



IAEA

Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century

1957-2007

Controlling air pollution in Mexico City

The challenge...

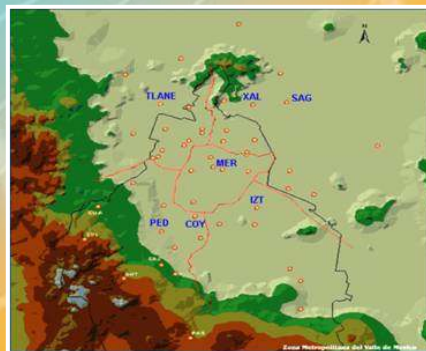
The population of Mexico City and its wider metropolitan area is estimated to exceed 20 million inhabitants. A number of industries are located within the city limits and an estimated 3.5 million vehicles regularly criss-cross the area. These factors contribute to a significant deterioration in air quality.

The project...

With IAEA assistance, air sampling was conducted with state of the art air particulate filters: the particulate matter obtained in this process was analysed using the proton induced X ray emission (PIXE) technique.

The impact...

The main sources of air pollution were identified. National authorities are using this information to manage the emission of air pollutants in order to reduce the health risk to the population of Mexico City.



MEX/2/011: Particle-Induced X-Ray Emission Techniques, MEX/1/021: Tokamak Studies,
RLA/7/007: Determining Content of Atmospheric Contamination (ARCAL XXXIX) and RLA/7/011:
Assessment of Atmospheric Pollution by Particles (ARCAL LXXX)