

KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE'S PROJECT TO DEVELOP AN EMISSION INVENTORY WITH REGARD TO AIR QUALITY HAS BEEN COMPLETED WITH GREAT SUCCESS

In 2004 the National Environmental Management, Air Quality Management Act was enacted in South Africa as a way of ensuring a safe and healthy environment in terms of air quality management. Part of the requirements of the Act is for each of the nine provinces and some industries to each develop **Air Emission Inventories**, which will enable the countrywide assessment of the level, type and sources of air emissions.

Before this time, there was no structured documented inventory of type, level and sources of air pollutants in South Africa. In 2006, the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, **Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs (DAEA)** applied for the assistance of DANIDA to co-fund the development of an Air Emission Inventory for the Province to quantify air emissions, presenting it in a user-friendly format. The KwaZulu-Natal Air Emission Inventory was developed towards the end of 2007.

This inventory will facilitate the formulation of provincial strategies and policies to reduce the multi-media emissions, affecting air quality and managing their impacts on human health. It is believed that the inventory would guide the province of KwaZulu-Natal to evolve atmospheric deposition and emission reduction strategies. The data would also serve as inputs for modeling efforts, multi-media risk assessment and the design of air quality monitoring programs.

The inventory features a set of pollutants called criteria pollutants which have adverse effects on human health. These criteria pollutants are carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, sulfur oxides, ozone and volatile organic compounds.

The inventory will benefit, amongst others the quality of health in societies, reduce the effects of global warming and minimize the medical costs related to treating respiratory diseases as a result of toxic air pollutants by the government.

This project enabled us to get to know our industries' production processes and challenges better and enhanced the working relationship between government and industry.

We welcome your comments on this document with a view of improving its quality and scope in the future. Colleagues are welcomed to contact Mr. Jay Puckree (Deputy Manager: Air Quality and Climate Change Management, DAEA) on +27333559145 or Dr. Timothy Adebayo Fasheun (Manager: Environmental Planning and Co-ordination Services, DAEA) on +273553559621

For further reading please find the complete report under documents on the www.uemp.org.za