

## Concept Note

# **NEACAP National Workshop on Air Quality Management in Mongolia: Developments and Prospects**

**Crystal Hall, 3/F, Blue Sky Hotel, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

**24 September 2025**

## **Background**

Air pollution poses a critical threat to human health, ecosystem and sustainable development in Mongolia. Ulaanbaatar, in particular, experiences high levels of air pollution during the winter season, with adverse consequences for public health and quality of life. Addressing these challenges requires coherent policy frameworks, strengthened institutional capacities, and practical technical solutions.

In response, the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP) under the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) is convening a national workshop to support Mongolia's efforts in formulating and implementing effective air quality policies. Taking place back-to-back with the NEASPEC 28<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-28) and the NEACAP Second Policy Dialogue, the workshop will serve as a platform for capacity building, strategic policy discussions, and regional cooperation.

## **Objectives**

The workshop aims to:

- Facilitate national dialogue on air pollution policy setting and implementation in Mongolia.
- Strengthen the capacity of national and local stakeholders to design and apply evidence-based, actionable strategies.
- Promote peer learning by sharing policy experiences and best practices from China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.
- Enhance regional cooperation and knowledge exchange under the NEACAP framework.

A key component of the workshop will be a dedicated session on country presentations, where experts from China, Japan, and Republic of Korea will share their national experiences in developing and implementing air pollution policies. This will be complemented by presentations on Mongolia highlighting current initiatives, challenges, and opportunities, fostering a mutual learning process.

## Participants

The workshop will bring together participants, including:

- Officials from relevant Mongolian ministries and local governments
- Experts from academic and technical institutions
- Representatives of civil society and technical agencies
- International speakers from China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea
- NEACAP Science and Policy Committee members and representatives from NEACAP Technical Centers

## Provisional Programme

Time	Session
09:00-09:30	<i>Registration (Refreshments to be served)</i>
09:30-10:00	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Ganbold Baasanjav, Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office</li> <li>○ Representative from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (as SOM-28 Country Chair)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Introduction to NEACAP and NEASPEC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NEASPEC secretariat</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10:00-10:45	<b>Session 1: Air Quality in Mongolia – Policies and Institutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of current air quality status and supporting policies and regulatory frameworks</li> <li>• Institutional roles and inter-agency coordination</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (on policies)</li> <li>○ Mr. Battulga Erkhembayar, Director, National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring (on monitoring and data analysis)</li> </ul>

Time	Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Davaasuren Sanjaa, Head of Secretariat, National Committee on Reduction of Air and Environmental Pollution (on institutional roles)</li> </ul> <p><u>Q&amp;A/Interactive Discussions</u></p>
10:45-11:45	<p><b>Session 2: Air Quality in Mongolia – Challenges, Initiatives and Needs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy issues and challenges; impacts and linkages to SDGs</li> <li>Initiatives and lessons learned</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Tsatsral Batmunkh, Director, Central Laboratory of Environment and Metrology, NAMEM</li> <li>Ms. Oyun-Erdene Otgonbyamba, Researcher, National Center for Public Health (on the health risks and impacts of air pollution in Mongolia)</li> <li>Mr. Hiroaki Takiguchi, Senior Advisor, Japan International Cooperation Agency</li> </ul> <p><u>Q&amp;A/Interactive Discussions</u></p>
11:45-13:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13:00-14:00	<p><b>Session 3: Air Quality Management – Exchanges of Good Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National policies and actions</li> <li>Lessons learned and recommendations</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SPC members</li> </ul> <p><u>Q&amp;A/Interactive Discussions</u></p>
14:00-15:30	<p><b>Session 4: Air Quality Management in Mongolia – Strengthening Cooperation and Capacity Building Prospects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On-going/planned initiatives;</li> <li>Cooperation efforts and partnerships</li> </ul> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Zbigniew Klimont (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis)</li> </ul>

Time	Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES)</li> <li>○ Ms. Maria Katherina Patdu, Programme Management Officer, Ad Interim Coordinator, Secretariat of the EANET</li> <li>○ Ms. Juliette Laurent, Air Quality Specialist, Climate and Clean Air Coalition</li> <li>○ Ms. ZHONG Nan, Senior Environment Researcher, Clean Air Asia</li> <li>○ Ms. Enkhun Byambadorj, CEO, Breathe Mongolia (on challenges of air pollution reduction policies, governance structure and institutional memory)</li> <li>○ Mr. Enkhbat Erdenebat, UNDP</li> <li>○ World Bank (<i>tbc</i>)</li> </ul>
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:00-16:30	<p><b>Session 4: Air Quality Management in Mongolia - Strengthening Cooperation and Capacity Building Prospects (con't)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going/planned initiatives</li> <li>• Cooperation efforts and partnerships</li> </ul> <p><u>Q&amp;A/Interactive Discussions</u></p>
16:30- 16:45	<b>Closing</b>