

## Iceland 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).

Iceland Air Quality Policy Matrix		
Goals	Status	Current Policies & Programmes
GENERAL OVERVIEW	<p><b>Overall situation with respect to air quality in the country, including key air quality challenges:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality in Iceland is in general clean and less polluted than the air in more densely populated countries in Europe and North America.</li> <li>• This is partly as a result of low population density in the country,</li> <li>• Clean power sources of geothermal energy and hydropower also contribute to good air quality.</li> <li>• Air pollution outside of the Reykjavik area is generally not considered a problem in Iceland, except in isolated instances where there is polluting industry such as odour pollution from fishmeal plants</li> <li>• WHO estimates that outdoor air pollution causes &lt;100 premature deaths annually<sup>1</sup></li> </ul> <p><b>Air quality monitoring system:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality is measured by a national air quality monitoring network.</li> </ul>	<p><b>National Ambient air quality standards:</b> exist</p> <p><b>National Air Quality Policy:</b> ???</p> <p><b>Air Quality legislation / programmes:</b> ???</p> <p><b>Other:</b> ???</p>

<sup>1</sup> WHO, 'WHO | Country Profiles of Environmental Burden of Disease', WHO, 2008  
<[http://www.who.int/quantifying\\_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/en/#T](http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/en/#T)>.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	<p><b>Industries that have the potential to impact air quality:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air pollution from industrial installations emanates from the following; fish processing; aluminium smelting, ferrosilicon production, tourism among others</li> </ul> <p><b>GDP of country:</b> USD 14.59 B in 2013<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Industries' share of GDP:</b> 22.9%<sup>3</sup></p> <p><b>Electricity sources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.7% of the installed electricity generating capacity (2.579 million KW in 2010) is generated from fossil fuel, 73% from hydroelectric plants and the rest 22.3% is generated from other renewable sources<sup>4</sup></li> </ul> <p><b>Others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><b>Emission regulations for industries: ???</b></p> <p><b>Small installation's emissions regulated: (Yes/No) ???</b></p> <p><b>Renewable energy investment promoted:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Icelandic National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) was published in year 2012 in accordance with Directive 2009/28/EC which outlines the strategy for 2020 especially in terms of increasing the share of renewable energy in transport.</li> </ul> <p><b>Energy efficiency incentives: (ex: Subsidies, labelling, rebates etc) ???</b></p> <p><b>Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies: ???</b></p> <p><b>Actions to ensure compliance with regulations: (monitoring, enforcement, fines etc) ???</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industrial emissions: (can include incentives to move industries to less populated areas here) ???</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT	<p><b>Key transport-related air quality challenges:</b> (ex: vehicle growth, old fleet, dirty fuel, poor public transport etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main cause of pollution is increasingly heavy traffic.</li> <li>• Use of studded tyres is a major source of Particulate pollution.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Vehicle emission limit: (Euro rating)</b></p> <p><b>Fuel Sulphur content: (in ppm)</b></p> <p><b>Fuel Lead content:</b> All vehicles use lead free gasoline</p> <p><b>Restriction on used car importation: ???</b></p> <p><b>Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the transport plan adopted to the Icelandic Parliament in 2002, sustainable transport is one of the four main goals introduced, and therein the actions to be taken to achieve those</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> 'Countries of the World - 32 Years of CIA World Fact Books', 2015 <<http://www.theodora.com/wfb/#R>>.

<sup>3</sup> 'Countries of the World - 32 Years of CIA World Fact Books'.

<sup>4</sup> 'Countries of the World - 32 Years of CIA World Fact Books'.

		goals are described <b>Actions to promote non-motorized transport:</b> (ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc) ???
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING: OUTDOOR	<b>Outdoor, open burning:</b> (ex: is it commonly done? burning what kinds of wastes? etc) ???	<b>Legal framework:</b> (ex: is burning banned?) ??? <b>Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste:</b> ???
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING: INDOOR	<b>Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating:</b> ??? <b>Impact:</b> ??? •	<b>Indoor air pollution regulated:</b> (Yes / No) ??? <b>Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification:</b> ??? <b>Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves:</b> ??? <b>Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions:</b> ???