**Climate and Clean Air CCAC to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants**

**Municipal Solid Waste Initiative meeting, 31 March**

**Meeting report**

**Participants**
Canada, CCAC Secretariat, Central African Republic, Cote d’Ivoire, C40 Cities, EIB, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, IGES, IGSD, ISWA, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, SEI, Sweden, Terre Policy Centre, UNEP-GEF, UNEP-IETC, United States, World Bank

**Main Issues Discussed**

**Activities of the municipal solid waste initiative**
Initiative partners provided detailed information on current and planned activities for new and potential Partners.

The waste initiative provides direct support to cities to build capacity to design and implement sustainable municipal solid waste management practices. The pipeline of activities includes an assessment of city waste characteristics and systems (“city assessment”); a menu of policy, program or technical options to address city-specific waste challenges and priorities (“action plan”); pre-feasibility studies to flesh out one or more of these identified actions “workplan”; and finally, a feasibility study or business plan to prepare projects to seek financing for on-the-ground implementation. Three cities have been selected to advance to this final stage through funding from the 2014 cycle (one each from Africa, Latin America and Asia).

Cities also benefit from city-to-city partnerships which facilitate peer-based sharing of best practices both in terms of technology sharing and policy development. Capacity building is promoted through webinars, workshops and an online knowledge platform that features participating cities, useful documents, and an interactive roster of experts. A host of tools are under development including 1) an Emissions Calculator Tool to help cities measure emissions from the waste sector (real and projected); 2) policy decision-making tool to facilitate selection of policies appropriate for city-specific waste circumstances; 3) a landfill gas and composting markets financing guide to understand and take advantage of markets for adding value to waste; and a guidance document on sustainable waste financing to help design projects that have financially sustainable operations and can attract outside financing for project implementation. Finally, the initiative is piloting output-based aid as a means of incentivizing desired outcomes in the waste sector.

To date, the initiative is working with 26 cities around the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America), and is launching a new component in the Middle East and North Africa.

**CCAC MSW City Participation Strategy**
C40 Cities proposed a strategy for selecting cities to receive technical support through a set of criteria that would promote positive and sustainable outcomes. Participants provided feedback on this draft strategy, and C40 agreed to submit a revised proposal to the group for approval and implementation.
UN Climate Summit
UNEP and C40 Cities introduced participants to the September UN Climate Summit, provided an overview of various platforms where the MSWI could showcase any “summitables” or other announcements through the cities program led by Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Michael Bloomberg. Participants expressed interest in participating in the Summit, and agreed to meet soon after to discuss these opportunities in more detail.

Regional Workstreams
Representatives from several countries in Africa offered ideas on where technical assistance was most needed in Africa. A brainstorming session with African countries was held following the initiative meeting to discuss areas for technical assistance, national waste strategies, and topics for the June 28th (tentative) CCAC waste workshop, to be held in Cote d’Ivoire. Jordan (Partner since 2012) and Morocco (newly joined) also offered feedback on launching a new workstream in the Middle East and North Africa. Both countries offered to put forth cities for engagement in the initiative, namely Aqaba and Casablanca. The city of Amman was the first to join the MSWI from the region in November 2013.

Upcoming Events
The MSWI will be hosting or participating in several upcoming events, including:
- May 13-15 (Amman) - 4th SWEEP-Net Regional Forum on Integrated Solid Waste Management
- June 28 (Abidjan) – CCAC MSWI Africa Regional Waste Workshop hosted by Cote d’Ivoire
- September 8-11 (Sao Paulo) - ISWA Solid Waste World Congress

Main Outcomes
- Morocco formally announced its intention to join the initiative, and put forth Casablanca as a participating city. Following the initiative meeting, the Netherlands and Terry Policy Centre also announced their interest in participating in the initiative.
- UNEP-GEF expressed interest in identifying synergies in GEF 6 and MSWI programs, and is exploring co-financing opportunities for Cali, Vina del Mar and one city in Asia.
- Feedback from African countries will shape the agenda for the upcoming MSWI waste workshop.

Next Steps
- A teleconference is scheduled for April 10th at 7:00ET to discuss the strategy for the Climate Summit. C40 Cities agreed help lead the thinking for this Summit.
- C40 Cities will revise the MSW City Participation Strategy and circulate for consideration. The Initiative Steering Group was asked to approve the strategy at its next meeting.
- Canada and the US will begin planning for a MSWI meeting on the margins of the ISWA World Congress.
- UNEP GEF will be invited to speak at an upcoming teleconference to inform participants on how to use GEF funding to complement CCAC funding.

Annexes
Presentations from the Initiative Meeting are attached.