

Message from the Secretariat

One year on from its launch, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC) has become the largest global mechanism for collective action to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) such as black carbon (soot), methane and some hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Fast action to reduce these pollutants, that “live” from days up to a couple of decades in the atmosphere, has the potential to slow down the warming expected by 2050 by as much as half a degree, as well as prevent over millions of premature deaths each year and avoid annual crop losses of some of the world’s staple crops. Within its first year, the CCAC has welcomed more than 50 partners, engaging at the highest political levels to promote SLCP reductions on a substantial scale worldwide. The following celebrates the achievements throughout this first year of the Coalition – a Coalition of the Working! – Kaveh Zahedi, Interim Head of the CCAC Secretariat and Deputy Director of UNEP DTIE

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Launch of the CCAC



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This Coalition—the first international effort of its kind—will conduct a targeted, practical, and highly energetic global campaign to spread solutions to short-lived pollution worldwide. It will mobilize resources; assemble political support; help countries develop and implement national action plan; raise public awareness; and reach out to other countries, companies, NGOs and foundations. Now, we have every hope that we will see results soon—both on the ground and in the atmosphere. — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, United States

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton announces the formation of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC), a new global initiative to combat climate change, improve air quality and protect public health. In addition to the United States, the founding CCAC partners are Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico and Sweden, along with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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Svalbard Declaration

The environment ministers of Denmark, Finland, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Åland, release the Svalbard Declaration on short-lived climate forcers/pollutants, which sets out a series of steps to intensify efforts to reduce global and Nordic emissions of these harmful pollutants.



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U.S. Report to Congress on Black Carbon

The US Environmental Protection Agency releases a major study on domestic and international black carbon (BC) emissions. The report finds that globally, the most important BC emission reduction opportunities include residential cookstoves in all regions, brick kilns and coke ovens in Asia, and mobile diesels in all regions.

CCAC Ministers meet at Stockholm +40

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition puts a practical new deal on the table – one that helps slow global warming while reducing the soot and smog that is damaging food crops and health worldwide, undermining growth and development. – Rachel Kyte, Vice President for Sustainable Development, World Bank

The Ministers of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition meet on the margins of the Stockholm +40 – Partnership Forum for Sustainable Development conference to commemorate the first UN Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972. Colombia, Japan, Nigeria, Norway and the European Commission along with the World Bank announced they are joining the CCAC. Five transformational initiatives aimed at accelerating and scaling-up action against **municipal solid waste**, **diesel engines**, **brick production**, **oil and natural gas production**, as well as introduce **alternatives for HFCs** were given the go-ahead by ministers meeting in the Swedish capital.



G8 Members agree to join CCAC



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We, the Leaders of the Group of Eight, met at Camp David on May 18 and 19, 2012 to address major global economic and political challenges.... Recognizing the impact of short-lived climate pollutants on near-term climate change, agricultural productivity, and human health, we support, as a means of promoting increased ambition and complementary to other CO2 and GHG emission reduction efforts, comprehensive actions to reduce these pollutants...we agree to join the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants. – G8 Final Communiqué

The remaining members of the G8 not yet part of the Coalition – Germany, France, Italy, Russia and the United Kingdom – agree to join the CCAC and express their support for its aims and initiatives via the Camp David Declaration.



CCAC at Rio+20



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Waste management may not be glamorous, but it has an enormous impact on our efforts to minimize climate change. That's why I'm very pleased about the partnership being announced... to develop a coalition of cities and countries to reduce methane associated with solid waste. – Former US President, Bill Clinton, Clinton Climate Initiative

At the peak of Rio+20 negotiations, the CCAC launches its first global action-focused initiative, joining with mayors from around the world, the World Bank, the Clinton Climate Initiative/C-40 and the Global Methane Initiative, to kick-off a groundbreaking partnership to reduce methane and black carbon pollutants from municipal solid waste.



CCAC promotes HFC Alternatives



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Experts from consumer goods industries, representatives from standards organizations, government officials and researchers from around the world participate at an international conference in Bangkok to examine zero or low global warming potential alternatives to hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). “Advancing Ozone and Climate Protection Technologies: Next Steps Conference” promotes information sharing on various alternatives and approaches to ensure that the phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and HCFCs is done in ways that limit contribution to global warming.



CCAC Expands to More than 25 Members

ClimateWorks is committed to cost-effective policies that prevent dangerous climate change. There are several practical, readily available interventions to reduce short-lived forcers that meet these criteria. The Climate and Clean Air Coalition is a terrific mechanism to kick those into high gear and we are very happy to be a part of it. – Julie Blunden, President and CEO of the ClimateWorks Foundation

The first five non-governmental organizations (NGOs) join the CCAC, bringing to 27 the number of partners who have joined the voluntary partnership since its launch in February 2012. The addition of these five respected NGO partners is seen as a significant step in broadening the membership, reach and voice of the CCAC.

