






# RAPAP

## Asia-Pacific Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution

### Overview

As the first region-wide action programme negotiated and agreed by governments in 2022, the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution aims to improve air quality through:

-  Promoting **science-based and policy-oriented cooperation**
-  Establishing an **open regional platform** for best practices exchange
-  Promoting **domestic actions and regional cooperation**
-  Identifying **technical and financial resources** for multilateral and cooperative action
-  Fostering **dialogue and technical cooperation**

### Why RAPAP in Asia and the Pacific

**High level of air pollution concentration** with severe impacts

- **~90%** of population in Asia and the Pacific regularly breathes air that is unsafe
- **47 of the 50** cities with the worst air quality were in Asia and the Pacific in 2022
- **50%** increase in population weighted mean exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> will take place in the region by 2030 without policy interventions

**Increasing awareness and commitment** on clean air action

- **UNEA Resolution 3/8:** Preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally (2017)
- **ESCAP Resolution 75/4:** Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle air pollution challenges in Asia and the Pacific (2019)
- **UN General Assembly Resolution 74/212:** International Day of Clean Air for blue skies (2019)
- **UN General Assembly Resolution 76/L.75:** The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (2022)

**Lacking region-wide cooperation**

- Diverse subregional and multistakeholder cooperation mechanisms, yet **limited scope, mandate and capacity**
- Need for strengthened coordination across mechanisms for **effective and comprehensive regional cooperation**



## Action areas



## Selected highlights

### High-level Forum on Clean Air

The High-Level Forum on Clean Air (HLFCA) was jointly organized by ESCAP, UNEP and Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia in March 2023 in Ulaanbaatar to operationalize the RAPAP through further elaborating areas and modalities of cooperation, strengthening connections among existing initiatives, and creating a foundation of knowledge and expertise.

### Observance of Clean Air Day

Annual Asia-Pacific Commemoration of the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, 7 September, has been organized by ESCAP and UNEP, serving as a key vehicle for building common expectations on regional collaboration for clean air and mobilizing political support.

### Pan-Asia Partnership for Geospatial Air Pollution Information (PAPGAPI)

The project supports countries in South-East Asia and South Asia to fill the data and information gap in the nation-wide monitoring of air quality and improve model simulations of air quality, including its forecasting and warning service, utilizing satellite-derived data from the Geostationary Environment Monitoring Spectrometer (GEMS). The project is implemented in collaboration with KOICA and the National Institute of Environmental Research, Republic of Korea.