



**Draft Concept Note**  
**NEACAP 1<sup>st</sup> Policy Dialogue: presenting the preliminary findings from  
the NEACAP Policy Analysis Report**

**23 September 2024, Incheon, Republic of Korea (Hybrid)**

### **Background**

Established in 2018 as the flagship programme under the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP) is committed to addressing air pollution challenges in North-East Asia.

As outlined in the [NEACAP Terms of Reference \(TOR\)](#), the core programmes of NEACAP include: (i) sharing relevant information and data, (ii) coordinating with relevant mechanisms and synthesizing their results in accordance with NEACAP activities, and (iii) proposing potential technical and policy measures to tackle air pollution.

The TOR specifies that these core programmes are supported by (a) regular and ad-hoc meetings; (b) annual or biannual subregional review reports; (c) seminars, workshops, and training sessions; and (d) research projects. To elaborate and operationalize these core programmes, a series of consultations and discussions was conducted, and consequently, the NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025 was adopted with an indicative list of activities on “Policy and Technology Cooperation”, which is a priority area for the five-year plan. The list of activities includes organizing policy dialogues for exchanging information and policy experience, as well as conducting policy analysis in support of these policy dialogues.

### **NEACAP Policy Analysis Report**

The report examines the progress and challenges in managing air pollution in North-East Asia in the past decade, focusing on China, Japan, Mongolia, and the Republic of Korea. By documenting these successes, the report supports the process of strengthening policy exchange and collaboration between countries of North-East Asia. Beyond reviewing policy progress, it discusses existing and emerging challenges in each country, underscores the importance of continued regional cooperation, and proposes a roadmap for future

initiatives to ensure cleaner air and a healthier environment for the people of North-East Asia.

Facilitated by the NEASPEC Secretariat in line with the agreed work plan under NEACAP, the policy analysis report was developed by an author's group comprising of a lead consultant and nominated national experts. Mr. Zbigniew Klimont (Pollution Management Research Group Leader, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)) developed the report, supported by NEASPEC Secretariat, based on inputs received from the national experts nominated by NEASPEC member States.

### **NEACAP Policy Dialogue**

The NEACAP First Policy Dialogue aims to: (i) present the preliminary findings of the NEACAP Policy Analysis Report to policymakers and stakeholders from member States; (ii) seek substantial insights and comments from participants to enhance the Report for submission to the 27<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-27) of NEASPEC, as advised during SOM-26 <sup>1</sup>.

### **Participants**

During the Fifth Meeting of the Science and Policy Committee (SPC) of NEACAP, the Committee highlighted the importance of engaging policymakers from member States in the process of developing the report and policy dialogues.<sup>2</sup> To this end, the envisaged participants of the policy dialogue include:

- Officials from relevant government units involved in air pollution management and policies
- NEASPEC National Focal Points
- NEACAP SPC members and Technical Center (TC) representatives
- Report Authors' Group

### **Session Discussions and Format**

The sessions are of two parts. The **Overview Session (A and B)** will set the context to the deep-dive sessions by presenting a comprehensive overview of the report.

The **Deep-Dive Sessions (C, D and E)** will focus on the three main elements of the report: data analysis; policy analysis and policy recommendations. Guiding questions are provided to steer the discussions. Participants from each member country will be requested to provide their insights.

---

<sup>1</sup> SOM-26 report (<https://neaspec.org/content/neaspec-26th-senior-officials-meeting>).

<sup>2</sup> SPC-5 report (<https://neaspec.org/content/fifth-meeting-science-and-policy-committee-north-east-asia-clean-air-partnership>).

- **C. Discussions on Report's Data Analysis:** Each member country will be requested to provide interventions, as guided by the session questions. Participants working on environmental science and data analysis (e.g., SPC members, TC representatives) are envisaged to engage during the discussions.
- **D. Discussions on Report's Policy Analysis:** Each member country will be requested to provide interventions, as guided by the session questions. Participants working on policies (e.g., NEASPEC NFPs, officials from government units involved in air pollution management and policies) are envisaged to engage during the discussions.
- **E. Discussions on Report's Recommendations:** Each member country will be requested to provide interventions, as guided by the session questions.

