

Expert Group Meeting on NEASPEC Project
“Development of the Technical and Policy Frameworks for Transboundary
Air Pollution Assessment and Abatement in North-East Asia”

1 May 2014, Incheon, ROK

Conclusions of the Meeting

- The Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on NEASPEC Project “Development of the Technical and Policy Frameworks for Transboundary Air Pollution Assessment and Abatement in North-East Asia” was held on 1 May in Incheon, ROK, to discuss the approaches and plan of the Project.
- The EGM came to a conclusion on the need for strengthening North-East Asia-focused voluntary cooperation framework on transboundary air pollution considering the need for subregional cooperation covering all subregional members and involving scientific assessment with high policy relevance.
- The EGM discussed potential target pollutants of the proposed framework and came to a general conclusion to focus on PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀ and Ozone considering the level of national concerns in member countries, and their linkages with other pollutants including SO_x, NO_x, Black Carbon, NH₃ and VOC.
- Experts had a common view on the need of impact assessment of air pollution at the subregional level while noting various existing and planned research activities at national, regional and global levels. Experts agreed that assessing health impact of air pollution should be prioritized. In this regard, the EGM noted the importance of harnessing results of such research for subregional assessment in order to maximize mutual benefits and avoid potential duplications.
- Considering insufficient science-policy linkage in current cooperation in North-East Asia, the EGM recognized the work on policy and economic development scenarios, for instance, as an important means to strengthen the linkage, and the importance of such work to be conducted under the umbrella of an intergovernmental mechanism in order to have policy impact.

- The EGM noted that the work of the proposed framework on policy scenarios, emission inventory and abatement technology assessment could be priority areas providing added-value to existing efforts and strengthening subregional cooperation in terms of both science and policy. The EGM also recognized the significant potential of such work in contributing to relevant regional /global processes.
- The EGM noted that the proposed framework would need to cover modelling on source-receptor relationship of transboundary air pollution, policy scenarios, impact assessment, etc., to strengthen subregional cooperation.
- To develop the concept of the framework, the EGM agreed to focus on the modelling on source-receptor relationship, to seek collaboration with the planned modelling work of LTP, to utilize national emission inventories where available and expert estimates as well as EANET monitoring data, and to take stock of results from recent relevant research.
- The EGM agreed that modeling will be carried out by Scientific Research Institute for Atmospheric Air Protection, the Russian Federation, and respective national institutions including Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences and Busan National University, Republic of Korea and national experts involved in LTP modelling.
- The EGM agreed to seek the collaboration and contribution from other international research institutions including International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis.
- The EGM noted there will be further communication regarding planned work and administrative arrangements by end of June 2014 between the NEASPEC Secretariat and participating institutions and experts requiring funding from the Project.