



UNHQ, New York

CSD-15 Partnerships Fair

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Published by the Partnerships Team

Patricia Chaves, Senior Sustainable Development Officer

Laura Hildebrandt, Economic Affairs Officer

Phone: +1 (917) 367 2089/ 367 2028

Fax: +1 (917) 367 2341

Email: beyondwssd@un.org

Web: www.un.org/esa/sustdev/

Contributors:

Lucile Pages, DSD, UNDESA

CSD Partnerships Fair: Partnering Solutions to Reduce Air Pollution and Emissions

Ms. Patricia Chaves, Head of the Partnerships Team at UN-DESA-DSD, opened the session indicating the aim of the discussion, namely to identify the key strategies that have proven effective in addressing the challenges and lessons learned to promote improvements in air quality through partnerships. She highlighted that the speakers in the panel represented partnerships that are actively working to enhance the quality of life and public health by reducing indoor air pollution from cook stoves, by promoting incentives for energy efficiency in the public sector, and by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.

Ms. Jane Metcalfe, from the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV), began her presentation introducing the partnership she is working for and the challenges to

reduce urban air pollution which causes 2 million premature deaths worldwide per year, half of them occurring in the developing world. The problem affects more severely poor women and children in large cities, where more concentrated populations live, breathe and work on the streets, close to the traffic pollution.

Ms. Metcalfe outlined that since the launch of PCFV in 2002, the partnership has grown rapidly to become the leading global initiative to promote air quality in developing countries through cleaner fuels and vehicles. Its partners come from different Governments as well as companies in the private sector, NGOs and programmes in the United Nations. Over 90 partners are participating in the initiative and recently they were joined by 4 new ones: the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, the Clean Air Initiative for Latin American Cities, the Center for



(Left to right) Mr. Philip Coleman, Lawrence Berkley National Labs–PePs, Ms. Patricia Chaves, Head of Partnerships team, UN-DESA/DSD, Mr. John Mitchell, USEPA–Partnerships for Clean Indoor Air, Ms. Jane Metcalfe, USEPA–Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles

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Sustainable Transport in Mexico City, and a company that makes motorcycle parts.



“Declining blood lead levels are directly related to the collaboration to phase out leaded gasoline ”

Jane Metcalfe, PCFV

Ms. Metcalfe pointed out that the overarching goal of PCFV is to promote clean fuels and vehicles for better urban air quality, by eliminating lead in gasoline, reducing sulfur in diesel and gasoline fuels, concurrent with the adoption of cleaner vehicle technologies. Indeed over 5 years, the partnership has facilitated the elimination of lead in all 49 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa, which had a direct effect on air quality and its immediate impact on the health of populations. She pointed out to a very successful lead campaign to raise awareness to PCFV initiatives which introduced the phrase “Children run better unleaded”. The campaign aims at completely eliminating lead from gasoline worldwide by the year

2008, with 21 countries remaining. She offered an example of the direct correlation between declining blood lead levels in parts of Hungary’s population after a leaded gasoline phase out was instituted between 1985 and 2000.

Ms. Metcalfe offered more information about another campaign against sulfur in fuels. Sulfur is directly related to the level of particulate emissions from vehicles, which has also a dramatic effect on health. With the exponential increase in vehicles usage around the world, this campaign is quite timely. For both campaigns, Ms. Metcalfe explained, switching to cleaner fuels, adoption of cleaner vehicle technologies, including new vehicle standards, and approaches to cleaning up existing vehicles is essential. She gave as an example of a New-York City bus project that lowered sulfur in fuel and introduce new emissions control technologies. PM was reduced to near zero levels.

Ms. Metcalfe then indicated that in a partnership, developing good and trusting relationships is essential, in order to facilitate working together. Moreover, as a partnership, PCFV has learned several lessons from its initiatives such as having clear and measurable targets, bringing all key stakeholders, getting a political mandate at a highest level as well as involving local players, developing governance rules and partnership structures, promoting regular communication and finally designating a focal point to coordinate partnership activities.

Ms. Metcalfe also pointed out several challenges a partnership has to address in order to continue its work such as diversifying funding sources and more importantly, keeping partners interested and engaged. She concluded her presentation indicating that the next steps for the partnership is to increase its efforts to reduce air pollution in other countries and regions jointly with supporting regional and national actions plans.

