



Expert Group Meeting on Innovative Technologies and Applications for Urban Air Pollution Control in Asia and the Pacific

25 May 2023, Thursday
(Virtual)

Organized by

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Background

Rapid urbanization has benefited mankind and made the life of people easier and comfortable. At the same time, it also poses harm to mankind by contributing to air pollution, particularly in and around urban areas and cities. Air pollution in cities have been rapidly increasing resulting in serious adverse effects on health and environment. According to UNEP, 6.5 million people die annually from exposure to poor air quality and 70% of air pollution related death occurs in Asia-Pacific.¹

In recent years, the focus of research and innovation has been on the development of new and innovative technologies – from catalytic converters to biofilters and carbon capture solutions – for improving air quality. Innovative technology solutions are being developed to reduce and eliminate the major air pollutants such as NOX, SOX, CO₂, CO, HC, other organic and inorganic gases, and particulate matters (e.g., PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}). The challenging sectors for city air pollution control are transport, industries, construction, domestic use of fossil fuels, garbage incineration, and power generation. The choice and success of air pollution control technologies are determined by the scale of emissions, types of pollutants that need to be captured, scalability, efficiency and maintenance of systems, as well as affordability and operational cost of equipment. These are critical challenges to be addressed for successful adoption and deployment of air pollution control technologies in cities. Towards this objective, APCTT is implementing a project titled "Enhanced capabilities to adopt innovative technologies for city air pollution control in select countries of the Asia-Pacific" in 2023.

In this context, APCTT is organizing a regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) to collect good cases of innovative air pollution control technologies successfully implemented in cities across the Asia-Pacific region. Member States will share their experience and good practices in scaling up and adoption of these technologies in cities.

¹ <https://www.unep.org/regions/asia-and-pacific/regional-initiatives/restoring-clean-air>

Objectives

1. Collect good case studies of innovative technologies and their applications to control air pollution in cities across the Asia-Pacific region
2. Understand enabling strategies and opportunities for scaling up and adoption of technologies for city air pollution control in terms of innovative methods of implementation, efficiency, effectiveness, affordability, and accessibility
3. Solicit recommendations for cross-border technology collaboration and regional cooperation to accelerate adoption of air pollution control technologies in cities

Target participants: Policymakers, technical experts and relevant stakeholders involved in city air pollution control in the Asia Pacific region

Countries expected to Participate: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam