SUMMARY OF CCAC MSW INITIATIVE WORKSHOP

A very successful CCAC MSW Initiative Asian Regional Workshop took place on February 23 and 24, 2014, co-hosted by the CCAC MSW Initiative Coordinator and Japan Ministry of Environment, and organized by the Center for Clean Air Policy. Over 70 national and municipal representatives, as well as technical experts and non-governmental organizations, participated in the dynamic workshop in Surabaya Indonesia, on the margins of the 5th 3R Regional Forum in Asia and the Pacific. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together key stakeholders to launch the Asian regional component of the MSW Initiative to reduce short lived climate pollutants from the waste sector.

The Deputy Minister of Environment, Indonesia, opened the meeting, noting the importance of addressing waste management issues, which has co-benefits to greenhouse gas emissions and short lived climate pollutants. He noted that that the CCAC Asian regional workshop for MSW was a good example of collaboration to increase common resources like capacity, financing, and technology.

Sessions on the first day provided an introduction to SLCPs in the regional context and the CCAC MSWI, as well as opportunities for city and national representative participants to discuss and troubleshoot common issues like identifying appropriate technologies, data collection and emissions monitoring, enforcement of environmental laws, increasing public awareness and engagement, financing waste management services, and generating the political will to address waste management. It was noted that cities and national governments need to coordinate efforts to ensure the success of both on-the-ground action and policy coherence.
On the second day cities and national governments had an opportunity to share and provide input on ongoing and planned actions to improve waste management services. Many Asian cities are already planning and carrying out a variety of local actions and inter-city collaborations. Participants noted that the CCAC’s role in Asia could be to support, scale up, and replicate existing efforts in Asia. In doing so, however, the CCAC also needs to be sensitive to the priorities of governments in developing countries to address social and economic challenges like poverty reduction. Therefore, appropriate technical support should offer a range of solutions, including low-tech and low-cost options.

Throughout the two days of the workshop, participants demonstrated the complexity and diversity of the growing challenge of waste management. Participants agreed that although waste management solutions vary according to the governmental structures and economic frameworks, common challenges can be addressed through continued sharing of experiences and resources. In closing, CCAC representatives emphasized that waste represents an opportunity to create local and global social and economic benefits. The CCAC MSW Initiative provides the necessary assistance to support and scale-up existing and new actions to improve waste management, by convening key stakeholders and raising political will at the highest levels.


1. There is an urgent global need for local and national governments to take coordinated action to collectively move towards 3R implementation. 3R actions to improve waste management practices can reduce methane from open dumping and landfilling, and black carbon from transportation of waste and open waste burning. Reducing these short-lived climate pollutants supports local and global actions to address climate change. Key sources of short-lived climate pollutants from the municipal solid waste sector are understood to come from the transport and disposal of waste. Successful 3R implementation depends on multilayer partnerships and coalition to support upstream actions like reducing the amount of waste being transported and disposed, as well as increasing recycling and composting. Furthermore, 3R implementation needs to be supported by the complementary actions of all stakeholders, bringing together national government policies and economic incentives, private sector investments, integrated local government engagement, as well as support from non-governmental organizations to raise awareness in the public.

2. The Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants, a voluntary framework involving partners from national governments, institutions, and non-governmental organizations, established an initiative to support and bolster global actions to reduce methane and black carbon from the municipal solid waste sector. Recognizing the progress of 3R implementation in the Asia-Pacific region, opportunities exist for the further expansion of 3R through strengthening triangular cooperation to support regionally appropriate solutions. In addition to supporting existing 3R efforts, the CCAC also brings key actors together to support sustainable financing of waste activities, a challenge experienced by many countries and local governments. With the help of country partners like Japan, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition is well positioned to support scaling up of 3R implementation and accelerate action globally.