

***Air Quality Assessments for Health and Environment Policies:
Data for Policy Action***

Tentative Agenda

23 March 2018

United Nations Conference Center, Bangkok, Thailand

Background

The Project “Air Quality Assessments for Health and Environment Policies in Africa and Asia Pacific” aims at enhancing capacity of targeted countries in Africa (Benin, Botswana, Ethiopia) and Asia Pacific (Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand) to strengthen and use data and information to assess ambient air quality and support the development and implementation of evidence-based policies on ambient air quality and health. The project will address the gaps in knowledge base on ambient air quality and health impacts and connect the two areas, in support of coherent policy making by recommending policy action based on the project outcome to encourage positive impact on people’s health.

Meeting Objectives

- 1) To strengthen and use data and information to assess ambient air quality and support the policy formulation and implementation with public health benefits;
- 2) To share the progress of countries participating in the project on Air Quality Assessments for Health and Environment Policies to accelerate national activity implementation, and
- 3) To review collectively regional level needs of assistance that are required by the project partners including challenges faced and possible solutions.

Target Participants

- 1) Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Health officers in charge of the air quality assessments for health and environment policies project countries (one person from each ministry of the project country);
- 2) Entities in charge of technical development of air quality monitoring and assessment of each countries (one person from each country of the project)
- 3) Some countries / experts are also invited as key resource persons for model case presentation.

Tentative Programme

Time	Agenda	Remarks
8:30-9:00	Registration	
9:00-9:05	Opening and Welcome Remarks Ms. Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida, Regional Subprogramme Coordinator for Chemicals, Waste and Air quality, UN Environment Asia and the Pacific Office	
9:05-9:35	Session 1. Participants Introduction, Meeting Objectives and Project Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants Introduction (10 minutes) • Meeting Objectives and Project Overview (20 minutes) by UN Environment 	
9:35-10:40	Session 2. Use of Air Quality and Health Data for Policy Formulation and Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Study Presentation: US Experience: Using Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program (BenMAP) results for policy development and implementation (15 minutes) by Mr. Rob Pinder, United States Environmental Protection Agency • Sharing by participating countries on: (10 minutes each for each country: Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Air quality and health data available ○ Air quality policy development based on data (national and city) ○ Current use of data to evaluate policy effectiveness ○ Challenges and needs • Q&A and Discussion (20 minutes) 	
10:40-11:00	Networking Break	
11:00-12:20	Session 3. Indicator Development on Air Pollution and Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Study Presentation 1: Hong Kong Experience: Air Quality and Health Index (20 minutes) – Prof. Tze Wai Wong, School of Public Health and Primary Care The Chinese University of Hong Kong • Case Study Presentation 2: Vital Strategies on Indicator development for Health Initiative, by Ms. Lynn Tang, Director of Programs, Environmental Health (10 minutes) • Sharing by participating countries on: (10 minutes for each country: Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development of indicator on air quality and health (including air quality index) ○ Current coordination between environment and health officials on air quality indicator development ○ Challenges and needs • Q&A and Discussion (20 minutes) 	
12:20-14:00	Lunch	

Time	Agenda	Remarks
14:00-15:20	<p>Session 4. Data Sharing Platforms and Public Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platforms Model Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AirNow-International, by Mr. Alan Chan, Sonoma Tech, Inc., (15 minutes) ○ Breathelife Campaign, by UN Environment (15 minutes) • Sharing by participating countries on: (10 minutes for each country: Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Current situation in preparing data sharing platform between environment and health sector ○ Current situation in communicating air quality and health information with people ○ Challenges and needs • Q&A and Discussion (20 minutes) 	
15:20-15:45	Networking Break	
15:45-16:45	Session 5. Work Plan Review and Discussion on Way Forward	
16.45-17.00	<p>Closing Remarks Dechen Tsering, Regional Director and Representative, UN Environment Asia and the Pacific Office</p>	