

Air quality and health co-benefits of coordinated environmental and climate policies in Asia

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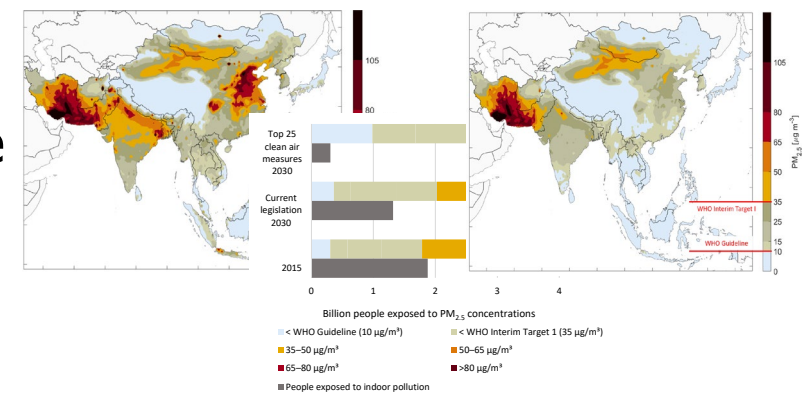
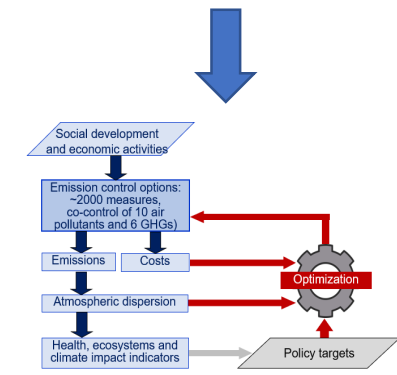
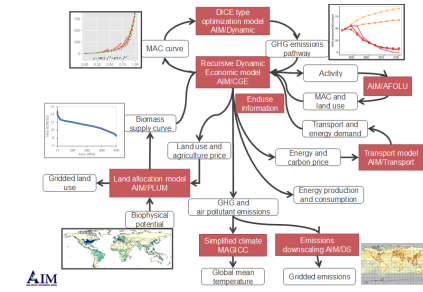


National
Institute for
Environmental
Studies, Japan

IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

Tools and approach

- **AIM** – National decarbonization and climate policy scenarios for six countries (Kyoto University, Japan)
- **GAINS** - Air pollution and health benefits (IIASA)
 - Build a link between AIM and GAINS to downscale AIM scenarios to be used in GAINS for co-benefit and impact assessment
 - Develop Asia-wide scenario set
 - Calculate and analyze PM_{2.5} concentrations, exposure, and health impact indicators at a national/regional scale

