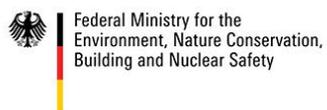


# MONITORING AIR POLLUTION EFFECTS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON LONG- RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

## E-learning Course Syllabus



## **Background**

Air pollution impacts our health, environment, biodiversity and economy. Air pollutants come from multiple sources, such as traffic, industry and agriculture, and are transported over large distances and across borders. It is therefore paramount that we take action together — across sectors and national boundaries.

UNECE member States have been working successfully for cleaner air in the region since 1979 through the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. With 51 Parties and 8 Protocols in force today, the results of the work under the Convention so far have been significant, leading to emission reductions, cleaner air, healthier forests and prevented premature deaths. The work under the Convention thus also contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically to SDG 3 on good health and well-being, SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities and SDG 12 on sustainable consumption and production.

Since 1980, the Convention's Working Group on Effects conducts air quality monitoring and effect observation at the receptor-level. It provides information on the degree, temporal trends, and geographic extent of the impacts of major air pollutants on human health and the environment. It identifies the most endangered areas, ecosystems, and receptors. It has built and maintained a broad international network of scientists, fostering collaboration and developing a shared knowledge base. The direct interaction between scientists and policymakers has encouraged innovative solutions and mutual trust.

To assist countries in effectively addressing air pollution and its effects, this course aims to explain the importance of monitoring air pollution effects, the methods used and the use of air pollution effects information in clean air policy development.

### **Who should take this course?**

The course is primarily designed to build capacities of employees of Ministries and technical institutes dealing with the Convention and its protocols. Taking this course should enable learners to contribute to air pollution effects-related work at national level and under the Convention as a key step in clean air policy design. Furthermore, it is meant to train academics, NGOs and anyone interested in work on air pollution effects, also beyond the Convention.

### **Learning objectives**

After completing the course, learners will be able to:

- Identify the main effects of air pollution
- Outline the objectives of the effects-related work under the Convention
- Describe methods to monitor air pollution effects
- Outline how effects assessments can support policy making

### **Course content and structure**

The course features four distinct modules that aim to equip learners with the knowledge and resource materials to understand the purpose of monitoring air pollution effects, and to follow and contribute to the work on air pollution effects under the Convention.

The course will take around 1,5 hours total to complete. Additional resources can be found in the resources tab for further reading.

- Module 1: Major effects of air pollution
- Module 2: Effects-related work under the Convention
- Module 3: Methodologies to monitor effects
- Module 4: Use in policy-making

## **Methodology**

The course is self-paced and can be completed according to the schedule of the learner. Each module uses a mix of learning tools and features and engaging content with clear storylines, complemented by interactive features, quizzes, and links to additional resources.

It is recommended that the modules be completed in sequence as they build on each other in a logical manner. In order to prepare for the end-of-course assessment, it is also recommended that learners complete all modules.

## **Certification and evaluation**

To successfully complete the course and gain a Certificate of Completion, participants can take an end-of-course assessment. Once the certification criteria have been met (passing score 70%), and after completing a course evaluation form, participants will be able to download their certificate from the course's webpage.

## **Technical requirements**

Please verify that your web browser is up to date.

If you continue having technical issues, please verify the following requirements:

Browser:

- The course works best with Firefox 3.6 or higher ([download for free](#)).
- The course is also compatible with Google Chrome ([download for free](#)).
- For technical reasons, it is not recommended to use Internet Explorer.
- Note JavaScript and cookies must be enabled.

Software:

- Adobe Acrobat Reader ([download for free](#)).
- Microsoft Office (Windows or Apple version).

## **Disclaimer**

The course's purpose is educational, and participation is voluntary. While the course was diligently prepared, mistakes cannot be excluded.

## **Acknowledgments**

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Photo by Thomas Scheuschner, UBA.