

## 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](mailto:Vered.Ehsani@unep.org) and [George.Mwaniki@unep.org](mailto:George.Mwaniki@unep.org).

<b>BELIZE</b>		
<b>GOALS</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>	<b>CURRENT / PLANNED POLICIES &amp; PROGRAMMES</b>
GENERAL OVERVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Overall situation with respect to air quality in the country, including key air quality challenges:</b> fairly good, even in urban areas; in Belize City, mobile sources the most significant cause of pollutants</li> <li>● <b>Air quality monitoring system:</b> No, although an air quality monitoring programme was set up in Belize City in Dec 2014 for one year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>National Ambient air quality standards:</b> No</li> <li>● <b>National Air Quality Policy:</b> No</li> <li>● <b>Air Quality legislation / programmes:</b> air pollution is regulated under the Pollution Regulations, Chapter 328 of the Subsidiary Law of Belize, 2000</li> <li>● <b>Other:</b></li> </ul>
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Industries that have the potential to impact air quality:</b> From stationary sources such as factories and petroleum industry (although oil production is in decline)</li> <li>● <b>GDP of country:</b> \$1.6 billion</li> <li>● <b>Industries' share of GDP:</b> 23%</li> <li>● <b>Electricity sources:</b> hydro and biomass (46%), electricity imported from Mexico (50%), diesel and crude oil (4%)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Emission regulations for industries:</b> limits set by Pollution Regulations legislation (<a href="http://www.doe.gov.bz/index.php/legislation">http://www.doe.gov.bz/index.php/legislation</a>)</li> <li>● <b>Small installation's emissions regulated:</b> (Yes/No) Yes, given that the legislation does not specify size of installation. It encompasses all stationary sources</li> <li>● <b>Renewable energy investment promoted:</b> Belize recently signed on to the 10 Island Challenge and aims to increase renewables for electricity, plus transport sector; there is a national renewable energy target of 50% electricity generation from renewables, and a national renewable energy law, but no fiscal incentives or preferential grid access</li> <li>● <b>Energy efficiency incentives:</b> Sustainable Energy Strategy 2012-2033 includes energy efficiency as well as transitioning to low carbon sources</li> <li>● <b>Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies:</b> ???</li> <li>● <b>Actions to ensure compliance with regulations:</b> (monitoring, enforcement, fines etc) Enforcement of the Pollution Regulations</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industry emissions:</b> Requirement for environmental clearance as required under the Environmental Protection Act and subsequent Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations</li> </ul>
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Key transport-related air quality challenges:</b> No vehicle standards in place, high Sulphur levels in fuel</li> <li>● National Transportation Master Plan looking at upgrading mainly road infrastructure, but not looking at public transport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Vehicle emission limit:</b> None</li> <li>● <b>Fuel Sulphur content:</b> Diesel fuel with a maximum of 500ppm sulphur is available. The standard is 0.5% or 5000 ppm sulphur Gasoline total sulfur content (% mass): Regular – 0.10% max; Premium – 0.10% max</li> <li>● <b>Restriction on used car importation:</b> None</li> <li>● <b>Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit:</b> Development of national transport system</li> <li>● <b>Actions to promote non-motorized transport:</b> (ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc) Some new road project design includes sidewalks and bike lanes</li> <li>● <b>Other transport-related actions:</b> Belize recently signed the 10 Island Challenge and aims to go 100% renewable for electricity, and to electrify transport sector; electric car and golf cart rentals for tourists becoming widespread</li> </ul>
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING OF AGRICULTURAL / MUNICIPAL WASTE (OUTDOOR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Outdoor, open burning:</b> slash-and-burn agriculture; burning of solid wastes in landfills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Legal framework:</b> None</li> <li>● <b>Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste:</b> Plan for institutionalization of solid waste management includes sanitary landfill and transfer stations. First phase includes the western corridor. The second phase for national solid waste management includes the southern and northern corridors.</li> <li>● Working with the sugar industry to reduce the production of dioxins and furans through a pilot project to minimize second burning in the sugar industry</li> </ul>
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING OF BIOMASS (INDOOR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating:</b> 43% use solid fuels</li> <li>● <b>Impact:</b> Unknown</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Indoor air pollution regulated:</b> No</li> <li>● <b>Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification:</b> 85% electrification rate (almost 100% in urban areas); Renewable Energy in Rural Access Programme</li> <li>● <b>Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves:</b> Renewable Energy Cookstove programme</li> <li>● <b>Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions:</b> ???</li> </ul>

**Secondary Sources used in the research:** [https://energypedia.info/wiki/Belize\\_Energy\\_Situation](https://energypedia.info/wiki/Belize_Energy_Situation), [http://altweb.astate.edu/electronicjournal/medlin\\_belize.htm](http://altweb.astate.edu/electronicjournal/medlin_belize.htm), <http://www.doe.gov.bz/index.php/news/95-belize-city-air-quality-monitoring-programme>, *Issue Paper 07 – Existing Issues of the Environment in Belize City*. Inter-American Development Bank, 2011., <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/belize/overview>, <http://www.doe.gov.bz/index.php/legislation>, <http://estpu.gov.bz/index.php/14-news/latest-news/4-ministry-of-energy-science-technology-and-public-utilities-strategic-plan-2012-2017>, <http://www.reporter.bz/general/belize-prepares-national-transportation-master-plan/>, <http://cleantechnica.com/2015/07/09/belize-going-100-renewables-part-10-island-challenge/>, <http://electric.carrentals.cc/belize/belize-city>, <http://www.cleanairinstitute.org/calidaddelaireamericalatina/cai-report-english.pdf>, [http://www.unep.org/Transport/new/PCFV/pdf/Maps\\_Matrices/LAC/matrix/LAC\\_FuelsVeh\\_June2015.pdf](http://www.unep.org/Transport/new/PCFV/pdf/Maps_Matrices/LAC/matrix/LAC_FuelsVeh_June2015.pdf), <http://latinlawyer.com/>, [http://www.irena.org/DocumentDownloads/Publications/IRENA\\_RE\\_Latin\\_America\\_Policies\\_2015.pdf](http://www.irena.org/DocumentDownloads/Publications/IRENA_RE_Latin_America_Policies_2015.pdf), <http://airlex.web.ua.pt/pm10>, [http://www.who.int/quantifying\\_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/en/#I](http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/en/#I)