

Talk 2: Transboundary Haze Mitigation Efforts



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Transboundary Haze Mitigation Efforts - Policy in Action

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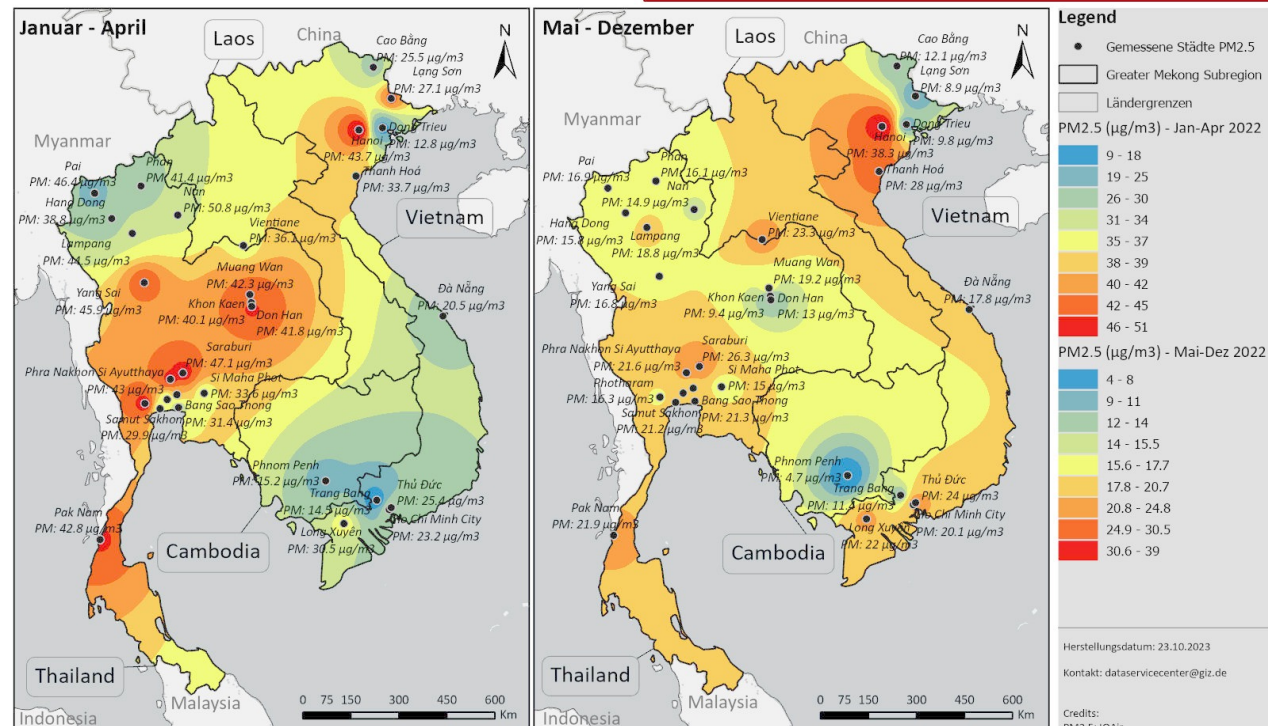
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12/03/2026 - UNCC, Bangkok, Thailand



