process of developing the concept note could have been more transparent as there was limited opportunities to share inputs in advance. She suggested that it would be helpful to have a separate consultation with the EANET Secretariat to better understand how to move forward with proposed partnership since the proposed objectives are very much anchored on EANET. The ACP Secretariat should consider to engage with the EANET Secretariat and the Network Centre for further consultation on the expansion prior to the EANET meeting in April 2021 and expected more transparent process to move forward. Regarding the contents of the concept note, it would be better to embed background information for the new development as presented by Dr. Zusman as well as the achievement of 10 years of ACP. Further, the diagrams in the concept note need to accurately reflect the roles and responsibilities of other important regional initiatives. In addition, the timeframe for the 2nd ACP should be included beyond the concept note. In terms of supporting policy makers to achieve co-benefits, it could be useful to identify some of the new opportunities came out, for instance, UN General Assembly adopted the celebration each year of the International Day of Clean Air for blue skies that could provide the opportunity to bring up the message of co-benefits, and UNEP could help communicate the importance of making that linkage.

Dr. Supat raised question about UNEP's support for the Joint Forum that brings together different air pollution related initiatives in Asia. Ms. Patdu responded that there has been progress of the Joint Forum under the Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership (APCAP), reflected in the concept note, that set in UNEP as the key initiative in the region focusing on regional cooperation. There will be a Joint Forum meeting in September 2021. Dr. Supat emphasised the importance of avoiding duplication of activities among initiatives. He also apologised for lack of communication in developing the concept note; but, as this is the initial draft, there would be further consultation.

Dr. Chris Malley of the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) expressed his support for the four operational elements in the concept note. To strengthen the document, however, he suggested the role of the co-

benefits tools, mentioned currently under the capacity building operational element, should be described in greater depth. He observed it is not only important to build capacity on the existing tools but to develop and refine new tools. In addition, there is a need to place an emphasis on the enhancement of capacity over the long term by embedding the tool in training programmes. He then underlined that demonstrating co-benefits might require different strategies in different contexts, for instance, building a broader coalition of supporters by engaging organisations and actors outside those traditionally engaged in work on co-benefits. The broader set of stakeholders such as Ministry of Finance or Planning could be added. To echo Ms. Tsog's emphasis on the importance of tangible products, based on SEI's experience with Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) supporting national action and planning, SEI put the focus to develop concrete plan or strategy in engaging stakeholders, identifying priorities, and getting the high level political endorsement of that plan. Such tangible products can unambiguously clarify what are the priorities in terms of taking action on air pollution and climate change and this, in turn, could lead to action on other operational elements such as mobilising finance.

Mr. Bjarne Pedersen of CAA commented that he felt that the lens of co-benefits seemed like the right one and co-benefits could help bridge EANET with other implementing organisations. He emphasised, however, that there is a need to carefully explain and balance what the function of the bridge is; otherwise, it could become a platform that attempts to do everything for everybody. Further, he suggested that the ACP should not just aim to support any but a select group of stakeholders. The targeted stakeholders should be reflected in the ACP governance. Regarding objectives, there should be more emphasis on measuring impacts in terms of the co-benefits the ACP helps to deliver.

Mr. Ittipol Pawarmart of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand expressed his appreciation to the prepared initial draft of the concept note that generally well documented. He provided his agreement to the differentiated function and expectation from EANET and ACP, hence, he accepted the idea of concept note that would complete and carry out the current and existing co-operational element under ACP and support the EANET as well. He also underlined that one of the outcomes of the ACP would be co-benefits projects that were appropriate to different countries and regions.

Ms. Isabelle Louis, Deputy Regional Director of the UN Environment, highlighted that the concept of co-benefits is a strong brand for the ACP to keep and consider more strategically how to function and reach out among many other sub-regional hubs that member states already all working as members under i.e. EANET, UNEA etc. UNEP works as the secretariat of EANET and APCAP and other aspects of climate resilience, and this year EANET approved mid-term plan that provide opportunities of all come together to step up collectively as well as APCAP arranging forum, those all could work as partners rather than marginalised in different ways. She stressed the importance of actively engaging the EANET Secretariat in the discussion on the new phase of the ACP. She noted that UNEP looks forward to working with the ACP in the context of key meetings such as UNEA platform as well as the blue skies international day. She closed by asking for close consultation and exchanges prior to any decision on the ACP.

