



Activities and development under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

TFEIP/EIONET joint meeting, Krakow, Poland, 10-12 May 2017

Alina Novikova, UNECE



Overview

ENVIRONMENT



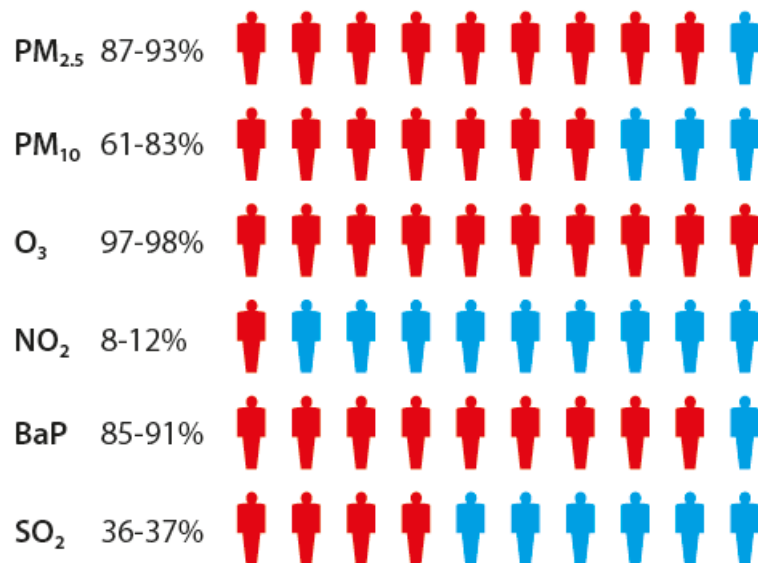
- Towards cleaner air: Scientific Assessment Report
- Update on policy (35th and 36th sessions of Executive Body, 54th and 55th sessions of WGSR)
- Update on capacity building activities
- Update on outreach and cooperation

Scientific Assessment Report 2016

ENVIRONMENT



► The proportion of the population living in areas exceeding WHO air quality guideline values varies by pollutant, with over 87% of the EU population exposed to high levels of fine particles ($PM_{2.5}$) and 98% to high levels of ozone (O_3).^{viii}



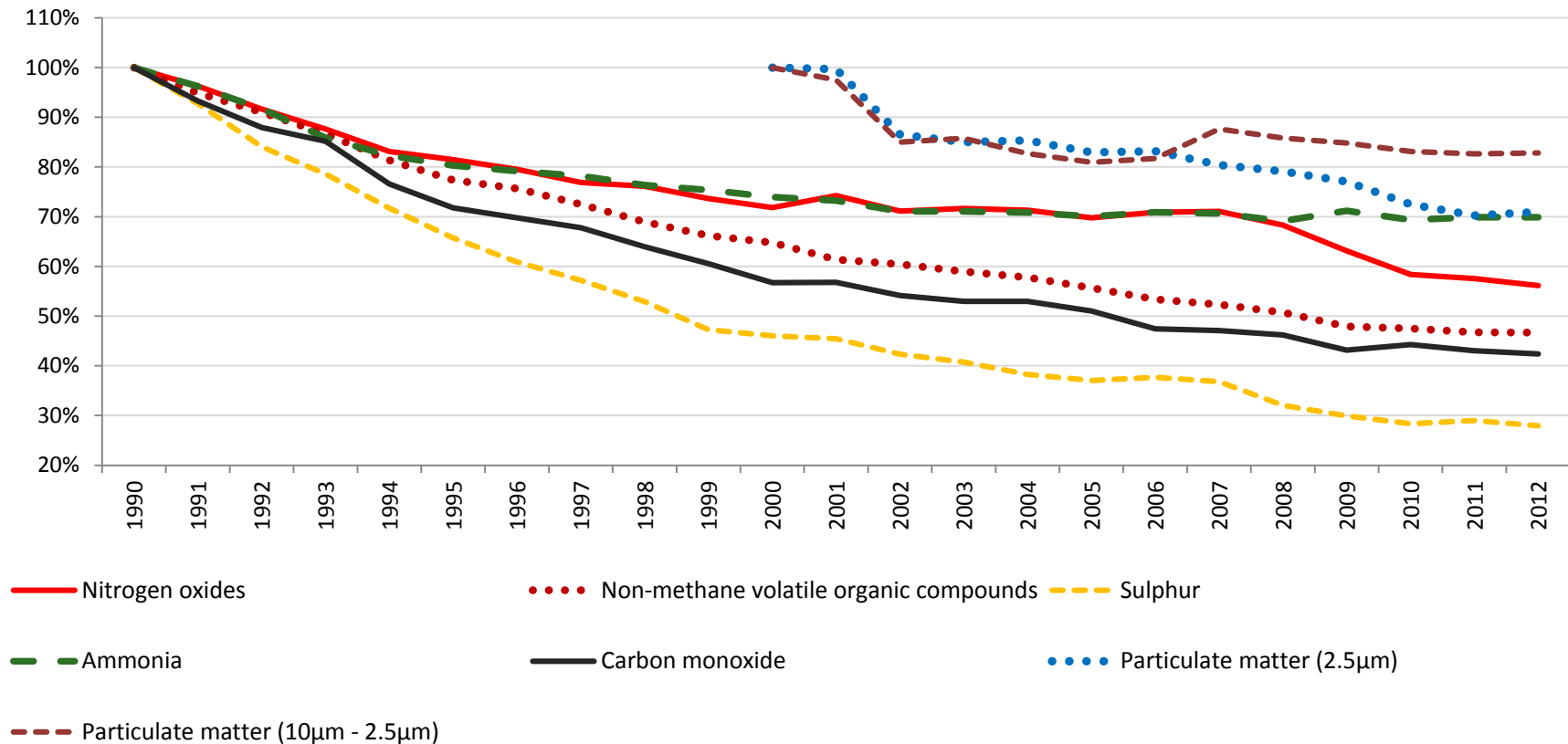
- If economic growth and air pollution trends had not been decoupled we would have had **three times more health impacts than today and the premature death of 600,000 more people.**
- Health impacts from ozone would have been 70% higher and ozone damage to crops 30% higher.
- **Overall, average life expectancy is today 12 months more than in the hypothetical unabated world**

