

Goal, mission and objectives
of the
Strategic Framework
and
guide questions



What is a Strategic Framework (SF) for AQM?

A SF for AQM is a broad high-level approach, which is flexible and adaptable to the needs of different countries and cities. It highlights the most important components of a rational and systematic AQM system. It gives general and detailed recommendations on means and instruments to solve air pollution problems in urban areas in a harmonised approach on national and local levels.

Target groups for a SF:

Primary:

- **Policymakers at the national and local level**
- **Implementing agencies**

Secondary:

- **Industries**
- **Media**
- **NGOs**
- **Academia**
- **Other**

Goal of the SF on AQM

To contribute to the improvement of indoor and outdoor air quality and prevention of deterioration in the countries of the Asian region aiming at sustainable human development and protecting human and ecosystem health with equity and under consideration of cost-effectiveness

Mission of the SF on AQM

To contribute to the strengthening of the technical and institutional capabilities and the mechanisms for co-operation on urban air pollution among countries in the Asian region.

To assist in the implementation of plans and programmes to prevent and improve indoor and outdoor air quality based on standards and regulations that protect human health and the environment, aiming at sustainable human development.

Objectives of the SF on AQM

- **To include or strengthen the concept of air quality, health and environment in national laws, regulations, plans and strategies of Asian countries;**
- **To establish or strengthen national and local air quality management programmes;**
- **To establish or strengthen surveillance programmes of air pollution impacts on health and the environment and to implement operative research programmes on these issues;**
- **To inform, educate, train, and strengthen public participation in all aspects related to air quality, health and environment, including air pollution reduction and prevention;**
- **To establish self-sustainable mechanisms in national and local programmes on air quality, health and the environment.**

SF has six programmatic areas:

- 1. Policies, standards and regulations**
- 2. Air quality management**
- 3. Air pollution impact on health and the environment**
- 4. Public awareness**
- 5. Capacity enhancement**
- 6. Programme financing**

Areas 1-3 are the bases of the SF while 4-6 support the other three.

1. Policies, standards and regulations I

1. Objective

To include or strengthen the concept of air quality, health and environment in laws, regulations, plans and strategies and set up appropriate institutions in the Region, within the wider framework of environmental protection and conservation

2. Expected results and activities:

- National laws, standards and regulations on air quality**
- National and local institutions with capability to enforce and manage environmental quality laws and regulations**
- Air quality incorporated into regional, sub-regional, national and local plans and policies that are understandable and acceptable for all stakeholders.**

1. Policies, standards and regulations II

2. Expected results and activities (cont.):

- *Adaptation and use of environmentally sound technologies in AQM*
- *Considering and understanding the use of appropriate technologies*
- *Integration of AQM within the overall national development framework*
- *Building of partnerships among countries , and for all stakeholders within a country.*

2. Air quality management

1. Objective

To establish or strengthen national and local outdoor and indoor air quality management programmes, and assist in implementation within intersectoral co-ordination.

2. Expected results and activities:

- *National and local outdoor and indoor air quality management programmes.*
- *The programmes should contain four specific areas:
air quality surveillance;
emission controls;
air pollution prevention;
information, training and public communication.*

3. Assessment of air pollution impact on health

1. Objective

To establish or strengthen programmes for the surveillance of air pollution impact on health and the environment and to carry out operative research programmes on this issue

2. Expected results and activities:

- ***National and local programmes for the surveillance of air pollution effects on health.***
- ***These programmes should have a permanent recording system of morbidity and mortality cases associated with air pollution, risk assessment, effective information systems, and standardized calculation of the social costs of air pollution on health.***

4. Raising of public awareness

1. Objective

To strengthen public participation in all aspects related to air quality, health and the environment, prevention, and reduction of air pollution.

2. Expected results and activities:

- ***A concerted awareness system directed to policy makers, political leaders, entrepreneurs, and general public on the importance of outdoor and indoor air pollution prevention and reduction.***

5. Capacity enhancement

1. Objective

To inform, educate, and train all stakeholders in all aspects related to air quality, health and the environment, prevention, and reduction of air pollution.

2. Expected results and activities:

- *Capacity encement for policy makers, political leaders, entrepreneurs, and general public on the importance of training, education, and information on outdoor and indoor air pollution prevention and reduction.*

6. Financing

1. Objective

To establish mechanisms for sustainability in national and local air quality, health and environment programmes.

2. Expected results and activities:

- *Operational short, medium and long-term programmes to promote self-sustainability of the national and local programmes of air quality, health, and the environment.*

Guide questions: Working Group 1 Policy

- 1. What needs to be done to improve policies and programmes on AQM at the regional, national, state/provincial, local levels and by different stakeholders: *E.g. Governments, NGOs and civil societies, private sector (corporate and business groups), academia and international organizations?***
- 2. What needs to be done to improve the implementation of policies and programmes on AQM at the regional, national, state/provincial, local levels and by which stakeholders: *E.g. Governments, NGOs and civil societies, private sector (corporate and business groups), academia and international organizations?***
- 3. What are the priorities of the support you would like see from the regional or international organizations?**

Working group 1: Responses to Question 1 Improve policies and programmes

- **Political commitment at the highest level**
- **Policy advisors providing politicians with decision support tools**
- **Identification and mobilisation of national resources**
- **Economic feasibility including cost-benefit considerations**
- **Regulations, development and improvement**
- **Improved communication strategy to “sell“ policies**
- **Environmental Impact Assessment for projects**
- **Conditional grants relating to improving environment;
Recommendations from non-funding agencies**
- **Networking**
- **Integrative approach**
- **Open-minded consultations and discussion among stakeholders**

