

## 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>HONDURAS</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> Ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> worst for air pollution by WHO, mainly from transport and electricity generation</li> <li>● Indoor air pollution an issue in rural areas</li> <li>● Insufficient resources for monitoring and enforcement</li> <li>● <b>Air quality monitoring system:</b> Yes, in Tegucigalpa</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> Environmental Policy provides general objectives but doesn't provide specific goals; No legislation to manage air quality; National Plan for Air Quality Management provides suggestions with regard to urban transport, land use planning, cleaner production, and energy efficiency improvements.</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> mining (gold, silver, lead, zinc, cadmium); brick kilns</li> <li>● <b>GDP of country:</b> \$19 billion</li> <li>● <b>Industries' share of GDP:</b> 27%</li> <li>● <b>Electricity sources:</b> petrol power plants (53%), hydro (42%), coal, gas, co-generation</li> <li>● 22% of gross electricity production is lost through fraud, illegal connections, billing errors etc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Emission regulations for industries:</b> Regulation "For the Control of Emissions from Stationary Sources" has been in force since 2011 and sets the parameters by industry and type of fuel used, as well as sensitive areas.</li> <li>● <b>Small installation's emissions regulated:</b> (Yes/No) No</li> <li>● <b>Renewable energy investment promoted:</b> national renewable energy target of 60% electricity from renewable sources by 2022; renewable energy law provides income tax and custom tax exemptions, but does not address off-grid power plants and so favours larger, grid-connected plants; the sustainable energy action plan also doesn't promote off-grid projects; recently inaugurated the largest photovoltaic park in Latin America</li> <li>● <b>Energy efficiency incentives:</b> (ex: Subsidies, labelling, rebates etc) no tax incentives</li> <li>● <b>Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies:</b> there's a small tax incentive</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Actions to ensure compliance with regulations:</b> (monitoring, enforcement, fines etc) there's no control or regulation in order to accomplish it</li> <li>● <b>Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industry emissions:</b> Project with S Korea to improve power transmission efficiency and increase use of renewable energy and energy-saving devices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- strategic plan for Management and saving fuels and electric energy which includes short-, medium- and long-term sustained in saving fuel, saving electricity, road planning and saving measures in institutions of public administration.</li> <li>- Law since 2010 that prohibits the purchase / sale and entry into the country of normal incandescent bulb lighting.</li> <li>- 16 Honduran non-mandatory standards for energy efficiency equipment, commercial and domestic refrigeration, fluorescent lamps among others.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Key transport-related air quality challenges:</b> No emission standards, growing fleet, possibly high sulphur fuel, corruption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Vehicle emission limit:</b> None. Since 1999 there has been the Regulation "To adjust Gas Emissions Pollutants and Smoke from motor vehicles" which should be reviewed since it has never been achieved due to lack of technical and technological capacities.</li> <li>● <b>Fuel Sulphur content:</b> 5000 ppm (fuel is imported, so could lower standard)</li> <li>● <b>Restriction on used car importation:</b> Vehicles older than 7 years (10 years for public transport vehicles) are banned</li> <li>● <b>Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit:</b> donor-funded Bus Rapid Transit system (to include pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths) to be built in Tegucigalpa and Comayaguela – but the project was never finished and the buses never bought due to corruption</li> <li>● <b>Actions to promote non-motorized transport:</b> (ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc) there's no incentives known</li> <li>● <b>Other transport-related actions:</b> ???</li> </ul>
<p>REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING OF AGRICULTURAL / MUNICIPAL WASTE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Outdoor, open burning:</b> agricultural burning and forest fires, slash-and-burn agriculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Legal framework:</b> laws "Law on Waste Management" and the law "zero illegal burning"</li> <li>● <b>Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste:</b></li> </ul>

(OUTDOOR)		
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> 57% use solid fuels, mainly firewood (one of the causes of deforestation), especially in rural and peri-urban areas</li> <li>● <b>Impact:</b> 800 deaths/year from indoor air pollution (600 from outdoor air pollution)</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> electrification rate 82%; 95% in urban areas; in rural areas, 46% - lacking an adequate rural electrification policy to promote alternative and off-grid energy supplies (currently focusing on grid extension, which can't reach everyone and overstretches capacity of the system)</li> <li>● <b>Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves:</b> spearheaded by numerous NGOs and the office of the First Lady</li> <li>● <b>Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions:</b> An inter-agency committee for indoor air quality is going to work on this topic. There is also a National strategy for sustainable production and use of firewood and charcoal in Honduras.</li> </ul>

**Secondary Sources used in the research:** <http://www.cepal.org/ilpes/noticias/paginas/8/35988/hondurasceafinal.pdf>, <http://centromariomolina.org/english/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/6a.-National-Plan-for-Air-Quality-Management-in-Honduras1.pdf>, <http://www.latintimes.com/world-health-organization-reveals-global-pollution-levels-which-8-latin-american-nations-174390>, [http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/mmartinez/latin\\_america\\_green\\_news\\_hondu.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/mmartinez/latin_america_green_news_hondu.html), <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/national/2015/07/20/0301000000AEN20150720004200315.html>, <http://www.iadb.org/en/news/news-releases/2010-11-24/idb-public-transportation-in-honduras,8737.html>, <http://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Honduras-Capital-Looks-to-Privatize-Public-Transportation-20141030-0050.html>, <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)