

Enhancing North American **Air Quality Management**

North American Air Working Group

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Introduction

The North American Air Working Group's purpose is to advise the Council and to work with the Secretariat to support air quality management planning and decision-making, by providing complete air quality and emissions information that is comparable among the three North American countries.

Project Description and Evolution

The Project

1. Facilitates development of comparable air emissions inventories and ambient air monitoring data;
2. Builds capacity for self-sustaining programs;
3. Promotes government and scientific exchange;
4. Enhances public availability of data and information.

Evolution

- 2007 Council endorsement of a North American Air Quality Vision;
- Council direction to develop a 2010-2015 North American Air Quality Strategy;
- Continued cooperative work on air quality management per Operational Plan and Vision.
- Proposed 2010-2015 Strategy, built upon successful cooperative work on air quality; Vision; and comprehensive assessment of inventories and ambient air monitoring.



Complete, comparable data is critical to meaningful management of air quality.

The Project has resulted in:

1. Updates to Mexico's emissions inventory.
2. Significant advancement toward comparability and synchronicity of regular inventory updates.
3. Capacity for future NEI updates.
4. Comprehensive assessment of all North American air emissions inventories and ambient air monitoring networks.
5. Robust North American Air Quality Management Strategy proposal for 2010-2015.

Benefit to the North American environment

The project benefits North American public health and environment through improved air quality, borne of well-informed decisions, made possible through availability of complete, accurate and comparable data and analyses.

1. Provides critical foundation for managing air quality.
2. Allows for coordinated responses to long- and short-range transport.
3. Promotes multi-pollutant, including GHG, approach that increases efficiencies.
4. Facilitates self-sustaining air data programs in the three countries.
5. Assists in compliance with bilateral, trilateral and international commitments.
6. Creates further efficiencies and a foundation for future collaborative efforts.
7. Provides for an informed North American public.



Three countries. One environment.