# Center for Clean Air Policy

## Climate Policy in Action

The Center for Clean Air (CCAP) is a nongovernmental nonprofit that promotes ambitious climate action globally. Based in Washington DC with offices in Latin America, Canada, and Europe, we help policy-makers around the world develop, promote, and implement innovative, market-based solutions to major climate problems that balance both environmental and economic interests. CCAP supports implementation of the historic Paris Agreement by helping countries convert their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) into actionable policies and programs, promoting and building consensus among developed and developing countries around effective rules to implement the Paris Agreement, and working with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) on delivering finance that drives ambition and responds to country needs. CCAP provides technical and policy support to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and sustainable development goals, and engages the private sector to meet these goals.

### Success and Impact

#### 1990

Supported design of marketbased acid rain control program in the Clean Air Act Amendments

#### 1997

Provided key design input on the flexibility mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol

#### 2004 - 2006

Policy support led to NY implementing state climate policies and forming the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)

CCAP's study on mitigation actions in California supported the Governor to cap statewide GHG emissions

#### 2018

CCAP support enabled Mexico to adopt strong regulations to reduce methane emissions from oil/gas operations



#### 1996

Constructed first successful joint implementation project in Decin, Czech Republic

#### 2003

Lead designer on team that crafted the first GHG emissions trading system for the EU ETS

Prepared eight accession countries to the EU for participation in GHG trading

## 2011 - 2017

Established sector-scale mitigation actions, "NAMAs", as key building block for national commitments, developing 20+ NAMA projects

Supported the NAMA Facility in adopting strong criteria to select mitigation actions for financing

VENNGAGE

#### **Level of Engagement**

CCAP works at the local, national, and international levels, allowing us to bring lessons learned from our projects to inform international negotiations and vice versa.

#### **On-the-ground policies and actions**

CCAP supports developing countries in crafting national climate action plans, sector-based strategies and pilot projects aimed at realizing transformative outcomes. This support includes understanding barriers to low carbon investments and identifying targeted policy solutions and financial mechanisms. CCAP helps countries consider the potential roles of domestic actoins, international financial support and carbon markets to shift public and private investments. CCAP also prepares compelling, high quality proposals that can win financial support for implementation.

#### National and regional policy dialogue

CCAP convenes national and regional policy dialogues aimed at building capacity and enhanced consensus around key policy outcomes. Depending on the aims of the dialogue, CCAP fosters north-south and south-south learning, supports consideration of the pros and cons of different approaches, helps identify best practice solutions and those that will fit the particular national context(s), and educates participants on practical steps to implementation. Dialogues are used to engage potential bilateral and multilateral sources of financial support. These processes are bottom-up, driven by the needs of policy makers towards reaching national climate goals.

#### International negotiations

CCAP prepares submissions, thought pieces, and policy recommendations to support ambitious climate outcomes. Current work fosters agreement around Article 6 rules and guidelines that avoid double counting and strengthen NDCs; and aims to bolster GCF actions towards paradigm-shifting investments.

# CENTER FOR CLEAN AIR POLICY

## Dialogue. Insight. Solutions.

## Programmatic Approach

#### **Carbon Markets**

Flexible, market-based approaches to reducing air pollution have a strong track record in lowering emissions and offer an important tool to do so cost-effectively. Since its inception, CCAP has worked with stakeholders in the United States and around the world to understand the pros and cons of different market-based approaches and design effective solutions tailored to the target pollutant(s) and policy context. Current work focuses on internationally transferred mitigation outcomes, or ITMOs.

Under Article 6, the Paris Agreement establishes a new framework for countries to work together in implementing their NDCs to realize higher ambition in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. While the rules and guidelines are still being defined, this new framework will support different types of collaboration in which countries work together to reduce- and pay for - emissions reductions that involve a transfer of mitigation outcomes across national borders. All such transferred mitigation outcomes are made voluntarily and must meet conditions to ensure environmental integrity and transparency and ensure robust accounting, including to prevent double counting. This last point is particularly important now that all parties are expected to have their own mitigation goals: it is important to ensure that any emission reduction that is transferred internationally supports compliance towards only one NDC.



#### **Climate Finance**

CCAP works with key financial institutions such as the GCF, the NAMA Facility and other multilateral, bilateral, and private sector sources of climate finance to encourage strategic use of limited international financial resources in support of transformational climate outcomes. Funds should be well-targeted, support high ambition, align with national climate and development priorities, avoid investments that might have happened anyway, and employ consistent methods to estimate and report on outcomes achieved. CCAP is also considering strategies to shfit financial flows more broadly.

To help countries raise financial support, CCAP designs effective financial mechanisms that can mobilize private sector investment; builds pipelines of projects that could benefit from the financial mechanism; and crafts country program documents that financial institutions can use to prioritize investments.

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## Potent "Super Pollutants" Have Big Climate, Health Impacts

Short-lived climate pollutants like methane, black carbon and HFCs, are potent climate forcers and harmful air pollutants that have an outsized impact on climate change in the near-term.

Methane, for example, is 86 times more potent than carbon dioxide over a 20-year time horizon, and is responsible for roughly 20-25 percent of current global climate forcing. HFCs are the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions and have potency thousands of times greater than CO2. Black carbon, or soot, is a component of toxic particulate matter, which is a leading environmental and health hazard. The transport sector is a major contributor to ambient fine particles in major cities, and emits some 19 percent of global black carbon.

- CCAP's Municipal Solid Waste program significantly reduces methane emissions while creating new jobs and growing the economy.
- CCAP's Oil and Gas Mitigation program advances regulatory solutions to limit methane emissions from oil and gas production at a sector scale.
- CCAP works with the Philippines to consider how the ITMO framework might advance HFC reductions and improved efficiency across the food cold chain.
- The CCAP-designed Colombia Household Refrigeration NAMA was selected by the NAMA Facility for implementation.
- CCAP works to reduce heavy duty diesel pollution in the Port of Oakland and the community of West Oakland a disadvantaged community that has been selected by the California Air Resources Board as one of the first communities to participate in the Community Air Protection Program.

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