Dr. Supat reassured that the 2nd Phase of ACP keep its main and original focus of co-benefits. Since achieved the goal of promotion co-benefits, then, more action oriented tangible products became the future objectives.

Mr. Virender Kumar Duggal from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) highlighted the importance of universally or widely used tool and methodology to quantifying co-benefits as policy makers request and adopt the assessment of co-benefits based on various actions. It is needed to have the robust methodology

and tool to quantify and report; then, it could be a basis for mobilising finance as well as policy makers to adopt reflections of co-benefits into different policy frameworks. He showed his willingness to contribute for the capacity building operational element and put effort to the communications with wider audience to increase awareness. Lastly, he agreed that the importance of action on to the ground, and ADB would share experience on pilots.

Dr. Supat recalled the quantifying co-benefits is one of the main activities of the ACP that analysed into the 3rd ACP White Paper and agreed to keep working on it that could provide future finance mobilising.

Ms. Bulganmuran Tsevegjav from ADB participating on behalf of Ms. Karma Yangzom, Principal Environment Specialist introduced her project on developing action plan for the improvement of air quality in 7 Asian cities in 5 countries. In terms of the concept note, she supported the new structure of ACP that plans to specify roles i.e. working group to deliver tangible outcome. She also felt it was helpful to have fora when implementing her project because she could turn to them for feedback. It has been very useful to collaborate with IGES for the co-benefits training so that co-benefits could be mainstreamed at the project level.

Dr. Supat asked for sharing the progress and result of the ADB project and appreciated the willingness of the ADB to help strengthen the ACP.

Dr. Li Liping of the Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy (PRCEE), China pointed out that the ACP has been useful platform for information sharing and discussion on co-benefits. She introduced the recent policy progress and improvement of Chinese law and regulations that emphasised and fully adopted co-control and co-benefits; for instance, the environmental impact assessment has monitoring, planning, permitting system and enforcement mentioning how to combine climate change and ecological environmental protection to national as well as provisional and city level. The 1st phase of ACP aimed to understand the importance of adopting the concept of co-control and co-benefits; for the next phase, how policy makers and stakeholders implement co-benefits should receive more attention. This includes not only providing assessment and methodology but also good practices on co-benefits. Therefore, she welcomed the concept note's emphasis on capacity building and would willing to share China's experiences in that area. The other point she raised was to consider each country's different level of issues or stage of the involvement to the regional initiatives i.e. EANET.

Dr. Supat was pleased to hear the concept of co-benefits became hot topic in China and ACP partially contributed to it. And responded the suggestions to have assessment, methodology for the quantification, and demonstration project for the policy makers to realise co-benefits in action would be all well covered in the concept note. He concluded the session with appreciation to the shared insights and inputs that could improve clear direction of the 2nd ACP including new governance structure as well as extended stakeholder participation. More refined concept note would be delivered with further discussion and consultation meetings to elaborate details.

15:50 - 16:00 (10 minutes)