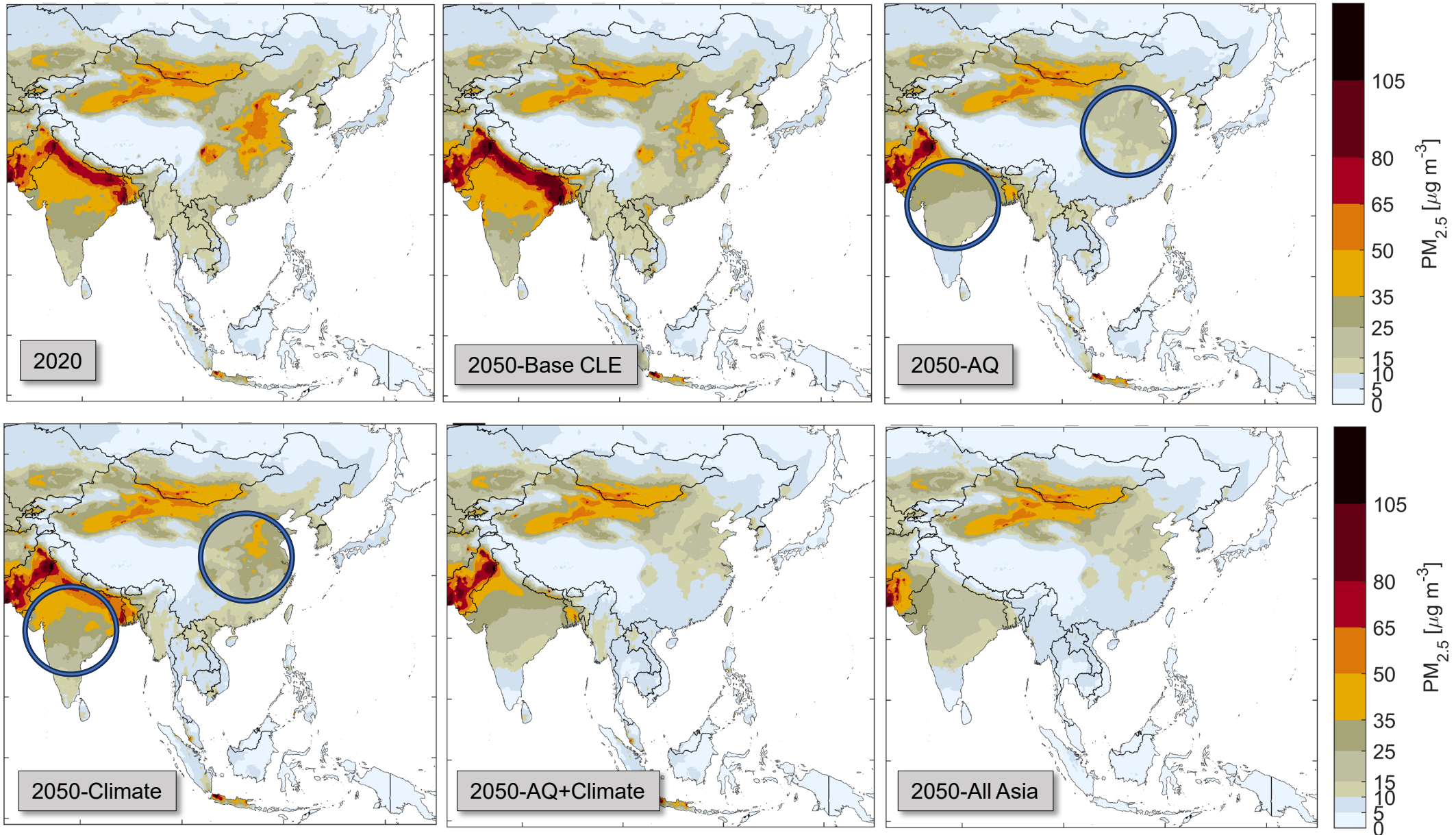


Scenarios

Focus on six countries
(China, Korea, Japan, India, Thailand, Vietnam)

