



**EANET Workshop on  
The relationship between atmospheric  
environment and human health and ecosystems**

# 40 years of success: The UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution

First Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health:  
Improving Air Quality, Combatting Climate Change – Saving  
Lives

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- UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution
- 40 years of success
- Lessons learned & priorities

# UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (Air Convention)

## ENVIRONMENT



- Signed in 1979, entry into force in 1983
- First international treaty to deal with air pollution on a broad regional basis
- 51 Parties in the UNECE region
- Framework Convention, has been extended by 8 protocols covering a number of pollutants
- Emission targets agreed for the following pollutants: sulphur, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals, and particulate matter, including black carbon



# 40 years of success



## ENVIRONMENT

- Decoupling of economic growth and air pollution trends has avoided 600,000 premature death in Europe and North America
- Average life expectancy is today 12 months more than in the hypothetical unabated world
- Emission reductions by 40 to 80 % since 1990 in the region:
  - sulphur: 70%,
  - nitrogen oxides: 40%
- Particulate matter concentrations at European measurement sites declined by a third between 2000 and 2012



# Areas of work

## ENVIRONMENT



- International agreement setting emission reduction targets
- Science underpinning policy:
  - ✓ The Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)
  - ✓ The Working Group on Effects
- Compliance monitoring
- Capacity-building and awareness raising

# EXECUTIVE BODY

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

## WORKING GROUP ON EFFECTS

## EMEP STEERING BODY

## WORKING GROUP ON STRATEGIES AND REVIEW

ICP FORESTS TASK FORCE

ICP INTEGRATED MONITORING TASK FORCE

ICP MODELLING AND MAPPING TASK FORCE

ICP MATERIALS TASK FORCE

ICP VEGETATION TASK FORCE

ICP WATERS TASK FORCE

TASK FORCE ON HEALTH

JOINT EXPERT GROUP ON DYNAMIC MODELLING

COORDINATING PROGRAMME CENTRE

PROGRAMME CENTRE

COORDINATION CENTRE FOR EFFECTS

MAIN RESEARCH CENTRE

PROGRAMME CENTRE

PROGRAMME CENTRE

WHO BONN

TASK FORCE ON EMISSION INVENTORIES AND PROJECTIONS

CENTRE ON EMISSION INVENTORIES AND PROJECTIONS (CEIP)

TASK FORCE ON MEASUREMENTS AND MODELLING

CHEMICAL COORDINATING CENTRE (CCC)

METEOROLOGICAL SYNTHESIZING CENTRE-WEST (MSC-W)

METEOROLOGICAL SYNTHESIZING CENTRE-EAST (MSC-E)

TASK FORCE ON INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT MODELLING

CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT MODELLING (CIAM)

TASK FORCE ON HEMISPHERIC TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTION

TASK FORCE ON REACTIVE NITROGEN

TASK FORCE ON TECHNO-ECONOMIC ISSUES

### LEGEND:

SUBSIDIARY BODIES

TASK FORCES

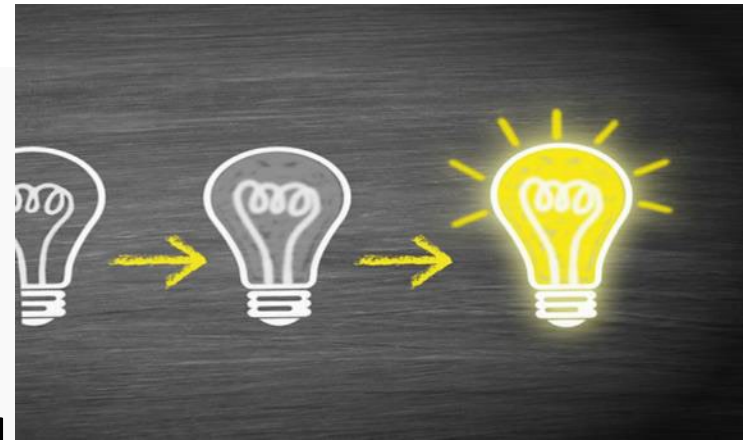
PROGRAMME/EMEP CENTRES

# Lessons learned

## ENVIRONMENT



- Science-policy interface: development over time
- Strong expert network
- Financing: mix of mandatory and voluntary cash and in-kind contributions
- Policy guidance to Parties
- Exchange of experiences
- Capacity building to create level-playing field



# Priorities ahead

## ENVIRONMENT



- Air pollution has been recognized as a problem at the global level
- Remaining pollution issues: ground-level ozone, particulate matter
- Cooperation across the scales needed – local, national, regional, global
- Cooperation with organizations and networks beyond the UNECE region
- Lessons learnt from the Convention to contribute to solutions around the globe



# CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

## E-learning Course



<https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=150&page=overview>



## Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Overview Course Certification



Module 1: The Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution  
1 hour 0/1 Activities



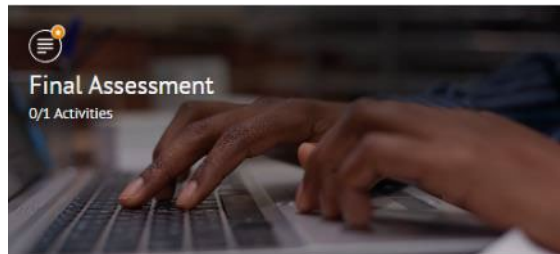
Module 2: The Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-Level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol)  
1.25 hour 0/1 Activities




Module 3: The Protocol on Heavy Metals  
0.75 hour 0/1 Activities




Module 4: The Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants  
0.5 hour 0/1 Activities




Final Assessment  
0/1 Activities

 Self-paced course

 3.5 hours

 [English](#) and [Russian](#)

 Certificate of Completion

[Download](#)

### For whom?

- Policymakers
- Government officials
- Staff from intergovernmental/non-governmental organizations
- Private sector professionals
- Students/academia
- Other stakeholders



SPESIAL ENVIROMENTAL PARTNER AGENCY

ENVIRONMENT



**Thank you!**

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