Next Steps and Wrap Up

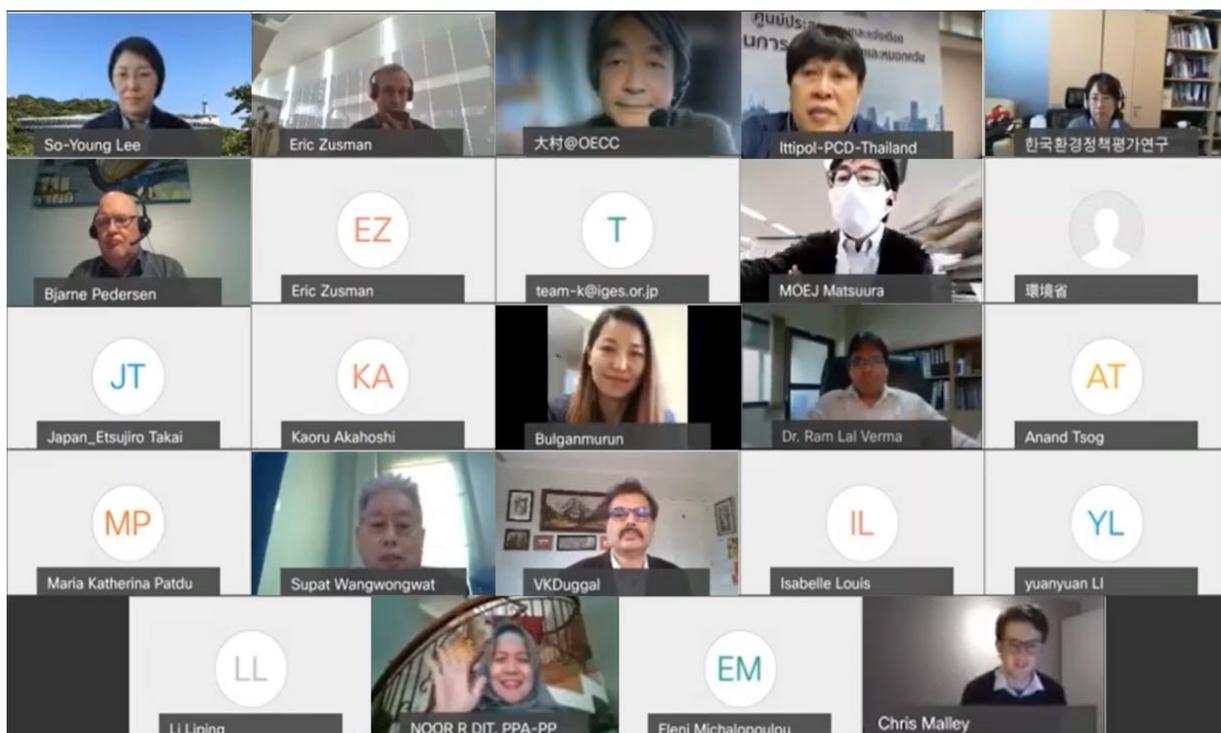
Dr. Zusman summarised several points raised: revision of the current concept note; working more closely

and transparently with EANET on potential collaboration; the need to move beyond recognising to realising co-benefits on the ground; preparing standardised quantification method for projects and policies. To move forward, the Secretariat would share meeting note based on the comments and further consultations with some of the Advisory Group members. The revised concept note could become the preliminary for this fiscal year then gradually revise along with the expanding scope of EANET. It could start from the sharing note within few weeks from the meeting.

Co-chair Dr. Supat highlighted the need of close consultation with UNEP, EANET Secretariat as some activities might overlap.

Co-chair Mr. Ohmura expressed appreciation to participants for sharing inputs and summed up the message that the meeting emphasised was to work for tangible outputs on the ground based on 10 years experience. Although the fiscal year ends in March for the ACP, the EANET reformation is still ongoing process especially activities to be expanded. Hence, the draft concept note could be revised based on the input received on the first two discussion questions raised in the beginning of meeting on how to support policymakers to achieve co-benefits and the relevance of ACP's four operational elements. However, 3rd discussion question on the role of bridging for EANET needs further discussion and consultation. As the ACP Secretariat has limited resources, it should focus on a few areas and expand its scope of more resources become available year by year with further development of collaboration with members.

Dr. Supat added the point to include other initiatives and not to limit EANET as suggested during the meeting. The improved concept note through a few bilateral consultations could be the outcome of this year's ACP. There also should be a plan for the next Advisory Group meeting for the future of ACP based on the new concept note so that potential actions and plans could start to be implemented in 2022. He closed the meeting by offering his appreciation to the members for their inputs, and wished all well.



Meeting Agenda

The 11th Asian Co-benefits Partnership Advisory Group Meeting

Virtual via Webex <https://iges-npp.my.webex.com/iges-npp.my-en/j.php?MTID=mbce129a5f5bf79cd141c53bda8454237>

AGENDA
<p>14:00 – 14:10</p> <p>■ Opening and introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Opening remarks: <i>Co-chair, Mr. Takashi Ohmura</i>2) Objective of the meeting: <i>ACP Secretariat, IGES</i>3) Self-introduction by participants
<p>14:10 – 14:40</p> <p>■ <u>Concept Note for the 2nd Phase of ACP</u></p> <p><i>Facilitator: Co-chair, Mr. Takashi Ohmura</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Update on Regional and International Co-benefits Policies and Activities2) Overview of the Concept Note3) Summary of Initial Feedback
<p>14:40 – 15:50</p> <p>■ <u>Feedback on Concept Note for the 2nd Phase</u></p> <p><i>Facilitator: Co-chair, Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion for the steps of the 2nd Phase of ACP
<p>15:50 – 16:00</p> <p>■ Next Steps and Wrap Up</p> <p>Summary of discussion and the next step</p> <p><i>Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana, ACP Secretariat, IGES</i></p>

