



# AIR QUALITY WORK IN UN ENVIRONMENT

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United Nations  
Environment Programme

# PRESENTATION SUMMARY

- Air pollution: a global challenge
- Air Quality and UN Environment's mandate
- Progress overview
- Zooming in on major areas of work on air quality
- Looking ahead

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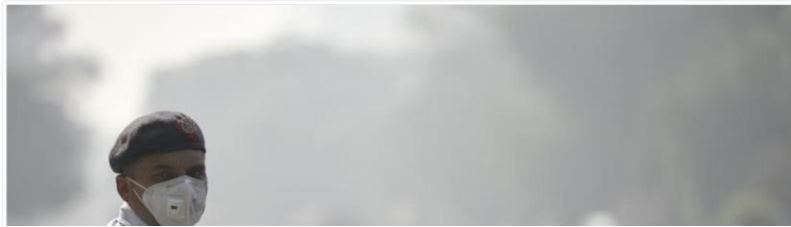
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## Delhi finally has an action plan to combat air pollution, here's how you can help

The Graded Response Action Plan designed to control air pollution in Delhi-NCR comes into force today. Different agencies have their roles carved out but individuals can chip in too

**DELHI** Updated: Oct 17, 2017 11:13 IST

**ht** Joydeep Thakur & Ritam Halder  
Hindustan Times, New Delhi



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## Pollution causing more deaths worldwide than war or smoking: Lancet

**At least 9 million premature deaths were caused by diseases from toxic emissions**

The Associated Press Posted: Oct 20, 2017 7:51 AM ET | Last Updated: Oct 20, 2017 1:30 PM ET



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## Pollution linked to 9 million deaths worldwide in 2015, study says

by Susan Scutti, CNN

Updated 1352 GMT (2152 HKT) October 20, 2017



The World Health Organization says poor air quality is the greatest environmental health risk

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## Hard-hitting air pollution posters to go on display on London's Tube network

1,577 640 Matthew Taylor

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## Sadiq Khan: Gove must get a grip on 'life and death' air pollution crisis

Mayor of London wants urgent meeting with new environment secretary to press for action on toxic air quality

**CLEANER AIR FOR LONDON**

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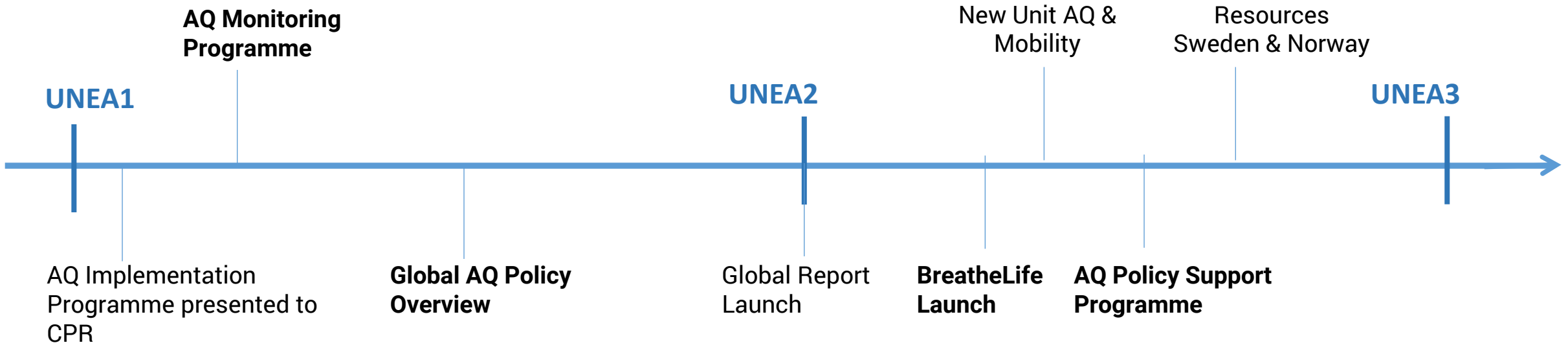
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Friday 23 June 2017 10:00 BST