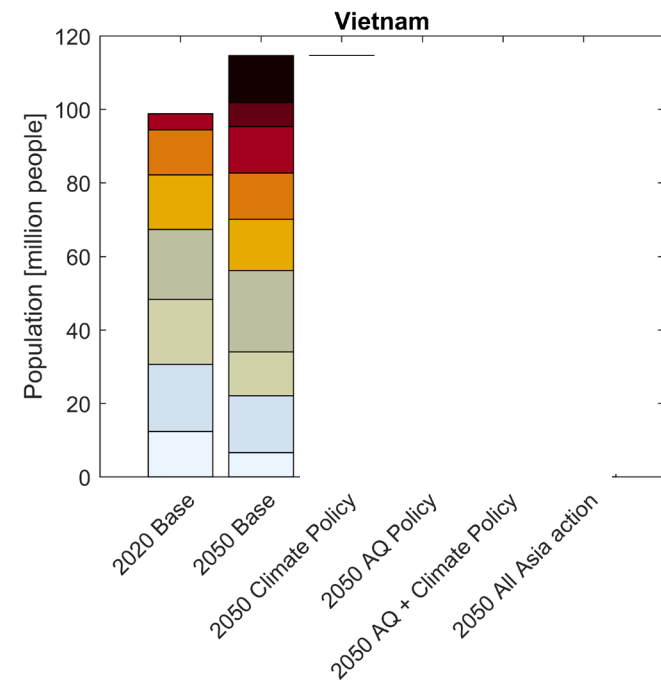
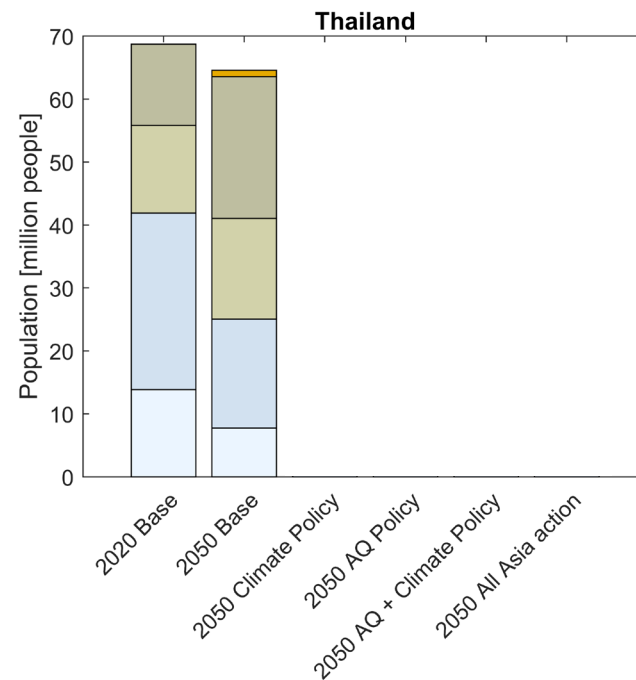
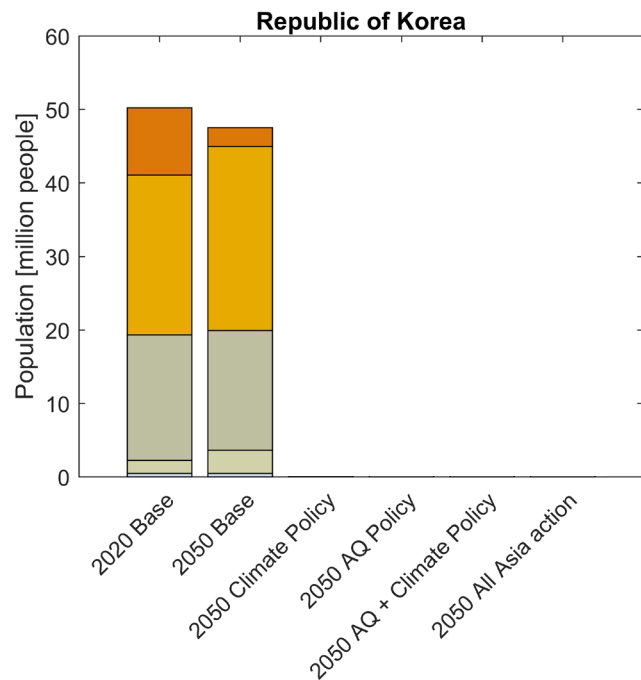
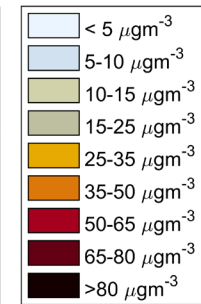
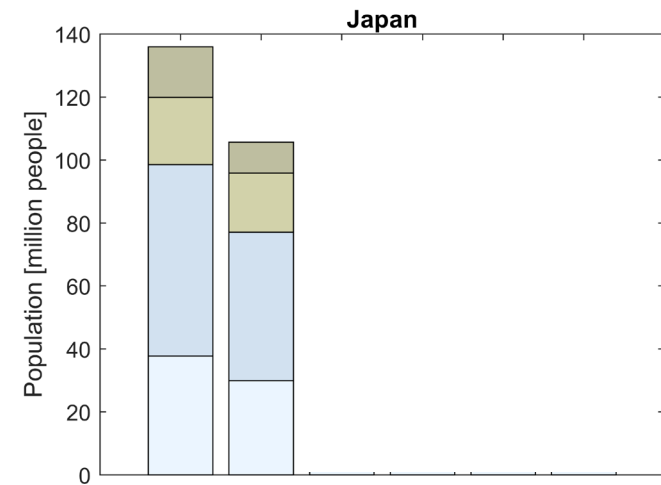
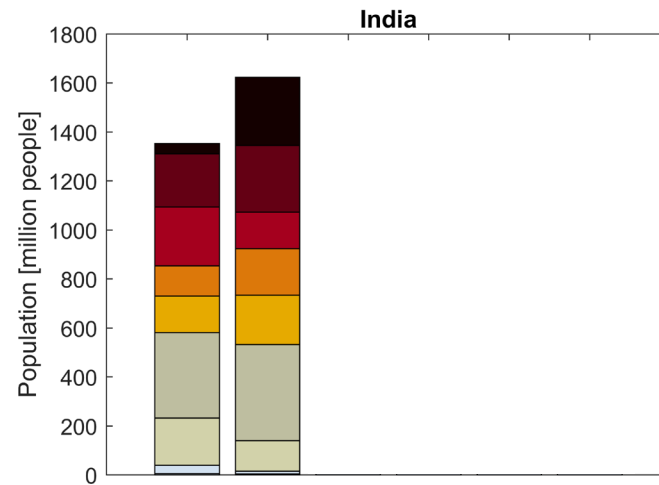
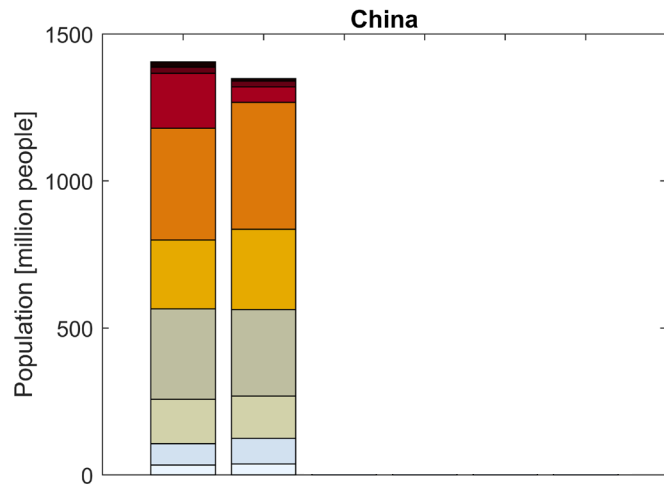
- **Base CLE:** Effective implementation of current legislation
- **AQ:** Priority -> Air Quality improvement: implementation of all, included in the GAINS model, technical mitigation measures, considering their feasibility
- **Climate:** Priority -> Climate mitigation: implementation of policies represented in the recent NDCs and further measures (beyond 2030) to achieve 90% reduction of CO₂ emissions by 2050, compared to 2010
- **AQ+Climate:** Ambitious air quality (AQ) and climate policies (Climate)
- **All Asia:** Ambitious AQ + Climate policies are implemented across the whole of Asia