Meeting Participants

	Organization	Name	Title, Division
1	Ministry of the Environment, JAPAN	Ko Matsuura	Section Chief, International Cooperation Office, Environmental Management Bureau
2	Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy (PRCEE), Ministry of Ecology and Environment, CHINA	Li Liping	Division Director
3	PRCEE, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, CHINA	Li Yuanyuan	
4	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, THAILAND	Ittipol Pawarmart	Head of Automotive Emission Laboratory, Air Quality and Noise Management Bureau
5	Ministry of Environment and Forestry, INDONESIA	Noor Rachmaniah	Deputy Director for Domestic Water
6	Climate change and Atmosphere research, Korea Environment Institute (KEI), ROK	Yeora Chae	Chief Research Associate
7	Ministry of Environment and Tourism, MONGOLIA	Enkhbat Altangerel	Director General, Climate change and international cooperation
8	Ministry of Environment and Tourism, MONGOLIA	Anand Tsog	Climate Change Officer, Climate change and international cooperation
9	[Co-chair] Thammasat University	Supat Wangwongwatana	Senior Expert, Faculty of Public Health
10	[Co-chair] OECC/IGES	Takashi Ohmura	Senior Fellow
11	Regional Resource Center for Asia and Pacific (RRC.AP)/AIT	Ramlal Verma	Head of Air Pollution Cluster
12	Clean Air Asia (CAA)	Bjarne Pedersen	Executive Director
13	Clean Air Asia (CAA)	Dang Espita-Casanova	Programme Manager
14	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Virender Kumar Duggal	Principal Climate Change Specialist
15	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Bulganmurun Tsevegjav	Senior Air Quality Specialist
16	UN Environment (UNEP)	Isabelle Louis	Deputy Regional Director
17	UN Environment (UNEP)	Kaye Patdu	APCAP Coordinator
18	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)	Chris Malley	Senior Research Fellow
19	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)	Eleni Michalopoulou	Researcher
ACP Secretariat			
	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)	Eric Zusman	Research Leader
		So-Young Lee	Research Manager
		Kaoru Akahoshi	Policy Researcher
		Etsujiro Takai	Policy Researcher
		Janardhanan Nandakumar	Research Manager

Appendix: Initial Concept Note

Reformulating the Asian Co-benefit Partnership

1. Background

Recent years have witnessed a significant increase in the activities and initiatives related to air pollution and climate change in Asia. This growth reflects both the increased seriousness of these problems as well as expanding knowledge of solutions that deliver co-benefits by addressing air pollution at the same time as climate change. For many policymakers in Asia, however, it may be difficult to keep pace with the proliferation of guidance and programming coming from different initiatives. This difficulty compounds the already well-chronicled challenge of integrating air pollution and climate change. A possible result of these difficulties is that policymakers struggle to integrate work on air pollution, climate change and their co-benefits into policies and projects.

These challenges suggest a need to strengthen coordination between those working on air pollution and climate as well as initiatives focused on these two key policy areas. One reform that could potentially help in this regard is consolidating existing initiatives under a larger umbrella framework. The Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ) is considering such a change by placing several existing international and regional air pollution activities under the East Asian Acid Deposition Network (EANET). This planned reorganization reflects a desire to not only enhance coordination and improve communication on air pollution, but to deepen impacts of this work in Asia.

The reorganization may nonetheless fall short of its desired objectives without the complementary efforts to support EANET in engaging with partners and countries on strategic areas such as mobilizing finance, strengthening policies, and building capacities. This concept note therefore outlines how the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) could be transformed to become a multilateral platform (or window) that will help address these potential need areas.

