

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY, PROSPEROUS FUTURE

# Air Quality Task Force Strategy People-Centered Air Quality Improvement as a Driver of GHG Reductions

This strategy was presented to EF China board in Dec 2020, and subjects to regular updates.

## The sources of CO<sub>2</sub> are also key sources of air pollution



ENERGY FOUNDATION CHINA

## Air and Climate Co-Benefits Triggered by PM2.5 — Beijing Example

## PM<sub>2.5</sub> at 800 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2011, causing public concern



#### Social & political consensus---high quality of Life & development



## Air Pollution Control Action Plan

- (2013-2017)
- 100% coal power plants closed

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- 90% polluting enterprises shut down
- 100% old cars disassembled
- Reinforced regulatory
   framework

#### Beijing's pollutant concentrations during 2013-2017



#### 20% $CO_2$ reduction in Beijing due to air quality policies





### <u>New Trigger 1</u>: Comprehensive AQ and Climate Change Co-management system



## **<u>New Trigger 2:</u>** More GHGs reductions will be triggered by new AQ standards



#### > Tighten up standards

#### Improve assessment methods

Pollutant	Averaging time	China	US	WHO					China	US	
				IT-1	IT-2	IT-3	Guideline	Time	annual average	annual and daily average	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	annual mean	35	12	35	25	15	10	Space	Use <b>arithmetic</b>	Use <b>highest monitoring</b> <b>record</b> from individual monitor station	
	24 hours	75	35	75	50	35	25		sites to assess an area or city		
<b>O</b> <sub>3</sub>	8 hours	160	137	160		100	indicators	Mainly <b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>	PM <sub>2.5</sub> /O <sub>3</sub> /PM <sub>10</sub> /NO <sub>2</sub>		

## To make changes, there are barriers...but there are also opportunities

- limited ambition to achieve the WHO standard
- Lack of comprehensive co-control

Governance & Policy

- "Ecological Civilization"
- Strong regulatory framework for air quality

- High costs for air quality Improvement
- Middle class expansion
- Rapid urbanization

Economic & Energy

Social

- Economic "New Normal" high quality
- Better air quality can increase labor force productivity and reduce health care costs in an aging society

• High pollution concentrations in disadvantaged communities

• Strong demand for better air quality

Moderately prosperous society

## Turn the pandemic into an opportunity for a healthy and resilient future

# 270° ....

# Strong demand for better public health

Green economic stimulus policies

- More localized studies on human health for stringent air quality standard and faster attainment
- Strong actions on environment and public health improvement
- Investments in health sector to support green growth
- Opportunities for sectoral upgrading and infrastructure development:
  - **Energy**: promote clean energy infrastructure in disadvantaged areas
  - **Industry**: phase out high polluting industries
  - **Transportation**: hasten transition from road to rail freight transportation

## **Air Quality Task Force Vision**

Fulfill the demand for high quality of life by pursuing worldclass air quality in China, to achieve:

- Climate safety: 1.5°C / 2°C
- "Beautiful China" PM2.5 goal: 10µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Sustainable economic development

## **Goal: Stricter Standards---Faster Improvement---More GHGs Reductions**

Year	PM <sub>2.5</sub>							Ozone					CO <sub>2</sub>	
	Standard	JJJ	BJ	YRD	National	GBA	Standard	JJJ	YRD	PRD	National	National million ton	Compared to 2005	
2018	35	60	51	44	39 (43%)	31	160	199	165	160	151 (65%)	10434	170%	
2020	35	51	38	39	33 (60%)	28	160	180	152	148	138 (69%)	10440	173%	
2025	25	40	28	30	22 (80%)	21	160	176	146	142	135 (78%)	9500	155%	
2030	15	31	23	24	17 (95%)	15	140	149	123	120	110 (95%)	7200	117%	
2040	10	22	16	19	12 (88%)	10	120	125	105	100	100 (95%)	4500	74%	
2050	5	10	10	8	7 (74%)	6	100	100	90	80	89 (95%)	600	10%	

Source: EFC & Tsinghua; percentages indicate cities meeting that standard.

