

Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum



Short-Lived Climate Forcers: Aims and Activities of the GAP Forum

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Aims of the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum

- Promotes dialogue, co-operation and joint activity among regional air pollution organisations on the practical challenges facing them
- Encourage harmonization of systems and approaches to facilitate co-operation at inter-continental, hemispheric and global scales
- Provides a forum for debate on wider issues of common concern, such as the interaction of climate change and pollution, and the policies and institutions needed to tackle hemispheric and global pollution.
- Encourages the establishment of new regional networks where they do not currently exist, and capacity-building in those regions where lack of resources poses a severe constraint on necessary action

GAP Forum: Partnership of International Organizations and Regional Air Pollution Networks

- LAC Intergovernmental Network on Air Pollution
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- UNEP-sponsored networks and programmes in East and South Asia
- UN Economic Commission for Europe/Convention on (UNECE) Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP)
- Air Pollution Information Network for Africa (APINA)
- Clean Air Task Force (CATF)
- Clean Air Initiative – Asian Cities; Latin America, Africa
- Asian Co-benefits Partnership
- International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI)

Secretariat: IUAPPA and SEI

GAP Forum: Three Core Areas of Activity

1. Establishing or strengthening regional air pollution networks;
2. Harmonizing technical systems and information between regions (e.g. on emissions, monitoring, impact and mitigation approaches);
3. Building consensus among regional groups and stakeholders (towards possible hemispheric or global frameworks for air pollution).



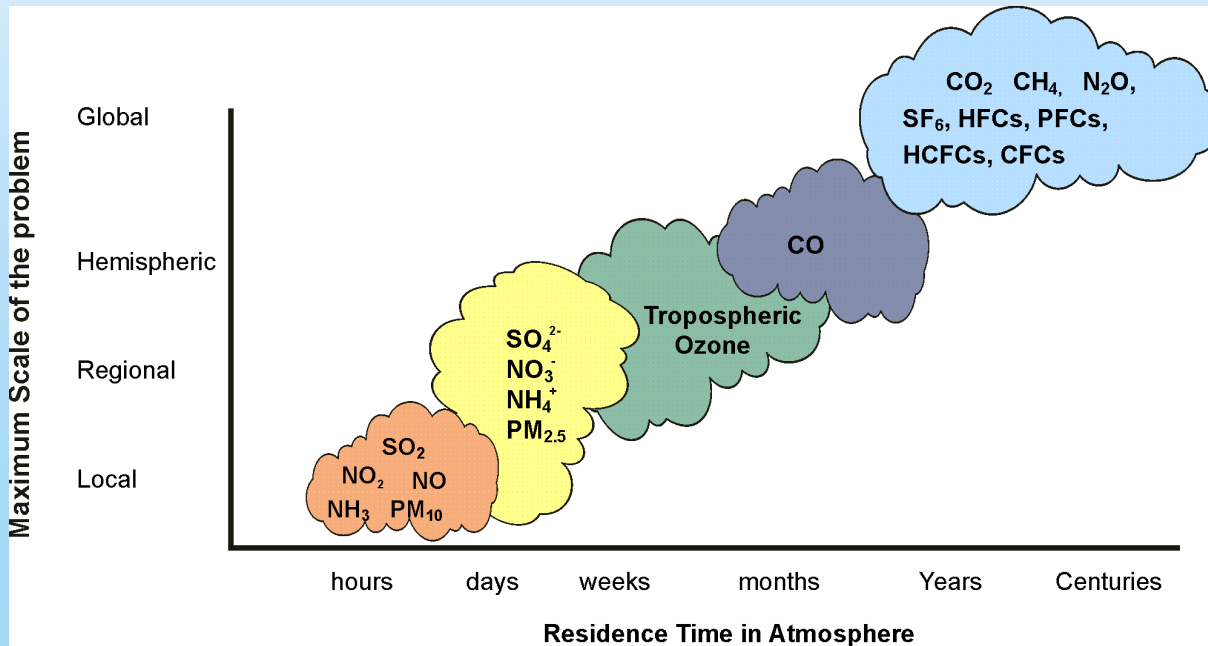
INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE AND AIR POLLUTION

Recognised in early discussions as a pathway to more effective and integrated global atmospheric management

1. Very close connection in sources, effects and mitigation options
2. A rational approach suggests common, or at least linked approaches
3. This tends not to happen
4. Why? What solutions can we provide?

