

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.

GUATEMALA		
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: Ranked 21st worst for air pollution by WHO; in Guatemala City, growing air quality issues from urban and industrial development, increasing number of vehicles, uncontrolled growth, deforestation; PM10 exceeds permissible limits most years ● Air quality monitoring system: Yes, in Guatemala City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Ambient air quality standards: No ● National Air Quality Policy: No ● Air Quality legislation / programmes: Framework on Environmental Management mandates issuance of policies for 13 key areas (air quality not explicitly included); There is no environmental policy with priorities and instruments; Lack of clear definition of which entities are responsible for what, and no specifications of instruments to be used for implementation; Laws supporting protection of air quality and management are lacking ● Other: Non-compliance with environmental rulings is treated as a crime, therefore promoting compliance or providing incentives is a difficult (sometimes illegal) task, and the criminal charges often are not enforced
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Industries that have the potential to impact air quality: petroleum extraction, metals, chemicals ● GDP of country: \$78 billion ● Industries' share of GDP: 24% ● Electricity sources: thermal (60% by installed capacity), hydro (31% by installed capacity, but produces up to 60% of electricity demand, depending on rainfall), coal and geothermal ● Biomass, solar and wind energy are mostly used in isolated systems or rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emission regulations for industries: ??? ● Small installation's emissions regulated: (Yes/No) ??? ● Renewable energy investment promoted: national renewable energy target of 60% electricity from renewable sources by 2022; Solar and Wind Energy Resource Assessment developed in order to promote wind and solar; Renewable Energy Project Incentives Act instructs Ministry of Energy and Mines to award incentives (exemptions from duty, VAT, income tax), provide transmission discounts etc ● Energy efficiency incentives: Energy Efficiency Bill to create a National Energy Efficiency Council and promote energy efficiency ● Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies: there is a National Cleaner Production Centre, but no incentives to install pollution control devices

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Actions to ensure compliance with regulations: criminal prosecution which is seldom enforced ● 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: poor vehicle emission standards, no restrictions on second hand imports, tax scheme encourages older vehicles, vehicle growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vehicle emission limit: None ● Fuel Sulphur content: 5000 ppm (yet is an importing country, so could improve standard) ● Restriction on used car importation: None; new vehicles have higher tax rate, encouraging purchase of older vehicles ● Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit: Guatemala City has a bus rapid transit, TransMetro, but not very extensive ● Actions to promote non-motorized transport: Guatemala City has installed 2km of bicycle paths, and is planning an additional 20km in historical centre; bike path connecting public university to high-speed bus transport system TransMetro; system of public bicycles on one route ● Other transport-related actions: ???
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING OF AGRICULTURAL / MUNICIPAL WASTE (OUTDOOR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outdoor, open burning: Guatemala City's landfill often has fires due to explosions from the accumulated methane gas 	<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: 62% use solid fuels, mainly wood ● Impact: 1,400 deaths/year from indoor air pollution (500 from outdoor air pollution) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indoor air pollution regulated: No ● Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification: urban electrification rate 95%, rural rate 82%, although not always reliable; programme to 'mainstream' renewable energy as a standard option for rural electrification ● Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves: there is a renewable energy cookstove programme ● Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions: ???

Secondary Sources used in the research: <http://www.cepal.org/ilpes/noticias/paginas/8/35988/guatemalacea.pdf>,
<http://upsidedownworld.org/main/guatemala-archives-33/3081-guatemala-oil-companies-and-the-subservience-of-the-government>,
<http://designwithoutborders.com/projects/masterplan-for-cycle-lanes-in-guatemala-city/>, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transmetro>,
<http://www.latintimes.com/world-health-organization-reveals-global-pollution-levels-which-8-latin-american-nations-174390>,
<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://latinlawyer.com/>,
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