Change in annual mean PM_{2.5} concentrations





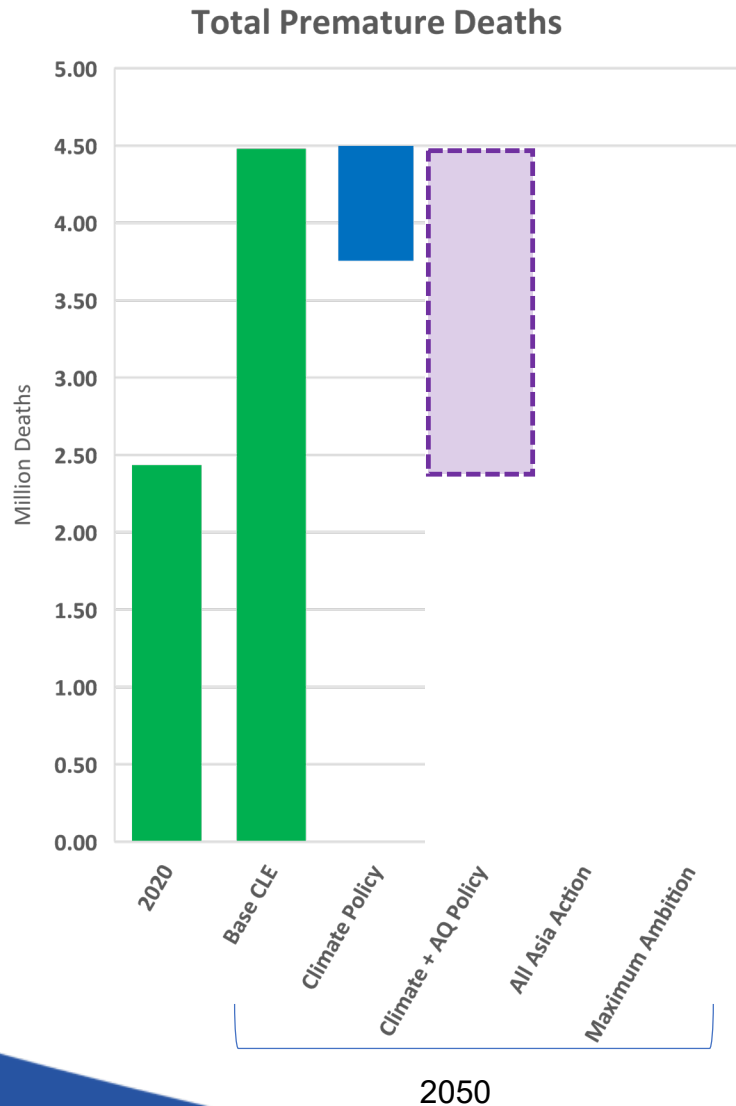
Change in population exposure to PM_{2.5}



Population exposed to levels < WHO AQG:
in 2020 – only 103 mln

in 2050
Base – 85 mln
Climate – 150 mln
AQ – 522 mln
AQ+Climate – 776 mln
All Asia – 1145 mln