Challenges and Opportunities

- Dealing with air pollution across the scales
- Moving from assessment to action
- Creating awareness of true costs of poor air quality and benefits in key stakeholders
- Integration of climate change and air pollution policies producing co-benefits



‘Air Pollution and Climate Change: Developing a Framework for Integrated Co-benefits Strategies’

- Hosted by Sweden, funded by Sida, September 2008
- Held under the auspices of the Convention on LRTAP and UNEP, in consultation with the UNFCCC secretariat
- 110 scientists and policy experts from 35 countries, including Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe, North America and Australia from air pollution and climate communities
- Organized by Forum Secretariat (IUAPPA and SEI)

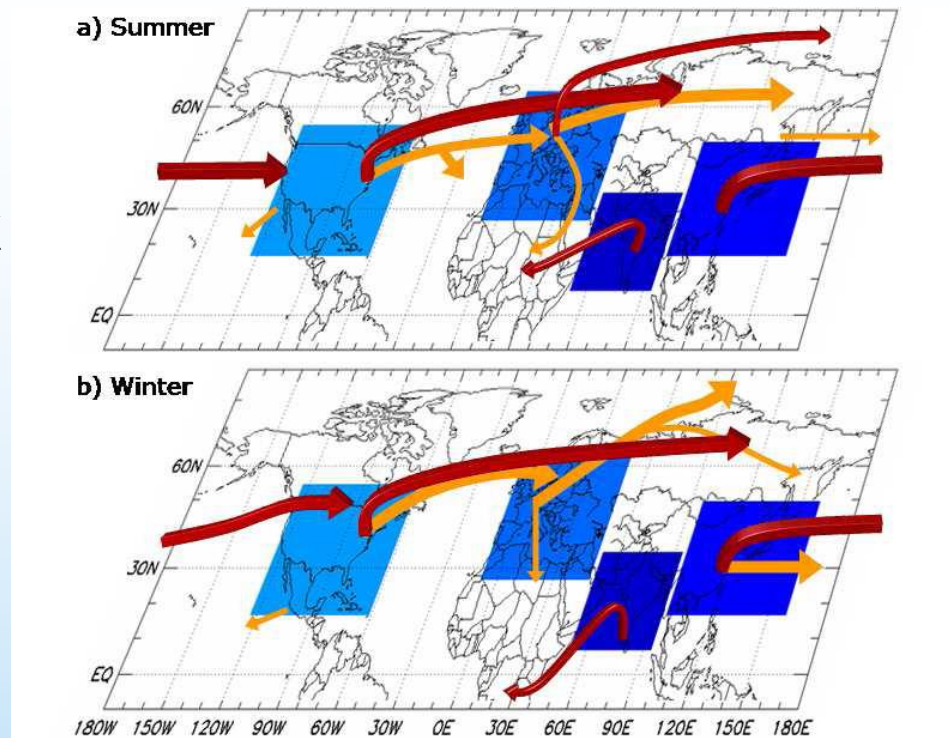


Key Stockholm 2008 Conclusions

- Urgent action to decrease the concentrations of ground-level ozone, black carbon and methane in the atmosphere would provide opportunities, not only for significant air pollution benefits (e.g. health benefits for all pollutants and crop-yield benefits for ozone), but also for rapid climate benefits, by helping to slow global warming and avoid crossing critical temperature and environmental thresholds.
- Need for a global assessment - comprehensive review of the issues and available evidence.
- The national level may be the most important for the development of co-benefit strategies, since the content and focus of such strategies are likely to differ from region to region and country to country.
- Major opportunities exist in developing countries now establishing air quality management systems, which can be integrated with climate strategies from the start.

