



BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

Integrated Assessment of SLCP in Latin America and the Caribbean Background Document

Background

Since March 2014 the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Government of Mexico, through the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC), are leading the development of a Regional Assessment on Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). By providing updated information on the state and trends of SLCPs, this Assessment aims at **supporting the informed development and implementation of air quality and climate change policies**. It also represents a unique opportunity to put together relevant scientific information in support of regional policy actions on SLCPs, including the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on Atmospheric Pollution, adopted by the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2014.

Objectives and Scope of the SLCP Assessment in Latin America and the Caribbean

In 2012, an Inter-Governmental Consultation on SLCPs in Latin America and the Caribbean was convened in Bogota. The 20 participating governments called upon the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC) to support the development of a LAC regional assessment of SLCP issues. In response to this call, the CCAC has decided to support a major integrated assessment of SLCPs which will be undertaken across the region over the next two years to support and provide a framework for national action; underpin regional co-operation on SLCP mitigation; and provide a regional focus for engagement with policy makers, scientists, technical experts, and other key stakeholders.

The LAC regional SLCP assessment has been implemented through a broad and representative team of scientific and policy experts from across the region, with the support of the initiative partners – UNEP, INECC, SEI, IUAPPA – and other institutions, and underpinned by governmental and stakeholder consultations and outreach within the region.

This assessment is being developed for LAC region to enable the potential benefits of adopting an SLCP approach for this region to be better quantified and assessed. Through this assessment we will be able to determine: which measures are most important for delivering the near-term benefits; a better quantification and understanding of relevant emissions in the region; the reductions in regional PM_{2.5} and ozone that can be achieved by implementing the measures, with associated health and crop-yield benefits for the LAC region.

This LAC Assessment has been designed to specifically provide:

- A vehicle for regional focus for co-operation of policy makers, scientists, practitioners, and other key stakeholders at high levels on scaled up SLCP mitigation;



BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

- Improve regionally-specific and relevant information and guidance, and proposals for addressing uncertainties, gaps in knowledge and capacity development, as a basis for more scientifically robust and effective action on SLCPs in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- A regionally-owned scientific and policy assessment to support national action, and help ensure that the priorities and needs of the region are properly understood in international initiatives; and
- A vehicle for enhancing public understanding of the issue.

The report uses (1) the DPSIR framework– Drivers (e.g. GDP; population) – Pressure (emissions) – State (concentration) – Impact (health, agriculture etc.) – Response (policy/measures/case studies), extensively used by the UNEP Global Environment Outlook (GEO) reports and (2) the work by the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) for emission scenarios, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration Goddard Institute for Space Studies (NASA-GISS) and the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) for the modelling of climate and other impacts.

General outline

Section	Coordinating Lead Authors
Introduction	Paulo Artaxo, Graciela Raga
Chapter 1. Framing the LAC Assessment	Laura Gallardo, Olga Mayol, Luis Carlos Belarcázar
Chapter 2. Drivers, Regional Emissions and Measurements	Darrel Baumgardner, Fatima Andrade
Chapter 3. Impacts on health, crops, environment and ecosystem services	Laszlo Nagy, Agnes Soares
Chapter 4. SLCP measures, the potential reduction in emissions, and benefits for near term climate and air quality	Johan Kuyleinstierna, Zbigniew Klimont
Chapter 5. Implementation of identified measures across LAC: Progress and Opportunities	Luisa Molina, Víctor Hugo Páramo
Chapter 6. Strategic priorities	Richard Mills, Romina Picolotti, Nathan Borgford-Parnell

Core Team of the Assessment

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