Change in the number of premature deaths* due to ambient PM_{2.5}

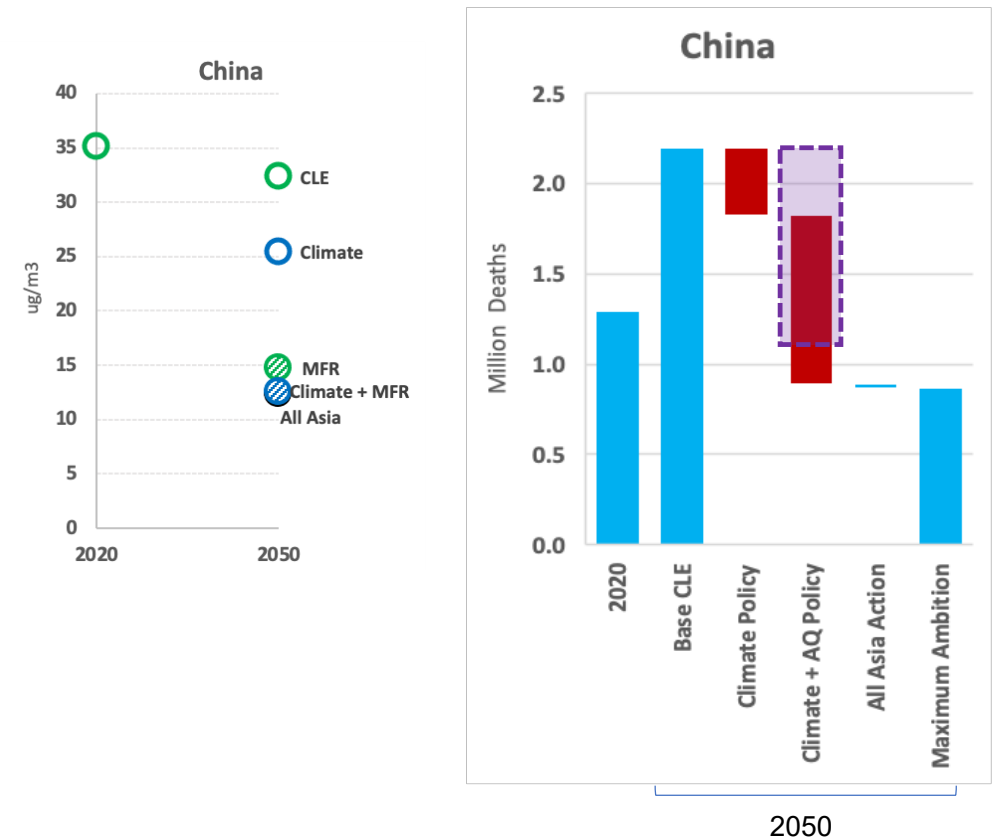
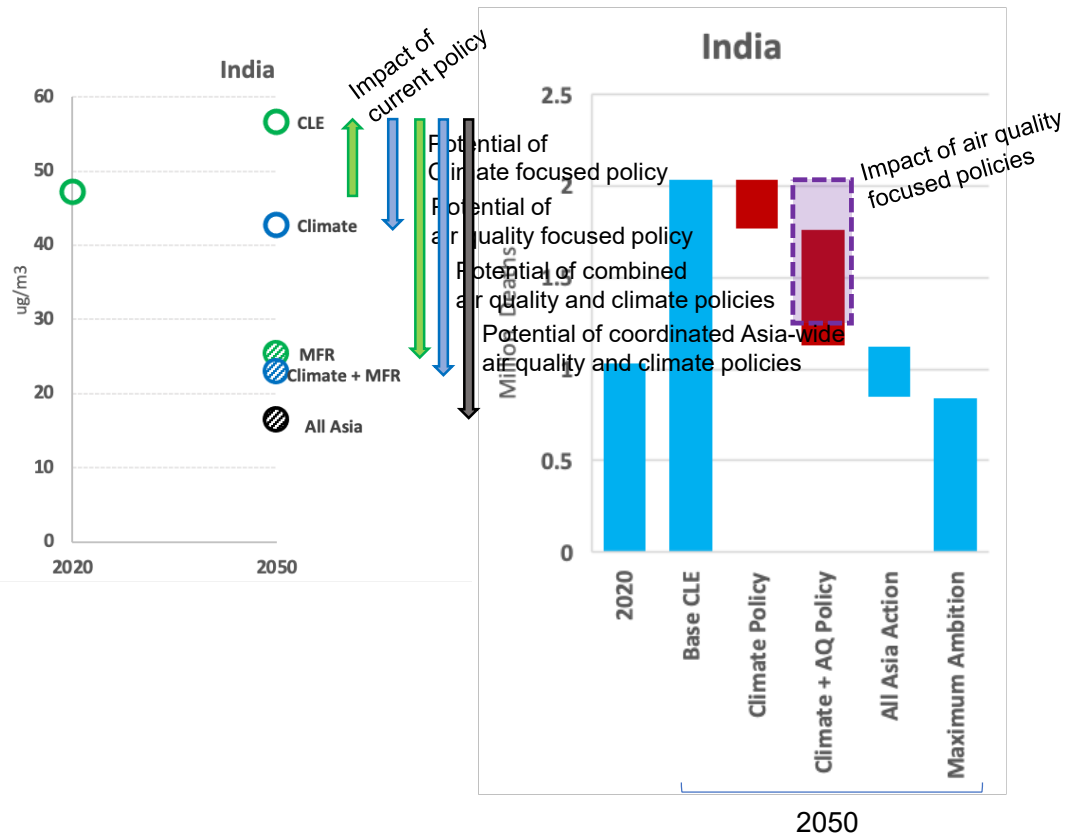


- Nearly 2.5 million premature deaths in the six Asian countries** in 2020
- Current policies appear insufficient to reduce death toll from air pollution in the region; by 2050, premature deaths could increase to 4.5 million
- Climate policy air quality co-benefits would result in about 0.7 million, less premature deaths (-15%), however...
- *Proven and well understood air quality measures could deliver reduction of premature deaths by over 2 million (- 45%)*
- Combined air quality and climate policies could reduce premature deaths by about 50%
- Coordinated ambitious climate and air quality policy across all Asia could reduce premature deaths over 60% compared to the current policy case

* China, India, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam

** The population of these six countries represent nearly 70% of total Asian population

Change in PM_{2.5} concentrations and number of premature deaths, due to ambient PM_{2.5}, for selected countries



Current policies insufficient to reduce concentrations of PM_{2.5} by 2050 and number of premature deaths doubles. Further mitigation potential exists to reduce concentrations and mortality well beyond current levels. Sizable benefit from action in the rest of Asia.

