

Benefits of clean air to Thai society



In 2016, over 33 000 people in Thailand died from NCDs attributable to ambient air pollution. Critical areas for ambient air pollution control in Thailand include Bangkok and neighboring provinces, the northern provinces and Saraburi and Rayong provinces.

Annual mean concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) in urban areas (µg/m³) in Thailand is

31.9 µg/m³

Thailand's annual average ambient air quality standard for PM_{2.5} is

25 µg/m

WHO air quality guidelines recommends an annual average PM_{2.5} concentration of 5 µg/m³.

Losses

Economic burden of air pollution to Thai society is

THB 163.8 billion

or 1% of GDP annually.

Majority of the burden is from lost productivity due to premature deaths, absenteeism or working at reduced capacity due to illness related disability.



Gains

A study of the burden of disease attributable to ambient air pollution in Thailand estimated that a 20% reduction in ambient air pollution could prevent

up to 25% of avoidable deaths each year from all causes and respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

Recommended actions for clean air

- 1** Strengthen enforcement of existing policies and legislation on air pollution mitigation.
- 2** Control and minimize key air pollutant emissions at the source, including addressing open burning of waste and agricultural crop residues, forest fires, transport, and industry emissions, among others.
- 3** Identify opportunities to scale up clean air action through integrated air quality and climate action policy planning and implementation.
- 4** Strengthen cooperation on air quality and pursue opportunities for coordinated action among provinces in Thailand, and among neighboring countries.
- 5** Develop a robust method for calculating the return on investment of a policy package to reduce ambient air pollution.



To read the full report visit ["Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in Thailand"](#) or scan QR code