Mr. Philip Coleman, from the Lawrence Berkley National Labs, representing PePs - Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector, opened his presentation by pointing out the light fixtures in the room, which were all incandescent bulbs, deeply inserted into the ceiling. He was astonished at the lack of energy-efficient fixtures in the room. He underlined that in his line of work he has identified several instances where energy savings can be simply identified in even wealthy and educated American households that would add up to more than their retirement funds. He asked the audience to consider the market failures that can lead to such inefficient results.

Mr. Coleman explained that, in general, people do not invest in energy efficiency because of ignorance of the opportunities, a lack of money to invest in more efficient technologies, and because of a lack of incentives. For PePs, working with the public sector, he explained, the lack of incentives can be the largest barrier. He added that it is important to consider who is going to get the benefit and who will do the work to inspire the change. He indicated that although PePs’ focus is on the public sector, the primary incentive challenges also apply broadly to the private sector and to the household level.

To highlight the problem, Mr. Coleman provided a quotation from a Thai government official, who said that “Most government agencies do not pay attention because they don’t have to pay for electricity or gas bills. Why would they care?”

Mr. Coleman further defined the incentive dilemma as a ‘principle agent conflict’, or a problem of split incentives. For instance, he explained, when the tenant pays utility bills but the landlord buys the equipment, the landlord tends to buy inexpensive equipment, without any consideration for the operational costs or potential energy savings. When applied to a government case, Mr. Coleman added, a government

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agency may undertake an energy saving initiative in one year, dramatically reducing costs, then only to find that in the next year their budget has been cut by that same amount.

Mr. Coleman identified several measures that can be taken to address incentive difficulties, such as consumption feedback (detailed bills), scoring for agencies or facilities, recognition or awards, cost assignment (breaking bills down to individual departments), savings retention (conservers keep some of the gains). Raising the visibility of

consumers to see energy savings levels they may not have thought possible.

He added that other agencies, such as a US watchdog agency provide green, yellow and red reports on agency energy use, have been found to encourage savings. Recognition does not have to be monetary, he added, providing an example of a successful program which gave gold stickers to New York City boiler operators. In concluding his remarks, Mr. Coleman said that a mix of these measures is recommended and that they can be implemented simultaneously. He added that consumption feedback is particularly important in governments,

children, die prematurely from the indoor air pollution each year. He presented a map showing that in much of Africa, Central and South Asia and China, more than 75% of the population uses biomass (including coal).

He emphasized that part of the reason for the persistence of the problem is that burning biomass is a cross-cutting issue, which impacts on health, energy, deforestation, environmental degradation, climate change, gender and education issues. He emphasized that the problem is particularly dire for women and children, who may spend up to 6 hours daily cooking and collecting fuel, which may prevent them from attending school and renders them more vulnerable to sexual assault while collecting wood and other materials away from home.

Mr. Mitchell explained that the mission of PCIA is to improve health and livelihoods with a focus on cooking and heating. At present, the Partnership brings together over 130 partners contributing to that effort. He added that the goal is to increase the use of clean, reliable sources of energy, emphasizing that it is not just a question of access, but also of affordability. He admitted that there have been many related programs around the world over the last few decades to address the issue but that very few have been hugely successful.



“Incentives should be adapted to help governments save energy”

Philip Coleman, PePS

consumption levels and of savings can have an important impact overall energy use, he explained. He provided the example of energy bills that have graphical representations of energy consumption, so that consumers can easily compare their use over time. Mr. Coleman provided evidence from Italian studies that showed that comparative feedback between users is even more helpful, where competition can help

where users very often do not see their bills, and that savings retention can be an important motivator for government managers.

Mr. John Mitchell from the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA) opened his presentation stating that almost half of the people on the world still burn traditional biofuels for their household energy needs, and that more than 1.6 million people, mainly women and

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He outlined some of the important lessons learned from these programs, such as a failure to sufficiently incorporate social and cultural customs to design the stoves, a failure to support sustainable local markets for stoves, and a lack of standards for improved stoves.

Mr. Mitchell added that despite many efforts there is still a need to demonstrate the results of the stoves and to adapt their marketing to focus on the energy savings along with the health benefits, because the savings tend to be a greater motivator for users.

Mr. Mitchell presented models of a variety of stoves that have been tested by PCIA, indicating that while stoves with chimneys are preferable because they completely remove the smoke, the chimneys add cost, need to be cleaned, and are not portable, so they are not the model of choice in all contexts.

