

Air Quality Audit



- ❖ The WHO estimates that 1 in 9 deaths worldwide are caused by air pollution.
- ❖ In Portugal pollution from natural causes occurs mainly with suspended particles carried by air masses from the Sahara and Sahel deserts and those resulting from forest fires. Marine aerosols are also of significant importance in coastal areas.
- ❖ Human activities have become the main sources of pollution, namely, the production of heat and energy, industries, transport, with emphasis on motor vehicles.

AUDIT OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To determine if the Portuguese Government has an air quality policy that ensures an adequate assessment.
- ❖ If sufficient measures have been taken to maintain air pollutant levels below the established limits.

o Audited time period covered: 2010-2018

AUDIT METHODOLOGY

The audit methodology is set out in the following:

- ❖ Audit manuals from the Court of Auditors.
- ❖ Audit framework of the cooperative audit on air quality, carried out within the scope of the EUROSAI Environmental Audit Working Group.
- ❖ European Directives and ISSAI series 3000 and ISSAI 5110 and 5130.



FINDINGS

Air quality policy

- ❖ Portugal has policies related to air quality, namely the National Air Strategy (ENAR 2020), consistent with applicable international commitments and is responsive to the main factors of air pollution in the country.

FINDINGS

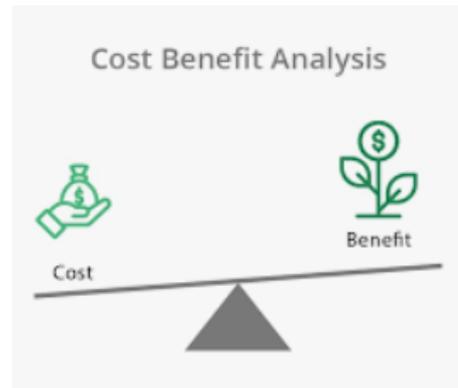
Air quality policy

- ❖ Coordination of policies has been limited and there is no information available on monitoring the air quality policy.
- ❖ The set of measures, defined in the strategy paper, is not:
 - sufficiently implemented,
 - monitored, or
 - clearly costed out, and
 - there is no fixed budget to support such measures, which in some cases limited the funding approved.

FINDINGS

Air quality policy

- ❖ No cost-benefit analysis of
 - the air quality policy; or
 - the measures included in the National Air Strategy.



FINDINGS

Air quality control

- ❖ The Portuguese State evaluates, monitors and manages air quality and generally complies with the obligations in European legislation.



FINDING

Air quality assessment: results

- ❖ Although air quality has been progressively improving in Portugal, the measures taken are not entirely effective in ensuring that the levels of some air pollutants are below the established limits.
- ❖ The health effects of air pollution in Portugal have not been monitored and the available data are not sufficient to identify any positive trend.

FINDING

Air quality assessment: results

- ❖ There are no improvements in the indicators defined in the framework of the United Nations Agenda 2030 SDGs, related to air quality.
- ❖ Large urban areas are the areas in Portugal with the worst air quality.

FINDINGS

Critical and non-compliance situations

- ❖ In Portugal the measurement of particulate emissions in the periodic inspection of motor vehicles is not being carried out in accordance with the appropriate legislation.



FINDINGS

Critical and non-compliance situations



- ❖ Portuguese ports, with the exception of Sines, are not yet proposing to provide electricity from the shore network to ships at berth.

Any question?

