

CHILE



MDG7

Progress Towards Environmental Sustainability

Chile adapted its environmental legal framework in 1994 to include Kyoto and Montreal Protocol alignments to promote sustainable standards for the national development agenda in order to progress on achieving the MDGs. This General Environmental Law implemented mechanisms to reduce GHG emissions in the industry sector as well as to increase the number of projects that fall under the Clean Development Mechanism.

Despite private sector legal efforts, most households continue to use wood as their main source of energy as a result of high gas prices, especially in the rural areas. Burning wood for cooking has become the principal CO₂ emitter, forcing the government to develop policies to invest in gas infrastructure or to switch to cleaner stoves.

With a large coastal territory under its legislation, Chile has developed different kinds of marine biodiversity reserves along its shores and international waters. Between 1990 and 2000, the proportion of mainland covered by forest increased slightly, representing 20.93% of the country. Moreover, protected lands showed the same pattern, with a marginal increase from 18.02% in 1990 to 18.8% in 2004.

1% of the urban population and 1.5% of rural inhabitants lack access to safe drinking water facilities. Despite the fulfillment of MDG 7 Target 10, waste disposal and water treatment require major investment and a legal body to ensure and maintain a sustainable water supply both for production activities and livelihoods.

QUICK FACTS

CURRENT PORTFOLIO BUDGET

Total UNDP-GEF and Co-Finance:	\$20,472,585
Total UNDP and Co-Finance:	\$210,386
Total MPU and Bilateral:	\$1,515,431
Total:	\$22,198,402

Cumulative Total ODS Phased-Out: 113.1 ODP tonnes

Chile has successfully implemented the Chile-Barrio programme in order to reduce the number of slum dwellers by making useful statistical information available for policy-making efforts. These governmental policies include monitoring mechanisms and promote participation in rural areas, where the results are encouraging.

Remaining challenges to achieving the MDGs in Chile include: the promotion of energy efficient policies to reduce ODS from wood-based cooking facilities and the protection of forests under legal legislation.¹

SPOTLIGHT



Rural Electrification Using Renewable Energies²

There are an estimated 170,000 households without electricity in Chile's rural areas. Since many of these households are in isolated areas, beyond the cost-effective reach of the electricity grid, community or individual systems will be necessary to provide them with electricity. While gasoline and diesel generators are traditional options for electrifying isolated areas, renewable energy technologies, including solar photovoltaics (PV), wind and hydro, could be less costly in certain locations.

The GEF-supported project of US\$ 6 million with co-financing of US\$ 26.3 million aims to supply electricity using Non-Conventional Renewable Energies (NCRE) to approximately 10,320 households currently without access to electricity, and to develop market conditions that will enable NRCE to compete with conventional energy sources in both rural and urban areas. The project will enable a decrease in the GHG emissions produced by energy sources in rural areas – often diesel-fuelled – and improve the living conditions of rural communities.

The project, which commenced in September 2001 and ends in October 2006, has developed a portfolio of 56 NCRE projects through careful assessment and analysis of energy needs as well as of the economic and natural resources available in the different regions and communities throughout the country. In cooperation with the National Normalization Institute, a total of 43 technical standards for rural electrification using NCRE are in development and will be published by 2006. 21 wind and solar monitoring stations have been installed throughout the country to map wind patterns and radiation levels – information essential to the preparation of projects utilizing wind and solar power.

12 smaller-scale PV demonstration projects that will install a total of 3,347 panels have been developed for execution between 2004-2006 and the current portfolio of projects is estimated to avoid 66,690 metric tons of CO₂ emissions by 2020.

Chile is working to fulfill its international commitments in energy and environment. At the same time, it is increasing the quality of life of its citizens and fulfilling MDG 7 for environmental sustainability. The Government of Chile and UNDP are working in the areas of biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, and ozone layer protection.³ "Sustainability is becoming a permanent dimension of UNDP in Chile and also an important part of activities in areas like modernization of the state, the reduction of poverty, decentralization, the equality of sorts and, of course, human development".



Irene Philippi, Resident Representative

PORTFOLIO

FSSD*

To assist Chile's work to improve the impact of its sustainable development planning, UNDP is supporting a GEF-funded National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) project to assess the country's needs, capacities, and strengths regarding biodiversity, climate change and desertification. In addition, Chile's Sub-regional Sustainable Development Action Programme, funded by the Government, is being implemented through a project aimed to develop Puna Americana.

ENERGY

UNDP's Sustainable Energy Thematic Trust Fund, is funding a project to support the development of a National Energy Policy in Chile, focusing primarily on the implementation of energy efficiency practices, and the increased use of renewable energies. Another project is enabling Chile to meet its reporting obligations under UNFCCC, leading to the production of a National Communication on Climate Change. This project is funded by GEF. The Spotlight section highlights a GEF-funded programme to remove the barriers to rural electrification, increasing access to sustainable energy services and reducing GHG emissions.

LAND

UNDP is supporting the promotion of sustainable land management practices in Chile. For example, a land management project is assisting the Government in the development of a framework to enable the agricultural production of small farmers to be integrated into and take advantage of the globalization process. Funding for this project is provided by the Government.

BIODIVERSITY

To further the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, UNDP is implementing several projects in Chile with funding from GEF. For example, one project is assisting the Government of Chile to build capacities in the identification, conservation, and management of Chile's biological diversity. Another project is taking a bio-regional approach to biodiversity conservation, ensuring conservation within the Chiloé national park, while at the same time demonstrating biodiversity-friendly alternatives in the wider Chiloé landscape. Two further projects are developing conservation plans for sustainable use of biodiversity in the Salar del Huasco and in Valdiviano Forest.

CHEMICALS

Under the assistance programme that aims to enhance capacity to comply with Montreal Protocol targets, UNDP is working with Chile in the solvents, refrigeration and methyl bromide sectors. Phase-out of ODS solvents is being achieved through training and assistance to solvents producers and by making available alternative solvents for trials and training in formulation of non-ODS alternatives. In the refrigeration sector, UNDP is assisting with development of a commercial refrigeration project, while in the methyl bromide sector a demonstration and phase-out project is being implemented in soil fumigation for fruit tree production and replant. The implementation methodology in the latter includes demonstration of alternatives and assessment of their technical and economic feasibility. Training and extension programmes are also being developed to ensure sustainable adoption of alternatives.

CONTACTS

Mr. Vicente Ossa – vicente.ossa@undp.org
Mr. Luis Costa – luis.costa@undp.org
Tel.: (56-2) 337-2400/337-2455/3372418
Fax: (56-2) 337-2444
www.pnud.cl



¹Chile MDGR 2005 <http://www.undp.org/rblac/mdg/Chile.pdf>; ²UNDP, Energy Projects Online Database, 'Removal of Barriers to Rural Electrification with Renewable Energy', 2005, available at: <http://www.undp.org/energy/prodocs/rblac/chi00g32.htm> and GEF Online projects database: <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetails.cfm?projID=843>; ³<http://www.pnud.cl/enchile.htm>; ⁴Frameworks and Strategies for Sustainable Development