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Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE) Ho Chi Minh City



Ho Chi Minh City Environmental Improvement Project Air Quality Monitoring Component

The air quality monitoring programme for Ho Chi Minh City



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The air quality monitoring programme for Ho Chi Minh City

Introduction

This report is based on a presentation prepared for the Seminar: "HCMC Air Quality Monitoring and Management Programme" This was a final seminar held at the end of the Ho Chi Minh City Improvement Project, Air Quality, Monitoring Component, Second part: Reference laboratory and Training. The project has been supported by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). The seminar was arranged by DONRE in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) on 23 November 2005.

The seminar presented a summary of the air quality monitoring and management programme, which has been developed, based on DANIDA and NORAD funds in Ho Chi Minh City. The presentations were mainly based on the development and training performed by NILU and will include background, monitoring system, calibration laboratory and air quality results.

The basic platform established for the air quality databases, emission inventories as well as the air pollution modelling has been based on the Norwegian developed AirQUIS system. This system may also be used for air quality assessment and planning. To ensure the best possible quality in the programme NORAD added support for the development of a reference and calibration laboratory. Results and status concerning the air pollution situation in HCMC will be presented in the seminar.

The monitoring programme

A total of 9 measurement sites using automatic monitors have been established in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC). Four of the sites were supported by Danida and installed in 2000, while the remaining five sites have been supported by NORAD and were installed with the support from Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU) in 2002. The stations, site characteristics and locations are given in the Table below.

Sta	ations	ns		Indicators					UTM 84 N	
ID	Code	Name	Charact.	PM10	NO2	SO2	O3	со	X coordin (m)	Y coordin (m)
1	DO	DOSTE	Traffic		Х	Х	Х	Х	684,430	1,192,220
2	НВ	Hong Bang	Traffic		Х		х	х	681,620	1,189,460
3	TD	Thu duc	Res/Ind		Х	х			693,640	1,199,790
4	тs	Tan Son Hoa	Urb Bkg		Х	Х	х	х	682,830	1,193,930
5	ΤN	Thong Nhat	Traffic	Х	Х	Х		х	680,690	1,193,530
6	BC	Binh Chanh	Traffic	Х	Х			х	674,500	1,183,000
7	zo	Zoo	Urb Bkg	Х	Х		х		686,420	1,193,370
8	D2	District 2	Res/ind	Х	Х	Х	х		691,160	1,193,510
9	QT	Quang Trung	Urb Bkg	Х	Х	Х	Х		677,940	1,200,080

Table1: Air pollution measurement sites in HCMC, site characteristics and positions.

Hourly air quality data are being collected through the automatic monitoring and telemetric network every day. The data are quality controlled and transferred for storage in the integrated relational databases. Statistical programmes for control of quality and representativeness are used to check the validity of the data. Results can be then presented using user-friendly graphical tools.

The key features of the system is the integrated approach that enables the user to not only access measured data quickly, but also use the data directly in the assessment and in the planning of actions. The demand of the integrated system to enable monitoring, forecasting and warning of pollution situations has been and will be increasing in the future. At present Air Quality Index (AQI) values are generated automatically and presented on an information board in the city centre of HCMC as well as on an Internet page developed for DONRE/HEPA.

Air pollution dispersion models have also been added to the system in HCMC to enable concentration estimates, evaluation of different source's relative importance to the total exposure, impact assessment and to perform optimal abatement planning. For this purpose the HEPA experts are in the process of completing an emission inventory for HCMC.

During the last few months NILU has, with the financial support from NORAD, established a reference and calibration laboratory at HEPA. This will assure that calibrations and controls of the data will give quality assured air pollution information for HCMC.

Objectives

The establishment of the monitoring system in HCMC has been based on a number of different objectives:

1.Background concentrations measurements,

2.Air quality determination to check current levels compare with air quality standards,

- detect individual sources
- collect data for land use planning purposes,
- 3.Observe trends (related to emissions),

4.Develop abatement strategies

- 5. Assess effects of air pollution on health, vegetation or building materials
- 6.Information to the public
- 7. Develop warning systems for prevention of undesired air pollution episodes,
- 8. Develop and test atmospheric dispersion models.

Indicators and limit values

Not all compounds in the atmosphere can be measured at all time. We have therefore selected a number of indicators to represent the air quality of HCMC.

To enable a balanced interpretation of the measured data, the results are being compared to international and national Air Quality Limit values, Standards or guidelines. The guidelines as given by World Health Organization include a selection of a few priority pollutants. The indicators selected by the monitoring programme for HCMC were:

- Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and/or NOx (Nitrogen oxides),
- Suspended particles with diameter less than 10 micrometer (PM₁₀)
- Ozone (O₃)
- Carbon monoxide (CO)

The measured concentrations have been compared to the limit values or air quality standards given for Vietnam (TCVN 5937 - 2005). These standards are presented in Table 2 below, together with the World Health Organisations proposed guideline values.

Pollutant	Averaging time	Guideline and	l Limit Value
		WHO	Vietnam
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	1 hour	500 (10 min)	-
	24 hours	125	125
	Year	50	50
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	1 hour	200	200
	24 hours	-	
	Year	40	40
Ozone (O ₃)	1 hour	200	120
	8 hours	120	-
	24 hours		80
Carbon monoxide (CO)	1 hour	30 000	30 000
	8 hours	10 000	10 000
Particles <10 µm (PM ₁₀)	24 hours		150
	Year	20	50
Lead (Pb)	Year	0.5	5 (hourly)

Table 2: WHO guideline values and the Vietnam air quality standards as proposed in te TCVN 5937-2005.

Air Quality Index (AQI) generated daily

The **daily reporting** of air quality in HCMC is done through the generating of an air quality index (AQI). The AQI procedures were re-evaluated and some slight changes and improvements were included in November 2005. The AQI procedures were then programmed into the AirQUIS system for automatic generation every day.

The measured results for the potential harmful species PM_{10} , NO_2 , CO, SO_2 , and O_3 are included for determination of the AQI. All parameters may not be measured at a given station. In this case only the measured parameters are included. Further both hourly and daily averages are included to take into account that the health deterioration may be initiated both of short time exposure to high concentrations and long time exposure to lower levels. This fact is also reflected in the Air Quality Standards.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) has been established in AirQUIS based on the present and proposed air quality standards for Vietnam (TCVN 5937 – 1995 and TCVN 5937 – 2005). The selected values used for generating the AQI values have also been compared with the World Health Organisation's new proposed guideline values for air quality.

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http://www.euro.who.int/document/e71922.pdf

Appendix

Presentation of the air quality monitoring programme for Ho Chi Minh City





















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Pollutant	Averaging Time	WHO (µg/m ³)	TCVN-2005 (µg/r
SO ₂	Annual Avg.	50	50
	24 Hours	125	125
	1 Hour	500 (10min)	-
co	8 Hours	10 000	10 000
	1 Hour	30 000	30 000
NO ₂	Annual Avg.	40	40
	24 Hours	-	-
	1 Hour	200	200
O ₃	8 Hours	120	80 (24 h)
	1 Hour		120
PM10	Annual Avg.	20	50
	24 Hours	50	150
Pb	Annual	0.5	

































