

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



Making the Links Between Climate and Health in the United Kingdom: Lessons from the PAICE Project

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Can you briefly describe the goals and main activities of the Policy and Implementation for Climate and Health Equity (PAICE) project?

The PAICE project is focused on ensuring that climate policies do more than just reduce emissions but also promote health and equity. Too often, climate strategies overlook possible health benefits and the communities most vulnerable to climate impacts. Simply stated, our goal is to bridge that gap. We work to identify policy interventions and craft monitoring frameworks that deliver multiple benefits, both for the environment and for public health, particularly for disadvantaged groups.

More concretely, the project is aimed at achieving the following objectives: (1) Via the co-development of a programme theory (see question 2), understand and evaluate the value of the PAICE programme in delivering transdisciplinary systems research and guiding policy formulation and implementation; (2) enhance the UK Climate Change Committee's (CCC) sectoral mitigation and adaptation monitoring frameworks, explicitly incorporating health and health equity; (3) integrate the CCC's mitigation and adaptation monitoring frameworks using a systems approach; (4) feed into and enhance the CCC recommendation-making processes; and (5) work with the Greater London Authority (GLA) to adapt the CCC mitigation and adaptation monitoring frameworks for regional and local application.

Can you explain how you use programme theory (mentioned in previous question) in

the project to structure your work?

Programme theory is central to how we organize and evaluate our work. It allows us to clearly articulate the pathways through which specific interventions are expected to lead to desired outcomes, including improved health and reduced inequities. What is unique in PAICE is that our programme theory and related work packages are treated as a living document—it's not static. Over the course of the project, it has been updated 16 times to reflect new insights, evidence, and stakeholder feedback. This iterative process ensures that the theory stays actionable and fresh as the project evolves.

Using living programme theory also enhances our ability to communicate the logic of our work to stakeholders. When policymakers or community partners can see a clear, updated line from action to outcome, it increases the likelihood that recommendations will be implemented. It also provides a strong foundation for monitoring and evaluation (a key part of our work), allowing us to track progress, learn from experience, and refine our approach based on emerging evidence. It nonetheless merits noting that we also recognize the limits of our ability to deliver change; this is reflected in a ceiling of accountability above which policy decisions are beyond our responsibility. Finally, I would like to underline that we specifically allocated resources and staff to work on the programme theory. This has helped to ensure that it is firmly embedded in our research and not an add-on.

What do you hope to achieve through the project in the near, medium and long term?

In the near term, our focus is on producing actionable insights that policymakers can use right away. This includes raising awareness and changing perspectives on the importance of linking climate and health. It also includes outreach beyond the government to the public—for instance, we have run workshops in London that aim to boost awareness of affected citizens. Over the medium term, we aim to embed these equity-focused approaches more deeply

into climate policy design and implementation. This involves building capacity within institutions, fostering collaboration between health and climate sectors, and creating systems that routinely consider health equity in decision-making. In the long term, our vision is transformative: a policy environment where climate action and health equity are consistently viewed as mutually reinforcing.

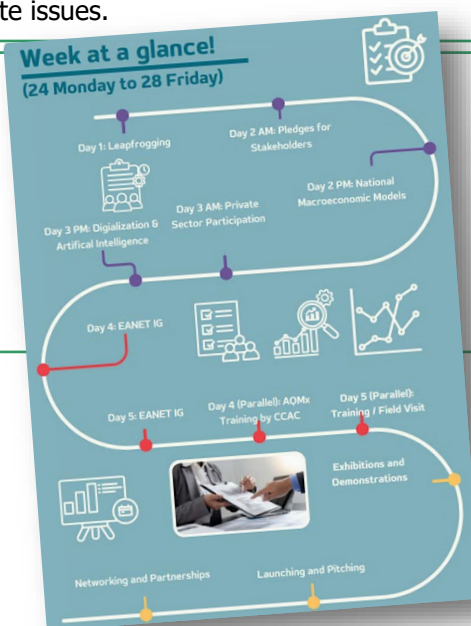


Updates

Co-benefits Symposium during the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies 2025

Recognising the importance of designing integrated strategies that maximise co-benefits while minimising trade-offs, the symposium titled "Integrated Management of Air Pollution to Respond to Climate Change" brought together policymakers, scientists, international organisations and technical experts. The goal was to promote holistic approaches that address both air pollution and climate change challenges. This symposium was jointly organised by the UN ESCAP Subregional Office for North-East Asia and the National Air Emission Inventory and Research Centre of the Republic of Korea. IGES, the Secretariat of the ACP, participated in the session on "Innovative Approaches and Multi-Stakeholder Cooperation for Integrated Management of Climate Change and Air Pollution" and presented on co-benefit approaches and policy innovations made possible through international and multi-stakeholder cooperation. The session emphasised promoting actionable strategies for coordinated governance, inclusive policy development and sustainable international collaboration to address shared air and climate issues.

UNEP and partners, including UNESCAP, WHO, GIZ and Clean Air Fund, will organise the **2025 Clean Air Week** from November 24 to 28 in Thailand. This week-long event brings together governments leaders, experts, the private sector and civil society to engage in a series of activities focused on finding solutions for air quality and fostering dialogue and cooperation in the Asia Pacific region. For more information and registration, visit: www.unep.org/events/unep-event/clean-air-week



Publications

- Léo Moutet, Paquito Bernard, Rosemary Green, James Milner, Andy Haines, Rémy Slama, Laura Temime, Kevin Jean (2025) "The public health co-benefits of strategies consistent with net-zero emissions: a systematic review," *The Lancet Planetary Health* 9(2)E145-156.
- Şiir Kılıç (2025) "Urban scenario approaches with quartiles of benchmarked performance and co-benefits," *Energy* 335(30)137580.
- Xinyuan Huang, Wei Peng, Alicia Zhao Yang Ou, Shannon Kennedy, Gokul Iyer, Haewon McJeon, Ryna Cui, Nate Hultman (2025) "Substantial air quality and health co-benefits from combined federal and subnational climate actions in the United States," *One Earth* 8(3)101232.
- Yinghua Yin, Shufang Guo, Qiyu Xu, Jian Liu, Hongyuan Wang, Yanhua Zhuang, Zhen Wang, Lingling Hua, Hongbin Liu & Limei Zhai (2025) "Co-benefits for cropland yield, nitrogen emissions, and climate impact through multi-objective optimization agricultural manure solutions," *Nature Communications* 16: 6415.