Working group 1: Responses to Question 2 Improve implementation

- **High level commitment of government**
- **Capacity building and enhancement**
- **Prioritisation of projects with respect to air quality**
- **Improve co-ordination, identify and clarify problems**
- **Appropriate technology use in air quality management**
- **Inventories**
- **Better communication amongst stakeholders including NGOs**
- **Follow management procedures and optimise them**
- **Publications**
- **Media use**

Working group 1: Responses to Question 3 Priorities for support

- **Technical and legal advice and tools developed by international organisations e.g. WHO, UNEP etc**
- **Dissemination of best practice and lessons learnt including the adaptation of international guidelines to the needs of countries**
- **Inter-regional collaborative mechanisms and networking**
- **Exchange of experiences between technical institutions**
- **Databases**
- **Co-ordination and synergy of international programmes on urban air pollution e.g. CAI-Asia, APMA**
- **Teaching funding agencies' terminology**

Guide questions: Working Group 2 Impact Assessment and Public Awareness

1. What needs to be done to improve health and environmental impact assessment and to raise public awareness on the impacts at the regional, national, state/provincial, local levels and by different stakeholders:
E.g. Governments, NGOs and civil societies, private sector (corporate and business groups), academia and international organizations?

2. What needs to be done to improve impact assessment methodologies and procedures for raising public awareness on health and environmental impacts and by different stakeholders:
E.g. Governments, NGOs and civil societies, private sector (corporate and business groups), academia and international organizations?

3. What are the priorities of the support you would like see from the regional or international organizations?

Working group 2: Responses to Question 1

Issues	All	Local	National	Regional
Prediction and assessment of health & environmental impact		NGOs, hospitals, local government	Academia, government authorities and NGOs	APMA & CAI-Asia, ASEAN, SACEP, WHO, SAARC
Appropriate ambient AQ Standards	All levels	Local government	National Govt. in collaboration with industry and academia	International institutions
QA/QC for Air Quality Monitoring Standards	All levels	Local government	Government authorities	International institutions
Research on Health Impacts & Environmental Impacts	All levels – academia, government and R&D institutes			
Dissemination of existing information on health and environmental impacts	All levels – e.g. international agencies, national local govt., NGOs,			
Make clear the costs/benefits of AQM for health	All levels – all stakeholders			
AQ & Health information system & networking	All levels – e.g. local and provincial government.			
Capacity building/institutional strengthening	All levels	Priority – implementing monitoring and education agencies		

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Working group 2: Responses to Question 2 Improve awareness raising

Issues	All	Local	National	Regional
Education on AQM	All levels	Educational institutions		Educational institutions
Dissemination of user friendly material	All level – all stakeholders involved in AQM			

Working group 2: Conclusions of Question 1 & 2

Priorities among the issues identified:

1. **Education**
2. **Capacity building/Institutional development**
3. **a) AQ & Health and Environment Information system**
b) Appropriate outdoor AQ standards for AQM

Working group 2: Responses to Question 3

1. Support to persuade National Governments to prioritise the issues identified
2. Support to implement education in AQMat higher levels

Guide questions: Working Group 3 Capacity Enhancement and Financing

1. What needs to be done to improve enhancement of AQM capacities at the regional, national, state/provincial, local levels and by different stakeholders:
E.g. Governments, NGOs and civil societies, private sector (corporate and business groups), academia and international organizations?
2. How can different stakeholders, e.g. Governments, NGOs and civil societies, private sector (corporate and business groups), academia and international organizations, have better access to financial resources at regional, national, state/provincial, local levels?
3. What are the priorities of the support you would like see from the regional or international organizations?

Working group 3: Responses to Question 1 – Improve AQM capacity

AQM Components	Regional	National	Local
Public awareness	X	X	X
Access to information e.g. best practice	X		X
Training	X	X	X
Regulation & Policy		X	X
Economic instruments		X	X
Enforcement			X
Coordination and cooperation e.g. regional level	X	X	X
Institutions			X

Working group 3: Responses to Question 2 Access to financial resources

- **AQM competes with other sector for resources Therefore financial resources for AQM can be increased by increasing the total resources for all sectors and/or the share for AQM. The ability to increase the AQM share will be dependent the ability to persuasively argue the case for AQM.**
- **In order to increase revenues, innovative resources will need to be found e.g. pollution charges. To do this may require local governments to be given power by higher levels of government.**
- **Other sources of revenues to local government could be special grants from national government and/or international organisations. This will again dependent on the ability to argue the case for AQM.**

Next steps

- ◆ **Report on RPD outcome mid January 2003**
- ◆ **Finalise draft Strategic Framework (SF) by March 2003**
- ◆ **Cities/Countries to submit lacking information for Benchmarking Report (BR) by March 2003**
- ◆ **Discuss SF with participants on the CAI-Asia network**
- ◆ **Send SF to cities/countries for review by April 2003**
- ◆ **Cities/Countries to undertake city/country review of the SF between April and July 2003 and report back to APMA/CAI-Asia by August 2003**
- ◆ **Finalise BR by July 2003**
- ◆ **In connection with BAQ 2003 have another RPD to present BR and SF and discuss the potential for national endorsement of the SF**