Success of Convention in reducing emissions of air pollutants



ENVIRONMENT

Emission trends for key pollutants in the ECE region (excluding Canada and the United States of America) since 1990



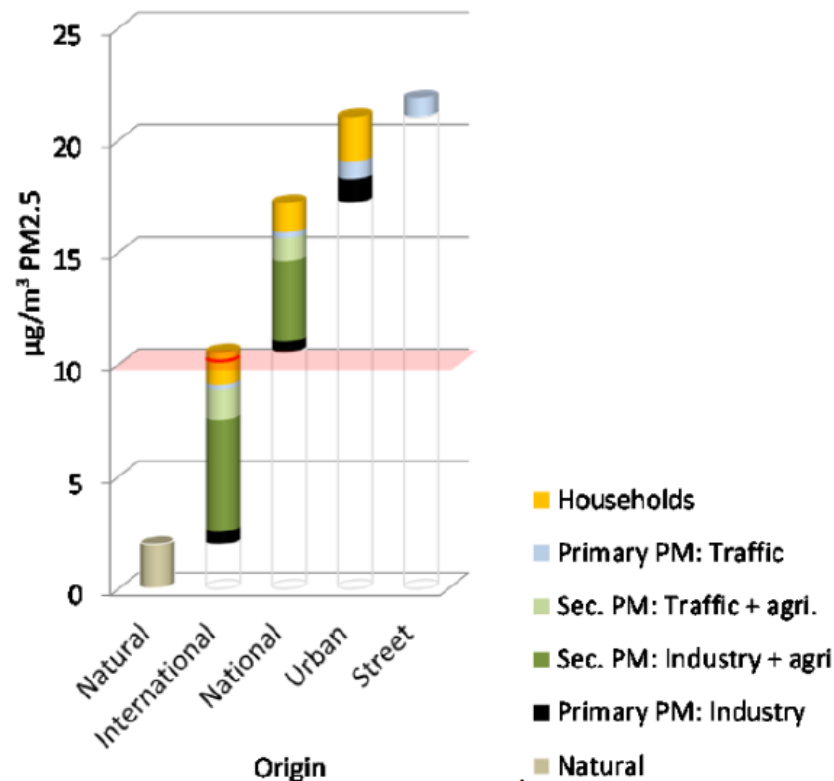
Source: Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections.

