

INITIATIVES

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC) launched in February 2012 is the first global effort to treat short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) as a collective challenge.

SLCPs, such as black carbon, methane and some hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), can have harmful impacts on public health, agriculture and ecosystems and are responsible for a substantial fraction of current global warming as well as having regional climate impacts.

At the first meeting of the CCAC's High Level Assembly, in April 2012, seven transformational initiatives were agreed for quick-start action. These initiatives for rapid implementation aim at catalysing, accelerating and scaling-up action as well as highlighting and bolstering existing efforts and engaging high level stakeholders to address SLCPs worldwide and ensure rapid delivery of scaled-up climate and clean air benefits.

The CCAC Partners have identified five sector specific initiatives.

Reducing black carbon emissions from heavy duty diesel vehicles and engines

The CCAC will work to reduce the climate and health impacts of black carbon and particulate matter (PM) emissions in the transport sector. An estimated 19% of global black carbon emissions come from the transportation sector, with an important share coming from diesel vehicles.

The CCAC will work to reduce these emissions through commitments by governments, regional institutions, cities, across the private sector, and other major stakeholders to achieve catalytic, large-scale and replicable reductions of black carbon emissions from heavy duty diesel vehicles and engines within: the freight transportation supply chain

by engaging private sector interests; urban areas through the implementation of city action plans; and countries through the adoption of a range of measures for reducing sulphur in fuels and vehicle emissions.

In a first phase to be completed early in 2013, the CCAC will focus its work on the reduction of diesel PM/black carbon emissions from heavy duty vehicles in

An estimated 19%
of global black
carbon emissions
come from the
transportation sector



Latin America and Asia through the introduction of low sulfur diesel fuels and the adoption of vehicles emissions standards for heavy duty vehicles at the city, national and regional levels.

Mitigating black carbon and other pollutants from brick production

The CCAC will work to address emissions of black carbon and other pollutants from brick production to reduce the harmful climate, air pollution, economic, and social impacts from this sector. Brick kiln production is responsible for substantial air pollution in many cities of the world.

Under this initiative, the CCAC will catalyse the adoption of integrated approaches for cleaner brick production technologies through technical assistance, cost-benefit analyses, awareness raising, capacity building and implementation of pilot projects.

In a first phase to be completed early in 2013, the CCAC will focus its work on raising awareness of the public health and environmental impacts of inefficient brick production and the potential solutions to support national governments in firmly placing this issue into their agendas. The CCAC will also convene an expert task force to support the production of a study and the formulation of a longer-term programme of action and demonstration projects.

The first CCAC capacity building workshop on public policies to reduce environmental impact of artisanal brick production took place from 4-6 September in Guanajuato, Mexico.

Mitigating SLCPs from the municipal solid waste sector

The CCAC is working to address methane, black carbon, and other air pollutants emissions across the municipal solid waste sector by working with cities and national governments. Municipal solid waste landfills are the third largest source of global methane emissions, while the practice of open garbage burning emits black carbon and other toxic compounds as well as greenhouse gases.

This initiative will be a catalysing force to reduce methane and air pollution across the municipal solid waste sector by securing city and country commitments to undertake a variety of best practice policies and strategies for waste management.

The initiative was successfully launched at the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development on June 19, 2012. In a first phase of activities to be completed early in 2013, the CCAC will support a number of cities to develop strategies for reducing SLCPs from waste and build a knowledge network for sharing best practices in cities around the world.

Promoting HFC alternative technology and standards

The CCAC will work with governments and the private sector to address rapidly growing hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions, which could account for as much as 19% of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 2050 if left unchecked. Through this initiative, the CCAC will promote HFC alternative technology and standards, including through activities, such as, developing sector-specific HFC inventories, demonstrations of HFC alternatives, information

dissemination and capacity building through key networks, and leveraging government procurement policies. The CCAC will work to bring high-level visibility to HFC reduction efforts, and facilitate dialogue with industry leaders who are committed to responsible approaches or who can contribute in areas of technology development, commercialization and deployment.

In a first phase of activities to be completed early in 2013, the CCAC will support the development of HFC inventories in a number of developing countries, organize a Commercial Refrigeration technology Forum to facilitate the sharing of experiences on low-GWP alternatives and advanced refrigeration, support the production of case studies and dissemination of information on low-GWP options for specific subsectors, including on policy options. As part of its first actions, the CCAC supported the "Advancing Ozone and Climate Protection Technologies: Next Steps Conference" which will take place from 21-22 July in Bangkok.

Accelerating methane and black carbon reductions from oil and natural gas production

The CCAC will seek to work with a group of key stakeholders and countries in the oil and natural gas sector to encourage cooperation and support the implementation of new and existing measures to substantially reduce SLCP emissions from oil and natural gas production. The oil and gas sector accounts

for more than 20% of all anthropogenic emissions of methane globally.

The initiative will build on existing programs and work with participating governments, companies, financial institutions,

HFC emissions, which could account for as much as 19% of CO₂ emissions by 2050 if left unchecked

Municipal solid waste landfills are the third largest source of global methane emissions

and other stakeholders to more fully capture and utilize vented, leaked, and flared natural gas through cost effective strategies.

The CCAC has also identified the two following cross-cutting initiatives to accelerate emissions reductions across all sectors and SLCPs:

- **Financing mitigation of SLCPs**

While multiple means of financing SLCP mitigation already exist they are not currently translating into high-enough levels of financial flows. In order to take advantage of all mitigation opportunities, the CCAC will seek to act as a catalyst of scaled-up SLCP mitigation financing and will work with governments, the private sector, donors, financial institutions, expert groups and investors' networks to address current knowledge gaps, barriers to financing and implementation of SLCP reduction projects and identify existing and potential avenues and mechanisms to bolster financial flows toward SLCP reduction activities at the national and international scales.

- **Promoting SLCP national action planning**

Measures to mitigate SLCPs have been assessed at a global and regional level and now need to be incorporated into national policies and actions. The CCAC will work with interested national governments to support the rapid roll-out of national action planning for SLCP mitigation. The rapid development of national action planning will enable countries to identify achievable 'quick-win' benefits, and to prepare the ground for large-scale implementation of mitigation measures geared to their unique national

The oil and gas sector accounts for more than 20% of all anthropogenic emissions of methane globally.

circumstances, priorities and particular mix of SLCP sources. Effective national action planning will help deliver the full range of potential benefits from SLCP emissions reductions in each country, such as streamlining the overall mitigation process and in some cases achieving immediate improvements for public health and agriculture.

In a pilot phase to be completed early in 2013, the CCAC will engage with four developing countries in Asia, Latin America, namely Bangladesh, Colombia, Ghana and Mexico to support the rapid development of national action planning. More countries will be supported in subsequent phases. A national action planning guide and a rapid emissions and scenarios assessment toolkit to determine current emissions, emission scenarios and support rapid benefit estimation will also be developed for voluntary use by governments.

More information

The CCAC is a voluntary partnership uniting governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and representatives of civil society and the private sector in the first global effort to treat SLCPs as a collective challenge.

Secretariat

Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants
United Nations Environment Programme

www.unep.org/ccac

ccac_secretariat@unep.org



© Getty Images