



Press Statement:

October 11, 2021

RE: Areas with best and worst air revealed in September air quality report

Air quality refers to measurement of how clean or polluted the air might be. Monitoring of air quality is important because pollution is dangerous to human health and the environment. Exposure to polluted air poses a number of health risks such as cardiovascular diseases, asthma, cancers, heart diseases and allergic reactions. It is for this reason that NEMA routinely monitors air quality to detect episodes and trends of areas with unclean air.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) report for the month of September, 2021 indicates that air in the Kampala suburb of Wandegaya was the best, while Kisenyi registered the highest pollution index. Data collected from 1st – 30th September from the air quality monitors stationed in various parts of the city, indicates that the air quality was generally unhealthy for sensitive groups of people such as those suffering from heart and lung complications. The average reading was AQI 129 which is beyond the recommended ambient air quality index of AQI 100.

During the reporting period, the worst air quality was registered at Kisenyi and Kawempe with an average value of AQI 157, while the best air was registered at the Ministry of Health offices in Wandegaya, with AQI 110 and at City Hall in central Kampala with AQI 116.

The high AQI readings are attributed to a range of human, economic and social activities including vehicular emissions during traffic congestion, dust from unpaved roads, grain milling etc.

Kampala is the only city in Uganda with air quality monitors stationed at various points across the city. The monitors were installed by Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) and provide real time data on air quality for analysis. NEMA is working with stakeholders to develop Air Quality Standards for Uganda.

This is how you can be part of the solution

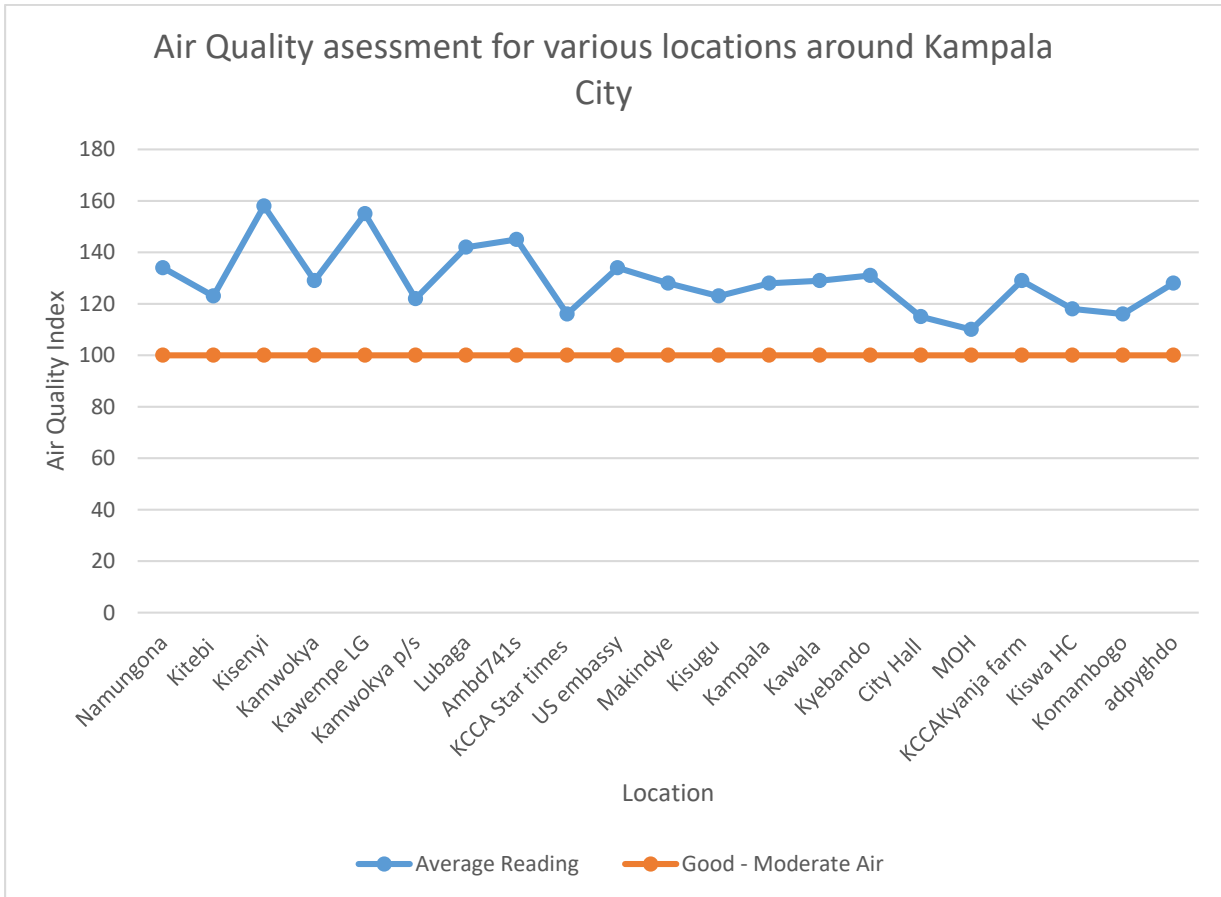
- Avoid activities that contribute to poor air quality such as open burning of rubbish; idling engines; adopt cleaner cooking initiatives; service cars on time; embrace non-motorized transportation
- Minimize exposure to sources of pollution like smoke and high traffic areas
- Raise awareness in your community by pointing out activities that cause pollution

Ends

For more information:

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Annex
Readings provided by KCCA



Follow the link below to the live data

<https://www.kcca.go.ug/kampala-air-quality-monitoring-network>