Draft South Asia Roadmap for Sustainable Nitrogen Management

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Nitrogen

N_r compounds essential for the very existence of life on this planet—





Current Status of Nitrogen pollution in South Asia

1. Population vs. Land Area

- o South Asia: 1.9 billion people (25% of global population)
- o Land Area: Only 4.8% of the world's total land area

2. Environmental Pressures

o South Asia faces severe environmental pressureso Key issue: Ineffective management of nitrogen

3. Emission Increases (2000-2015)

 \circ NH₃ (Ammonia) Emissions: Increased by 36% \circ NO_x (Nitrogen Oxides) Emissions: Soared by 107% \circ N₂O (Nitrous Oxide) Emissions: Rose by 36%

4. Fragmented Policies

0 Multiple ministries handle nitrogen policies

 Lack of coordination among ministries hinders effective action

5. Coherent Policy Framework

o Urgent need for a unified policy framework

o Essential for sustainable nitrogen management

6. UNEA Resolutions

o Aligns with UNEA 4/14 and 5/24 resolutionso Reinforces the importance of coordinated action



Nitrogen Assessment

Pakistan as a Case-Study

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THE INDIAN NITROGEN ASSESSMENT

Sources of Reactive Nitrogen, Environmental and Climate Effects, Management Options, and Policies







Edited by Yash P. Abrol Tapan K. Adhya Viney P. Aneja Nandula Raghuram Himanshu Pathak Umesh Kulshrestha Chhemendra Sharma Bijay Singh

N use efficiency in South Asia



Halving N waste; Is it possible? Wayforward

- Science Solutions
 - Farm management solutions
 - Genetic solutions (Enhancing NUE)
 - Efficient fertilizers development
 - Efficient and precise use of fertilizers
 - Education and awareness with logics

More ambitious, transformative change

Dynamic policies are needed

Are these available?

Key elements of the South Asia Nitrogen Management Roadmap

1. Background

Facilitated by SACEP and SANH Based on a joint report on South Asia's nitrogen policy landscape

2. Scope

 Involves all eight-member countries in South Asia

3. Vision

OSustainable Nitrogen Future
 OHealthy environment & Climate-resilient society

•Economically effective nitrogen benefits for all

4. Mission

Promote national coordination Encourage regional cooperation Catalyze coordinated actions by governments Involve all stakeholders, including the scientific community Support evidence-based policy and decision making Focus on environmental protection and natural resource conservation through efficient nitrogen use

Objectives

- Reduce adverse effects of nitrogen pollution to the levels that are not harmful to the environment and human health
- Enhance the efficiency of nitrogen use to harness multiple environmental benefits,
- Improve food supply, reduce food wastage and save money enhancing food waste management, and promoting recovery and reuse of existing nitrogen resources
- **Promote innovation in sustainable nitrogen management** that can contribute to economic development while building smart connections across the nitrogen cycle
- Secure adequate means of implementation including financial resources, capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation

Targets



1. Shared Targets across society

based on Kunming Montreal BDF agreement and Columbo Declaration with a focus on at least halving wasteful nitrogen pollution, while simultaneously recognizing the multiple cobenefits



Reduced nitrogen pollution from all sources 02

Incentivize sustainable nitrogen management





Benefit of actions identified

Improved public awareness

Sector Based Targets



Sector - Transport, energy and Industry



Reduced NOx emissions from transport and industry Increase the share of clean energy Reducing energy related nitrogen emissions Regional cooperation on research and technology

Wastewater

Target 13:

Improved wastewater management

Target 14:

Established standards of nutrients

Target 15:

Reduced nitrogen pollution from coastal and marine sources and activities

CONSUMPTION



Dietary change and reduction of food waste

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING



Reduced emissions from organic residues

Key actions : Shared actions across the society



Key actions: Agriculture Sector

Use of N_2 fixing crops

Make better use of on-farm nutrient management

Promote the use of fertilizer deep placements, enhanced efficiency fertilizers and site based fertilizer guidance

Livestock housing, Fee management, and manure management

Reform and enforce the fertilizer regulations

Reducing N loss from aquaculture (adoption of techniques, nitrogen inputs, guidance)

Research and evidence gathering, Assessment of barriers

Reduce burning of manures/crop residues

Key actions: Transport and Industry Sector, wastewater management

Develop sustainable transportation systems Develop nutrient recovery technologies

Strengthen emissions standards

Improve marine and coastal water quality standard and pollution reduction strategies

Improve wastewater management strategies

Develop best management practices to restore and maintain coastal water quality

Resources/Residues/Waste and Recycling

Consumption

- Assess the value of nitrogen wasted
 Implement zero burning of forestry and crop biomass
 - Implement recovery of organic residues/waste to drive the circular economy

• Implement pilot projects for the nitrogen recovery

- Understand the value of nitrogen loss through food production and consumption
- Develop integrated food policy for diet change
- Reduce of food waste

Exchange of knowledge and best practices

Public awareness/capacity building and technical support

Partnership

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Develop national and subnational inventories of nitrogen pollution Develop digital platforms for sharing open nitrogen data

Provide support to improving national capacities regarding nitrogen pollution and nitrogen pollution monitoring

Share good practices on nitrogen monitoring, building upon the information provided by members, as appropriate

> Report on the status of nitrogen pollution to the SACEP Governing Council

Indicators



Sources of Nitrogen (N) and Phosphorus (P) pollution	Indicator of nutrient use		Indicators of nutrient losses to the environment		Indicators of the impacts of nutrients in the environment
	Inorganic N and P fertilizer use ²	Losses to the environment	N & P surplus in agriculture ⁴ N and P in wastewater (proportion safely treated used as a proxy) ² Loss of reactive N to the environment ^{3,5} Trends in nitrogen deposition ³	Impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services	Coastal eutrophication potential based on N : P : Si ratios in rivers, ICEP indicator ¹ Red List Index (impact of pollution) ²

Niklas Möhring*, David Kanter* Tariq Aziz, et al. 2023. Nature Ecology & Evolution

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- National Funds
- Economic instruments like taxes, fees, debt, funds for nature swapts
- Private sector investments
- Market based solutions
- Development banks investment
- External Funds

Thank you all