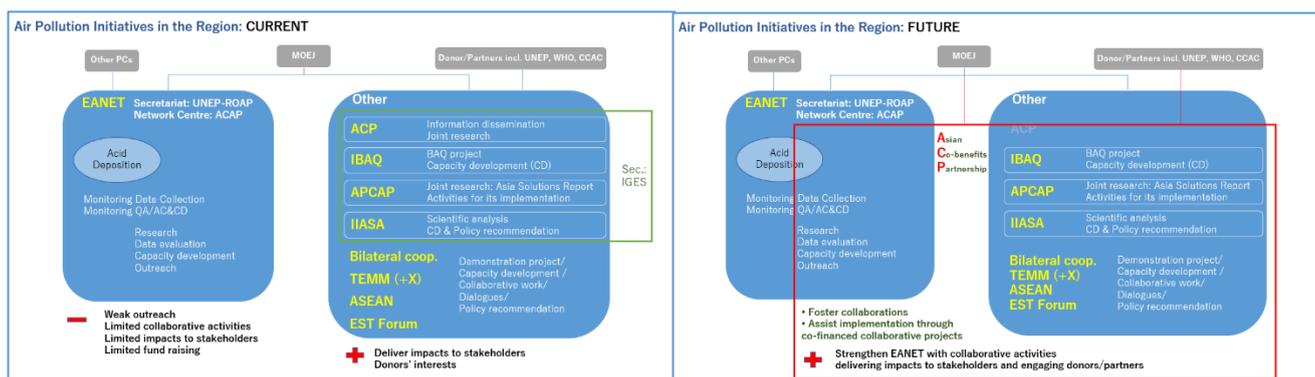
2. Objectives for the Reformed ACP

This note outlines how a reformulated ACP could support and enhance the proposed changes to EANET. The overarching objectives of an updated ACP would be as follows:

- 1) Complement EANET and the Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP) in securing effective implementation of a new regional agreement through **science-based policy analysis** and **multi-stakeholders coordination and communication**; and
- 2) Broaden the mandate of EANET and ACAP by offering **needs-based capacity building** and creating a **project-based funding mechanism** to demonstrate on-the-ground progress of priority solutions.

These two objectives are a logical extension of the ACP's current focus on **information sharing and knowledge management** as well as its efforts to develop **co-benefits policies and projects** and **strengthen regional cooperation** on co-benefits.¹ They would also help address areas of need in both the current, future EANET and beyond.

¹ Please see the ACP website for information: <http://www.cobenefit.org> for additional information on the ACP. The current ACP receives approximately 8 million yen in funding; the proposed expansion of work under the ACP would involve consolidating several non-ACP existing activities on co-benefits while increasing efforts to secure external funding.



3. Four Essential Operational Elements and their Outcomes of the Reformed ACP

The two above overarching objectives for an updated ACP would be pursued through the four essential operational elements and outcomes described below.

1) Promote Science-based Policies

Changes to regional, national, and local air pollution policies should be guided by new and robust science. The ACP will work with ACAP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and other partners to identify and support the implementation of science-based solutions to air pollution and climate change.

- ➔ Projects with ACAP, UNEP, Clean Air Asia, SEI, IIASA, KEI and other partners could be developed to strengthen a targeted number of policies (including policies related to NDCs and SDGs) and institutions to deliver co-benefits and meet broader economic and social development objectives.

2) Mobilise Finance to Implement Solutions

Policymakers need concrete examples and funding for air pollution projects. A project based funding mechanism will be created for the sole purpose of the implementation of air pollution solutions. Efforts will also look at working partners such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and bilateral donors to determine how existing climate finance and development assistance mechanisms could fund key solutions (i.e. through recognizing co-benefits in climate projects).

- ➔ To develop project ideas, the ACP will solicit suggestions from the advisory group; this may involve changing the nature of the advisory group
- ➔ To attract wider audience and stakeholders, including the private sector, the ACP website will become the platform for virtual meetings that demonstrate outcomes of the co-benefits projects.

3) Build Critical Capacities

Policymakers and other stakeholders require knowledge of evidence-based decision-making tools as well as supportive enabling reforms to select and implement air pollution solutions. IGES will work with Clean Air Asia, ACAP, and UNEP to meet needs for these other identified capacities.

➔ Co-benefits trainings (i.e. Co-benefits Tool Workshops) in countries and cities in Asia will build capacities to develop integrated air pollution and climate change policies and deliver co-benefits

4) Coordinate Partners and Communicate Impacts

The newly consolidated set of activities will require enhanced coordination across partners and improved communication beyond partners. The ACP will coordinate across partners responsible for the proposed operational elements and work with UNEP ROAP to communicate impacts to a wide range of stakeholders. Efforts will also be made to find suitable links with relevant regional air pollution agreements such as the ASEAN Haze Agreement and relevant international initiatives such as the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC).

