

The Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) serves as an informal and interactive platform to improve information sharing and stakeholder coordination on co-benefits in Asia. The ACP was launched with the support of the Ministry of the Environment, Japan in 2010 to help mainstream climate and environmental co-benefits into decision-making processes in Asia. Learn more about us at our website. <http://www.cobenefit.org/>



Highlights



Climate Action in Mongolia SDGs 2016-2030

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Can you briefly explain how climate change affects Mongolia's environment?

Like many countries, Mongolia has been suffering from the adverse impacts of the climate change. We are experiencing changes in available water resources; floods, droughts, and changing precipitation patterns; increases in glacier melting rates; deforestation and desertification as well as severe summer heat. Additionally, we confront forest fires and the spread of disease-carrying insects. These problems are very real and becoming more serious.

To better understand the magnitude of these impacts, we determined that the average air temperature in Mongolia has increased by 2 degrees Celsius within the last 70 years. Over the same the period, there has been a 10% increase in desert areas and up to a 15% reduction in forests. Glaciers that used to cover almost 60% of Mongolia in the 1970s have disappeared and cover less than 30% of our territory now. As of today, desertification and soil degradation has affected more than two-thirds or 77% of Mongolia.

Based on these data, the Mongolian government, especially the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, is eager to contribute and fulfil our commitments to the 2015 Paris Agreement as well as 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This includes implementation of our Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) (Mongolia is currently working on a full Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

What kind of policy and measures has Mongolia adopted to support the SDGs 13 (Climate Action) and where have you collaborated to implement these measures?

As mentioned earlier, Mongolia depends heavily on the natural environment and climate. This has, in turn, resulted in growing vulnerability to climate change. Therefore, the Mongolian government has been actively involved in international and multilateral climate negotiations. Based on global agreements as well as country-specific requirements, The State Great Hural of Mongolia (the Mongolian Parliament) and the Government of Mongolia have adopted relevant policies that also support the environment, social, and economic pillars of sustainable development. These policies include the Mongolia Sustainable Development Vision 2030; National Green Development Policy of Mongolia; National Action Programme on Climate Change (and Action Plan to implement it); INDC; State Policy on Energy as well as National Security Concept of Mongolia.

Mongolia is determined to take concrete action on climate change, both mitigation and adaptation. As mentioned previously, we are now preparing our NDC to submit to the UNFCCC in 2020.

The Mongolian Government has conducted carbon credit projects with the Japanese Government under the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) – bilateral mechanism. Can you describe your achievements and plans for work on the JCM?

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia

has engaged in various projects and initiatives to enable environmentally friendly technology transfer with a view toward reducing pollution and waste as well as protecting ecosystems and natural resources.

One area where we have been able to achieve multiple benefits involves Mongolia becoming the first partner of the Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM) in 2013 with Japanese Government. As of today, we have successfully implemented five projects under the JCM: the installation of improved heat-only boiler (HOB) in the Secondary School of Ulaanbaatar and the state organisation of Bornuur soum of Tuv aimag. There is also the construction of solar station in Darkhan and the implementation of crop farming and renewable energy in a rural district of Ulaanbaatar. The calculated credits for these projects are 3,649 for Mongolia and 14,590 for Japan. Some of the additional co-benefits from these

projects include the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (savings of 18,311 tons); reductions in coal use (savings of 28,119 tons per year); reductions in water use (savings of 248,990 tons per year); and employment creation (59 jobs).

Thanks to these achievements, we are expecting to conduct further JCM projects as our previous projects mitigated climate change and delivered other benefits. Based on this experience, we see that HOB-related projects should be developed and implemented over the following two to three years as they bring quick wins in the near term. JCM projects focusing on solar energy could come afterwards with longer-term investment. Consistent financial support will be critical maintaining the motivation of implementers and enhancing technology transfer moving forward.



Updates

ASEAN MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Ministers and senior level officials from Southeast Asia, Japan and South Korea gathered in Manila on 24-25 July 2019 for the *ASEAN Ministerial Roundtable Discussion on Clean Air, Health and Climate*. The meeting brought together experts and scientists in the region to share local initiatives and insights on global climate action, clean air and health that can simultaneously meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the NDCs of each country. Delegates also discussed messages and opportunities for making individual pledges to upscale climate actions during the UN Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit in New York in September and in the 15th ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting in October.

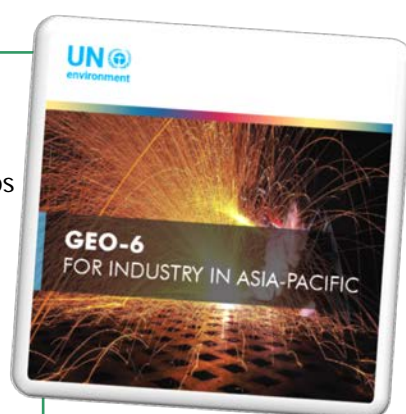


Publications

The UN Environment released *6th Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6) for Industry in Asia-Pacific*. The publication provides an overview of emerging environmental impacts resulting from the region's rapid industrialisation and helps stimulate dialogue and actions by governments, industry and citizens. In relation to the co-benefits approach, the report points out that air pollution is a serious threat to health and well-being of population in the region and advocates for an air pollution control strategies that targets multiple sources to achieve multiple benefits.

The report is accessible through the following link:

<https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/report/global-environment-outlook-6-industry-asia-pacific>



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ACP Website

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