



Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) Work Plan (2012-2013)

Asian Co-benefits Partnership Organizational Profile and Work Plan (2012-2013)

I. Introduction

Many actions mitigate climate change while simultaneously delivering other development benefits—such as cleaner air, healthier communities, and greener cities. The benefits accruing to these actions are known as “co-benefits.” From advanced brick kilns to renewable portfolio standards, Asia has been home to numerous actions capable of generating co-benefits. Yet these actions only scratch the surface of Asia’s potential for aligning development and climate. Realizing this potential requires basing a range of decisions on climate concerns and other developmental priorities. The past decade has demonstrated that there needs to be greater awareness and enhanced capacity before co-benefits are routinely reflected in decisions in Asia.

The past decade has also witnessed several attempts to increase awareness and build the capacity needed to integrate co-benefits into key decisions. From spreadsheet calculators for key sectors (i.e. transport and waste management) to training modules for nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), Asia has also been home to numerous efforts that could help mainstream co-benefits. The Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) was launched at the Better Air Quality (BAQ) conference in November of 2010 to enable various stakeholders to work together on that shared goal. Over the past two years, the Work Plan 2010-2011 laid the foundation for the ACP’s initial functions and activities.

The ACP Organizational Profile and Work Plan 2012-2013 is intended to update that structure and activities. In so doing, it pays particularly close attention to the ACP’s advisory group’s previous recommendations to maintain a focus on policymakers but not lose sight of other stakeholders (i.e. private sector); tailor knowledge products to stakeholder needs; and seek funding for value-added knowledge products. It will further attempt to identify collaborative projects that leverage the unique strengths of the ACP members to bring a more integrated co-benefits approach to development and climate change strategies in Asia.

II. Organizational Profile: Goals, Membership, Functions and Implementation Arrangements

A. Goals and Outcomes

The ACP is an informal and interactive platform designed to improve information sharing and stakeholder dialogue on co-benefits in Asia. The ultimate goal of the ACP is the mainstreaming of co-benefits into sectoral development plans, policies and projects in Asia. The ACP will build on and complement existing networks/initiatives with overlapping goals.

For the next two years, the ACP will seek the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Knowledge base and information clearinghouse on co-benefits have been strengthened and is regularly used by various stakeholders in Asia, especially policymakers;

Outcome 2: Effective communication structures for co-benefits have been created and consistently disseminate information to major organizations and initiatives promoting a co-benefits approach;

Outcome 3: National and sectoral policies in Asia incorporate co-benefits and result in increased number of specific co-benefits projects; and

Outcome 4: Cooperation among countries in Asia for further promotion of mutually-beneficial co-benefits approach/projects has been strengthened.

B. Partnership members and target audience

ACP members include various stakeholders working on co-benefits in Asia, including government agencies, international development organizations, academe, civil society and the private sector etc.

Since the ACP is an informal platform, any organization or individual that is interested in or willing to work on co-benefits in Asia can join the ACP and contribute to activities described in the work plan.

Views on co-benefits are inherently diverse. Some groups are interested in the linkages between climate change and development while others focus on linkages between climate and particular sectors (energy, transport, and industry) or environmental media (air, water, and waste). To ensure the inclusive character of the ACP, co-benefits will be viewed in a broad sense – that is, co-benefits between development and climate.

Given the interests of the members in the ACP for 2012-2013, a higher priority will be placed on co-benefits between environmental pollution and climate change, with several members focusing specifically on air pollution and climate change. The ACP recognizes that a narrower focus will be useful to mainstreaming co-benefits into specific sectoral policies and measures. At the same time, a broader view will help raise awareness of co-benefits among a variety of stakeholders and allay concerns about the co-costs arising from a co-benefits approach (i.e. the costs of switching from fossil fuels).

The ACP aims to encourage the wide scale application of a co-benefits approach; the ACP is designed to meet the needs of organizations (especially government agencies from developing countries in Asia) that are responsible for the formulation and implementation of sectoral policies, programs and projects. Since local level agencies frequently implement projects and policies, the ACP will make concerted efforts to ensure the impacts of its activities reach the local level.

The ACP will also target organizations and persons promoting co-benefits in nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), low emissions development strategies (LEDs), national action plans for short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), or development assistance programs under multilateral development banks. The ACP may also look at opportunities for promoting co-benefits through new climate change mechanisms, including mechanisms promoting bilateral cooperation.

Researchers will play an important role in the ACP, recognizing that in an evolving area such as co-benefits researchers can bring recent findings to other stakeholders.

