



MEXICO

SNAP - SUPPORTING NATIONAL ACTION AND PLANNING ON SLCPs



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ADDRESSING BOTH AIR POLLUTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Mexico is committed to developing policies that take an integrated approach to tackle both its air pollution problems and climate change to realize the health, environmental and technological benefits

Importance of national planning for Mexico

Mexico is a founding partner of the CCAC and was involved in the first phase of the CCAC SNAP Initiative starting in 2013. Over the years, Mexico has realised that its response to climate change needs to implement mitigation action not only on greenhouse gases but also take action on emission reductions for Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs). This is because the environmental, social and health benefits of SLCP mitigation are important. The national planning exercise supported by the SNAP initiative to address SLCPs in Mexico provided an opportunity to promote a strategic and integrated approach to public policy.

The importance placed on national planning in Mexico stemmed from the fact that SLCP mitigation requires coordinated actions in many different sectors and implies involvement of several stakeholders. For example, implementing measures to reduce black carbon emissions requires action on traditional cookstoves using wood, on emissions from traditional brick kilns, and atmospheric pollution in cities from diesel vehicles. Similarly, measures to reduce methane emissions need actions from various sectors, including oil and gas industries and agriculture.

Getting Started

To start the SLCP planning exercise, Mexico approached stakeholders from

relevant sectors such as the brick making, transport and oil and gas, to source information and identify data gaps. Instrumental to this process was the LEAP-IBC tool which was used to compile 15 years of information collected from different national emission inventories.

Mexico was one of the pilot countries supported by CCAC to develop national planning for action on SLCPs. The National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC) is the focal point for the CCAC in Mexico and it coordinated government agencies,

Mexico was the first nation to set specific targets for black carbon as part of its INDC, and explicitly included SLCPs as part of their NDC strategy

research and academic institutions during the SLCP national planning process. A first-order draft SLCP national plan was developed by Mexico to prioritise mitigation strategies on SLCPs within national policies and programs, including the Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS), UNFCCC National Communications, air quality management programmes and climate action plans.

Taking Action

In 2012, Mexico enacted a General Law on Climate Change which explicitly recognises SLCPs as part of the action that is required to successfully address climate change and improve air quality. The Law calls for a 'National Strategy' on climate change that explicitly integrates SLCP mitigation measures into existing national policy. This was followed by a 'Special Programme on Climate Change' which was officially launched in 2014. Conclusions reached during SNAP Phase I fed into a number of policy instruments, especially in material supporting the Special Programme on Climate Change allowing the inclusion targets and measures to reduce emissions from key sectors giving rise to black carbon.

The Mexican government created institutional capacity inside INECC with support from CCAC SNAP to coordinate SLCP activities across all different sectors and Ministries. This has enabled it to gather information on all the opportunities to insert and execute SLCP projects and actions that form part of the climate change and air quality policy.



The SLCP national planning has also supported NDC development processes, and emission inventories calculated with SNAP support are currently informing the National Air Quality Strategy, an ambitious national strategy to address air quality. The publication of Mexico's INDC in 2015 showed the country's commitment to reduce 22% of GHG and 51% of black carbon emissions by 2030.

Finally the baseline developed during SNAP Phase I was used to inform the Mexican contribution to the Integrated Assessment of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Implementing SLCP measures

Mexico is implementing specific measures that focus on key SLCP sources. This includes action in the transport sector that represents the foremost opportunity to improve air quality and mitigate climate change. Mexico City is working to introduce new bus standards, mandating EURO VI technology for all new buses in 2018.

There are also programmes to reduce emissions from cookstoves and brick kilns, which are major sectors related to SLCPs. An example of a successful story is an INECC-led project that has been implemented within coastal wetland communities to mitigate SLCPs by improving waste management practices and

promoting clean cookstoves and reduce open burning of agricultural waste through alternative strategies and technologies.

Action in the private sector is needed to achieve success in reducing BC and methane emissions and Mexico has prioritised the development of public-private dialogues, for example with the oil and gas sector.

Recruiting Support

Through engagement with the CCAC, Mexico is informing key stakeholders on SLCPs and the co-benefits realized through mitigation. Mexico is emphasising the improvements in health and quality of life that emission mitigation strategies will bring about.

Mexico also understands the value of sharing information and practices with other countries in the region and globally. They realize that the economic, technological and health benefits brought about by the actions they have outlined in the national planning exercise will impact the entire Latin America and the Caribbean region.



Current Activities related to SNAP

SNAP Phase II will allow a more mature analysis of the issues and help identify the synergies between different actions and policies in the NDC program process that Mexico is currently developing.

SNAP will contribute to the technical analysis that Mexico is undertaking in order to elaborate the economic, technological and social path that will allow to implement SCLPs mitigation as part of the climate change policy.

In the NDC, black carbon and methane emission reductions represent some of the most important mitigation targets. The inclusion of SLCPs, and the action required to achieve these targets, represents an increase in its ambition and commitment since it is additional to what the country has previously committed to.

For Mexico, the NDC programme process is a great opportunity to include mitigation actions into both the NDC itself as well as the national SLCP planning process. This can be used as a way to convince other sectors that they need to take coordinated actions and develop more focussed reduction programs and also engage more closely in collaborative work with other CCAC initiatives.

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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