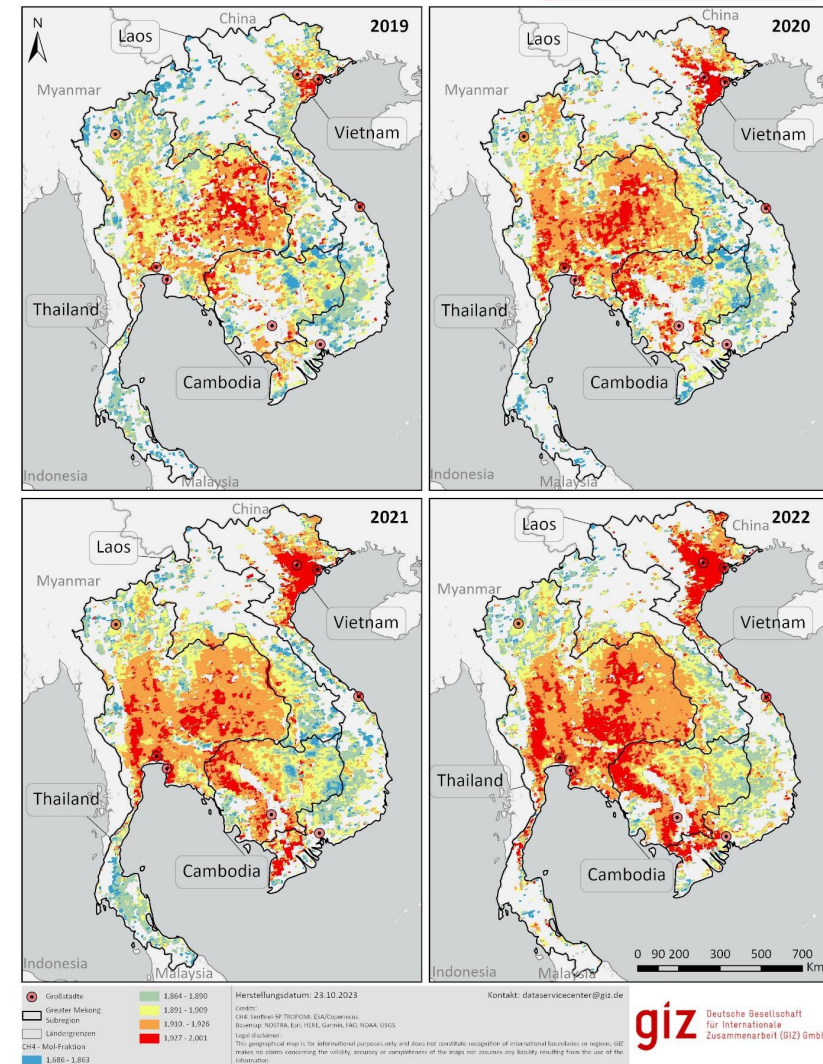
Status Quo of the air quality in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)

Feinstaub-Emissionen PM2.5 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in der Greater Mekong Subregion - 2022