Why is transboundary cooperation on air pollution mitigation essential? (1)



ENVIRONMENT

Components of PM_{2.5} concentrations in Hungary



Source: IIASA GAINS.

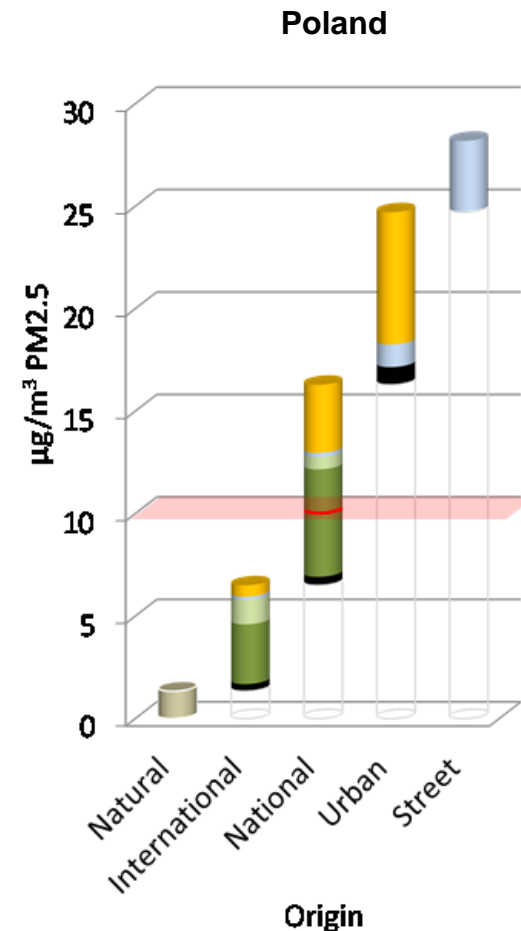
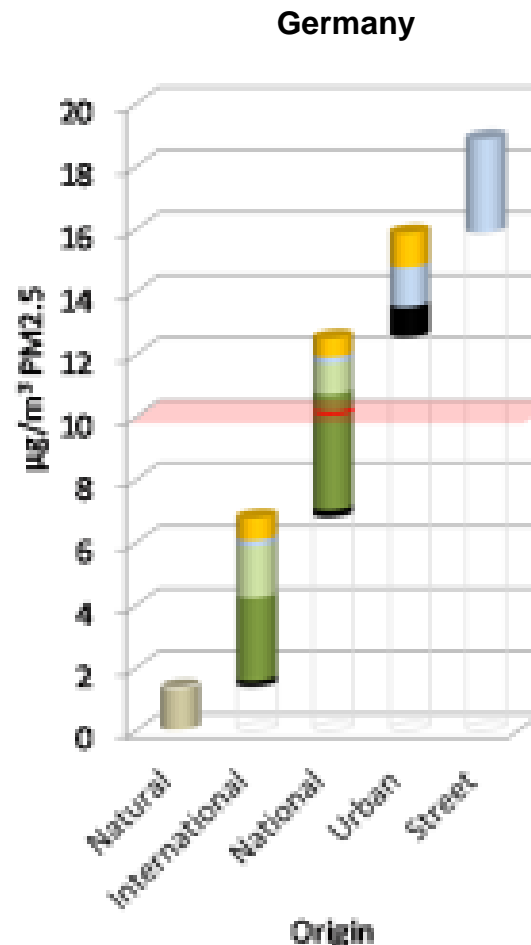
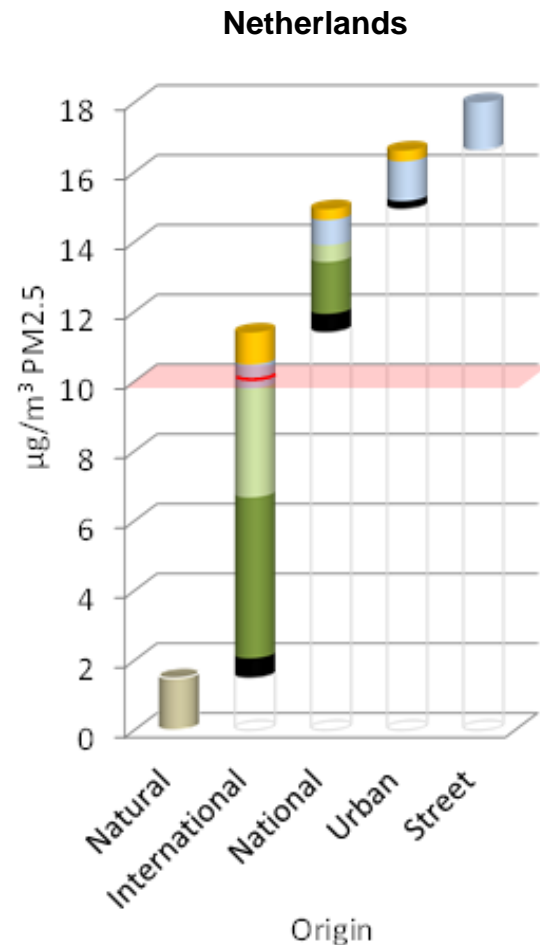
Note: Contributions to ambient PM_{2.5} at urban traffic stations in Hungary, in the base year 2009.

