

Azerbaijan Air Quality Overview

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.

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Azerbaijan Air Quality Overview		
Goals	Status	Current Policies & Programmes
GENERAL OVERVIEW	Overall situation with respect to air quality in the country, including key air quality challenges: • The developed oil and gas industry, spanning almost 150 years history and industrialized cities of the Soviet period, such as Baku, Sumgait, Ganja, Shirvan has made Azerbaijan vulnerable to air pollution. • Transport emissions are accountable for 80% of air pollution. • Azerbaijan has already taken some steps in the air quality improvement process, which include; • The replacement of medium-sized buses with large ones in public transport, • the application of intellectual transport management system, • the gradual implementation of Euro emission standards for vehicles • Soviet-era industrial facilities working with old technology and equipment were cancelled; • Industrial parks meeting modern	National Ambient air quality standards: • Currently the main standards for air quality are still based on the Soviet period GOSTs • Technical Committee on the Environment was established to apply international standards and norms National Air Quality Policy: Air Quality legislation / programmes: • The primary law on air quality is the law on ambient air protection N 109-IIQ/27.03.2001. • Other specific issues of air quality are regulated by sub-laws, mostly by decrees of the Cabinet • Particular issues such as the regulation of source-based pollution, fuel and transport certification rules, permit issuing for dangerous substances are regulated by special Decrees • Signatory on various international conventions, including Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, Convention on Climate Change, Montreal Protocol Other: Actions being carried out: restructuring of polluting enterprises, inactivation of old businesses, stopping import of vehicles that don't meet standards, accelerate transition to high Euro standard, improving fuel quality. Afforestation and reforestation efforts to increase forest cover. More than 21 million trees have been planted on non-forest lands •

	environmental requirements established. • WHO estimates that outdoor air pollution causes 3800 premature deaths annually¹ Air quality monitoring system: • Air quality monitoring is being set up in the eight major industrial cities (Baku, Sumgait, Ganja, Mingachevir, Shirvan, Sheki, Lankaran, Nakhchivan)	
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	Industries that have the potential to impact air quality: • Air pollution from industrial installations emanates from the following: petroleum and petroleum products, natural gas, oilfield equipment; steel, iron ore; cement; chemicals and petrochemicals among others GDP of country: USD 75.21B in 2014² Industries' share of GDP: 41.5%³ Electricity sources: • 80% of the installed electricity generating capacity is generated from fossil fuel, 14% from hydroelectric plants and 4% is generated from other renewable sources⁴ Others •	Emission regulations for industries: • The pollution of atmosphere by harmful pollutants from stationary sources is subject to special permission. • The special permission is issued on a three years basis. • Stationary sources are classified into four categories depending on the quality and quantity of their emissions. Small installation's emissions regulated: (Yes/No) ??? Renewable energy investment promoted: • The State Programme on the Use of the Alternative and Renewable Sources in Azerbaijan Republic was approved in 2004 • Technologies to promote renewable energy, wind power installations have been exempted from VAT and customs duties; wholesale prices of electricity produced by wind power adapted to the cost of traditional energy sources • Since 2009: 10 new hydro power stations (125MW), 4 wind power stations (63MW), 4 solar power stations (13MW), biomass and waste incineration plant (38MW) added Energy efficiency incentives: (ex: Subsidies, labelling, rebates etc) ??? Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies: State Program for the Development of Industry 2015-2020 promotes energy efficient and clean technologies, and has enhanced the monitoring of industrial pollution. Tax and

¹ WHO, 'WHO | Country Profiles of Environmental Burden of Disease', WHO, 2008

<http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/en/#T>.

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

		customs incentives, soft loans, simplification of administrative procedures provided. Balakhani Eco-Industrial Park established to support creation of production facilities, promotion of green businesses, enabling favourable tax incentives, recycling and re-use Actions to ensure compliance with regulations: (<i>monitoring, enforcement, fines etc</i>) Fines imposed Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industrial emissions: In Baku City, outdated industrial facilities closed and moved out of city; construction of modern power plants and upgrading of old ones increased efficiency, producing a savings of 1.9 million tons of conventional fuel per year Thermal power plants have discontinued use of residual fuel oil and instead use natural gas
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT	Key transport-related air quality challenges: (<i>ex: vehicle growth, old fleet, dirty fuel, poor public transport etc</i>) ● Mobile sources are accountable for almost 80% of air pollution in Azerbaijan ● As part of air pollution abatement policy in 2010 Azerbaijan government has started the implementation of Euro emission standards into national legislation ● Public transport is not fully developed but it offers adequate service around the country	Vehicle emission limit: (<i>Euro rating</i>) ● Azerbaijan officially passed to Euro IV standard on April 1, 2014. Fuel Sulphur content: (<i>in ppm</i>) ● Sulphur limit in both diesel and gasoline is restricted at 30ppm Fuel Lead content: All vehicles use lead free gasoline Restriction on used car importation: ● Car manufacture before 2005 are prohibited Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit: Action plan to improve Baku City transportation was implemented 2008-2013, including pedestrian crossings and new model public transport vehicles Actions to promote non-motorized transport: (<i>ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc</i>) public awareness raising to promote bicycles; 4km bicycle routes built along Baku seaside park; bike lanes established in some parts of city
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING: OUTDOOR	Outdoor, open burning: (<i>ex: is it commonly done? burning what kinds of wastes? etc</i>) ● Uncontrolled waste burning is one of the practices that contributes to deteriorating air quality in urban centres ● Agricultural waste burning can also impact air quality in the rural areas.	Legal framework: (<i>ex: is burning banned?</i>) ??? Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste: Fourth Generation waste-to-energy plant built to process 500 thousand tons of municipal solid waste to produce 230 million kW/year
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN	Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating: electricity and natural gas used for cooking and heating	Indoor air pollution regulated: (<i>Yes / No</i>) ??? Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification: 100% electrification Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves: Gasification Policy provided

BURNING: INDOOR	Impact: WHO estimates that indoor air pollution causes 6200 premature deaths annually⁵	85% of households with natural gas for cooking, and reduced wood use to almost zero Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions: ???
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