



CCAP city representatives and high-level officials from US EPA, EPAT and Clean Air Asia pose for a group photo to cap off the three-day workshop.

Cities Clean Air Partnership (CCAP) Workshop 10-12 August 2015, Washington, D.C., USA

Twenty-five cities gathered in Washington, D.C. from 10-12 August 2015 for the Cities Clean Air Partnership (CCAP) Workshop. Through technical sessions and roundtable discussions, city representatives shared their knowledge and discussed with various experts to help advance further along the road to better air quality management and reduction of air pollution at the city-level. CCAP aims to set 200 Asian cities on the pathway towards achieving better air quality by 2020.

The 3-day city event was opened by representatives from founding partners of CCAP: Bjarne Pedersen of Clean Air Asia, Mark Kasman of the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and Tsung-Yung Liu of the Environmental Protection Administration Taiwan (EPAT) underscoring the importance of city-to-city cooperation and multi-stakeholder collaboration in the fight against air pollution.

Participants at this year's workshop included the cities of Baguio, Bangkok, Cochin (Kochi), Da Lat, Haiphong, Iloilo, Jakarta, Kathmandu, Kitakyushu, Malang, Mandalay, Pasig, Shimla, Siem Reap, Singapore,

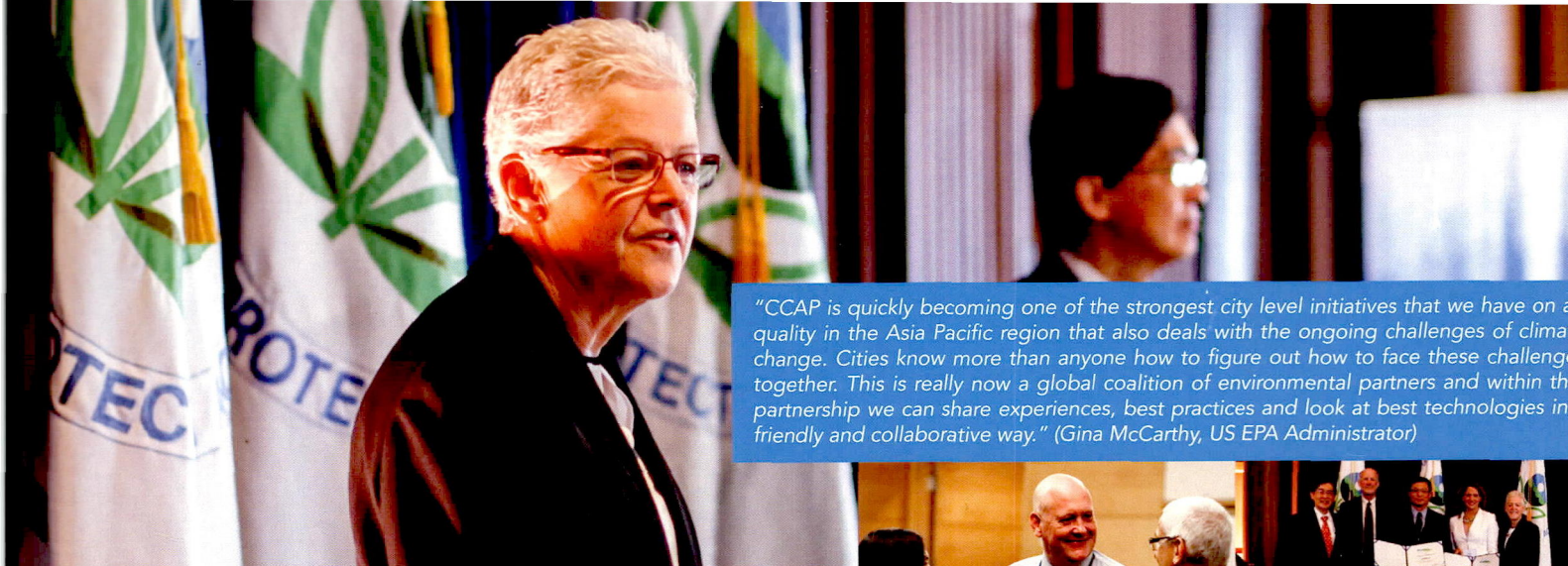
Taichung, Taipei, Taoyuan, Ulaanbaatar, Yokohama, and Yogyakarta. The US cities participating in the workshop include Multnomah County (Oregon), San Diego and San Jose (California), Gaithersburg (Maryland), Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, and city association, Green Cities California.

A wide array of emissions reduction strategies was presented during the workshop. Sumi Mehta of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves shared the risks of exposure to household members from indoor air pollution, while Alison Simcox of the US EPA spoke similarly of the pollution from commercial cooking, which is a major source of livelihood for many Asian cities. Both presented actions to be taken by cities to reduce these emissions.