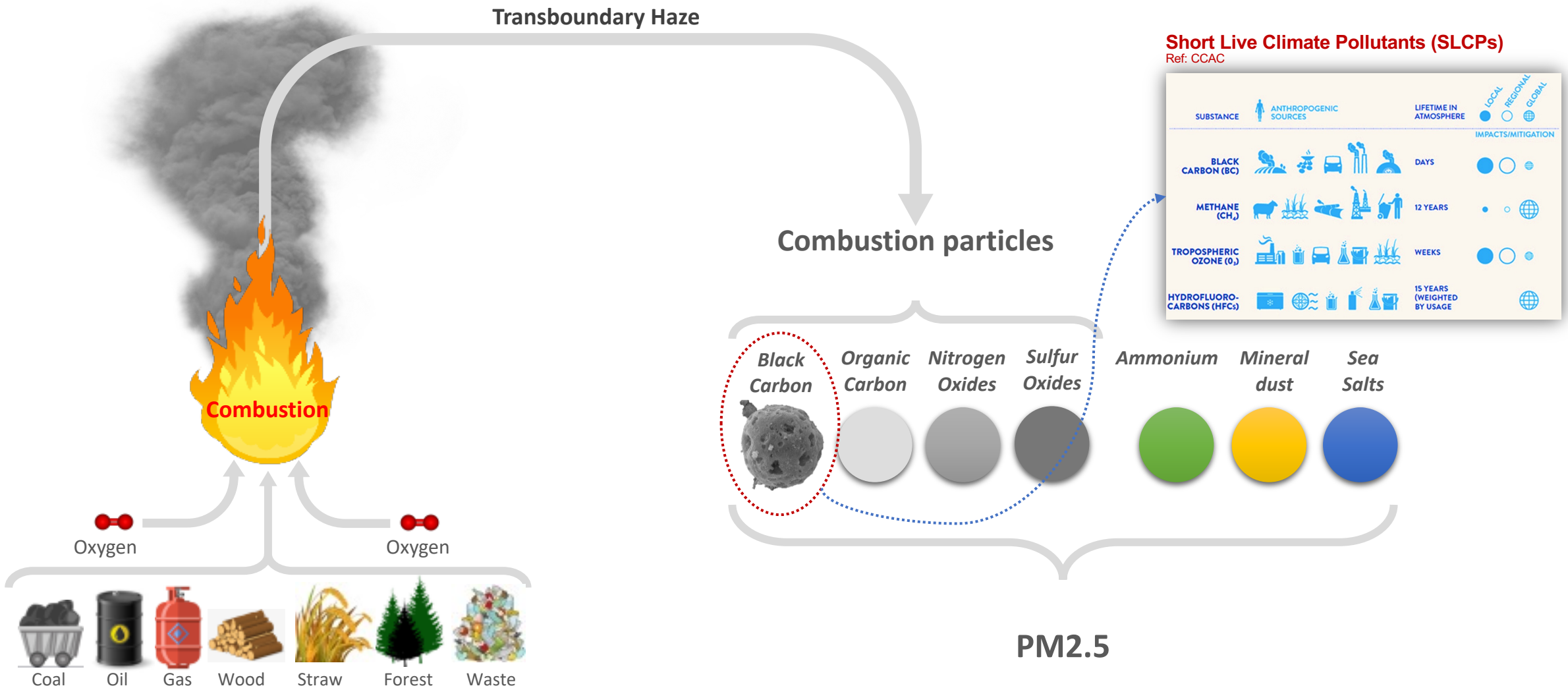


Methan (CH₄)-Konzentration in der Greater Mekong Subregion 2019 - 2022

Nur zur internen Verwendung



Sources of air pollution in the GMS



Mitigation of Super Pollutants: Harnessing Multiple Co-Benefits for Air Quality, Health, Climate, Cryosphere, and Economy

The theory: Transboundary haze mitigation approaches in the GMS

- **Requirements- ideal case**

- Regional coordination → e.g. Clear Sky Strategy, ASEAN roundtables
- Regional monitoring system → satellite & ground based AQ data
- Transparent data / information system → e.g. data & information exchange platform
- Financial incentives → e.g. ASEAN Investment Framework for Haze-Free Sustainable Land, climate finance integration, green development funds etc.
- Politically sensitive governance → e.g. ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, treaties etc.
- Agricultural transition → incl. alternative livelihood programs with no-burn incentives, crop residue management, cross-border supply chain certification?

SEACAI: Southeast Asia Climate & Clean Air Initiative

(Integrated approaches to climate protection and air quality improvement in Southeast Asia / Mekong riparian states)



Countries:

ASEAN Countries

Strategic partners:

- ASEAN
- Implementation support from the Ministries of Environment and other relevant authorities in the selected countries.

Timeframe:

2026 – 2028

Overall Budget:

BMZ 4.0 million EUR + SDC 2.0 million EUR

Objectives:

The project aims to improve the conditions for ASEAN-wide mitigation of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP), with a special focus on the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS).


Approaches:

- **Regional: Policy support to ASEAN-wide SLCP cooperation**
 - Strategic inputs for implementing ASEAN Haze Free Roadmap.
 - Knowledge inputs for an ASEAN SLCP mitigation process.
- **Sub-regional: Promotion of SLCP mitigation at GMS level**
 - Support for regional committee on air quality management
 - Guidelines for cross-sector cooperation on SLCP mitigation
 - Concept for cross-country (emission) data management
- **National: Support packages at country level**
 - Lessons learnt from demonstration pilots for region-wide knowledge exchange.
 - Up-scaling strategies for successful SLCP mitigation approaches.
 - Applied capacity development packages.



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The practice: Transboundary haze mitigation approaches in the GMS

- **First SEACAI efforts / results**

Regional/ASEAN Level

- ASEAN-wide air quality partner engagement at Clean Air Week 2025
- ASEAN Haze-Free Roadmap (AHFR) 2023-2030 support through CLEAR Sky Strategy Dialogue on regional air quality cooperation
- First discussions with ASEAN Investment Framework for Haze-Free Sustainable Land on finance landscape

Sub-regional (GMS) Level

- development Joint Plan of Action of CLEAR Sky Strategy with GMS countries and intern. partners
- ASEAN TWG Mekong consultations for alignment on AHFR 2023-2030 priorities for GMS
- webinar on SLCP emission inventory platform for real-time monitoring of forest fires and open burning across GMS

National/Sub-National Level

- field-trips to identify pilot activity sites in Cambodia, Laos and Thailand
- ideation workshops in all 3 countries to define content of pilot activities
- preliminary coordination with private sector partners from energy, food and waste sector in all three countries



SEACAI

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