

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

Webinar: Co-benefits Tool Training for Thailand Quantifying and Integrating Co-benefits into Policies

The opening workshop for the Co-benefits Tool Training for Thailand was jointly organised on 1st September by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), the Ministry of Environment Japan (MOEJ) and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT).

It was the first of three co-benefits workshops for Thailand scheduled between September to November 2022. The series of workshops are designed to build the capacities of policymakers and researchers in Thailand to understand and estimate the co-benefits from linking air pollution and climate change policies. This opening workshop in a three-part workshop series had five goals:

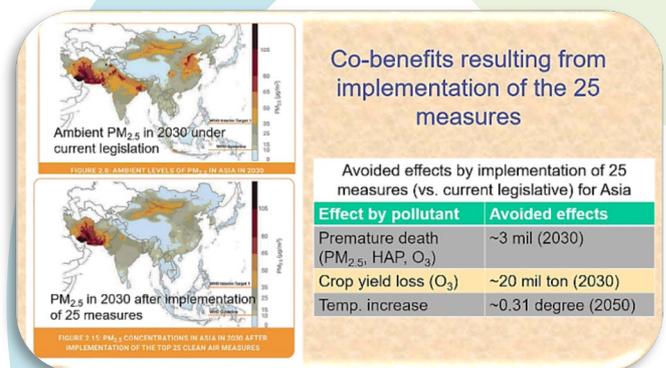
- gain an improved understanding and identify actions that could deliver co-benefits from air pollution, climate change and other relevant policies and practices in Thailand;
- acquire insights on the different methods and tools for quantifying these co-benefits;
- identify institutional structures, policymaking processes, and enabling reforms that can help achieve these co-benefits;
- apply learnings in designing an action plan on climate change mitigation and air quality management; and
- encourage participants to take further action on reducing both air pollution and greenhouse gases in Thailand.

Participants from Thailand gathered at AIT while international participants joined the meeting virtually.

Mr. Ko Matsuura, Section Chief of the Office of International Cooperation in Air and Water Quality of MOEJ, and Professor Vilas Nitivattananon of AIT welcomed participants with the opening remarks.

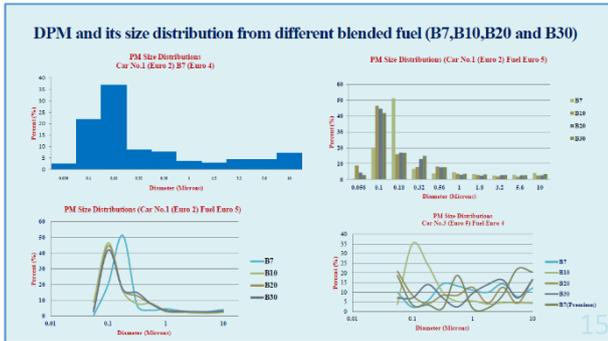
This was followed by first session on the Introduction of Co-benefits and Related Activities in Asia that consisted

of a general overview as well as activities in Southeast Asia and Thailand. Eric Zusman, Senior Researcher at IGES introduced overview and shared the latest research on links between climate change and air pollution. Professor N. T. Kim Oanh of AIT provided a review of the current status of air pollution, health and vulnerability to climate change in the Southeast Asian region; she also emphasised the importance of the co-benefits in policy based on the result of implementation of the 25 clean air measures.



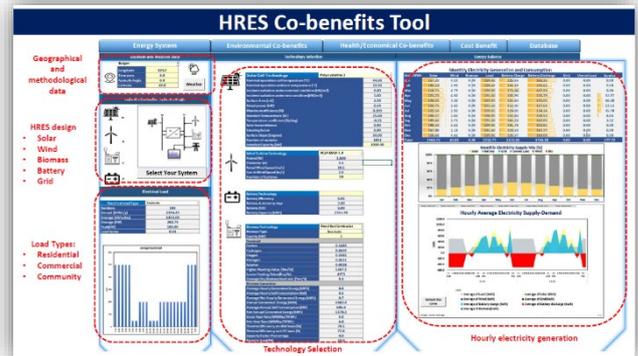
This was followed by a presentation from Mr. Thomas Bannister, Project Management Expert of UNEP Asia and the Pacific Office. He highlighted a serious health crisis in ASEAN region caused by air pollution and discussed UNEP's activities to promote and accelerate solutions for clean air and a healthy climate in ASEAN. Mr. Ueno Ittipol, Head of Automotive Emission Laboratory of Pollution Control Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Thailand, provided an overview of the air pollution and climate change policies as well as co-benefits cases studies in Thailand.

The second part of the workshop consisted of presentations on quantifying co-benefits that could be



adopted in Thailand. First, to illustrate how co-benefits are viewed outside Thailand, Meihua Zhu, Senior Researcher at Asia Center for Air Pollution Research, used the Logarithmic Mean Divisia Index to assess co-benefits in the residential sector in China. Then, Johan

C.I. Kuylenstierna, Research Leader of Stockholm Environment Institute, presented research on The Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning–Integrated Benefits Calculator (LEAP-IBC) co-benefits assessment tool that underlined the potential for integrating actions across sectors and at sub-national scale in Thailand and other countries. Hooman Farzaneh, Professor at Kyushu University introduced an Excel based co-benefits assessment tool of Solar Toolkit for Heat Only Boilers and energy generation in Indonesia and Mongolia; participants will use this assessment tool in the second and third parts of the workshop series in Thailand.



Publications

The Policy Brief, *Sustainable and Inclusive Solutions to Air Pollution and Climate Change in Southeast Asia: Participatory Governance, Social Co-benefits & Co-Innovation*, is jointly published by The Integrated Programme for Better Air Quality in Asia, Stockholm Environment Institute, and Asian Co-benefits Partnership. This Brief aims to answer the question: how can policymakers, researchers, and civil society address air pollution, climate change, and socioeconomic equity with inclusive solutions. It reframes the interrelationship between air pollution, climate change, and social equity concerns through intersectional lens and also provides three enablers: 1) new modes of participatory governance; 2) a recognition of the social co-benefits of action; and 3) adopting learning models based on co-innovation.



- Hooman FARZANEH, Mehrnoosh DASHTI, Eric ZUSMAN, So-Young LEE, Dagvadorj DAMDIN, Zifei NIE. 2022. 'Assessing the Environmental-Health-Economic Co-Benefits from Solar Electricity and Thermal Heating in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia'. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 19(11): 6931.
- Rong TANG, Jing ZHAO, Yifan LIU, Xin HUANG, Yanxu ZHANG, Derong ZHOU, Aijun DING, Chris P. NIELSEN, Haikun WANG. 2022. 'Air quality and health co-benefits of China's carbon dioxide emissions peaking before 2030'. *Nature Communications* 13-1008.
- Danielle BOYD, Minal PATHAK, Renee van DIEMEN, Jim SKEA. 2022. 'Mitigation co-benefits of climate change adaptation: A case-study analysis of eight cities'. *Sustainable Cities and Society* 77-103563.