Rwanda Air Quality Policies

This document is based on research that UNEP conducted in 2015, in response to Resolution 7 of the UNEA 1. It describes country-level policies that impact air quality. Triple question marks (???) indicate that information for the section couldn’t be found.

Please review the information, and provide feedback. A Word version of the template can be provided upon request. Corrections and comments can be emailed to Vered.Ehsani@unep.org and George.Mwaniki@unep.org.

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<th>Rwanda Air Quality Policy Matrix</th>
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<td><strong>Goals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>GENERAL OVERVIEW</strong></td>
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<td><strong>REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES</strong></td>
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## Sources

**Others**
- Most other industrial emissions are associated with combustion facilities within the industries, e.g. boilers and standby power generators.
- Currently no data is available on the impacts of these emissions on human health or the environment.
- Particulate matter is considered the most important air pollutant in the country.
- Particulate matter concentrations can reach more than 10 times the WHO recommended concentrations during both day and night due to the interactions between meteorology and topography.
- Growth in industrial emissions is projected to increase in the coming years.

### Reduce Emissions From Transport

**Key transport-related air quality challenges:** *(ex: vehicle growth, old fleet, dirty fuel, poor public transport etc)*
- Transport is the main source of air pollutants in Rwanda.
- Generally vehicle ownership in Rwanda is low but since 2005 and 2011 the total number of cars has grown by 50%.
- Car ownership has been raising while bicycle and motor cycle ownership has been dropping steadily.
- The sector is also an important indirect source of O3.

**Vehicle emission limit:** *(Euro rating)* Vehicle emission standards exist *(verify)*
- **Fuel Sulphur content:** *(in ppm)* Diesel sulphur content capped at 50ppm
- **Fuel Lead content** Phased out leaded fuel since 2005

**Restriction on used car importation:** only brand new motorcycles can be imported

**Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit:**
- *Actions to promote non-motorized transport:* *(ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc)*
- *Other transport-related actions*?

### Reduce Emissions From Outdoor, Open Burning

**Outdoor, open burning:** *(ex: is it commonly done? burning what kinds of wastes? etc)*

**Legal framework:** *(ex: is burning banned?)*
- Regulated by Rwanda Environment Management Authority

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| OPEN BURNING OF WASTE (OUTDOOR) | • Most municipal solid waste is managed better compared to the neighboring countries  
• Burning of agricultural waste is still a major source of air pollutants |
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<td>Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste: ???</td>
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<th>REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM BIOMASS BURNING (INDOORS)</th>
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| **Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating:**  
• Wood is the dominant fuels used by the poor for cooking accounting for 90% of the energy mix in Rwanda\(^2\)  
• Biomass accounts for 85% of energy use in Rwanda  
• Kerosene is the main fuel used for lighting. In rural areas.  
**Impact:**  
• Solid fuel combustion causes an estimated 12,500 premature deaths every year\(^3\)  
**Others**  
• Air pollution from indoor sources is the single largest contributor to the negative health effects of air pollution in Rwanda  
• Adoption rate for clean and efficient cook stoves is around 50%  
• Diesel remains the primary fuel for self-generation in rural areas, and for emergency supply in urban areas. |
| **Indoor air pollution regulated:** (Yes / No) ???  
**Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification:** ???  
**Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves:**  
• Promotion of efficient cook stoves  
**Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions:**  
• Promotion of non-grid electrification  
• No import tax on solar systems  
• Promotion of renewable energy through feed-in tariffs  
• Energy concessions |

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