



North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC)

Expert Consultation Meeting on Transboundary Air Pollution in North-East Asia

Introduction to goals and objectives

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Outline

1. Goals and Objectives of the ECM
2. Overview of NEASPEC work on TAP
3. Summary of major outcomes of the consultant reports
4. Expected outcomes of the ECM and future steps

Goals and Objectives of the workshop

- Discuss reviews done by national consultants with focus on gaps and recommendations
- Agree on a set of recommendations for improving collaboration on TAP in North-East Asia for SOM-17
- Discuss possible role of NEASPEC in strengthening subregional cooperation on TAP

Overview of NEASPEC work on TAP

Overview

- Mitigation of Transboundary Air Pollution from Coal-fired Power Plants in North-East Asia – major NEASPEC project
- Joint project of ADB and NEASPEC
- 3 phases: 1996-98, 2002-04, and 2009-11
- National Implementing Agencies: China Electricity Council (CEC) under the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), China; Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism, Mongolia
- Contributed to technical and policy aspects of SO₂ mitigation in China and Mongolia
- Resulted in recent adoption of tighter emission standards by Mongolia

Review of existing and required capacities for addressing adverse environmental impact of TAP in North-East Asia

Overview

- 2010 - SOM-15 (Tokyo) and consultations
- Expert Consultation Meeting (20-21 January 2011 in Incheon): recommendations on scope and objectives
- SOM-16 (1-2 September 2011): Approval by member States and nomination of focal points
- Workshop on TAP in NEA (10-11 November 2011)- kick-off
- Report of national consultants – this ECM- recommendations
- Final report – SOM-17 (October, Chengdu)- follow-up?

Goals of the Review

- Prepare a comprehensive study of subregional and international mechanisms, models and approaches aimed at transboundary air pollution assessment and mitigation, including EANET, LTP, UNECE CLRTAP, EMEP, GAINS-Asia, MICS-Asia, etc
- Identify subregional knowledge gaps, room for improvement, relevant needs and priorities, and a set of options for a multilateral approach on transboundary air pollution assessment and mitigation in North-East Asia

Summary of reports (gaps analysis)

Coincide with discussions at the kick-off workshop

- None of existing networks is comprehensive (especially mitigation technologies omitted)
- Uncertainties on inventories, transport of ozone and precursors, aerosols and their composition
- Effects driven approaches – health, crops, etc- reconsider critical loads/levels in NEA
- Link with activities on global scale –TF-HTAP (Europe, North-America)
- Co-benefits, air pollution-climate change(BC, O₃)

Summary of reports (recommendations)

- Establish high-level coordination mechanism and/or intergovernmental scientific body on regional scale (umbrella mechanism)
- Attract interest of policy-makers through coordination of activities and research
- Promote interaction between existing subregional/regional mechanisms – Joint Forum
- Holistic approach- impact analysis, inventories, monitoring of concentrations and deposition, modeling
- Joint scenario building- attract public attention

Expected outcomes and future steps

- Agree on common recommendations to be reflected in the final report for SOM-17
- Possible follow-up activities under NEASPEC-
solidifying subregional cooperation and building linkages to regional cooperation
- Continue close cooperation with sister organization-UNECE to share experience and possibly target concrete pollutants and effects (O₃, PM_{2.5}, HM, POPs,etc)