Discussions on developing public bike-sharing systems were led by Kuo-Su Chiu of Taipei City, and Jacob Mason of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP). A 2011 survey by Clean Air Asia revealed that roughly 4% of trips in Asian cities are short ones over a distance of less than 250 meters on private motor-

ized vehicles. Better land-use and transport planning, and promotion of public transit, walking and cycling was discussed by Todd Litman of the Victoria Transport Policy Institute, who also highlighted the integrated approach to transport demand management ("avoid-shift-improve" solutions). How cities can complement national policies on cleaner fuels and vehicles with local interventions, such as designating low emission zones, was presented by Francisco Posada of the International Council on Clean Transportation.

Clean Air Asia presented an overview of the "Guidance Framework for Better Air Quality in Asian Cities" which aims to provide a recognized guidance for cities to improve air quality. Various experts from US EPA and Clean Air Asia focused on strengthening the foundation of air quality management for cities such as developing emissions inventories, air quality monitoring and modeling, assessing health and other impacts, action planning and communicating to the public. US EPA experts also shared available tools that cities can use for science-based decision-making and planning such as BenMAP, ABaCaS and AirNOW.



"CCAP is quickly becoming one of the strongest city level initiatives that we have on a par with the quality in the Asia Pacific region that also deals with the ongoing challenges of climate change. Cities know more than anyone how to figure out how to face these challenges together. This is really now a global coalition of environmental partners and within that partnership we can share experiences, best practices and look at best technologies in a friendly and collaborative way." (Gina McCarthy, US EPA Administrator)

Quotable Quotes

The workshop succeeded in enabling participants to be informed and be excited about the prospects available to cities under the CCAP platform.

Here are some thoughts from our partners, experts and city representatives:

"It was a real pleasure to participate at your extremely well organized workshop. Looking forward to further collaborations."

"I commend your organization and careful planning to make the workshop a success. I definitely intend to look further into the city-to-city cooperation program. The importance of working on local, regional, national, and international progress towards improved air quality cannot be overstated. Thank you for your work and dedication in

encouraging progress by Asian and US cities."

"I have been very energized on the topic of clean air since returning back from my trip to Washington DC for the CCAP event. I very much look forward to continued collaboration!"

"Thank you so much for inviting our city to the workshop. We gained new insights and were able to network with new acquaintances, whom we hope to keep in touch with in the coming days. It was specially a nice experience to be at the US EPA."

"CCAP workshop is very much useful and good for city to city cooperation. The workshop was well organized and helpful on knowledge sharing. I hope CCAP will work with cities for further cooperation."



"We believe that cities, regardless of their air quality management capacities, have something to share and to learn from each other in respect to improving air quality. The partnered cities have or will agree on concrete and clear action lists. The partnering is based on the needs of the cities and within the resources that cities can allocate, and so providing a realistic yet nimble and flexible framework for real progress towards better air quality." (Bjarne Pedersen, Clean Air Asia)

Taichung and San Jose cities represented by Kun-Ming Deputy Secretary of the Taichung Environmental Protection Bureau and Rene Eyerly, Sustainability and Compliance Manager, Environmental Services Department, City of San Jose were among the eight pioneer cities for the City-to-City cooperation program



Carolyn Cairns, an environmental health and sustainability expert, talks about the framework and the development of a credible certification scheme and list of actions that cities will need to do to attain specific certification levels under CCAP's City Certification Program



Mayor Sanjay Shauhan of the Municipal Corporation of Indore, India, shares his insights and his city's practices towards better air quality



Roundtable discussions among various city representatives from Asia and US

About the Cities Clean Air Partnership

CCAP asserts that city-level action is the foundation for addressing the challenge of air pollution and its impact on public health. CCAP is an initiative led by Clean Air Asia, which establishes a comprehensive platform for cities to cooperate and jointly address air quality challenges.

The core program of CCAP are: a) the City-to-City Cooperation (C³) program, b) a voluntary city certification system, and c) a knowledge platform that includes an online hub and experts database. These program elements are in varying stages of implementation.

The C³ program seeks to "twin" cities, with one designated as a Learning City and the other as a Mentor City. This voluntary partnership facilitates sharing of best practices based on actual experience by mentor cities. The initial set of partnering cities was announced at the CCAP workshop: Kitakyushu and Haiphong on the topic of emissions inventory related to port operations and concrete steps in helping Haiphong realize its goal of becoming a green port city; Taipei and Pasig on sharing knowledge on how to develop and implement a successful public bike sharing system; Taichung hopes to learn from San Jose, California how to design a low-emission and low-carbon development area; and Bangkok seeks to learn from San Diego, California how to potentially address emissions from diesel vehicles, and reduce fugitive dust from construction and roads.

The city certification program, set to be launched in 2016, works by providing cities taking concrete steps to improve air quality year by year with recognition, incentives, direct support, and technical assistance. It is an eco-label program that recognizes the achievement of cities meeting air quality improvement goals through a "seal of approval".

The Knowledge Platform component helps cities share best practices through training programs (such as the CCAP workshop) and virtual networking opportunities with an online experts database accessible to CCAP cities.