Current policies result in reduction in concentrations of PM_{2.5} by 2050, however, number of premature deaths increases. Further mitigation potential exists to reduce concentrations and mortality well beyond current levels. Little benefit from action in the rest of Asia.

Summary

- Currently, only about 100 million people enjoy clean air* in the countries in focus of this study (China, India, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam) ...**about 3%**
- Current policies appear insufficient to reduce death toll from air pollution in the region; by 2050, premature deaths could increase to 4.5 million (80% more than in 2020)
- While climate policy would bring air quality co-benefits and reduce premature deaths by about 0.7 million, ambitious air quality policy could increase that number to 2 million and over 520 million (about 15%) would breathe clean air
- Ambitious climate policies and further development measures implemented across Asia could reduce premature mortality by about 60%, compared to current policy, and
 - More than a third of population (or 1145 million) would be exposed to concentrations below WHO AQG,
 - All population would enjoy at least WHO Tier I standards ($< 35 \text{ ug/m}^3$) or better, in compliance with national legislation

* Refers to the 2021 WHO air quality guideline value for PM_{2.5} of 5 ug/m^3

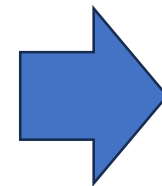
Slides from Dan Hooke, in case he cannot connect

Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer



Better Air Quality Conference, Manila

Access the site here!



