



clean air farming

Reducing Ammonia and Methane
Emissions from Agriculture

Concept paper for NGOs capacity building workshop

Introduction

EEB, together with DUH, FNE and LCF is implementing a LIFE project with the objective to achieve a reduction of ammonia and methane emissions. More information about the Clean Air Farming LIFE project can be found [here](#).

In order to promote action on ammonia and methane emissions from agriculture also at national level, or in other fora, EEB is happy to share a concept paper which we hope will help you in promoting action on the topic. This paper provides suggestions about how to structure a meeting focusing on ammonia and methane emissions from agriculture.

Objectives of the meeting:

- Raise awareness about the different sources of air pollution at national level;
- Elaborate contents to inform and influence national and EU decision-making processes;
- Build alliances with likeminded organisations or sector representatives;
- Promote advocacy action by the different actors involved through communications.

Target groups:

- This meeting is mainly addressed to national NGOs active on the field of air pollution, agriculture, nature conservation;
- Health sector representatives should also be invited to participate to built alliances;

- National/regional/local decision makers can also be invited: for the all meeting or for the informative parts of the meeting, depending if you consider that advocacy strategies could/should be discussed in that occasion as well;
- Sector representatives, for the informative part.

Preparation of the meeting:

- Looking at national emission inventories submitted by Member States, available at [this link](#), identify the role played by different sources in the emission levels of the pollutants covered by the NEC Directive, plus methane when reported (optional);
- Looking at GHG emissions reported under the UNFCCC, available at [this link](#), identify the role played by agriculture in the emission levels of methane;
- Look for scientific articles covering the role of agriculture ammonia emissions in the formation of secondary PM 2.5;
- Approach national farmer associations to ask for the overview they have about air pollution from agriculture (in particular, check if information is available regarding the kind of air pollution reduction measure implemented – if any statistical data is available);
- Possible statistical data about the implementation of air pollution reduction measures in the agricultural sector, in particular of ammonia and methane, can be asked to the Environment Minister, through an access to information requests;
- Approach like minded organisations, also agricultural sector representatives, to built informal/formal alliances with them;
- Approach national health experts who can illustrate agricultural emissions health related damages – environmental NGOs can cover the environmental related damages;
- Elaborate an advocacy strategy to illustrate current and upcoming opportunities to promote action on the topic.

The meeting:

- To set the ground, inform the participants about the existing obligations regarding air pollution reduction from agriculture;
- Prepare a presentation illustrating emissions of key agricultural pollutants (NH₃, CH₄, primary PM₁₀ and secondary PM_{2.5}); good to elaborate a comparative analysis looking at what is the share produced by the agricultural sector compared to others;
- Invite health experts to present scientific evidence about health damages, a presentation with key links to be shared afterwards would be useful;

- Invite a sector representative from the agricultural sector (ideally a farmer), to present his/her own initiatives adopted to reduce emissions at farm level and ask him/her, if possible, to focus also on the financial part (money invested, source of the money, and money saved);
- Reserve at least 90 minutes to discuss about the possible advocacy strategy and agree on common ground for action.

During the meeting/follow-up:

Provide participants with a communication package that they can use to communicate on social media the content of the meeting – this can be a very basic comms package with just some tweets/posts suggestions, or it can be more elaborated with twitter flyers, suggestion for quotes, decision-makers to be tagged – communication actions can also be scheduled when a related communication hook is available (e.g. clean air day, earth overshoot day, any meeting relevant at national/EU/international level).

Contacts

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