THE COALITION AT A GLANCE

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WHY DO WE NEED TO ACT NOW?

Pollutants that are short-lived in the atmosphere, such as black carbon (soot), methane, tropospheric ozone and some hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), can have harmful impacts on human health, agriculture and ecosystems.

These short-lived climate pollutants – or SLCPs – are also responsible for a substantial fraction of current global warming, as well as having regional climate impacts.

Fast action to reduce these pollutants, especially methane and black carbon, has the potential to slow down the warming expected by 2050 by as much as 0.5°C, as well as prevent over two million premature deaths each year and avoid annual crop losses of over 30 million tonnes. These actions need to be complemented by deep and rapid cuts in carbon dioxide emissions if global mean temperature increase over the 21st century is to be held below 2°C.

There are many cost-effective options available for addressing short-lived climate pollutants, such as upgrading trapping black carbon emissions from diesel engines, harnessing methane from landfills as a source of energy and using new technologies to avoid use of HFCs.

THE CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR COALITION

Recognizing that mitigating these short-lived climate pollutants is critical to addressing climate change in the near-term, in February 2012 six countries and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) formed the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants. It is the first global effort to treat these pollutants as a collective challenge.

The Coalition is growing rapidly. As of January 2013, the CCAC has 50 partners.

OUR STATE PARTNERS

Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Republic of Maldives, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States.
OUR NON-STATE PARTNERS


All Coalition partners recognise that its work is complementary to global efforts to reduce carbon dioxide, in particular under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

OBJECTIVES

The new Coalition intends to accelerate and scale-up action, catalysing new actions as well as highlighting and bolstering existing efforts. Its objectives are to:

- Raise awareness of short-lived climate pollutant impacts and mitigation strategies;
- Enhance and develop new national and regional actions, including by identifying barriers, enhancing capacity and mobilizing support;
- Promote best practices and showcase successful efforts; and
- Improve scientific understanding of short-lived climate pollutant impacts and mitigation strategies.

SUPPORTING GLOBAL ACTION

At the first meeting of the Coalition’s High Level Assembly, in April 2012, five transformational initiatives were agreed for rapid implementation:

- Reducing black carbon emissions from heavy duty diesel vehicles and engines;
- Mitigating black carbon and other pollutants from brick production;
• Mitigating short-lived climate pollutants from the municipal solid waste sector;

• Promoting HFC alternative technology and standards; and

• Accelerating methane reductions from oil and natural gas production.

The Coalition has also identified cross-cutting work areas on finance and national action planning to accelerate emissions reductions of short-lived climate pollutants across all sectors. Further initiatives could focus on mitigating SLCP emissions from cookstoves, domestic heating and agriculture and on SLCP science (e.g. regional SLCP assessments).

JOIN THE COALITION

The Coalition is open to countries and non-state actors who wish to join this global effort. Participation is voluntary.

Partners are expected to engage and actively participate in the Coalition’s work and should be committed to mitigating short-lived climate pollutants and, where possible, to helping others take similar actions. Enquiries about joining the Coalition should be directed to its Secretariat in Paris.

MORE INFORMATION

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