Abbreviations: agri = agriculture; Sec. = secondary. The pink shading demarcates the WHO annual guideline value of 10 µg/m³ for PM_{2.5} concentrations. The red band shows the crossing point to better visualize where the level exceeds the WHO annual guideline value.

Why is transboundary cooperation on air pollution mitigation essential?



ENVIRONMENT



Updates on the Executive Body sessions

ENVIRONMENT



- Executive Body (EB) mandate to establish an ad-hoc group of experts to develop a policy response to the 2016 Assessment Report; recommendations (including on health aspects) to be forwarded to EB in 2017
- Panel discussion on SDGs
- Panel discussion on implementation of voluntary actions under the Batumi Action for Cleaner Air (see below)

Updates on the Working Group on Strategies and Review



ENVIRONMENT

■ Task Force on Techno-economic Issues (TFTEI)

- Guidance document on emissions from mobile sources
- Guidance document for estimation and measurement of emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds
- Support to countries on best available techniques (BATs) through elaboration of tools and dedicated workshops

■ Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen (TFRN)

- 55th session – Geneva, 31 May-2 June 2017 – focus on agriculture
- Increasing evidence on contribution of ammonia to PM2.5 formation – links to health
- UNECE joined a multi-partner initiative Towards the Establishment of the International Nitrogen Management System (GEF funded project)
- TFRN to continue to work on the relationship between human diets and the impact of the nitrogen cycle on the environment (in cooperation with WHO) through its Expert Panel on Nitrogen and Health

Updates on the UNECE led capacity building activities on air pollution in 2016



ENVIRONMENT

- Roundtable on results of national legislation analysis and a workshop on emission inventories (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, April 2016)
- Workshop on best available techniques, organized by the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues (Berlin, Germany, April 2016)
- High-level segment, publication and outreach event at Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Batumi, Georgia, June 2016)
- Analysis of the national air quality assessment and management policies and legislation of Kazakhstan and recommendations on further steps towards ratification (Astana, Kazakhstan, September 2016)
- Subregional workshop “Get your right to a healthy community” (Minsk, Belarus, September 2016)
- Consultation on emission reporting under the Convention (Yerevan, Armenia, October 2016)

Update on outreach and cooperation on air quality

ENVIRONMENT



- **Interagency meeting (WHO, UN Environment, UNECE)**
- Organizations have strong, mutually supportive mandates on air quality
 - Joining efforts to complement and strengthen each other's work
 - Providing strong joint messages
- **Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)**
 - UNECE as a non-state partner
- **Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health**
 - Cooperation on side-event with WHO, EEA, UNEP and CCAC

Batumi Action for Cleaner Air

ENVIRONMENT



- **The Batumi Action for Cleaner Air (BACA)** is a voluntary initiative supporting countries' efforts in improving air quality – thereby protecting public health and ecosystems.

Actions in the following areas

- Monitoring activities and emission inventories
- National action programmes
- Public awareness-raising
- Capacity-building and technical support
- Policy design and implementation

Tool to support the implementation of the SDGs



ENVIRONMENT



Thank you!

air_meetings@unece.org

<http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/welcome.html>