LRTAP Convention Developments

Expert Group on Black Carbon & inclusion of Black Carbon in the Gothenburg Protocol



Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution (HTAP)

UNEP and other developments

- UNEP/WMO Global Assessment of Black Carbon and Tropospheric Ozone reports early in 2011
- UNEP/WMO Assessment on Agenda of UNEP Governing Council February 2011; further work agreed towards an action plan
- US EPA report on Black Carbon – response to call from Senate
- IGAC report ‘Bounding Black Carbon’ – due ?
- IPCC AR5 is looking at SLCFs

Scientific/economic challenges in incorporating air pollutants/SLCFs in global climate agreements

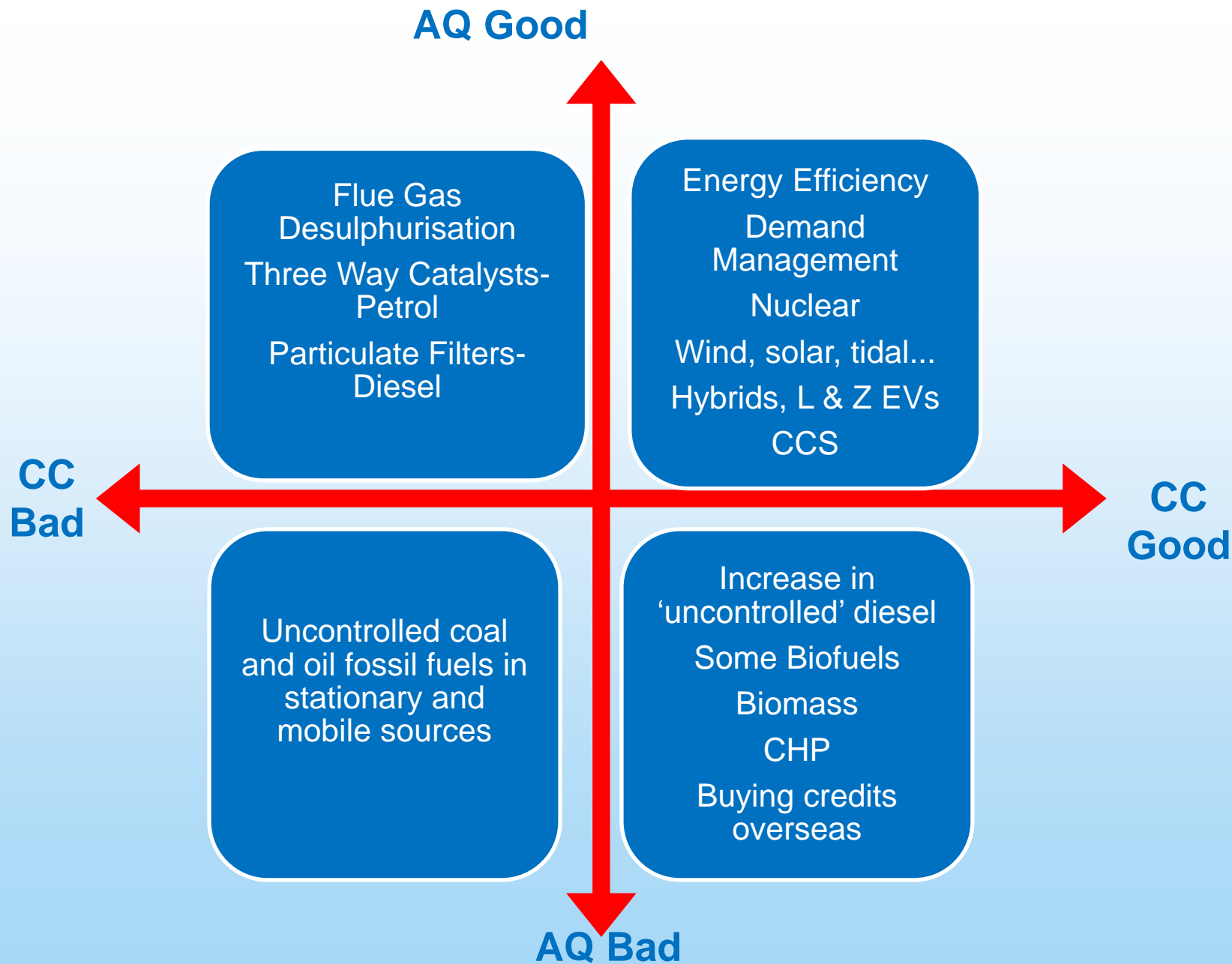
- Existing agreements use GWP100-not ideal for SLCFs
- Regional impacts of SLCFs are important-Arctic, Himalaya
- Location of emission matters for SLCFs, so controls do not sit comfortably with emission trading
- Knowledge of radiative forcing/climate impacts of SLCFs is uncertain
- Impacts on health, crops and ecosystems is better quantified

