

Overview of India Priority Needs for Assistance in Air Quality Management

Country	Priority needs for assistance in AQM and related areas	Background information	Specific type of assistance required	Agency or organization involved
India	Thermal power plants 1. Assessment and impact of mercury emissions from Indian Thermal Power Plants 2. Flue gas desulphurization requirement in Indian Thermal Power Plants	At present there is no control on the SO ₂ emissions from coal based thermal power plants in India. A detailed assessment of the emissions and their impacts followed by formulating strategies for control are needed.	Financial and technical assistance	
	Air Pollution Forecast in cities by an air pollution index highly correlated with meteorological variables	The daily index would be highly correlated with meteorological variables and be capable of identifying variables that significantly affect the air pollution. Forecasting of air pollution index can forewarn the public of unhealthy air and encourage people to voluntarily reduce emissions-producing activities and avoid exposures to polluted environment. This forecasting can be made with use of mathematical models for any city. IIT Kanpur has proposed an air quality index for India.	Financial and technical assistance	Central Pollution Control Board
	Studies on: 1. Assessment of Hazardous Air Pollutants in the ambient air of Chemical Industrial zones in India 2. Assessment of Benzene concentration in all Ambient Air of Metropolitan cities in India 3. Epidemiological studies related with various criteria pollutants 4. Assessment of Fine Particulate Matter concentration in India and its source apportionment for taking remedial measures	A detailed assessment of the emissions and their impacts followed by formulating strategies for control are needed. These studies could be carried out in collaboration with Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI and Central Pollution Control Board after holding detailed discussions with them. Data already available should also be used. This could also include bringing together the scattered studies conducted by some agencies.	Financial and technical assistance	Ministry of Environment and Forests and Central Pollution Control Board
	Public transport (running on clean fuel) for cities	The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA), the pollution monitoring arm of the Supreme Court, issued a 7-point agenda of action to improve air quality in eight cities. Funds are available to cities – under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission – to buy urban transport buses. To get this money, cities have to: (1) prepare a project report giving details of the city bus service/bus rapid transit system's planning, financial arrangements, user charges, sustainability analysis, operational maintenance, etc. and (2) ensure that the scheme for buses is tied to certain reforms in the field of urban transport.	Financial and technical assistance	City governments Ministry of Urban Development