

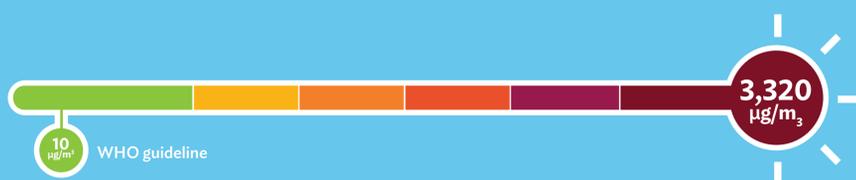
AIR POLLUTION

CHOKING ASIA'S PROSPECTS

Outdoor and indoor air pollution is a leading preventable cause of premature death in Asia; the region must take urgent action.

ADB

Improving Air Quality in Ulaanbaatar



On 30 January 2018 at 5 a.m., levels of PM2.5 reached 3,320 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ 133 times the World Health Organization (WHO) guideline¹



World's coldest capital city with temperatures dropping below -40°C in winter



During wintertime, Ulaanbaatar experiences some of the highest levels of pollution in the world



In winter, 202,000 households burn 1.1 million tons of raw coal²



Ger districts, housing more than 800,000 residents, produce an estimated 80% of ambient fine particulate matter²



40% less lung function recorded in children living in smog-prone districts of Ulaanbaatar compared to children in the countryside³



Fetal death rates increased 3.5 times from winter to summer, a near-perfect correlation between still births and air toxicity³



Respiratory infections have nearly tripled and pneumonia has become the second most frequent cause of death for children under five years of age³

Key Progress To Date:

- National Committee for the Reduction of Air Pollution
- National Program for Reducing Air and Environmental Pollution 2017–2025
- Government banned consumption of raw coal in Ulaanbaatar starting 15 May 2019
- Law on Fees for Air Pollutants system for charging fees on air pollution
- Ulaanbaatar Air Quality Improvement Program (2018): \$130 million⁴



Ulaanbaatar Air Quality Improvement Program, Phase 2: \$160 million (proposed) to include:



URGENT measures to support ban on raw coal burning by households

Strengthening of National Committee's structures

Establishment of improved fuels supply chain

Nighttime tariffs for rollout of electric heaters to 40,000 households

Filters installed in public coal-fired heat boilers



LONGER TERM measures to deliver green heating supplies in ger areas

Certification of green buildings

Financed incentives for green housing

Embedding green standards in urban master plan

Long term plan on clean heat supply to ger areas



MEASURES aimed at reducing health impacts of air pollution

National program of pneumococcal conjugate vaccinations

Community engagement on mitigating indoor air pollution

Upgrading air pollution monitoring systems

In this material, "\$" refers to United States dollars, PM2.5 = fine particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ = micrograms per cubic meter.

¹ UNICEF. 2018. Mongolia's air pollution is a child health crisis. <https://www.unicef.org/eap/press-releases/mongolias-air-pollution-child-health-crisis>

² ADB. 2018. Winning the Fight Against Air Pollution in Ulaanbaatar. <https://www.adb.org/publications/winning-fight-against-air-pollution-ulaanbaatar>

³ UNICEF. 2018. Mongolia's Air Pollution Crisis: A Call to Action to Protect Children's Health Discussion paper. <https://www.unicef.org/eap/sites/unicef.org/eap/files/press-releases/eap-media-Mongolia-air-pollution-crisis-ENG.pdf>

⁴ ADB. Mongolia: Ulaanbaatar Air Quality Improvement Program. <https://www.adb.org/projects/51199-001/main>