



Urban Europe and NSFC

Europe – China joint call on Sustainable Urbanisation in the Context of
Economic Transformation and Climate Change:
Sustainable and Liveable Cities and Urban Areas

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UNCNET

**Urban nitrogen cycles:
new economy thinking to master the challenges of climate change**

D1/4: Report from third project plenary & stakeholder event

Due date of deliverable: **31/01/2022**

Actual submission date: **31/08/2022**

Start Date of Project: **01/04/2019**

Duration: **35 months + 6 months**

Organisation name of co-chairs for this deliverable: **IIASA**

Authors: Katrin Kaltenegger, Wilfried Winiwarter

Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including funding agencies)	<input type="checkbox"/>
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including funding agencies)	<input type="checkbox"/>
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including funding agencies)	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Executive Summary

The original plan was to have a combined in-person third project plenary together with the final stakeholder conference in Vienna. However, due to Covid-19 travel restrictions still being in place in China, the plenary was postponed to July and converted to an online meeting. During this meeting the final steps needed to complete all tasks under UNCNET were discussed. Responsibilities for open deliverables as well as for chapters in the final report were discussed as well as future activities beyond the project runtime such as joint publications and further meetings. Additionally, feedback was provided to all partners and experiences during the project runtime were discussed and reflected upon. Despite suffering from the outbreak of a global health crisis, achievements under UNCNET led to an altogether positive resume of the project.

The stakeholder process, as an essential part of UNCNET, was concluded with a stakeholder conference in Vienna. This conference, once again, showed the value of combining knowledge from different actors and feed them back to UNCNET to improve the presentation and interpretation of project results. Detailed results of this conference and a reflection of the whole stakeholder process can be found in the combined report of D8/2, D8/3 and D8/4.

2. Objectives:

The Annual Plenaries had been included in the project concept already in the proposal phase. Plenaries serve to take stock of progress, identify issues that do not work properly and especially allow to take correcting interventions wherever points of information transfer have not been sorted out properly. They complement the work within the respective participating institutions, the bilateral interactions and the regular “project conferences”. Originally seen as the points where communication could be extended to personal interaction, this third project plenary had been intended to be organized back-to-back with the final stakeholder conference in Vienna, Austria, but had to be moved to a Zoom conference again.

The main objectives for the third project plenary were:

- getting a clear overview of the progress on open tasks and responsibilities
- identifying the pathway to finalize the project
- shaping future plans and activities (e.g. publications, meetings, conference activities)
- reflecting on challenges and achievements under UNCNET

The main objective of the stakeholder conference was to discuss the project findings with the stakeholders and get a diverse view of the results and how they could be taken up by practitioners. This has been taken care of by the stakeholder conference

3. Activities:

- Third project plenary
- Stakeholder conference

4. Results:

Results of the stakeholder conference can be found in greater detail in the combined report of D8/2, D8/3 and D8/4. The main result of the third project plenary is a plan for further collaboration and work on the topic of urban nitrogen, also building on insights from the stakeholder process and inputs from

the final stakeholder conference. Further details on future work can be found in Annex I, which contains the minutes from the third project plenary.

5. Milestones achieved:

6. Deviations and reasons:

The third project plenary had been intended to be organized back-to-back with the final stakeholder conference in Vienna, Austria, but had to be converted to a Zoom conference, due to ongoing travel limitations between China and Europe.

7. Publications:

8. Meetings:

Third project plenary: July 1st, 2022

Final Stakeholder Conference: May 31st, 2022

9. List of Documents/Annexes:

Annex I: Minutes of the third project plenary



ANNEX I

Minutes of the third project plenary

Minutes of the final UNCNET Teleconference (3rd project plenary)

July 1, 2022 (9 am / 3 pm)

Participants (alphabetical): Barbara Amon, Xiangwen Fan, Samuel Guéret, Zehui Liu, Monika Suchowska-Kisielewicz, Wilfried Winiwarter, Lisa Wolf, Lin Zhang, Feng Zhou

Notes by Samuel Guéret

Introduction

Wilfried thanks all participants of the project for their consistent work throughout the project despite the encountered difficulties, and invites them to provide feedback on their project experience during this meeting.

Status of deliverables (Wilfried)

- Deliverables are important as they will be provided as annexes to the final report – which itself can be limited to the highlights.
- D1/4 delayed because project plenary delayed. Discussion between Markus, Lisa, and Wilfried needed as for the differentiation with D8 deliverable.
- D5/3: A draft has already been sent by Fan and commented by Wilfried. Ongoing work, to be returned within a week.
- D6/3: Discussion between Katrin and Monika required.
- D7/2: Draft provided by Samuel and comments pending from Wilfried.
- D7/3: To be picked-up by Katrin, based on results already presented at the final meeting
- D8/2 – D8/3 – D8/4: Concept to combine Markus and Lisa's activities into a common report (instead of multiple individual deliverables). Structure already exists. Expected to be finalized in July.
- D9/2: Policy paper will replace the policy meeting, and now be based on experience collated in the INMS/OECD meeting on N policies (on a country scale) held in May in Paris. Wilfried to write, and to allow all project participants to provide feedback.
- Outreach report: Compilation of everything that was done:
 - o Participation in meetings
 - o Tweets
 - o Scientific publications

- o Participation in conferences
- o ...

Final report

Proposed outline by Wilfried:

- *) introduction / purpose (Wilfried)
- *) urban N budgets – similarities and differences between cities (Katrin)
- *) specific and exciting findings for atmosphere (Lin)
- *) soils & groundwater (Feng)
- *) agriculture (Zhaohai/Fan) – Barbara is willing to review
- *) human dwellings & waste (Monika)
- *) the agrofood chain vs. the combustion chain (energy/atmosph. pollution):
conclusions to be drawn (Katrin)
- *) reducing pollution, increasing recycling rates: expectations and surprises (Samuel)
- *) integrating stakeholders: experience and practice (Markus and Lisa)
- *) Conclusions and key findings (Wilfried)
- *) Summary (Wilfried and Katrin)
- Should not be extensive. Along with existing deliverables, only short overview of what was achieved for each of the items should be provided.
- 3-5 pages including figures per listed item, featuring great and exciting findings.
- Provide input for each item by end of July latest. Goal is to complete the report and the project in due time by the end of August.
- Wilfried will allow to provide feedback to the summary as well.

Publication plans

- N Madrid Workshop:
 - o 3 Publications (Samuel, Katrin, and Monika, respectively, as first authors) have been submitted for the upcoming N Workshop in Madrid in October 2022
- Peer-reviewed publications:
 - o Urban N Budgets & SDGs (Samuel, Fan, Zhaohai) – contributions and authorship still to be sorted out between CAS and IIASA
 - o Leaching in urban N soils (Andrzej, Feng, Katrin)

- o WRF-Chem modelling and N-share (contribution to PM formation) for Vienna/Zielona Góra (Zehui)
- o Atmospheric modelling impact side – Work on ammonia mitigation measures and impact on PM 2.5 (Lin, Barbara)
- o Paper on N waste and scenarios (Monika)
- o Core paper featuring comparisons between cities (Katrin and feedback from everybody). Potentially includes methodology in supplementary material.
- o Urban N Budget in Chinese village (Haodan, Fan, Wilfried)

Future activities (tour de table)

- All participants take the opportunity to provide feedback on the project and reflect on their experiences – and look forward to the possibility of physical meetings.
- Final words by Wilfried recall the still open issues to finalize, but also the successful achievements of project aims under challenging conditions.