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The PANDA project

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Even though air quality in many urbanized and industrialized areas of the world has improved as a result of mitigation actions, it has declined in other regions. This is specifically the case in many emerging countries where emissions have been increasing as a result of rapidly expanding motor vehicle fleets, growing industrial and power generation activities, and domestic and biomass burning.

The situation is particularly acute in China and the Western Pacific Region with rapid industrialization and urbanization, where, in spite of efforts to reduce surface emissions of reactive gases, 360,000 people die prematurely from air pollution each year, according to the World Health Organization.

The EU-funded PANDA project will offer scientific knowledge that will help China and other nations to use space and in-situ observations together with a modelling system to address improve air quality and human heath at the regional and global scales.

Through the proposed cooperation between Europe and China, the following objectives will be reached before the completion of the Project:

- 1. Improvement of methods for monitoring air quality from combined space and in-situ observations
- 2. Elaboration of indicators for air quality, in support of European and Chinese policies
- 3. Development of toolboxes for air quality and emissions monitoring
- 4. Dissemination of information and educational activities, specifically in China.

We would like to introduce the EU-funded project PANDA, and present the first results obtained through the project.