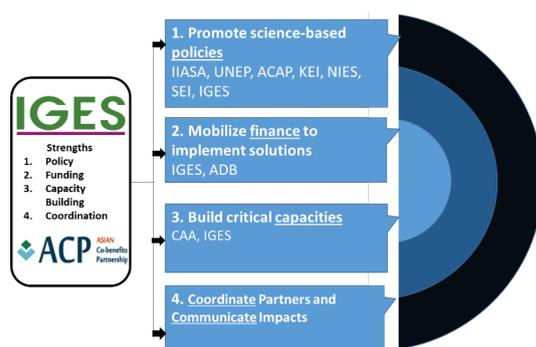


Figure: Four Essential Operational Elements of the Reformulated ACP

4. ACP Organisations and Governance (for discussion)

ACP members include various stakeholders working on co-benefits in Asia i.e. government agencies, international organisations, academe, civil society and the private sector (412 members as of January 2021). The Secretariat, served by IGES, communicates and coordinates ACP activities. It also introduces ACP activities through the newsletter and at the international level. The biannual ACP White Paper publication (since 2014), website operation with good practice map update are also overseen by the Secretariat.

The Advisory Group members listed below provides advice to the Secretariat and its. Advisory Group Meeting has been held annually. Members of the Advisory Group are:

