

# COLOMBIA

SNAP - SUPPORTING  
NATIONAL ACTION AND  
PLANNING ON SLCPs



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## DELIVERING BENEFITS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

In recent years, Colombia has been affected by climate change and air pollution, affecting the lives of many people

### Motivating National SLCP Planning

Climate change impacts have put pressure on ecosystems and crop yields in Colombia. Changes in air quality are affecting human health. Noticeably, traditional manufacturing and cooking processes which have poor efficiency, use low quality fuels and have high pollutant emissions that threaten air quality.

Colombia became engaged in the CCAC SNAP initiative because air quality and climate change issues are at the forefront of its agenda.

The SNAP initiative is being used to acquire and understand all necessary information required to develop a national plan. This includes understanding the linkages between climate change, air pollution and effects on health and crop yields. The proposed plan will detail specific actions to deliver benefits at a regional level. There are still many things the government and other stakeholders need to learn regarding these issues and what can be done to address them.

### Getting Started

The Ministry of Environment of Colombia participated in Phase I of SNAP in 2013. An early version of LEAP-IBC was used to identify priority sectors to understand those relevant to SLCP strategies. A planning document was produced using a multivariate analysis to determine priority actions. Colombia then compiled information about initiatives already in place and how to enable the transition of these to contribute to SLCP mitigation.

30% of the rural population of Colombia cooks with wood in traditional cook stoves, a source of black carbon and other particulate emissions that cause health impacts

obtain reliable data in the future that will be used to update emissions inventories for sources of methane and black carbon.

### Taking Action

Colombia is working to integrate SLCP mitigation strategies into existing policy frameworks, especially the National Air Quality Policy and National Climate Change Policy, both of which are currently being developed. Colombia started a new process to define a climate change strategy in February 2016, which is a first step in developing an institutional framework for mitigation. With the legal framework on climate change, funding is available in the national and regional budgets to implement required action on SLCPs. The air quality policy will be reviewed in 2018 and the numbers developed in SNAP will be included.

The Law on Climate Change is important as it provides legal support for the implementation of actions on SLCP sources, given that much of the action on SLCPs is linked with action on climate change. Of the

### Strength in Numbers

The LEAP-IBC tool helped Colombia to determine the main emitting sectors relevant to SLCP mitigation, and quantify emissions from different scenarios to determine the priority actions that Colombia could take. Data for the analysis was sourced internationally, nationally and locally. Lead institutions for each polluting sector are now being identified to



100 measures proposed in Colombia's INDC, 15 resulted from Phase I of SNAP. An SLCP unit has been created as part of the climate change policy process, which includes personnel from both air quality and climate groups within the Ministry

Colombia has been working closely across ministries to identify and implement actions specific to SLCPs in the next few years. Close relationships with the regions and local governments are also critical to create programs and activities that will support the mitigation of SLCP. Colombia has engaged with stakeholders from the priority sectors, seeing them as an essential part to deliver action to reduce emissions.

Colombia is already working closely with the agriculture sector to reduce emissions from rice paddy systems using intermittent wetting and drying methods, by addressing the use of biomass fuels in sugar cane processing

and reducing methane emissions by improved manure management.

Air quality policy relevant to SLCPs includes measures related to transport and brick kilns as well as other fixed sources of emissions, and action on these will therefore in turn address SLCP emissions. Colombia is now working with different initiatives related to action on landfill, brick production and cookstove emissions.

Colombia is engaging the different regions of the country to gain their support to create a country-wide effort to reduce SLCP emissions. So far, 60 regional climate change plans have been reviewed, as the climate measures within this legal framework provides an opportunity to get SLCP action implemented.

## Recruiting Support

Promoting action can be a problem where there is a lack of knowledge about SLCPs. The national planning process can help to quantify benefits of taking action and relate them to issues that people care about. For example, reducing emissions from cookstoves to promote human health provides an effective message, and it is easy to persuade people to get behind air quality improvements when expressed in terms of health improvements, especially in cities with high pollutant concentrations. The most important aspect of SNAP is having factual, relevant information. Colombia has learned that if there is no information, plans and policies are instead created from guesswork.



### The CCAC SNAP Initiative

The objective of the SNAP Initiative is to develop capacity within SLCP partner countries for effective national planning as a foundation for rapid and large-scale implementation of SLCP mitigation. It has three key objectives:

- Supporting the development of national SLCP planning processes - facilitating action in countries by embedding SLCPs in on-going activities and national policies; strengthening institutions and building capacity to coordinate issues related to SLCPs at the national scale;
- Enhancing tools and approaches to support key steps of the national planning process - the development of emission scenarios, estimation of benefits of emission reductions to help in prioritising different measures for SLCP reduction;
- Fostering linkages and collaboration between national SLCP planning with global and regional processes, initiatives and approaches.

### SNAP Network

Implementers include: the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (IGSD), International Union of Air Pollution Prevention and Environmental Protection Associations (IUAPPA), Molina Center for Energy and the Environment (MCE2), UNEP Energy Branch, UNEP regional offices and 14 participating countries, including Bangladesh, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mexico, Nigeria, Chile, Ethiopia, Jordan, Liberia, Maldives, Morocco, Peru, and Togo. More information: <http://www.ccacoalition.org/en/initiatives/snap>

### About the CCAC

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC) is a voluntary global partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, business, scientific institutions and civil society committed to catalysing concrete, substantial action to reduce SLCPs (including methane, black carbon and many hydrofluorocarbons). The Coalition works through collaborative initiatives to raise awareness, mobilise resources, and lead transformative actions in key emitting sectors.

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