C. Major functions and activities

The major functions and activities of the ACP for 2012-2013 will be:

1. Information sharing and knowledge management, including knowledge generation and dissemination

- Knowledge management activities will be strongly promoted. Knowledge management activities may focus on: (a) research on the science behind co-benefits (including SLCPs) (b) defining possible co-benefits policies at the national development or sectoral levels; and (c) methodologies to quantify co-benefits. Members of the ACP already possess extensive knowledge on co-benefits, and have published research papers, technical documents, case study reports etc. The ACP will thus make a regularly scheduled request to its members for related knowledge products. The knowledge products will be shared with ACP members as well as other relevant stakeholders.
- Information sharing and a clearinghouse system will help manage and share information of co-benefits in Asia, and to promote the mutually-beneficial projects, especially through demonstration projects. These projects will be used for not only demonstration purposes but as training tools, detailing the steps needed to estimate and incorporate co-benefits into a decision.
- To summarize those developments, the ACP will aim to publish a white paper on co-benefits in Asia approximately every two years.

2. Enhanced communication among the ACP members

- The Secretariat will identify organizations that are involved in co-benefits policies or projects, invite them to join the ACP, and contribute actively to their activities. Efforts will be made to significantly increase the number of member organizations in the ACP.
- The ACP will collaborate with relevant members to utilize and enhance existing websites to share information related to co-benefits. ACP communications will include a regular request for members to increase the linkages with the ACP website.
- One of the barriers to disseminating a co-benefits approach is a limited understanding of its application to actual projects. On the other hand, there are effective co-benefits projects in Asia whose experiences can be shared among stakeholders. Sharing of experiences on model projects in different sectors, such as air pollution control, transport, or waste management, will be encouraged and facilitated by the ACP. Seminar/s and workshop/s will be held to exchange experiences and views on concepts, policies, and methodologies on a co-benefits approach and case studies of co-benefits policies and projects.

3. Development of co-benefits policies and projects in Asia

- Joint research will be initiated and undertaken on how to integrate co-benefits policies in national development plans or relevant sectoral policies. Given the importance of cross-national cooperation, bilateral and multilateral research projects will be promoted.
- The ACP will facilitate the development of collaborative co-benefits projects. Guidelines, manuals, and other technical documents to develop and evaluate co-benefits policies and projects will be developed and disseminated. ACP communications will include a regular request for members' for web links to the ACP website and materials for dissemination.
- The ACP will seek to identify and showcase "best practice" for co-benefits projects. In so doing, it will seek to determine *inter alia* the reasons behind a success, estimated costs, cost savings, and benefits (short and long term), scalability within particular areas, possible relevance and reproducibility in other areas. Extra emphasis will be placed on estimating costs since costs often weigh more heavily in decisions than benefits.
- Capacity building needs for a co-benefits approach (both at the policy and project level) will be identified. Based on the identified needs, capacity building activities will be developed and implemented as appropriate. Efforts will further be made to integrate co-benefits into multiple stages of policymaking (i.e. planning, financing and implementation).
- When resources are available, demonstration projects may be developed and implemented to demonstrate the utility of co-benefits approach. For instance, projects may look at the co-benefits from a key sector or from short-lived climate pollutants.

4. Strengthening of regional cooperation to promote co-benefits approach

- Inter-linkages will be established between the ACP and existing networks/initiatives in Asia potentially related to co-benefits. The issue of co-benefits will be raised at high level policy dialogues (such as the annual Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Efforts will be made to raise awareness on co-benefits among high level policymakers in Asia through appropriate regional and international (such as the Joint Forum on Atmospheric Environmental Issues). Efforts will also be made to cooperate with new initiative supporting co-benefits (such as the Clean Air and Climate Change Coalition (CCAC)).
- An appropriate funding scheme, as well as better use of existing funding schemes, may be explored to promote/accelerate co-benefits policies and projects in Asia. Funding from international and regional development agencies may be pursued to finance model projects. Efforts to acquire funding for such projects will be stepped up over the period 2012-2013.

D. Implementation arrangements

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) serves as the Secretariat for the ACP. The main tasks of the Secretariat include:

- Develop documents on ACP activities, including Work Plans for review and comments by members;
- Oversee implementation of Work Plan;

- Organize and promote ACP activities, including meetings, seminars, workshops;
- Maintain communication with members of the ACP;
- Assist members of the ACP in developing co-benefits policies and projects in Asia; and
- Carry out other activities as appropriate.

The Secretariat has a special responsibility to ensure active participation of Asian countries in ACP activities.

An Advisory Group provides advice to the Secretariat on the ACP and its activities. The functions of the Advisory Group include:

- Set and review strategic priorities for the ACP;
- Review the ACP work plan prepared by the Secretariat;
- Recommend the working method (including membership policy) of the ACP; and
- Advise on fund raising activities carried out by the ACP members to support the ACP activities

Members of the Advisory Group consist of representatives from some Asian countries and international organizations. The membership of the Advisory Group will ensure that the priorities of Asian countries are adequately reflected in the activities of the ACP.

