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POLICIES ON SUPER POLLUTANTS AND AIR QUALITY: INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION TOWARDS COP30 AND BEYOND

1– GLOBAL LANDSCAPE ON SUPER POLLUTANTS REDUCTION POLICIES

Super pollutants – including methane (CH_4), black carbon (BC), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and tropospheric ozone – are powerful climate forces that remain in the atmosphere for a shorter period than carbon dioxide, yet their warming potential can be many times greater, making their mitigation an urgent climate priority. More than 60 countries have adopted national or sectoral plans to address these pollutants, often integrated into broader climate, air quality, or public health strategies.

Examples include:

- **Canada:** Integrated BC and air quality programs focusing on transportation and heating.
- **Chile:** Sectoral BC reduction plan linked to wood burning and urban air quality improvements.
- **Indonesia:** Zero Kero Program (2007–2015) converted over 50 million households from kerosene to LPG, and a more recent program converts LPG stoves to induction cooktops to reduce subsidies and utilize excess electricity generation.
- **United States:** Methane Emissions Reduction Plan targeting oil and gas, agriculture, and waste.

2– COMMON AND DISTINCTIVE ELEMENTS IN SUPER POLLUTANTS POLICIES

Super pollutant policies commonly aim to integrate climate and air quality/health benefits, establish cross-departmental or cross-ministerial coordination mechanisms, and set clear sector-specific targets and timelines. Differences appear in the pollutants prioritized, reflecting local realities such as agricultural methane in some countries and transport-related black carbon in others. Leadership varies, with some plans driven by environment ministries/departments and others led by energy, health, or planning authorities. The inclusion of adaptation measures alongside mitigation exists in some strategies but remains far from universal.

3– LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

Effective super pollutant policies depend on coordinated action across all levels of government:

- **National:** Governments set overarching targets, legal frameworks, and international commitments.
- **Regional/State:** Authorities translate national targets into sector-specific measures, particularly in agriculture, energy, and waste management.
- **Municipal/Local:** Local governments play a critical role in enforcement, urban emission control, and community engagement.

Successful experiences demonstrate the importance of aligning responsibilities and ensuring accountability at each level.

4- BENEFITS OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

Addressing super pollutants offers multiple benefits beyond climate mitigation, including:

- Improved air quality and public health
- Enhanced food and energy security
- Support for sustainable economic development

Super pollutants can be addressed in NDC 3.0 through the following approaches:

- Include black carbon and non-CO_2 mitigation goals and measures as part of sectoral mitigation targets.
- Integrate air quality planning to increase climate and health benefits, including standalone BC emission targets.
- Leverage complementary agreements, strategies, and initiatives to optimize resources, institutional support, and implementation.
- Ensure comprehensive assessment and reporting in line with the Enhanced Transparency Framework to drive finance, resources, and information into NDC development and implementation.

CHECK OUT THE PREVIOUS FACT SHEETS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP ON SUPER POLLUTANTS AT COP30

TACKLING FOREST FIRES AND AIR POLLUTION: LEVERAGING SOLUTIONS ON THE ROAD TO COP30

5- GLOBAL SUCCESS CASES IN BLACK CARBON REDUCTION

- **Nordic countries:** Phased out high-emission diesel engines, improving air quality.
- **Chile:** Clean stove programs replacing polluting wood heaters.
- **India:** Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana initiative replaced biomass cooking with LPG.
- **Indonesia:** Conversion programs from kerosene to LPG and LPG to induction cooktops, demonstrating ongoing commitment to cleaner energy solutions.

6- PROMISING COP30 NEGOTIATION FOCUS AREAS

Brazil has an opportunity at COP30 to position its forthcoming National Plan on Superpollutants/ Short-Lived Climate Pollutants as a model for integrating climate, health, and air quality objectives. Potential negotiation priorities include:

- Embedding super pollutants into the Global Stocktake follow-up.
- Showcasing the plan as an example of climate-health-air quality integration.
- Securing finance and technology transfer to accelerate mitigation of black carbon, methane, and HFCs.
- Strengthening South-South cooperation with other Latin American nations on policy design and implementation.
- Leveraging Brazil's role as CCAC Co-Chair to raise international attention, policy engagement, and funding for super pollutant abatement across sectors.

Take a look at the following reports with more information about the impacts of black carbon and tropospheric ozone on climate, environment, health and the economy:

THE CASE FOR ACTION ON BLACK CARBON

THE CASE FOR ACTION ON TROPOSPHERIC OZONE

ABOUT THE CLEAN AIR FUND & CEBRI COLLABORATION

Clean Air Fund and CEBRI are collaborating to raise awareness of the importance of integrating air pollution into climate discussions at COPs and beyond. The aim is to highlight the impacts of super pollutants on human health, the environment, and the economy, and to discuss ways to tackle the issue.

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