Climate and health benefits of policies to address emissions from heavy-duty vehicles: Mexico

BACKGROUND

Among transportation subsectors, on-road diesel vehicles are the leading contributor to air pollution and associated disease burdens. In addition to the impact of emissions on air quality and public health, black carbon from diesel engine exhaust severely affects the climate as the particles produce significant near-term climate warming. A new ICCT paper quantifies the health and climate benefits of key policies for reducing air pollutant emissions from heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs) in the G20 economies. Building off this research, the benefits for Mexico were analyzed under five scenarios:

- **Adopted**: Policies adopted by December 2020, including Euro VI-equivalent NOM-044 by 2022.
- **Expanded world-class**: In addition to adopted policies, we assume that imported used vehicles will be required to meet new-vehicle regulations, starting with Euro VI-equivalents.
- **Expanded world-class and 16-year accelerated fleet renewal**: Accelerated fleet renewal policies are added to the expanded world-class scenario, resulting in 100% of in-use HDVs meeting Euro VI equivalents and next-generation standards 16 years after they are applied to new vehicles. Pre-Euro VI-equivalent vehicles are assumed to be gradually replaced over this time period.
- **Next-generation standards**: Building upon the expanded world-class scenario, Mexico would implement next-generation emission standards in 2028, with 90% reduction in NOx emissions rate from Euro VI-equivalent levels.
- **Next-generation and 16-year accelerated fleet renewal**: Building upon the next-generation scenario, 100% of in-use HDVs would meet Euro VI equivalents and next-generation standards 16 years after they are applied to new vehicles.
KEY FINDINGS

» Avoided HDV exhaust NO\textsubscript{x} emissions in 2040 from adopted policies are projected to be 70 thousand tonnes (31% reduction) in the expanded world-class scenario, 80 thousand tonnes (35% reduction) in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario, 180 thousand tonnes (78% reduction) in the next-generation standards scenario, and 200 thousand tonnes (89% reduction) in the next-generation plus 16-year renewal scenario.

» Avoided diesel HDV exhaust BC emissions in 2040 compared with adopted policies are projected to be 5.9 thousand tonnes (96% reduction) in the expanded world-class scenario and 6.1 thousand tonnes (99% reduction) in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario.

» Cumulative avoided diesel HDV exhaust NO\textsubscript{x} emissions from 2020 to 2050 compared with adopted policies are projected to be 1,500 thousand tonnes in the expanded world-class scenario, 2,200 thousand tonnes in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario, 3,700 thousand tonnes in the next-generation standards scenario, and 4,400 thousand tonnes in the next-generation plus 16-year renewal scenario.
Cumulative avoided diesel HDV exhaust black carbon emissions from 2020 to 2050 compared with adopted policies are projected to 129 thousand tonnes in the expanded world-class scenario and 159 thousand tonnes in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario.

Cumulative mitigation potential (GWP20) for diesel HDV exhaust black carbon, CH₄ and N₂O emissions from 2020 to 2040 compared with adopted policies is projected to be 288 million tonnes CO₂e in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario, accounting for 11% of the total mitigation potential among G20 economies.

Figure 2. Avoided PM₂.₅ and ozone deaths and disability-adjusted life years attributable to diesel HDV emissions compared with adopted policies, 2020-2050.

Cumulative avoided PM₂.₅ and ozone premature death attributable to diesel HDV emissions from 2020 to 2050 compared with adopted policies are projected to be 30,600 in the expanded world-class scenario, 40,600 in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario, 179,300 in the next-generation standards scenario, and 191,300 in the next-generation plus 16-year renewal scenario.

Cumulative avoided PM₂.₅ and ozone disability-adjusted life years attributable to diesel HDV emissions from 2020 to 2050 compared with adopted policies are projected to be 579,000 in the expanded world-class scenario, 790,000 in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario, 3.3 million in the next-generation standards scenario, and 3.6 million in the next-generation plus 16-year renewal scenario.
The valuation of cumulative avoided health damages (in 2020 U.S. dollars, 3% social discount rate) from PM$_{2.5}$ and ozone mortality attributable to diesel HDV emissions from 2020 to 2050 compared with adopted policies are projected to be $39 billion in the expanded world-class scenario, $52 billion in the expanded world-class plus 16-year renewal scenario, $223 billion in the next-generation standards scenario, and $239 billion in the next-generation plus 16-year renewal scenario.