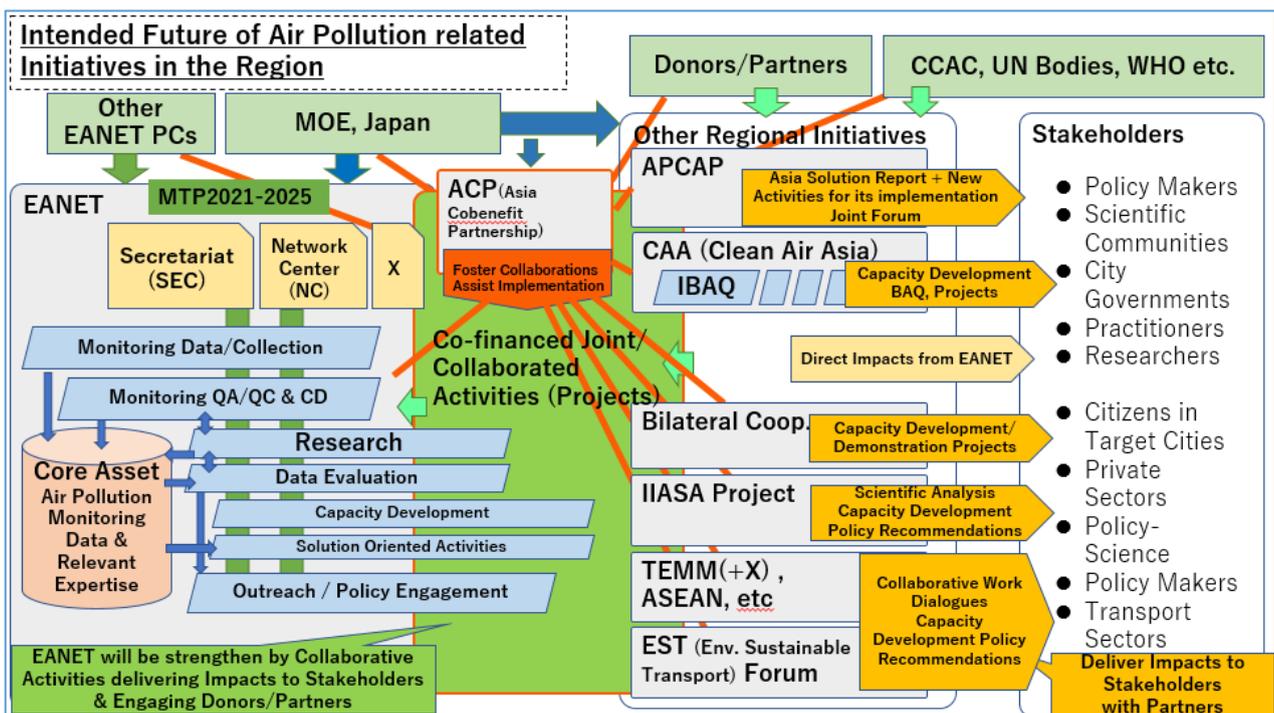
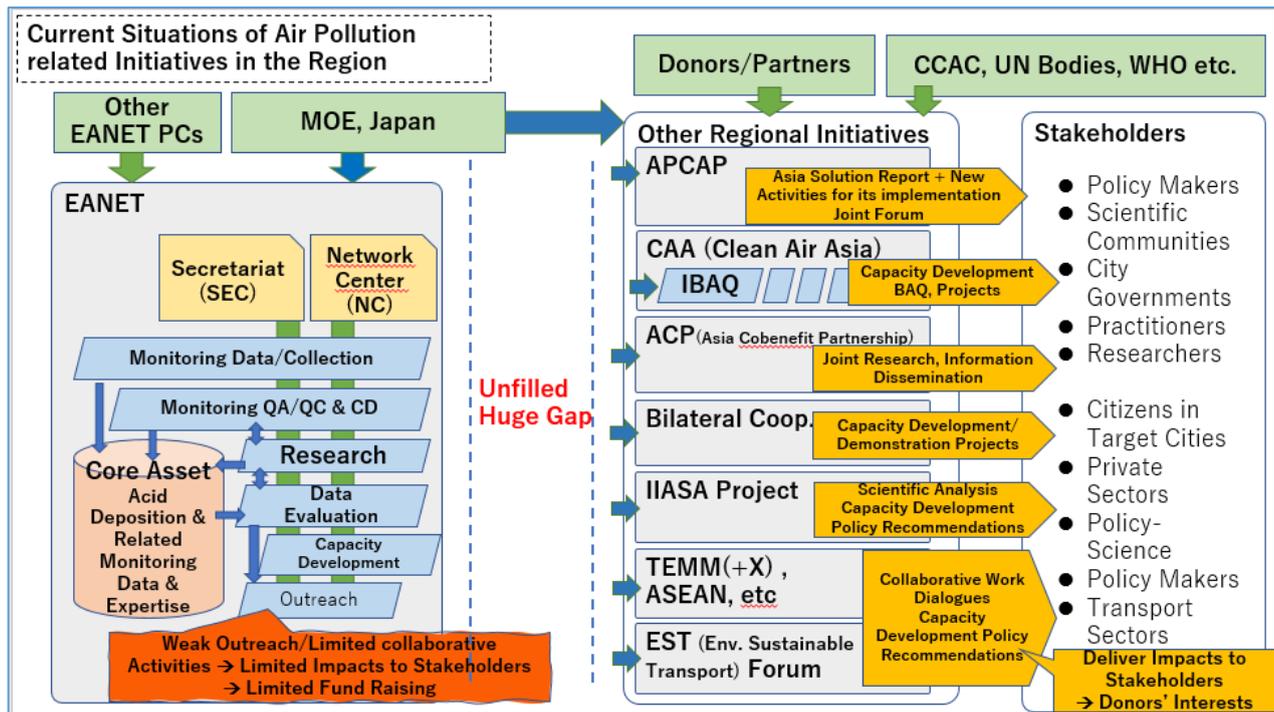
- Asian country representatives: Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy, China; Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia; Ministry of the Environment, Japan; Korea Environment Institute, Korea; Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Mongolia; Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Pollution Control Department), Thailand
- International organizations and networks: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Clean Air Asia (CAA); Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC); International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD); Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific, Asian Institute of Technology (RRC.AP/AIT); Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI); UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP); UN Environment Programme, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UN Environment); UN University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

The reformed ACP would continue to receive guidance from an Advisory Group but with more specified roles for particular Working Groups, including proposing and actively engaging in the development and implementation of funded co-benefits projects. One possibility would be to structure the working groups

so that are focused on developing activities and projects that fit into first three essential operational elements: mobilising finance; strengthening policies; and building capacities.

The reformed ACP would also make greater efforts to engage partners outside the Advisory Group. This could involve soliciting project ideas for small-scale demonstration projects, hosting workshops and webinars virtually, and inviting partners to present their activities in these virtual workshops.

REFERENCE. Detailed figures of the air pollution related initiatives for the current and future





Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) 11th Advisory Group Meeting - Meeting Summary

Acknowledgements

This proceeding is the summary of main discussions of the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) 11th Advisory Group Meeting held on 19 January 2021 via Webex. The Secretariat appreciates all the active supports and participation of the Advisory Group members, as well as financial support from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan.

The Secretariat for the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP), January 2021

For more information about ACP, please visit: <http://www.cobenefit.org/>