<https://asia-climate-explorer.org/>



Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer structure

Impacts Explorer

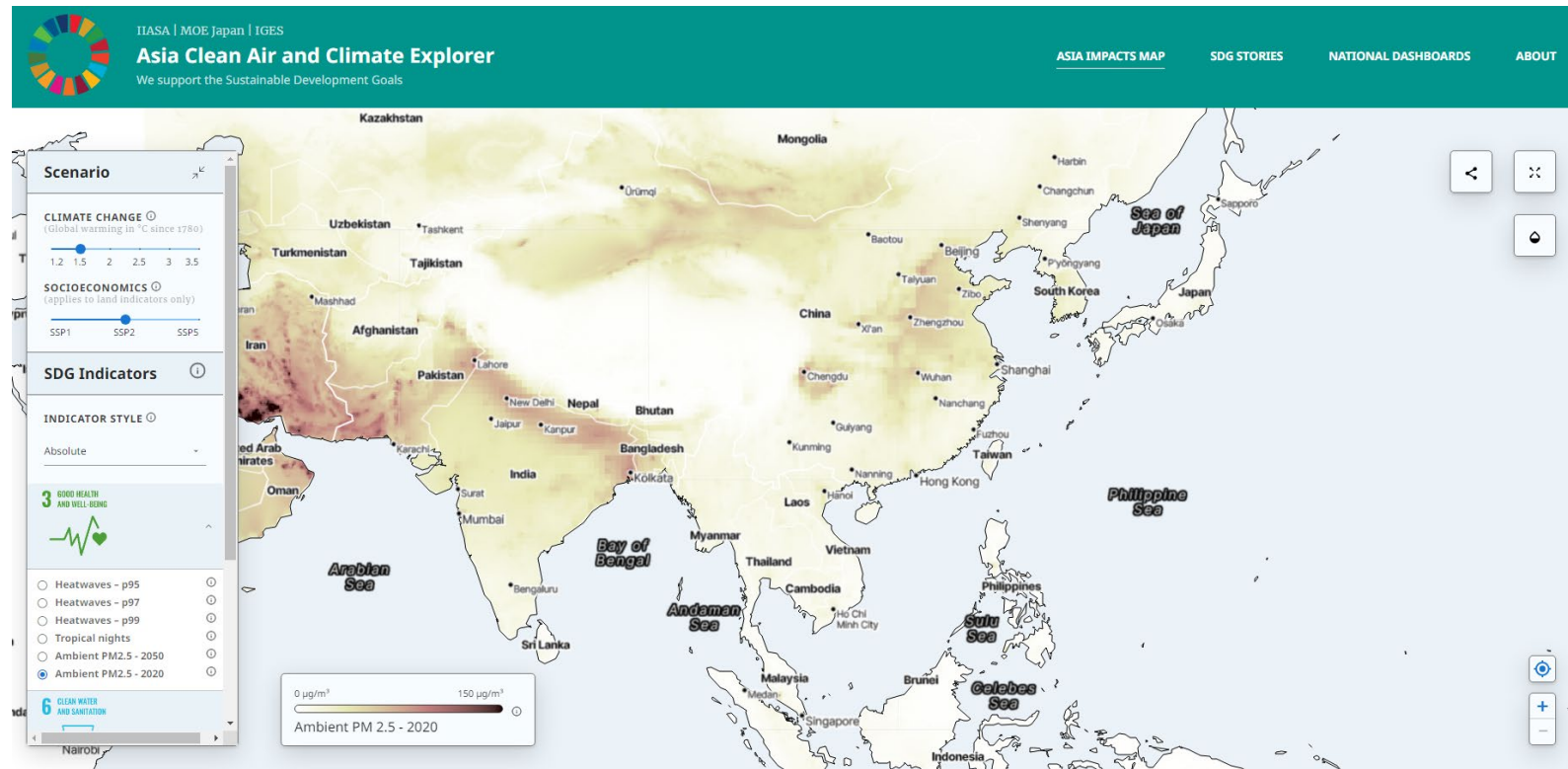
- Interactive Maps
- Ordered by SDG

SDG Stories

- Articles with interactive charts
- Policy briefs

National Dashboards

- Country level
- Mitigation pathways and impacts





Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer structure

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IIASA

Date
2023-10-03

Country

Exposure to air pollution is one of the leading causes of premature mortality worldwide. However, this health burden is not distributed equally across the globe with almost 60 % of deaths from air pollution exposure occurring in the Asia-Pacific region (UNEP 2018). There is substantial overlap in both the

Key Insights

- Greenhouse gases and air pollutants share common sources, and there is substantial potential for mitigating climate change by acting on air

Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer structure

Impacts Explorer

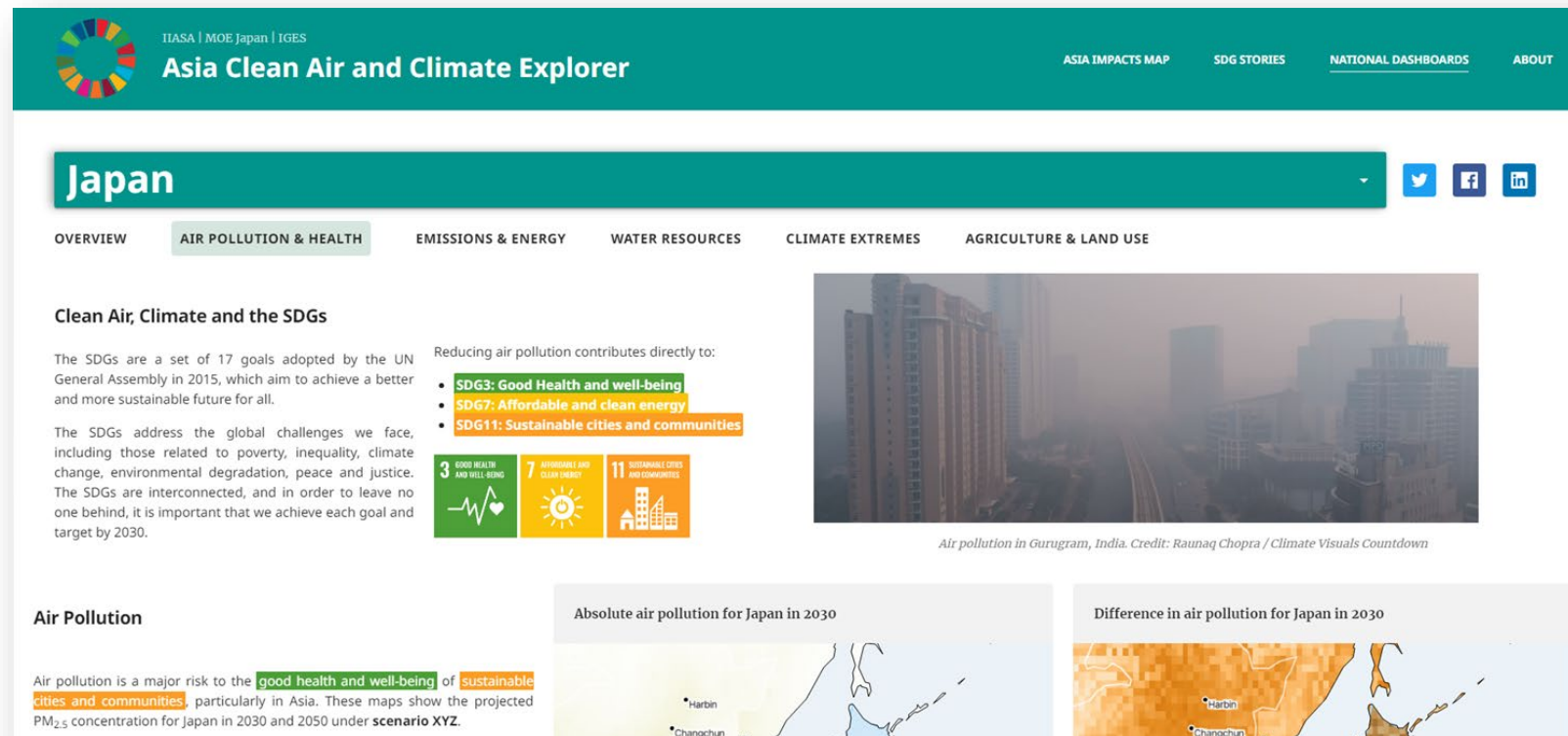
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The screenshot shows the website's navigation and content for Japan. At the top, there is a teal header with the IIASA | MOE Japan | IGES logo and the title "Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer". Navigation links include "ASIA IMPACTS MAP", "SDG STORIES", "NATIONAL DASHBOARDS" (which is underlined), and "ABOUT". Below the header, a teal bar displays "Japan" with social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. A secondary navigation bar lists categories: "OVERVIEW", "AIR POLLUTION & HEALTH" (highlighted), "EMISSIONS & ENERGY", "WATER RESOURCES", "CLIMATE EXTREMES", and "AGRICULTURE & LAND USE".