Policy challenges in management of Air Pollutants/SLCFs

- Inclusion in global instrument(s) (e.g. UNFCCC) would add complexity to an already difficult process
- Comparing and weighing short term and longer term impacts is difficult
- Local pollution impacts more important for (developing) countries? Health, Himalayas, Arctic
- Global climate mitigation policies heavily reliant on trading – not appropriate for SLCFs (but could CDM be incentivised to favour local air quality improvements?)

Implications for Developing Countries

- Developing nations and the poor suffer most from air pollution and climate change – need “win-win” solutions
- As developing countries are in the early stages of formulating policies and programmes to address both issues, integration is simpler than with the complex, established systems of developed countries



Possible models for managing SLCFs (1)

- Incorporate in UNFCCC?

Pros: Single forum for all climate agents

Cons: Added complexity

Compare GHGs and SLCFs – GWPs?

Takes pressure off GHGs?

Less emphasis on air quality damage?

Possible models for managing SLCFs (2)

- New global air quality treaty?

Pros: Offers forum for shared experiences, common standards on technology, products

Cons: Issues are local and regional so why establish global treaty? What would Parties commit to do that was substantive? Negotiating time and complexity.

Possible models for managing SLCFs (3)

- Build on existing regional air quality agreements?

Pros: Politically more feasible?

