

7 October 2015: PM level of 59 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

10 October 2015: PM level of 30 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Bad air?



Particulate matter (PM) — a potent air pollutant and climate forcer

What are the sources of particulate matter?



Sources include vehicles, combustion processes, agricultural waste, and industrial facilities.

Why should we reduce emissions of air pollutants?



#1 Human health

Prevent 3.7 million premature deaths caused by air pollution annually (WHO, 2012).



#2 Food security

Prevent the loss of approx. 32 million tonnes of crops each year (CCAC, 2015).



#3 Climate change

Reduce climate warming between now and 2050 by 0.5 °C. A simultaneous reduction of air pollutant and CO₂ emissions could limit global warming to 2 °C (CCAC, 2015).

“If someone proposed that you could save millions of lives, cut global crop losses by millions of tonnes, and curb climate change by around half a degree Celsius...

What would you do?”

Achim Steiner

Executive Director

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)