## Provisional Programme [23<sup>rd</sup> September]

Time	Agenda	Led by
10:00-10:10	<b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Welcome remarks</li> </ul>	
<b>Overview (Facilitator: NEASPEC Secretariat)</b>		
10:10-10:20	<b>A. Overview of the Joint Research Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief introduction to the joint research project including its goals, methodology, and the collaborative efforts involved.</li> </ul>	NEASPEC Secretariat
10:20-11:20	<b>B. Overview of the NEACAP Policy Analysis Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comprehensive overview of the report including (1) Report outline and structure, (2) Key findings and messages, and (3) Recommendations to set the stage for detailed discussions.</li> </ul>	Mr. Zbigniew Klimont (IIASA) and national experts
11:20-12:00	Q&A <b><u>Guiding questions on the overview of the Report</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does the NEACAP Policy Analysis Report effectively address the overall structure and key elements to support the conclusions and recommendations?</li> <li>2. Does each section of the report adequately cover the essential aspects of air pollution in each country and across North-East Asia?</li> <li>3. Are there any resources, documents, plans, or research missing from the report that should be included?</li> </ol>	
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
<b>Deep-dive Sessions (Facilitator: Mr. Zbigniew Klimont)</b>		
13:00-14:00	<b>C. Discussions on Report's Data Analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feedback collection: Gather detailed feedback on the data collection and methodologies, analytical approaches, and scientific rigor of the report</li> <li>- Discussion points: consistency of data sources, data accuracy, reliability, and applicability to policymaking.</li> </ul>	Participants working on environmental science and data analysis (e.g., SPC members, TC representatives) will provide their feedback on the discussion points (with guiding questions).
	<b><u>Guiding questions</u></b>	

Time	Agenda	Led by
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How effectively do the figures, tables, maps, and accompanying texts in the report present country-specific data and situations?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the visual elements clear, accurate, and consistent in representing the air pollution data for each country? Do they provide sufficient context and explanation to ensure understanding without potential misinterpretations?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>How reliable, consistent, and accurate are the data sources used in the report across all countries?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are there any potential biases or limitations in the data that should be addressed?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>What improvements could be made to enhance the country-specific information in the report?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are there additional data points, indicators, or analyses that could provide a more comprehensive understanding of each country's air pollution situation?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
14:00-15:00	<p><b>D. Discussions on Report's Policy Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feedback collection: Solicit insights on the policy analysis including completeness, relevance, effectiveness, and fitness to address future challenges.</li> <li>- Discussion points: policy implementation challenges, success cases and lessons learned, addressing emerging environmental challenges</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b><u>Guiding Questions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Does the report effectively highlight successful policy implementation in each country and address emerging challenges that each country is encountering?</b></li> <li>• <b>Are there notable best practices from countries which are not mentioned in the report?</b></li> <li>• <b>Are there any issues or concerns regarding the examples presented in the report?</b></li> <li>• <b>What gaps, if any, exist in the report's policy analysis, and how can they be addressed?</b></li> </ul>	<p>Participants working on policies (e.g., NEASPEC NFPs, officials from government units involved in air pollution management and policies) will provide their feedback on the discussion points (with guiding questions).</p>
15:00-15:30	<i>Tea and coffee break</i>	
15:30-16:30	<b>E. Discussions on Report's Recommendations</b>	All participants, with a focus on national level recommendation or

Time	Agenda	Led by
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feedback collection: Assess the practicality and potential impact of the recommendations provided in the report.</li> <li>- Discussion points on (1) prioritization of recommendations, (2) potential barriers, and (3) strategies for effective implementation.</li> </ul>	regional cooperation perspectives.
	<p><b><u>Guiding Questions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Do the conclusions and recommendations provide an effective summary of the report?</b></li> <li>• <b>How can the recommendations guide proposals for NEACAP activities in 2025? How can the recommendations guide the development of the NEACAP Work Plan for 2026-2030?</b></li> <li>• <b>Are the recommendations and proposed actions for both national and (sub) regional levels practical and feasible for implementation?</b></li> </ul>	
16:30-17:00	<p><b>F. Wrap-up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recap main points from the feedback sessions, highlight consensus areas, and outline next steps for report finalization</li> </ul>	NEASPEC Secretariat