

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.

UZBEKISTAN		
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: : Land vehicles produce ~2/3 air pollutants; Less than half of factory smokestacks are equipped with filtration devices (many of which don't work properly) and none has capacity to filter gaseous emissions; dust storms also an issue in certain regions; Lack of enforcement; Environment as low priority ● In Tashkent, Farghona and Olmaliq, NO2 and particulates exceed recommended levels; high levels of heavy metals from waste burning, fuels, metallurgy; Heavy use of agricultural chemicals have led to degrading air quality in rural areas ● Salt and dust storms from the dried-up bottom of Aral Sea impacts agriculture, ecosystems and human health; regional experts claim that these storms have raised level of PM in the earth's atmosphere by 5% ● Limited power of environmental enforcement authorities to suspend or cease polluting activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Ambient air quality standards: for dust, NOx, SO2 and ozone - meet WHO standards; no standards for PM2.5 or PM10 ● National Air Quality Policy: ??? ● Air Quality legislation / programmes: Law on the Protection of Atmospheric Air; National Sustainable Development Strategy (gives little attention to the environment, with focus on social and economic issues) ● Other:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Environment-related data is collected using forms introduced 20-30 years ago, without updating to include important environmental issues ● Air quality monitoring system: Yes 	
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Industries that have the potential to impact air quality: textiles; metallurgy; mining (gold, copper, coal); energy, oil (both extraction and refining) and gas (major air pollution sources); chemicals ● High SO2 emissions from thermal power stations boiler houses and refineries, due to absence of desulphurisation ● GDP of country: \$62 billion ● Industries' share of GDP: 32% ● Electricity sources: thermal power plants (89%), hydro (11%) ● Increase use of coal expected over the next several years from 5% to 10% ● Very high energy intensity (primary energy consumption per unit of GDP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emission regulations for industries: Emission standards are inconsistent with EU standards and follow Soviet approach, without gradually increasing requirements on reduction of emissions ● Small installation's emissions regulated: (Yes/No) ??? ● Renewable energy investment promoted: No, not a high priority apart from existing hydro, although a law on renewable energy sources is being drafted ● Energy efficiency incentives: National Energy Efficiency Strategy since 2001 to install meters, which has lowered energy intensity by 10%; Energy Efficiency Programme targeted household and utilities to increase energy savings; However, inefficient energy use is generally high due to low controlled prices ● Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies: Economic incentives for introducing less polluting technologies / pollution control technologies are weak, although some tax breaks are available; Increase in tax rates on natural resources is a shift toward green taxation ● Actions to ensure compliance with regulations: Fines, although some users are exempt from pollution fines, such as all state-owned organisations ● Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industry: Once every 2 years, an information bulletin on the state of pollution sources and their impact is published, "naming and blaming" individual enterprises that exceed maximum limits
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key transport-related air quality challenges: vehicle emissions mainly an issue in Tashkent and Farghona; increase in private vehicles and growing volumes of overland cargo transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vehicle emission limit: Planned Euro 3 from 2018, Euro 4 from 2019 ● Fuel Sulphur content: 2,000 ppm (Planned: Euro 3 equivalent from 2015; Euro 4 equivalent from 2016); plans to upgrade refineries by 2017 ● Restriction on used car importation: Can't be more than 20 years old ● Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit: : investments being made to modernise public transport, and upgrade railway (for freight), although more focus

		<p>on roads and air transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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: burning leaves during fall season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legal framework: open burning is banned ● 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: 12% nationally use solid fuels (especially wood); in rural areas, 25% of population use solid fuels; natural gas is commonly used for cooking ● Impact: 6,200 deaths/year from indoor air pollution (3,800 from outdoor air pollution) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indoor air pollution regulated: (Yes / No) ??? ● Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification: 94% electrification rate, but supply to rural areas is unreliable, low quality ● 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: https://energypedia.info/wiki/Uzbekistan_Energy_Situation,
http://www.unep.org/Transport/new/PCFV/pdf/cleanfue_transport_UNEP-CARECreport.pdf,
http://www.unoosa.org/pdf/sap/2007/graz/presentations/06_07.pdf, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Uzbekistan,
http://old.ut.uz/eng/today/the_law_on_the_protection_of_atmosphere_air_needs_further_enforcement.mgr,
<http://countrystudies.us/uzbekistan/17.htm>, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/epr/epr_studies/uzbekistan%20II%20e.pdf,
<http://www.uzdaily.com/articles-id-12847.htm>