Mexico launches CCAC Brick Production Initiative



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CCAC launches ambitious global initiative to modernise brick production in developing countries to improve public health and dramatically reduce climate and air pollution. The workshop is the first step in the CCAC's effort to put the issue of emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) from inefficient brick production on national governments' agendas.

15 African Countries Meet to Set Ambitious Agenda on SLCPs

Nigeria is focused on developing her economy with minimal ecological footprint and we are setting priorities at achieving zero flare in the oil and gas sector, reducing black carbon from cooking with wood fuels, waste burning and diesel engines as well as methane from the agricultural sector. – Hadiza Ibrahim Mailafia, Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigeria

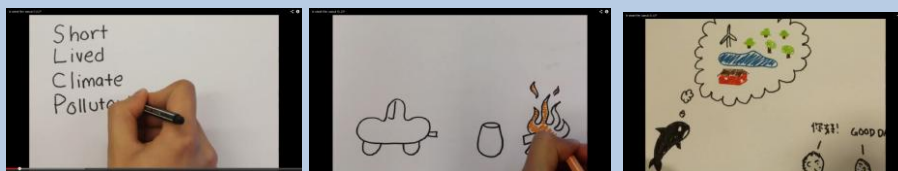
High-level government officials, policymakers, environmental experts and industrial stakeholders from 15 countries converged in Africa for the first time in order to identify ways to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) from the continent. Participants committed to raising awareness of the SLCP issue in Africa, improving scientific understanding of SLCP impacts and the socio-economic benefits of mitigation strategies, and enhancing and developing the capacity of policy makers to take effective action at both national and regional levels.

21 Latin American Countries Chart Course on SLCPs

The challenge now is to develop effective national and regional programmes which can deliver these gains and contribute to our wider policies for economic development and the environment. – Frank Pearl, Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Colombia

Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Granada, Honduras, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, St Lucia, Suriname, and Venezuela meet to develop a regional action plan on air pollution. Commissioned by the Regional Forum of Latin American Environment Ministers, the meeting enables engagement by ministers with the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants.

Spread the Word About SLCPs: International Student Prizes



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Frans Wiberg and Staffon Druid from Sweden win first place for their production entitled, A Short Video About SLCPs. Nonyelum Umeasiegbu from Nigeria wins second place for a new slogan on SLCPs and Linnea Fahlstrom and Hilda Broqvist, also from Sweden, take third place for their video entry entitled, "SLCP – Short-Lived Climate Pollutants."

CCAC Ministers Meet in Doha



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Taking action to reduce short-lived climate pollutants strengthens the global effort to make near-term progress on climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants. By extending our efforts in complementary fora such as the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), we are tackling global climate goals that can improve the health of millions of citizens around the world. Canada is proud to be a founding member of the CCAC and is encouraged by today's announcement of six additional country partners. – Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, Canada

At a ministerial meeting, ministers from 25 nations commit to scaling up voluntary action to reduce short-lived climate pollutants. Partners underline their commitment to a suite of priority actions, reviewing progress and pledging to re-double efforts to reduce SLCPs. ● ● ●

Study finds Black Carbon is Second to Carbon Dioxide

This new research provides further compelling evidence to act on short-lived climate pollutants, including black carbon. I would urge more countries, companies and organizations to join the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, which is leveraging several key pathways and new partnerships to manage down these climate, health and crop-damaging emissions. – Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment

Bounding the role of black carbon in the climate system: A scientific assessment by T.C. Bond, et al. appears in the Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres. The article gains worldwide attention, adding to increasing evidence on the importance of reducing black carbon emissions from diesel engines, brick kilns and cookstoves among other sources tackled by the CCAC.

CCAC welcomes 50th Partner



The CCAC welcomes Switzerland as its 50th Partner, including 27 nations, the European Commission and 5 intergovernmental organizations and 18 non-governmental organizations. ● ● ●

19 Asian Countries Aim to Put Brakes on SLCPs

Bangladesh has been working for the last few years towards modernisation of brick kilns, improvement of millions of cook-stoves, improvement of rice parboiling systems, setting up of air quality monitoring mechanisms and adoption of relevant enabling environmental documents. Bangladesh, as a Founding Member of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), has taken the initiatives of the CCAC seriously and wants to work with partners in the reduction of SLCPs to complement action on global warming. – Hon. Dr. Hasan Mahmud, Minister for the Environment and Forests, Bangladesh

Government representatives from 19 Asian countries hosted by senior environmental officials from Bangladesh and Japan identify ways to catalyse fast action to reduce the impacts of SLCPs in the Asia Pacific region.

CCAC celebrates first anniversary at UNEP Governing Council

The CCAC's one year anniversary comes at a time of increasing recognition that climate change is already altering key regions of the earth faster than expected – making the need for swift and meaningful action ever more vital on all fronts. UNEP has partnered with researchers for over ten years to bring the science of short-lived climate pollutants to the fore. It is exciting to see nations and institutions starting to translate this into practical, transformational action. – Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director for the United Nations Environmental Programme

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