## **Theory of Change**



## Logic Model



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#### **Initiative 1:** Reframing science-based air quality standards system

#### Major tactics

- Promote public health and ecosystem needs analysis
- Support social and economic impacts analysis
- Support studies to help MEE accelerate its process of establishing AQ criteria and conducting AQ standard revision

#### Key outcomes by **2025**

- Standard:  $PM_{2.5}$  limit updated to 25 µg/m<sup>3</sup> by 2022, 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> as criteria
- More ambitious goals: 20%+ PM<sub>2.5</sub> reduction, and ozone as an indicator into 14<sup>th</sup> FYP
- Local Value of Statistical Life (VSL) identified to project health benefits

#### Initiative 2: National strategy toward air quality and climate change co-control

#### Major tactics

- Develop national air quality and climate change co-control strategy and roadmap to achieve mediumand long-term goals e.g., "Beautiful China"
- Allocate sectoral/provincial emission reductions based on air quality targets
- Develop co-management strategy and planning in key regions

#### Key outcomes by **2025**

- Co-management targets and guidance on GHGs developed and included in China's national policies
  Sectoral emission reduction targets clearly defined and allocated in key sectors
- Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei, Greater Bay Area, & Yangtze River Delta regions co-management plans developed and implemented

#### Initiative 3: Key sectoral emission control

#### Major tactics

- Optimize energy structure to phase out coal
- Adjust transport structure to reduce oil consumption
- Control coal/petrochemical-related industries to control ozone, and reduce PM, CO<sub>2</sub> and non-CO<sub>2</sub> GHG
- Optimize land use structure by implementing nature-based solutions

#### Key outcomes by **2025**

- Coal cap policy/phase out disaggregated coal
- Limit vehicle fuel consumption increase
- Reduce industrial coal consumption
- Reuse rate of agricultural stalks reach 85%

#### Initiative 4: Cities and rural areas air quality improvement

#### Major tactics

- Promote air quality attainment planning in all non-attainment cities and achieving higher goal for top runner cities, with integrated carbon targets and co-management measures
- Improve rural air quality and pursue environmental equity to phase out disaggregated coal, scattered industries, and reduce agriculture emission e.g., NH<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>

#### Key outcomes by **2025**

- Cities: 100% PM<sub>2.5</sub> attainment plans developed, with 80% and 44% of cities meeting more stringent 35 μg/m<sup>3</sup> and 25 μg/m<sup>3</sup> targets, respectively;
- Rural: PM<sub>2.5</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> reduced by 30%
- Multi-pollutants co-management measures and tools demonstrated in non-attainment cities
- Disaggregated coal phased out in plain areas; scattered industries phased out

#### Initiative 5: Innovative governance, policy, and technologies

#### Major tactics

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- Design and improve a core regulatory framework —a permit system to integrate GHGs Promote innovative co-management policies, e.g., cost-benefit analysis (to evaluate health and climate benefits), cap & trade, taxes, fees and funds
- Develop innovative technologies and tools

Key outcomes by **2025** 

- Include GHGs in pollutant emission inventory, statistics, and permit systems
- Establish a best available control technology (BACT) system focusing on NOx and VOCs control
- Improve inspection and enforcement mechanisms with application of new technology such as big data, low-cost sensors, remote sensing, and A.I.

#### Initiative 6: Communication, outreach, and enabling environment

#### Major tactics

- Enhance domestic communication between Chinese government officials, research institutes, NGOs, business sectors, and the public.
- Support international cooperation and experience-sharing
- Assist Chinese government to enhance capacity building

#### Key outcomes by **2025**

- Governments: develop co-management and advanced air quality management experience
- Public: > 80% of people in key cities show willingness to tighten air quality standards
- Domestic NGO cooperation and engagement is deepened
- International cooperation on AQ field in BRI and TRACKII fields is deepened

### Better Air Quality for the People will bring Safer Climate for the World



## Thank you! [For better air quality and a climate safe planet]

