



INTERVENTION 5

Ban Domestic and Commercial Waste Burning

SUMMARY

The traditional practice in developing countries with poor solid waste collection services is to burn domestic and commercial waste. As cities grow, this practice leads to poor air quality. The improvement in domestic and commercial waste collection combined with regulations to ban the burning of domestic waste greatly improves air quality.

Health benefits: Medium, as PM2.5 is reduced in cities.

Carbon benefits: No change.

Costs: The costs are moderate and paid by municipal authorities and collected from users. The cost to national governments is small.

Feasibility: Opposition by some citizens accustomed to open burning of waste.

Key players: Usually led by national governments but needs active cooperation of the city authorities.

EXAMPLES

Many cities have banned open burning of waste but implementation is very varied.