# UNEA RESOLUTIONS

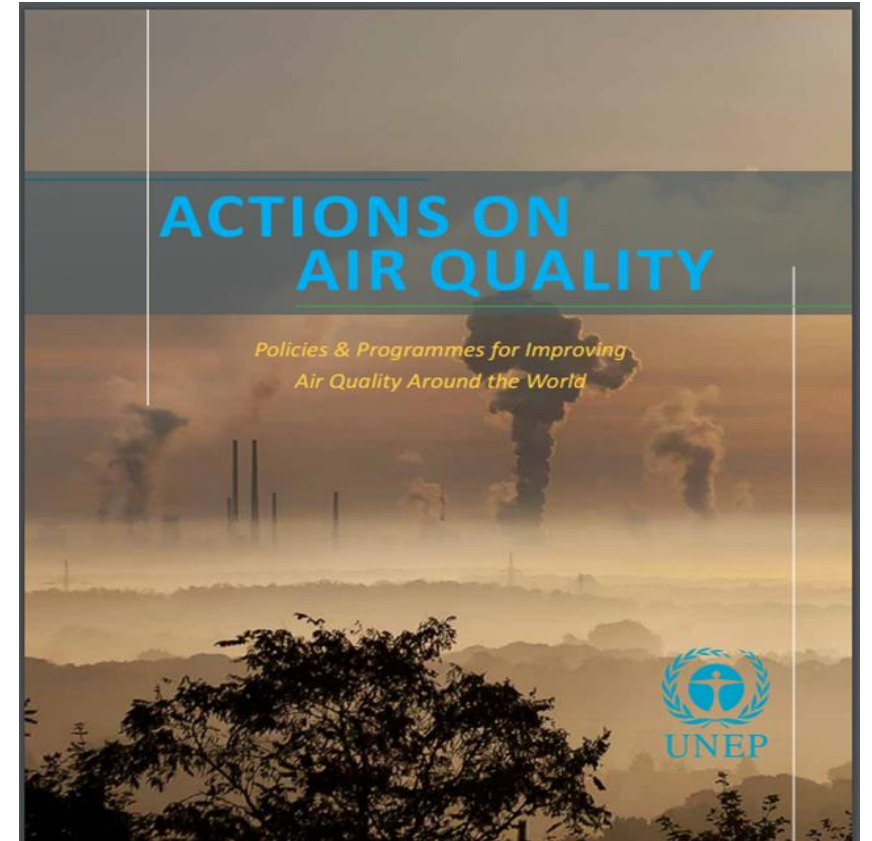
- **UNEA Resolution 1/7 on air quality:** requests UN Environment to support governments in their efforts to implement the resolution through:
  - **capacity-building activities;**
  - **awareness-raising;**
  - **strengthened cooperation on air pollution;**
  - **Monitoring and assessment of air quality issues; and**
  - **Undertaking global, regional and sub-regional assessments.**
- **UNEA Resolution 2/21 on sand and dust storms** requests the Executive Director to support member States through:
  - **identification of relevant data and information gaps**
  - **policy measures and actions**
  - **building on the “Global assessment of sand and dust storms” under General Assembly resolution 70/195 of 22 December 2015**

# UN ENVIRONMENT ACTIONS ON AIR QUALITY



# UN ENVIRONMENT AQ REPORT

- Analyzed AQ policies in cooperation with Member States (193 countries)
- 14 Sub regional reports
- Global summary
- Ten key actions

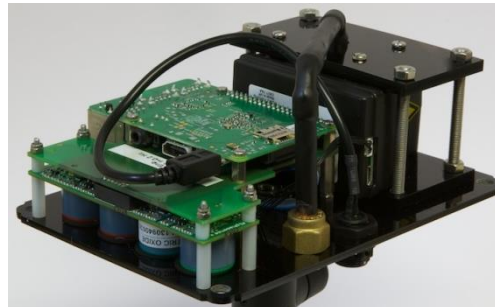


# FINDINGS ON AIR QUALITY POLICY ACTIONS AROUND THE WORLD



# UNEP'S MAIN AREAS OF WORK ON AIR QUALITY: 1. MONITORING & ASSESSMENT

- Pilot countries for 2017-18: Costa Rica, Paraguay, Kenya
- Catalyzed commercial production of open-source device
- Leveraging partnerships to test application of low cost technology in 3-5 cities
- Revising strategy to focus less on technology and more on assessment of its use
- **Regional air quality and health assessment in six countries underway: Ethiopia, Botswana, Benin & Thailand, Sri Lanka, Mongolia**





# UNEP'S MAIN AREAS OF WORK:

## 2. AQ POLICY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

- Demonstration project in three African Cities (i.e. Kigali, Addis Ababa and Nairobi)
- Conduct an analysis of air pollution source apportionment
- Support the development of policy recommendations
- Develop one or two specific targeted interventions (sectoral or regulatory support)

