

**Progress Report of the RCARP01: Air Quality and Environmental Impact Assessment of Industrial Activities in Asian region**

**Status**

- LCC: Dr Muhayatun Santoso, Indonesia
- Project duration: 2018-2020 (1st phase), 2021-2023 (2nd phase)
- Overall Objectives: To support the improvement of quality of the environment through the provision of appropriate pollutant data to researchers and relevant stakeholders
- Participating countries (11 GPs): AUL, NZE, ROK as Agreement Holders and BGD, CPR, INS, MAL, MON, MYA, NEP, and SRL as Contract Holders.

**Progress**

- Research coordination meeting (24-26 June 2019 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia): A total of 21 participants including Chief Scientific Officers(CSIs), Technical Officer and Chair of the Research Review Committee (RRC) attended the meeting and reviewed the project progress and confirmed work plans for 2019-2020. Noting strong needs of the participating countries on the extension of the project and expanded research on other pollutant sources including water, soil and crops, the meeting drafted a proposal for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project and it was approved at the 48<sup>th</sup> GCM.
- According to the work plan, all CSIs submitted Annual Progress Reports detailing the progress of research activities carried out in 2019 for review by the RRC.

**Achievements**

The project showed a good progress in accordance to the performance indicators. Participating countries collected 926 air samples and produced analytical results of 400 samples and identified industrial pollutants.

Collaborative activities among the participating countries were carried out: INS conducted a fellowship for NEP CSI, signed a MoU for sample analysis and agreed to provide a Gent sampler to NEP. AUL, INS, PHI, SRL, ROK and MAL supported analysis and interpretation of the samples bilaterally.

It was noted also an increase in the number of skilled personnel in 10 countries by training 33 personnel on the nuclear analytical techniques and an increase in the outreach activities; 9 publications were produced and 29 conferences and stakeholder meetings were attended to promote the technology at national and international level.

**Issues and Challenges**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the research activities have been restricted in many countries and it may cause considerable delay in implementing the planned activities in 2020. Research Coordination Meeting (scheduled in Nov. 2020) may also be postponed or replaced with online submission and assessment of the progress report.