The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Megacities Partnerships provide national and local policy makers with a framework by which to develop and implement a comprehensive action plan to address air quality and improve public health in urban centers.

**Urban-scale Planning**

Urban environments are where people and pollution come together. These areas require a concerted approach to reduce pollution exposure and related health impacts. Many of the most rapidly growing urban areas in developing countries have limited data, resources and capacity, but significant health and climate impacts from air pollution. Enhancing air quality management (AQM) in urban areas, using available data, the Megacity Partnership framework can help accelerate local action and improve public health for millions of people globally.

**How It Works**

The Partnership framework supports governments to develop integrated air quality management plans (AQMP) and within three years begin to implement programs that reduce air pollution emissions. EPA provides training, technical support, and access to tools through the partnership, however the analyses and plan development occur hand-in-hand with in-country experts. The goal is to create a sustainable policy environment in which local decision makers can undertake future environmental planning without policy/technical assistance from EPA and serve as regional experts, providing peer-to-peer support for other countries.
Accra Partnership Accomplishments

- Final Accra Air Quality Management Plan launched August 2018
  https://tinyurl.com/accra-aqmp
  - Revised ambient standards
  - Vehicle emission testing planned
  - Regional fuel standards
  - Establishing vehicle import age limits
- Ghana staff conducts health benefits assessment and ambient monitor sample analysis
  - Foundation for regional laboratory analysis capacity
- Leveraged additional investments of over $2 million from the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, World Bank, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
- Deployed low cost sensor network and associated data management system as model for other developing countries

Megacity Partnership Next Steps

- Apply Megacity Framework in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Peru, Lima
- Analyze results from low cost sensor deployment in Accra
- Pilot Neighborhood trash burning program in Accra
- Transfer Partnership Framework to interested organizations who can implement in additional cities and regions

Santiago Partnership Accomplishments

- Completed comprehensive assessment of the benefits and costs of AQM in the Santiago Metropolitan Region over the past three decades
- Conducted quantitative assessment of the effectiveness of Ministry of Environment critical episode management system
- Training Chilean experts to serve as regional experts in AQM and benefits assessment