The main content area is titled "Clean Air, Climate and the SDGs". It includes a paragraph: "The SDGs are a set of 17 goals adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015, which aim to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all." Another paragraph states: "The SDGs address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. The SDGs are interconnected, and in order to leave no one behind, it is important that we achieve each goal and target by 2030." A list of three SDGs is provided: "SDG3: Good Health and well-being", "SDG7: Affordable and clean energy", and "SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities". Below this list are three icons representing these goals: a heart with a pulse line, a sun, and a city skyline.

To the right of the text is a photograph of a city skyline obscured by heavy smog. Below the photo is the caption: "Air pollution in Gurugram, India. Credit: Raunaq Chopra / Climate Visuals Countdown".

At the bottom, there is a section titled "Air Pollution" with two maps. The first map is titled "Absolute air pollution for Japan in 2030" and shows a map of Japan with two points labeled "Harbin" and "Changchun". The second map is titled "Difference in air pollution for Japan in 2030" and shows a heatmap of Japan with the same two points labeled.



Three sources of data

1. Pollution Indicators	2. Climate Indicators	3. Mitigation Pathways
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PM_{2.5} <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Asia • Population Exposure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 countries • Premature mortality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precipitation & Temperature extremes • Heat stress events and Tropical nights • Hydrology & water resources • Energy demands for cooling • Land use change & crop yields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emissions • Energy supply & demand • Carbon Sequestration variables
IIASA GAINS model	CMIP6/ISIMIP3b, IAMs, Hydrological models, land system models	MESSAGE _{ix} -GLOBIOM IAM
<p><u>5 policy scenarios:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current Policies - AQ policies only - Climate policies only - AQ policies + climate policies - All Asia AQ + climate policies 	<p><u>6 GMT thresholds:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.2°C, 1.5°C, 2.0°C, 2.5°C, 3.0°C, 3.5°C 	<p><u>4 scenarios:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current Policies - NDC delayed action 2030 - Glasgow - Glasgow++ (1.5 °C)



Exploring Asia Air Quality Scenarios

IIASA | MOE Japan | IGES
Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer
 We support the Sustainable Development Goals

ASIA IMPACTS MAP SDG STORIES NATIONAL DASHBOARDS ABOUT

Japan



- OVERVIEW
- AIR POLLUTION & HEALTH**
- EMISSIONS & ENERGY
- WATER RESOURCES
- CLIMATE EXTREMES
- AGRICULTURE & LAND USE

Clean Air, Climate and the SDGs

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Reducing air pollution contributes directly to:

- **SDG3: Good Health and well-being**
- **SDG7: Affordable and clean energy**
- **SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities**

In this section, explore the data for Japan on:

- Air Pollution Distribution**
- Pollution Exposure**
- Premature Mortality**
- Tropical Nights**



Industrial air pollution in Heilongang, China. Credit: Ziang Guo/Unsplash

Air Pollution

Air pollution is a major risk to the **good health and well-being** of **sustainable cities and communities**, particularly in Asia. While the issues of air pollution and climate change are also strongly interlinked. Some air pollutants, known as short lived climate pollutants, directly warm the atmosphere and contribute to climate change. While due to the overlapping

Absolute air pollution for Japan in 2020

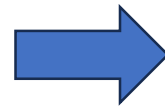


Difference in air pollution for Japan in 2050 under Current Policies compared to 2020



Visit the

Asia Clean Air and Climate Explorer!



<https://asia-climate-explorer.org/>

