

Co-Benefits & the Asia-Pacific Initiative toward a Sustainable and Environmentally Sound Society

SB- 24 Side Event

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Co-benefits: Why They Matter

- Basic definition: All of the positive outcomes associated with multiple, simultaneous emissions reductions of GHGs and local air pollutants
- Co-benefits analysis allows energy options, health impacts, and GHG emissions to be linked together and evaluated and potentially other key areas (e.g., energy security, sustainable development, agriculture, water)
- Enables sound policy making to be based on quantitative analysis
- Helps prioritize options in an environment where resources are limited
- Supports mitigation analysis to inform environmental programming and decision making to many levels of government according to differing priorities (local vs. national)



What is EPA's Integrated Environmental Strategies (IES) co-benefits program?

- Identifies and analyzes integrated (i.e., greenhouse-gas **and** air-pollution mitigation) environmental strategies and co-benefits (e.g., health, economic)
- Partners local teams in developing countries with experts and tools from EPA, IES projects in other countries, and other organizations (e.g., US AID)
 - Builds analytical, institutional, and human capacity
- Provides stakeholders with quantitative estimates of global and local co-benefits of policies and technologies.
- Lays groundwork to support implementation of cost-effective environmental management strategies



Opportunities for Asia-Pacific Cooperation on Co-Benefits

- Sharing best practices for achieving co-benefits
 - International Co-Benefits Workshop – with IES partners from Republic of Korea, China, India, etc. – August 2006
- Building co-benefits capacity
 - 16th Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change
 - Better Air Quality Meeting – September 2006
 - Training opportunities in China and India
 - Economic/energy modeling engagement
- Developing best practices case studies
- Providing direct “hands-on” study tours
- Exploring linkages to Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate
- Cooperating with other analytical groups (e.g., IGES, NIES, IIASA, CICERO) to extend/expand co-benefits



Lessons Learned

- Engage key players, stakeholders, and policymakers from the beginning and through-out entire program
- Gain access to data and have cooperation of multiple departments that may not have history of working together
- Clearly understand what the short- and long-term environmental and economic priorities are at each level (local, regional, national) to develop politically acceptable scenarios
- Institutionalize co-benefits concept and build permanent capacity within governmental and technical institutions to enable co-benefits analysis to continue
- Demonstrate successful application of cost-effective measures and policies



Thanks!

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