

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.

| EL SALVADOR | | |
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| GOALS | CURRENT STATUS | CURRENT / PLANNED POLICIES & PROGRAMMES |
| GENERAL OVERVIEW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overall situation with respect to air quality in the country, including key air quality challenges: Air quality in San Salvador is very poor, due to location in a valley, heavily populated and old vehicles ● Air quality monitoring system: Yes, in San Salvador | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Ambient air quality standards: meet WHO Interim Targets, except NO₂ and SO₂ ● National Air Quality Policy: No. Policy statements on environment too general to provide sufficient direction and focus ● Air Quality legislation / programmes: Special Regulation on Environmental Quality Norms sets some specific parameters for fixed-source air emissions, but too general. Need for more detailed technical regulations and more effective licensing process. Command-and-control measures used almost exclusively, without use of flexible mechanisms like economic incentives; there are also contradictions and ambiguities in the legal framework with respect to air pollution (World Bank); Law requires government policies, plans and programmes to be subjected to Strategic Environmental Assessments, but these have not been carried out. Basic institutional and legal foundations are there, but requires regulatory structure and technical standards ● Other: Overall forest cover has expanded 20% from 1992 to 2010 (one of few countries experiencing reforestation) |
| REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Industries that have the potential to impact air quality: petroleum, chemicals, light metals ● GDP of country: \$25 billion ● Industries' share of GDP: 30% ● Electricity sources: thermal (40%), hydro (38%), geothermal (20%), biomass (2%) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emission regulations for industries: Detailed, specific legal thresholds not adopted ● Small installation's emissions regulated: (Yes/No) ??? ● Renewable energy investment promoted: National renewable energy target of 60MW wind, 90MW solar PV, 200MW solar thermal, 60MW geothermal, 162MW small hydro, 45MW biomass, 35MW biogas by 2026; incentives include 10 year tax exemption for projects below 10MW, import/export fiscal benefits, grid access and soft loans ● Energy efficiency incentives: There is a public education initiative ● Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies: there is a National Foundation Center for Cleaner Production that carries out projects to assist |

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| | | <p>companies to decrease consumption of fuel and electricity, but no incentives to install pollution control devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Actions to ensure compliance with regulations: (monitoring, enforcement, fines etc) ??? ● Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industry emissions: ??? |
| REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key transport-related air quality challenges: aging vehicle fleet responsible for 70% of air pollution; 8% annual increase in fleet; 50% of vehicles are in San Salvador; Public transport operated by private parties, no coordination between routes, very competitive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vehicle emission limit: Euro 1 ● Fuel Sulphur content: 5,000 ppm ● Restriction on used car importation: Pre-Euro 1 and vehicles older than 8 years (15 years for buses and trucks) are banned ● Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit: Donor project for an integrated public transport system in San Salvador Metropolitan Area, segregated bus lanes, sidewalks leading to bus terminals, feeder routes and integrated fare system ● 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 OPEN BURNING OF AGRICULTURAL / MUNICIPAL WASTE (OUTDOOR) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outdoor, open burning: wastes are commonly disposed of through open burning, including plastics, hazardous waste and organic waste | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legal framework: None ● Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste: ??? |
| REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING OF BIOMASS (INDOOR) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating: 33% use solid fuels particularly wood and agricultural residues; in rural areas, up to 90% households use solid fuels ● Impact: 300 deaths/year from indoor air pollution (300 from outdoor air pollution) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indoor air pollution regulated: No ● Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification: 93% electrification rate, but may not always be reliable; programme to promote renewable energy for rural areas ● Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves: ??? ● Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions: ??? |

Secondary Sources used in the research: <http://www.reegle.info/countries/el-salvador-energy-profile/SV>,
<http://www.slideshare.net/guest9e2dce/pollution-and-transport-in-el-salvador>, <http://www.cepal.org/ilpes/noticias/paginas/8/35988/elsalvador- cea2006.pdf>, <http://www.laprensagrafica.com/2014/06/06/lanzan-el-sistema-de-monitoreo-del-aire-en-amss>,
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<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=452026>, <http://www11.iadb.org/en/news/news-releases/2011-09-15/public- transportation-and-transit-in-el-salvador,9543.html>, <http://healthcare-economist.com/2006/04/05/healthcare-in-el-salvador-iii-waste-disposal/>,
<http://www.cleanairinstitute.org/calidaddelaireamericalatina/cai-report-english.pdf>,
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