Mr. Mitchell outlined some of the resources available via the PCIA website (www.pciaonline.org), including a guide book on design principles for cook stoves in English and Spanish, reports on PCIA meetings, and best practices from a variety of approaches. He added that the biannual Forum of the PCIA is an important opportunity to celebrate results and rewards programs that are working, particularly in a field.

He announced the ambitious target set by the partnership to provide 6.5 million homes with improved stoves within the next 2-3 years. He concluded that by working in partnership, partners gain visibility and support, leverage expertise and resources, and consolidate trust in each other with its valuable impact on more personal commitments to the cause.

When the chair opened the floor for discussion Mr. Mitchell was asked to explain whether PCIA works with indoor heating, which is a great concern in rural Central Asia, and whether the partnership support of the use of solar



“We’ve set ambitious targets to provide 6.5 million homes with improved stoves within 2-3 years.”

Mr. John Mitchell, PCIA

cookers. He explained that some of their affiliates have better expertise in indoor heating, and that the PCIA is fuel neutral, promoting a variety of improved stoves, including solar. One audience member provided a successful example of a micro-credit program to promote improved biomass stoves in boarding schools in Kenya, which included planting a plot of land to grow trees. Mr. Mitchell added that schools and industrial zones can be a good target because larger scale projects are easier to finance and have more visible environmental impacts.

When asked why there is no mention of shipping and air transport issues in the discussion on air pollution, Jane Metcalfe indicated that EPA and PCFV are undertaking some international activities to address air quality in ports. She also indicated that although there is growing emphasis on the use of biofuels for the transport sector, it is important for the partnership to remain focused

on achievable targets.

An audience member commented on Mr. Coleman’s presentation, emphasizing that in addition to promoting information on cost savings potential, a greater effort should also be made to raise awareness of the ethical dimension of sustainability, to make people feel responsible for the amount of energy they consume. Another member suggested that hotels could help in promoting energy savings by offering guests air miles for energy saving measures such as re-using towels. Another suggestion was to make sustainability more fashionable, to create a partnership of luxury hotels and restaurants, to target the people who have the power and the financial resources to make a big difference to environmental sustainability.

Try the new CSD Touch Screen Terminals

As a new addition to the CSD this year, the Division for Sustainable Development, with the generous support of the European Foundation for E-Government, has installed five touch screen terminals in the Neck Area. During negotiations, members of delegations as well as representatives of major groups and UN organizations would be able to access the entire UN DESA/DSD website, in particular download all CSD official documentation on USB keys, check the latest information on the CSD calendar of events, Partnerships Fair, Major Groups as well as send e-mails. We encourage CSD participants to take advantage of this new and innovative way to support and facilitate your work. Please send us your feedback on this new service.



CSD-15 Partnerships Fair Schedule for Monday, May 7

Addressing Challenges and Lessons Learned from Partnering with the Private Sector

Jacqueline Cote, World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

Chris Morris - International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)

Bryan Jacob, The Coca-Cola Company, Refrigerants, Naturally!

10:30 am –12:30 pm, Conference Room 7

Identifying New Technologies for Sustainable Development in Small Island Developing States

Thomas J. Goreau, Global Coral Reef Alliance

Erik Hagberg, PAC International

Scott Anderson, Tidal Energy Scientist

Jeff Rose, Full Belly Project

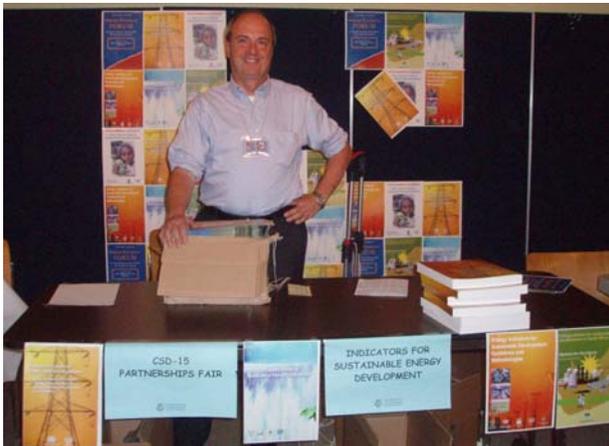
Bo Linton, Magnegas

Ainiwaer Alimasi, Clark University

Danny Day, EPRIDA, Inc

3:00 pm –6:00 pm, Conference Room 7

CSD-15 Partnerships Fair Information Desks Friday, May 4



Indicators for sustainable energy development



Médiaterre



Partnership for Clean Indoor Air



Partnership for Clean Indoor Air



Promoting an Energy-efficient Public Sector