

Albania 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.

Albania Air Quality Policy Matrix		
Goals	Status	Current Policies & Programmes
GENERAL OVERVIEW	Overall situation with respect to air quality in the country, including key air quality challenges: • Air quality in Albania varies greatly depending on location: in rural and mountainous areas the air is generally clean, while in cities air quality is far poorer. • The main sources of air pollution are oil extraction, mobile sources, heating of homes, and the production of cement. • Main source of urban air pollution is transport. • WHO estimates that outdoor air pollution causes 200 premature deaths annually¹ • The most common air pollutants in Albanian cities, listed in order of their quantity and significance, are road dust, fine particles of unburned fuels (black smoke) emitted from vehicles, CO, VOCs, lead, NO_x, SO₂ and O₃. (Source: http://www.greenpackonline.org/english/environmental-components.php?id=01-06-	National Ambient air quality standards: yes National Air Quality Policy: ??? Air Quality legislation / programmes: • Law No 8934 of 5 September 2002 on environmental protection (amended by Law No 9890 of 20 March 2008) determines the main indicators of the state, influences and pressures on ambient air • Law No 8897 of 16 May 2002 on protection of air pollution, determination of pollution sources and their classification, major indicators of air quality restrictions on air emissions and air protection obligations • Decision No 435 of 12 September 2002 on approval of emissions norms in air • Decision No 803 of 4 December 2003 on air quality norms • Decision No 248 of 24 April 2003 on approval of temporal norms of air emissions • Decision No 147 of 21 March 2007 on fuels, petrol and diesel quality Other: • The Albanian Intersectoral Environment Strategy presents a strategy for reducing the emission of atmospheric pollutants in varied ways, which include: • monitoring of air quality in line with EU requirements, • control and reduction of discharges of gases to the atmosphere by motorized vehicles, • control and reduction of discharges of polluting substances from industrial plants,

¹ WHO, 'WHO | Country Profiles of Environmental Burden of Disease', WHO, 2008
<http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/en/#T>.

	06#sthash.d4oySA1w.dpuf) Air quality monitoring system: • In Albania, systematic monitoring of basic air pollutants is done in eight stations in five cities.	• control and reduction of dust caused by construction, • planning for air quality management.
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	Industries that have the potential to impact air quality: • Air pollution from industrial installations emanates from the following: food and tobacco products; textiles and clothing; lumber, oil, cement, chemicals, mining, basic metals, among others GDP of country: US 12.8B in 2013² Industries' share of GDP: 12%³ Electricity sources: • 5.6% of the installed electricity generating capacity (1.726 million KW in 2012) is generated from fossil fuel and the rest 94.4% from hydroelectric plants Others ??? •	Emission regulations for industries: ??? Small installation's emissions regulated: (Yes/No) ??? Renewable energy investment promoted: • The updated National Energy Strategy (NES) 2006-2020 aims to incentivising the use of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, biomass) in order to maximise the use of local resources. Energy efficiency incentives: (ex: Subsidies, labelling, rebates etc) • According to Albania's Energy Strategy, energy savings are expected to be around 22.5% of the total energy consumption by 2015⁴. Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies: ??? Actions to ensure compliance with regulations: (monitoring, enforcement, fines etc) • Emissions from industrial plants are regularly monitored. If quantities exceed the limit values, fines are imposed or operators are obliged to cease their activities. 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) ???
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT	Key transport-related air quality challenges: (ex: vehicle growth, old fleet, dirty fuel, poor public transport etc) • Albania public transport is dominated by buses and minibuses • Use of private cars is discouraged as	Vehicle emission limit: (Euro rating) none⁷ Fuel Sulphur content: (in ppm) 10ppm legislated in 21 March 2007 with Decision Nr. 147 of the Prime Minister Fuel Lead content: All vehicles use lead free gasoline Restriction on used car importation:

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

³ 'Countries of the World - 32 Years of CIA World Fact Books'.

⁴ 'Reegle - Clean Energy Information Gateway', Reegle - Clean Energy Information Gateway <<http://www.reegle.info>> [accessed 22 September 2015].

	demonstrated by the high fuel cost which stood at USD 1.35 per litre in 2015⁵. Private car ownership is low with 124 cars per 1000 individuals in 2010⁶	Albania imports fuels and vehicles and there are no vehicle emission importation or age restrictions. However, an import tax is assessed based on vehicle age and engine size, favoring newer and small petrol vehicles Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit: ??? Actions to promote non-motorized transport: (ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc) ???
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING: OUTDOOR	Outdoor, open burning: (ex: is it commonly done? burning what kinds of wastes? etc)	Legal framework: (ex: is burning banned?) ??? Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste: ???
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING: INDOOR	Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating: ??? Impact: WHO estimates that indoor air pollution causes 100 premature deaths annually⁸	Indoor air pollution regulated: (Yes / No) ??? Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification: ??? Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves: ??? Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions: ???

⁷ UNEP, 'UNEP - Transport - Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles', 2015 <<http://www.unep.org/transport/new/pcfvt/>> [accessed 28 September 2015].

⁵ 'Gasoline Prices around the World, 28-Sep-2015 | GlobalPetrolPrices.com' <http://www.globalpetrolprices.com/gasoline_prices/> [accessed 5 October 2015].

⁶ World Bank, 'Motor Vehicles (per 1,000 People) | Data | Table', 2014

<<http://web.archive.org/web/20140209114811/http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IS.VEH.NVEH.P3>> [accessed 25 September 2015].

⁸ WHO.