

**CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR COALITION SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL EXPERT
WORKSHOP**

“Metrics for Evaluating and Reporting on Black Carbon and Methane Interventions”

16-17 March 2017

Concept Note

BACKGROUND

Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), including methane and black carbon¹, are unique because of their climate warming properties, short lifetime in the atmosphere, and impact on different aspects of sustainable development due to their air polluting characteristics. Climate and development policy could be informed by improvements in comparison metrics and methodologies for quantifying the physical, health, and agricultural impacts of these substances, as well as improved understanding of their potential role in emissions reduction efforts. This challenge of appropriate metrics for SLCPs has been a major science-policy issue and was identified as an important objective of Strategy 4 of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) Five-Years Strategic Plan. Goal 3 of Strategy 4 seeks to “contribute to the development of metrics that can help quantify the multiple benefits of SLCP mitigation, so that the impact of relevant interventions can be estimated, monitored, and reported across the CCAC and beyond”². Hence, this topic was a major discussion item at the March 2016 Science Policy Dialogue of the Coalition. Participants at the Dialogue recommended that the Coalition’s Scientific Advisory Panel convene an expert workshop on this topic.

In response to this recommendation, the Scientific Advisory Panel with the support of the Coalition secretariat, is organizing a workshop on “metrics for evaluating and reporting on black carbon and methane interventions”. The workshop will take place on 16 and 17 March 2017 in Ottawa, Canada.

OBJECTIVES

The workshop will bring together scientists, experts and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the science and economic issues relevant to policymaking and development aspects related to metrics for accounting for methane and black carbon emission reduction interventions and how to quantify and report these benefits.

The ultimate goal of the workshop is to advance efforts toward a scientifically credible consensus on how to quantify the multiple benefits of methane and black carbon emission abatement interventions, taking into consideration the climate, health, agricultural, economic and other development perspectives. The workshop will raise the issues hindering the achievement of consensus on black carbon and methane metrics, make an attempt to identify solutions to these issues, map out a process for advancing scientific discussion and follow up actions. The workshop will also seek to provide guidance on black carbon emissions inventory

¹ Except otherwise stated, all reference to black carbon means black carbon and its co-emitted substances including organic carbon, sulphates, NO_x, carbon monoxide, methane, and non-methane volatile organic compounds.

² <http://www.ccacoalition.org/en/resources/ccac-five-year-strategic-plan>

development and reporting, taking into consideration existing inventory guidelines such as the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) guidelines.

The output and recommendations from the workshop will serve as input to the 2017 CCAC Science Policy Dialogue scheduled for 25 April 2017 in Chile, and will provide guidance for future Coalition's activities.

PARTICIPANTS

The workshop is expected to be technical, with deliberations focused on the scientific basis and their policy relevance. Hence participants are expected to have appropriate expertise and knowledge in the workshop's topics including the linkages to current policies especially in the climate and sustainable development contexts.

In order to ensure adequate participation of experts within and outside of the Coalition as well as ensure a manageable workshop that will deliver the expected outputs, the total number of participants will be limited to a maximum of 70. Member of the Coalition's Scientific Advisory Panel as well as Coalition Partners will identify and nominate leading experts for the workshop. The Advisory Panel and the Secretariat, in conjunction with the Coalition's Steering Committee, will make the decision on the final list of participants.

WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

The workshop will be structured as a mix of moderated plenary and breakout group sessions. The sessions will comprise of a combination of short science-policy focused presentations, panel sessions, and group discussions. Each session would have predetermined expected outcome(s), which would guide the discussions. The session moderators would be tasked to guide discussions toward achieving the expected outcome(s). The sessions are described in the tentative agenda in Annex 1.

EXPECTED WORKSHOP OUTPUT

The main output from the workshop will be a summary report that highlights the main discussion points, conclusions reached, and recommended follow-up actions, including how the Coalition may respond to the recommendations.

WORKSHOP BACKGROUND PAPERS

To provide adequate context for discussions, the following background papers are to be developed and made available to participants prior the workshop:

- Review of recent publications on methane and black carbon emissions and impacts
- CCAC/SAP paper: good practices for quantifying, estimating, and reporting on SLCP interventions
- A pathway to the target paper
- SLCPs and SDGs paper
- CCAC secretariat paper: an overview of black carbon policy framework
- Brief on Quantification Methodologies for Black Carbon (BC) Reduction Benefits
- A collection of publications relevant to the topics of the workshop