

THE UNECE CONVENTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS (AARHUS CONVENTION)

TASK FORCE ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION TOOLS: CASE STUDY BY SPAIN

AIR QUALITY VIEWER

<https://sig.mapama.gob.es/calidad-aire/>

I. Description

- **1. Title:** Air Quality viewer
- **2. Brief description:** This viewer, integrated into the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) of the MITECO, allows to consult the air quality information for the health protection at national level of pollutants legislated in the Royal Decree 102/2011, of 28th January, on the improvement of air quality (SO₂, NO₂, PM10, PM2.5, O₃, Pb, C₆H₆, CO, As, Cd, Ni and B(a)P), including provisional up-to-date data and historical evolution of the air quality assessment. Viewer data come from the information sent to MITECO by the national, regional and local air quality networks.
- **3. Link(s) to electronic information tool(s) (if available online) or the description:** <https://sig.mapama.gob.es/calidad-aire/>
- **4. Type (governmental, non-governmental, municipal, other):** Governmental
- **5. Scope (international, sub-regional, national, local):** National, sub-regional and local
- **6. Working language(s):** Spanish
- **7. Target users:** The general public
- **8. Starting year:** 2013
- **9. Budget and funding source:** MITECO, Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica (Spanish Ministry for Ecological Transition)
- **10. Contact: (name, functional title, institution, email, phone number):**
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II. Implementation

- **11. Policy, legal and institutional context:**
 - Directiva 2008/50/CE del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 21 de mayo de 2008, relativa a la calidad del aire ambiente y a una atmósfera más limpia en Europa (DOUE n° L152, de 11/06/2008).
 - Directiva 2004/107/CE (4ª Directiva Hija), del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 15 de diciembre de 2004, relativa al arsénico, el cadmio, el mercurio, el níquel y los hidrocarburos aromáticos policíclicos en el aire ambiente (DOUE n° L23, de 26/01/2005).
 - Directiva 2003/4/CE del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 28 de enero de 2003, relativa al acceso del público a la información medioambiental y por la que se deroga la Directiva 90/313/CEE del Consejo (DOUE n° 41, de 14/02/2003).

- Instrumento de Ratificación del Convenio sobre el acceso a la información, la participación del público en la toma de decisiones y el acceso a la justicia en materia de medio ambiente, hecho en Aarhus (Dinamarca), el 25 de junio de 1998 (BOE nº 40, de 16/02/2005).
- Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of The Council of 14th March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE); Law 14/2010 of 5th July on infrastructure and geographic information services in Spain.
- **12. Partner organizations involved:** Instituto Geográfico Nacional (I.G.N.; Spanish National Geographic Institute).
- **13. Stakeholders involved, their expected benefits:** I.G.N. / public information on air quality, regulatory compliance
- **14. User needs and methods of their assessment:** Internet access
- **15. Technology choice:** Internet / G.I.S.

III. Evaluation

- **16. Results:** At present it is possible to consult provisional up-to date air quality data (hourly, daily, max8h daily, monthly) and historical information about air quality evolution in Spain since 2001 to the latest official assessment, by pollutant and by legislated value, at two different levels (“air quality measuring stations” and “air quality zones and agglomerations”). Historical information can be downloaded at <https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/cartografia-y-sig/ide/descargas/calidad-y-evaluacion-ambiental/default.aspx>
- **17. Efficiency gains:** reduce time consuming in informing general public
- **18. Risks:** to show at real time to the general public very sensible information but not validated jet.
- **19. Challenges encountered (please indicate resolved or not):** A more complete picture of the atmosphere condition can be provided by overlaying the air quality data with available emissions information.
- **20. Lessons learned:** Information visually displayed is easier to understand by the non-expert public.
- **21. Conditions for successful replication:** Adequate receiving of good quality data, correct software development, regular updating, suitable spatial data infrastructure.
- **22. Overall assessment of the tool:** Highly positive