

## Report on capacity-building and awareness-raising to promote ratification and implementation

This note provides an overview of capacity-building and awareness-raising activities carried out by the secretariat in 2022 to promote ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols. These activities were made possible thanks to the contributions by the European Union, Germany, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

- **Meetings of EECCA Coordinating Group (31 March, 13 April):** In advance of and on the margins of the sixtieth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, the Secretariat organized online and hybrid meetings of the EECCA Coordinating Group to discuss the pros and cons of existing flexibilities in the Gothenburg Protocol, obstacles towards ratification and proposals for new options for flexibilities.
- **E-learning course on the Convention and its protocols:** An e-learning course on the Convention was developed and launched on 8 June. The course aims to raise awareness of air pollution and its effects, ways to prevent and reduce harmful emissions, and the Convention and its key protocols as an international framework for cooperation on cleaner air. The course is self-paced and is designed for all interested stakeholders working in the field of air pollution. The course consists of four modules, including a final test and certification. The course is available in [Russian](#) and [English](#).
- **Sub-regional training workshop on COPERT model (14-15 June):** Following an introductory webinar on estimation methods for road transport emissions organised in 2021, the Secretariat organized a sub-regional in-depth workshop for countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and western Balkan countries, including Turkey. The workshop programme focused on an overview of the COPERT model, issues related to energy balance, activity data, explanation of full COPERT data sampling and data projections, followed by hands-on exercises using national datasets. The workshop improved skills and capacities of national experts to develop high quality and accurate road transport emission inventories, which are part of the national reporting of emissions under the Convention and serve to improve the scientific basis for policymaking.
- **A consultation meeting with Uzbekistan on accession to the Convention (23 September) (hybrid):** In collaboration with the “Water, Environment and Climate Change Cooperation Project in Central Asia” (WECCOP), the Secretariat held a consultation in hybrid mode with Uzbekistan on accession to the Convention and discussed the main requirements, benefits and opportunities for the country joining the Convention and its key protocols.
- **National Clean Air Dialogue in Georgia (19 October):** The secretariat organized a national clean air dialogue in Georgia as a follow-up activity to the 2018 national action plan (NAP) on ratification and implementation of the latest three protocols. The event helped national authorities to raise awareness on improving air quality and on progress towards implementation of actions outlined in the national action plan, and to promote discussions on next steps among governmental and non-governmental organizations.

- **Webinar on accession and implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol (15 November):** In cooperation with the secretariat the US EPA organised the first part of a virtual workshop on overcoming barriers to implementation and ratification of the amended Gothenburg Protocol for experts from EECCA and Western Balkan countries. The aim of the workshop was to learn from countries that have made progress toward ratification of the protocol, share information on the secretariat's capacity building efforts, and identify challenging sectors in the target countries and the main barriers toward ratification. A follow-up webinar on best available technologies (BAT) for the most challenging emission source sectors identified by participants will be held in late January 2023.
- **E-learning course on emission inventories:** As a follow-up to the online starter course on the Convention, the secretariat is developing an introductory course on emission inventories. The course consists of 3 modules and will help emission inventory compilers learn the basic concepts of air emissions reporting, the reporting process and available guidelines, as well as methods for estimating emissions. Methodologically, the course will be self-paced with informative texts, videos, case studies and quizzes to check progress in learning. Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be awarded a certificate. The course will be hosted on a dedicated e-learning platform and linked to the UNECE website. The course is expected to be launched in spring 2023.
- **Launch of a project on developing emission projections, setting national emission reduction targets and base year emission level:** Developing emission projections and setting emission reduction targets is a necessary step in the ratification of the Gothenburg Protocol. In response to the needs expressed by the Republic of Moldova, the Secretariat launched a project to support the country in developing emission reduction commitments and emission projections, which will be finalised in spring 2023.
- **Support provided to increase information exchanges and peer-to-peer cooperation among target countries:** Strengthening participation of countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the work of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies by providing travel support.