

Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment
Local Initiatives Addressing Environmental and Socio-Economic Co-Benefits
Better Air Quality Pre-event

CALL FOR PAPERS

Background and Objectives

Air pollution has been one of the many pressing environmental problems faced by local governments in many cities around the **Asia Pacific Region**. Due to its alarming impacts on human health and environment, many local governments have been pursuing different control mechanisms such as policies, regulatory measures, emission reduction technologies and economic measures in order to control the impact of air pollution from its source. The result of these initiatives has brought forth positive outcomes on the environment on local and global scales, and in some cases also delivered several socio-economic benefits to local communities, stakeholders and different sectors involved in air quality management (AQM). Such co-benefits in broader socio-economic context may include generating income for the poor, creating additional employment, promotion of local enterprises, broadening business opportunities, enhancing stakeholder participation and partnership and improvement of urban governance. Normally, socio-economic development challenges have attracted greater attention in local development agenda, and, therefore, addressing environmental (local and global) co-benefit as well as the multiple socio-economic benefit would enhance the prospect of AQM initiatives to be given higher priority in urban political settings and resource allocation, in addition to increasing financial sustainability of the projects themselves from economic feedback.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) has been implementing the **Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment**, adopted at the **Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED 2000)** held in Kitakyushu, Japan in September 2000, and continues to seek for the enhancement of the capacity of local governments in integrating win-win approach to urban environmental management and socio-economic development. This workshop, organized in the framework of the **Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment** seeks for interaction with wider communities of CAI Asia and promotes exchange of information and experiences of Asian Cities concerning multiple benefits experienced in the different AQM initiatives adopted by local governments around the region.

- Present case studies related to environmental and socio-economic co-benefits experienced with air quality management initiatives of local governments in the region
- To discuss strategies in enhancing opportunities of multiple benefits of local air quality management initiatives, together with the requirements for national policy support.
- Develop possible demonstration projects in the region.

Topics and Criteria for Selection

Abstracts are invited for the workshop presentation addressing initiatives such as programs, projects, community interventions on urban air quality management by local governments, private sector and local communities in Asia Pacific Region highlighting **the environment and socio-economic co-benefits of the related initiatives**. The following topics will be considered:

1. Emission reduction strategies for industrial and transport sector;
2. Adoption of local policies based on the latest air quality control measures;
3. Energy efficiency control measures;
4. Formulation of clean development mechanism (CDM) projects;
5. Air quality management modeling.

Abstracts should clearly state the purpose, results and conclusions of the work to be described. Final acceptance will be based on the full-length paper and must be presented at the workshop. Papers and presentations for the workshop must be written in English.

Date & Venue (Tentative)

Date & Time: 09:00-15:00, December 12, 2006 (tbc) / Venue: Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Organisers (Tentative)

The workshop will be organised by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), as a pre-event to Better Air Quality 2006.

Language

The workshop will be held in English.

Programme (12 December 2006) (Tentative)

Theme: Local Initiatives Addressing Environmental and Socio-Economic Co-Benefits

8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:15	Opening remarks (speaker: to be decided)
9:15-10:15	Session 1 ---- 3 Presentations (maximum 20 minutes for each presentation)
10:30- 11:30	Session 2 ---- 3 Presentations (maximum 20 minutes for each presentation)
11:30-11:50	Discussion
11:50-12:50	Lunch
12:50-14:10	Session 3 --- 3 Presentations (maximum 20 minutes for each presentation)
14:10-14:30	Discussion
14:30-14:50	Conclusion and Recommendations
14:50-15:00	Closing

Participation

Participants will include local governmental officials, private sector, NGOs, and practitioners who have experience in, or are planning, local air quality management projects; approximately 30 participants in total. Speakers and selected participants will be sponsored by the UNESCAP and the BAQ organizing committee.

Inquiries

We highly encourage and welcome your expression of interest in participating and presenting a paper at this event. Please send relevant inquiries and abstracts by email or fax to UN ESCAP, as follows:

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Please include the following information in your response:

1. City name / Organization name
2. Name of submitter
3. Title, Department, Address, Telephone/Fax, Email
4. Short description of the practice or activity related to the theme of the event