



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
IREED Division, www.unece.org/ie

UNECE “CAPACT” Project

Capacity Building for Air Quality Management and Application of Clean Coal Combustion Technologies in Central Asia

**UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on
Coal in Sustainable Development
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Executive Summary...

- **Project title:** CAPACT
- **Duration:** 3 years (mid-2004 – mid-2007)
- **Location:** Central Asian economies
- **Executing Agency:** UNECE IREED Division and Environment and Human Settlements Division
- **Cooperating Agencies:** UN ESCAP and UNEP Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific
- **National Counterparts:** National energy & environment offices
- **Funding:** UN Development Account (4th Tranche) US\$ 680,000
- **Approval by UN General Assembly:** A/C.5/58/L.48 para 58



The Background...

- **Two UNECE documents**

(i) **ENERGY/GE.1/2003/9** – summary overview of project proposal. Available on UNECE website at:
www.unece.org/ie/capact/docsl.html

(ii) **ENERGY/GE.1/2004/4** – summary overview of project document (strategy, objectives, activities, work packages). Available on UNECE website at:
www.unece.org/ie/se/docs/coal7.html

- **Dedicated “CAPACT” website:** www.unece.org/ie/capact – in English and Russian languages.



Project Objective (i)...

- **to strengthen the capacity of air quality management institutions in Central Asia to implement the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and its protocols**

This will be achieved through

- **work on developing policies to manage air quality, air pollution monitoring and the reporting of pollutant emissions.**
- **To further facilitate this process the project will aim to develop sub-regional cooperation as well as, in cooperation with UNEP, to strengthen links between Asian and European monitoring programmes.**



Project Objective (i)...

- **to promote the application of appropriate CCTs for heat and power generation from solid fuels.**

This will be achieved through

- **sub-regional networking and information dissemination via an Internet/Intranet system and promotion of the application of low-cost, fast payback methods for improving the energy efficiency and environmental performance of solid fuel combustion technologies.**
- **In addition, CCT deployment will be facilitated through the provision of assistance with sustainable energy policy and energy pricing reforms as well as through the promotion of investment project finance.**



Project Activities and Work Programmes...

- **Project has been divided into six main Work Packages (WPs).**
- **WPs 1, 2 and 3 refer specifically to air quality management portion ... they are being implemented in close coordination with energy/coal-related activities.**
- **WPs 4, 5 and 6 are energy/coal-related.**
- **WP4: Development of Sub-Regional Network for Energy Related Emission Reductions.**
- **WP5: Strengthening of Sustainable Energy Policies and Energy Pricing Reforms.**
- **WP6: Promotion of Investment Project Finance for the Deployment of Clean Coal Technologies.**



Conclusions(i)...

- **CAPACT a significant extrabudgetary initiative for this Group of Experts offering an opportunity for deployment of appropriate CCTs in Central Asia with improved environmental outcome.**
- **Group of Experts should also consider benefits of extending the project at the end of the 3-year period (or before if possible) to interested members of the CIS. If this proposal is greeted positively additional sources of funding should be explored.**
- **Linkage made between air quality management and application of CCTs as majority of electricity generated in region is based on thermal power. Solid fuels are an important indigenous source of energy and dependency on coal for power generation will increase. National policies are increasingly favouring use of coal for electricity.**



Conclusions(ii)...

- **Establishment of a Project Working Group is an important mechanism to guide the project towards achieving optimal integration between countries and between sectors.**
- **The project offers the important added value of increased cooperation and collaboration between energy (coal) and environment, both within the United Nations and between the relevant Ministries of the Central Asian economies.**

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