Co-benefits of air quality abatement are large

Uses existing structures

Solutions/targets can be 'customised' locally

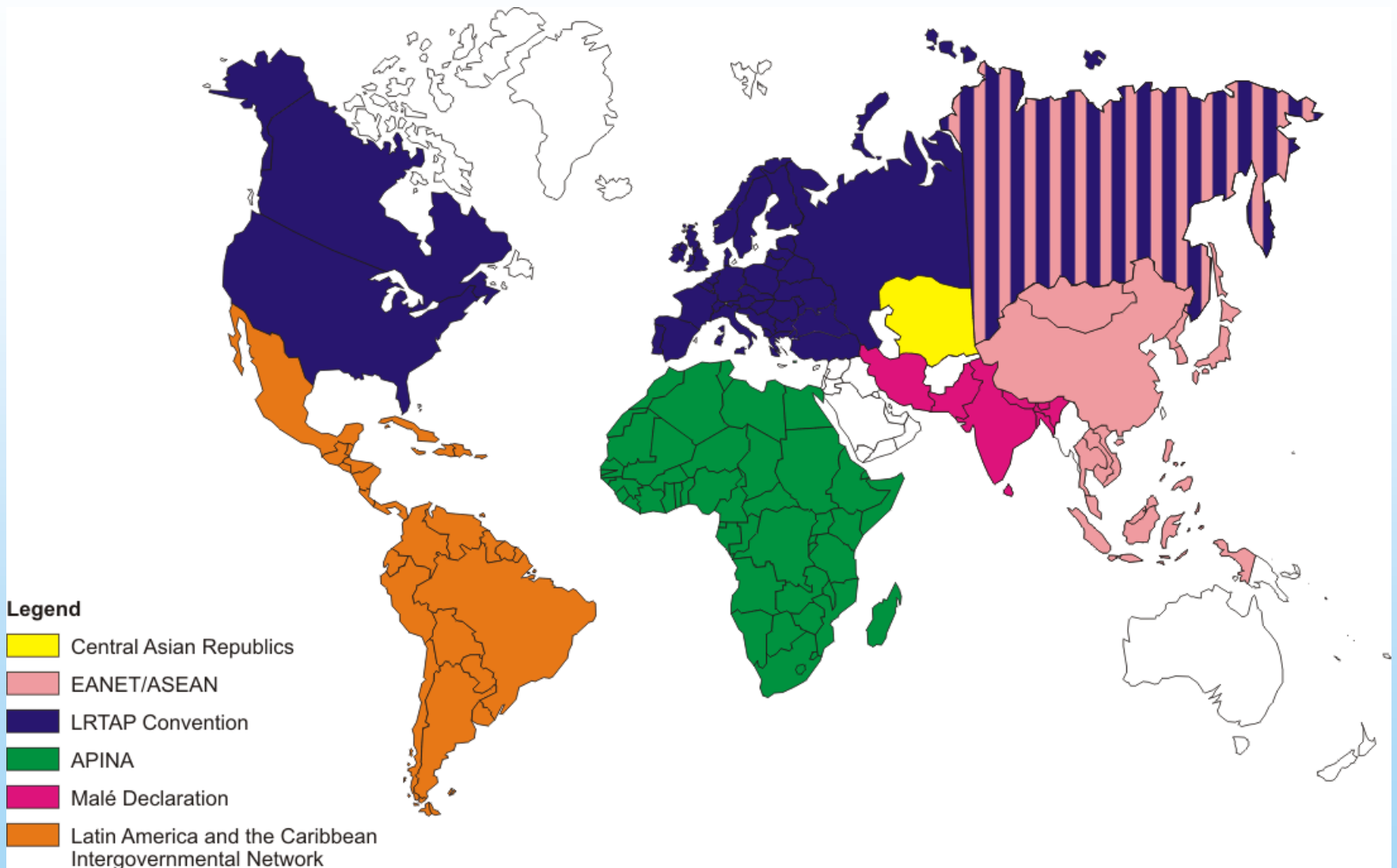
Could link targets with climate policies

Platforms exist and could be used as
exemplars – CLRTAP

Science is already being 'globalised'- HTAP

Cons: Suspicion of negotiating climate 'by the back door'

Regional Air Pollution Networks



Future GAP Forum Activities

- SLCF strategies and action plans for developing countries
- Technical work on feasibility of implementing SLCF measures in different regions
- Continue work on proposals for systems and institutions to strengthen global co-operation on air pollution
- Consensus building through website, newsletters, presentations and discussion documents
- Capacity building through working with regional networks and promoting GAP Forum assessment manuals

Thank You



**GLOBAL
ATMOSPHERIC
POLLUTION
FORUM**

Forum's progress in promoting intergovernmental networks

Asia:

UNEP, CAI-Asia, Malé Declaration, EANET and ASEAN starting to initiate inter-regional intergovernmental talks

Latin America:

Secretariat, IANABIS, CAI-LA and UNEP recently achieved a ministerial agreement to set up a science to policy network at intergovernmental level across Latin America

Africa:

APINA, UNEP, CAI-Africa, USEPA , SEI promoting sub-regional workshops in central, northern, southern, western and eastern Africa