### *A ten point plan to clean up London's air*

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|    | Deliver a more ambitious Air Quality Strategy             |    | Push for tighter emissions standards for new diesels    |
|    | Restrict the most polluting vehicles from entering London |    | Back calls for an increase in taxes on new diesels      |
|    | Clean up the taxi fleet                                   |    | Back calls for a diesel scrappage scheme                |
|    | Clean up the bus fleet                                    |    | Prevent polluting generators from being built in London |
|  | Promote electric vehicles and car clubs                   |  | Tackle emissions from gas boilers                       |

# UN ENVIRONMENT'S MAIN AREAS OF WORK

## 3. CLEAN MOBILITY

- Many sectoral programs that benefit air quality (forests, tourism, production and consumption, law, renewable energy, mobility, ...)
- Clean mobility - many countries & cities projects:
  - Walking and Cycling (7 country projects)
  - Clean Fuels and Vehicles (58 country projects)
  - Clean Urban Bus Fleets (8 country projects)
  - Clean Ports (4 country projects)
  - Electric Vehicles (28 country projects)



**CLIMATE &  
CLEAN AIR  
COALITION**  
TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED  
CLIMATE POLLUTANTS



# UNEP'S MAIN AREAS OF WORK:

## 4. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES

- Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)
- Regional Environment and Health Forums (UN Environment & World Health Organisation)
- Cooperation with Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP),
- UN Environment as host of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network of East Asia (EANET)
- Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership
- Health, Environment and Climate Change Coalition as a key partnership between WHO, World Meteorological Organisation and UN Environment

XIX Reunión del Foro de Ministros de Medio Ambiente de América Latina y El Caribe.

### Decisión 8.

#### **Plan de Acción Regional sobre Contaminación Atmosférica**

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**Conscientes** que la contaminación atmosférica es una seria amenaza para la salud pública, el bienestar humano y la integridad de los ecosistemas;

**Preocupados** por los efectos y costos de la contaminación atmosférica en el logro de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio, y el potencial de desarrollo de los países de la región;

**Reconociendo** que el rápido crecimiento urbano, agrícola, industrial y del parque automotor en la región ha hecho que la contaminación atmosférica represente una preocupación cada vez mayor para la región;

**Considerando** que cada vez es más evidente que la contaminación atmosférica es un fenómeno de orden regional y mundial, por la capacidad de los agentes contaminantes de transformarse y recorrer largas distancias atravesando fronteras nacionales y continentes, por lo que se requiere una efectiva cooperación a escala regional y sub-regional;

# 5. SAND AND DUST STORMS

- UN Environment has developed a strategy building on global assessment of sand and dust storms
- A project is under development to assess and promote green technology, such as wind breaks and sand dune stabilisation



## 6. CAMPAIGNING: RAISE AWARENESS AMONG CITIZENS

35 cities - home to 25 million people - have joined the campaign in 1 year

- Providing Authoritative Air Quality Data portrayed interactively
- Run social media campaigns
- Work with media organizations to tell the story
- Provide awareness materials
- Promote the work cities are doing to improve air quality

# BREATHE LIFE

AIR POLLUTION ISSUE GLOBALLY

**Over 80% of the world's cities have air pollution levels over the WHO guideline for safe air**



[BreatheLife2030.org](https://www.breathelife2030.org)



# LOOKING AHEAD: UN ENVIRONMENT'S AMBITION ON AIR QUALITY

Develop an integrated menu of services to countries :

- Building from UN Environment work in regions
- Country level strategies with various components i.e. monitoring, assessments, support to legislation and standards, education and awareness-raising on air quality
- Sectoral interventions i.e. fuels and vehicles, public transport, waste burning, clean industry, indoor air pollution, sand and dust storms
- City level projects
- Global programmes including campaigns and advocacy efforts

# STRENGTHENING UN ENVIRONMENT'S ROLE IN AIR QUALITY

- Political & institutional:
  - 2018-2021 Medium Term Strategy to support agency-wide air quality programming
  - UNEA3 resolution on air quality
- Partnerships:
  - Continue to build synergies with the Climate and Clean Air Coalition numerous activities in countries on air quality (e.g. Urban Health, Heavy Duty Diesel Initiative, Support to National Planning Initiative, etc )
  - global partners: World Health Organisation, World Meteorological Organisation, UN-HABITAT, World Bank, etc
  - South South cooperation approach: Link with Centre for Science and Environment, Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership, Clean Air Asia, etc
  - Continue to strengthen sectoral programmes
- Resources:
  - Fund raising strategy
  - Additional core and extra-budgetary resources