Members of the Advisory Group may be:

- Asian country representatives: volunteer countries;
- International organizations: The Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia), the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum (GAPF), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific (RRCAP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and the United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS).
- Others as appropriate, such as selected sectoral agencies.

The Advisory Group maintains contact by email and/or teleconferences and holds a minimum of one face-to-face meeting each year.

III. Work Plan 2012-2013-The work plan consists of collaborative projects/proposals and existing projects/ programs. The status of activities will be updated as appropriate.

Collaborative Projects/Proposals

Category	<i>Proposed</i>[*] or Existing Project	Lead Organization(s)	Supporting Organization(s)
Information sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop or improve appropriate websites/listserv for knowledge management • Collect and share scientific information related to co-benefits • Develop co-benefits “toolkits” for dissemination to policymakers/ other stakeholders • Document/compile research activities on co-benefits 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACP Website and Toolkits 2. ACP Newsletter 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IGES 2. IGES 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All Other ACP Members 2. All Other ACP Members
Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct and distribute assessments of awareness and application of a co-benefits approach in select Asian countries • Conduct consultation on barriers and opportunities for co-benefits in Asia • Convene seminars/workshop to widely disseminate a co-benefits approach to policymakers and other stakeholders • Provide relevant regional initiatives with information/input on co-benefits 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACP Advisory Group Meeting 2. <u><i>Co-control Policy Seminar</i></u>[*] 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IGES 2. PRCEE, IGES 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All Other ACP Members 2. CAI-Asia, GAPF
Co-benefits policies/projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct gap analysis in terms of tools and methodologies for co-benefits • Develop and/or improve technical documents for co-benefits projects • Initiate additional activities on tools and methodologies, based on gap analysis • Prepare case study reports on co-benefits projects (sectoral projects) • Support the development of integrated co-benefits strategies for selected developing countries in Asia • Develop co-benefits projects, led by developing country Partnership members 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u><i>SLCP Action Plan/Toolkit</i></u>[*] 2. <u><i>Waste Management Project</i></u>[*] 3. <u><i>Co-benefits Technology Project</i></u>[*] 4. <u><i>Co-benefits White Paper</i></u>[*] 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GAPF 2. RRCAP 3. IGES 4. MoEJ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RRCAP, CAI-Asia, IGES 2. All Other ACP Members 3. All Other ACP Members 4. All Other ACP Members

^{*} Items with an asterisk are proposed collaborative projects. Implementation will be contingent on funding and confirmed involvement of participants.

<p>Regional cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a co-benefits framework for dialogue among policymakers in selected countries in Asia • Develop policy messages for high level policymakers • Develop appropriate financing framework for co-benefits policies and projects in Asia, including better use of existing funding mechanisms 	<p>1. <u>CAI-Asia-GAP Forum Regional Meeting on Short-lived Climate Pollutants</u></p>	<p>1. GAPF, CAI-Asia</p>	<p>1. Other ACP Members</p>
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Existing Projects

	Information sharing	Communication	Co-benefits policies/projects	Regional cooperation
ADB		ADB Transport Forum	Gender Co-benefits	
CAI Asia	Cities Act Website/Database Transport and Energy Emissions Guidelines	BAQ Workshop	Green Freight and Logistics Project	
ESCAP	Double Dividend and Green Growth Initiative			
GAPF	SLCP Project	SLCP Regional Workshop for Asia		
IGES	SLCP Project Asia Pacific Adaptation Network Low Carbon Asia Research Network	IIASA-Japan Co-benefits Workshop Asia Pacific Adaptation Forum Annual meeting of LoCARNet	Open Burning Project Co-benefits Technologies Gender Co-benefits	
MOEJ	- Support to the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP), including its website - KYOTO Mechanisms Information Platform (part on Co-benefits Approach)	- Support to the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP)	- Bilateral Cooperation with China and Indonesia based on agreement [China] joint study on quantitative evaluation on the reduction of air pollutants and CO2, capacity building [Indonesia] project feasibility study mainly focusing on agro-industry sector (i.e. palm oil, fishery, biomass), capacity building - Private Sector based Cooperation	- Support to the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP) as a multilateral platform to promote regional cooperation to realize co-benefits approach in Asian countries.

			Co-benefits type CDM project - Cooperation with International Organization	
MOEI			Slaughterhouse Project Palm Oil Project	
MONRE		Tropospheric Ozone Workshop	Transport NAMAs Project (with GIZ)	
RRCAP		EANET Report for Policymakers EANET Newsletters Male Declaration Compendium of Good Practices on Prevention and Control of Air Pollution Male Declaration Newsletters	ABC Project	EANET Male Declaration Joint Forum on Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific
PRCEE	China-Japan Co-benefits Cooperation Project		Panzhihua Project Xiangtan Project	
UNU-IAS	Urban Co-benefits Special Journal Urban Co-benefits Book Project		Urban Co-benefits Tool Development	