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Capacity Building for Air Quality Management and the Application of Clean Coal Combustion Technologies in Central Asia (CAPACT) *Newsletter 3, May 2007*

Dear Madam/Sir,

This is the third newsletter of the CAPACT project. We are two and a half year into project implementation and the project will be concluded this year in September.

If you need more detailed information, the link to the project website is: <http://www.unece.org/ie/capact/>. You are also welcome to contact UNECE (bo.libert@unece.org, evgeniy.nadezhdin@unece.org) for further information.

A short summary of the project:

The UNECE and UNESCAP have developed the CAPACT project in collaboration with energy and environmental authorities in Central Asia. Funding comes from the UN Development Account. The project will help to identify appropriate technologies for a cleaner use of coal, and aim to raise the capacity of air quality management within the institutions in Central Asia. The project deals specifically with implementation of the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP). Project duration is 3 years starting from mid-2004. Countries eligible to participate in the project are: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Progress in 2006-2007:

- ◆ A Kazakh National Programme/Implementation Plan for air quality management and for implementing selected LRTAP Convention protocols has been developed and discussions are now underway to include components of this programme in the Ecological Plan for Kazakhstan in 2008-2010;
- ◆ Delivery of equipment to the first EMEP monitoring station in Central Asia. This Kazakh station will complement the European EMEP network and link to Asian air monitoring networks;

- ◆ A third project Workshop was held 17-19 October 2006 in Almaty. Additional funding from the UNECE Air Convention made it possible for experts not only from Central Asia but also from Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova and countries in the Caucasus to participate. The themes discussed during the meeting were International Air Monitoring, Data, Reporting and Environmental Effects. Material and conclusions from the Workshop can be found on the project website.
- ◆ An information and analysis system "Infoanalyst" has been developed. The system allows carrying out comparative analysis of multi-type information for the enterprises using coal as a fuel; ensures air pollution monitoring and energy audit in accordance with the requirements of UN Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol; allows estimating concentrations of CO, CO₂, SO₂, H₂S and other pollutants; enables ecological monitoring of enterprises of Central Asia in accordance with international standards ISO 9000 and ISO 14000. The system is flexible and compatible with EMEP databases. Formulas and operative samples for estimation of transboundary air pollution processes are defined in the system.
- ◆ A training workshop for experts from Central Asia to use the information and analysis system "Infoanalyst" to generate recommendations and air quality management decision-making in the energy sector was held 14-17 November 2006 in Almaty.
- ◆ Two training workshops for experts from Central Asia on the development of energy efficiency projects for improved air quality management and deployment of appropriate clean coal combustion technologies for heat and power generation from solid fuels were held 3-7 July and 14-17 November 2006 in Almaty. Seven projects have been selected and business plans for these projects are being developed for possible future funding by International Financial Institutions.

To look ahead for in connection with the conclusion of the project:

- ◆ Data deliveries from the EMEP monitoring station in Kazakhstan.
- ◆ Inclusion of components of the National Programme/Implementation Plan for air quality management and for implementing selected LRTAP Convention protocols into in the Kazakh Programme on Environmental Protection for 2008-2010.
- ◆ The final project Workshop in Almaty 4-6 July 2007. The main themes will be appropriate pricing reforms to facilitate investments for deployment of clean coal technologies and abatement technologies.