

Air Resource Management Center
Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources

What we have done so far:

1. Institutional Strengthening Component

- Developed the National policy on Air Quality Management
- Gazetted Mobile air Emissions, Fuel Quality and vehicle Specification Standards for Importation
- Established 3 Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations including one mobile station and ambient air quality has been monitored in about 10 cities.
- Daily ambient air quality monitoring on Colombo Fort railway station, Meteorology Department & Central Environmental Authority premises.
- Established the Air Resource Management Centre
- Centre was furnished with the IT equipment and furniture
- Held an Institutional development workshop
- Held 2 workshops to discuss Clean Air 2007 Action Plan
- Held 44 meetings on crash programme to enforce Mobile air Emissions, Fuel Quality and vehicle Specification Standards for Importation

2. Vehicle Emission Reduction Component

- Completed of the Urban Air Quality Management Project (UAQMP) funded by the World Bank
- Developed a plan for vehicle emission control, through the International Consultant under the UAQMP
- Purchased 2 Gas Analysers & 2 Smoke meters for pilot programmes on vehicle emission control.
- Completed 2 pilot vehicle emission monitoring programmes having tested 700 vehicles such as buses, trucks, lorries, cars, dual purpose vehicles, two & three wheelers
- Arrangements underway to establish Nation wide network of 80-vehicle emission testing centres.
- Held 3 awareness workshops about vehicle emission reduction
- Held vehicle emission reduction awareness campaign with Rotary Club
- Trained 50 technical officers to train mechanics on vehicle emission reduction.
- Trained 10 Traffic Police Officers to testing for vehicle emissions.
- Held 20 awareness workshops on proposed vehicle emission standards & implementation to Private Bus Owners in 20 districts that include Colombo, Trincomalee, Vaunia, Rathnapura, Ampara, Kurunegala, Badulla, Kandy, Galle & Negombo etc.
- Revised & amended mobile air emissions, fuel quality and vehicle specification standards for importation by 01st July 2003

3. Fiscal Policies on Fuels & Vehicles Component

- A report was prepared with the recommendation on fiscal policies on fuels & vehicles through the World Bank and an International Consultant

4. Fuel Quality Improvement Component

- Introduced unleaded petrol Island wide
- A report was compiled with the recommendation on fuel quality improvement through the World Bank and International Consultant
- Held an awareness workshop on Lead free petrol
- Improved the diesel & petrol quality according to the new gazette regulation

5. Awareness Creation

- Published Newsletters, brochures, leaflets, posters, stickers and newspaper articles for public & vehicle owners awareness
- Established a web site (www.airmacsl.org) to disseminate information to the people
- Held 3 awareness exhibitions about air quality management and health impacts at BMICH - Colombo, University of Jayawardanapura & U. B. Wanninayaka Vidyalaya – Galgamuwa.
- Prepared 2 video films about Air Quality Management and health impacts for the use in awareness programmes for school children, general public, vehicle operators and vehicle owners.
- Publishing air quality monitoring data in newspapers and electronic media
- Organized 25 awareness programmes for school children in Colombo district.
- Held a teachers training workshop on air quality management & health impacts.

Planned Actions:

1. Institutional Strengthening Component

- Institutionalization of the Air Resource Management Center (AirMAC)
- Finalize the “Clean Air 2007 Action Plan”
- Develop an emission inventory & an air quality model for Colombo and Sri Lanka
- Studies on economics & environmental costs related to air pollution

2. Vehicle Emission Reduction Component

- Train 500 garage mechanics Island wide on reduce vehicle emission of the motor vehicles
- Establish 80 Vehicle Emission Testing Centres Island wide
- Monitor ambient air quality in 10 cities.

3. Fiscal Policies on Fuels & Vehicles Component

- Implement the new fiscal policies on fuels & vehicles according to the new gazette regulation

4. Fuel Quality Improvement Component

- Test the fuel quality annually
- Promote research studies on improvement of ambient air through new fuel

5. Awareness Creation

- Organize awareness programmes on indoor air pollution