

THE REAL URBAN EMISSIONS INITIATIVE - TRUE



EXPOSING REAL-WORLD VEHICLE EMISSIONS

The Real Urban Emissions initiative seeks to enable evidence based policy and consumer choices by revealing the gap between tested and real world emissions from the vehicles on our roads. This is a vital element in on-going battle to improve urban air quality and thereby save lives.

Poor air quality is a major issue. NO_x is a key contributor to outdoor air pollution. Long-term exposure is linked to a range of adverse health outcomes, including respiratory conditions, as well as stroke, ischemic heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and lung cancer. New research by the ICCT estimates that 11,400 early deaths in Europe each year are linked to 'excess' diesel NO_x emissions – emissions under real-world driving conditions compared with emissions under official laboratory tests.

Vehicles contribute around 50% of urban NO_x in major cities such as London and Paris. However, policies to address their contribution are complicated by the huge gaps which exist between the tested and real world values for these emissions. The 'Dieselgate' scandal which broke in 2015 providing concrete evidence of this gap and giving huge prominence to the issue.

In 2016 The FIA Foundation – which is focused on reducing air pollution from vehicles as part of its **safe, clean, fair and green** mobility agenda -held an expert seminar to plan a response to the emissions scandal. A key conclusion of the discussion which is contained within the report 'Can we prevent another Dieselgate?'¹ was:



"an independent, global, real-world testing initiative is a necessary, important step towards providing improved consumer information regarding emissions."



¹ www.fiafoundation.org/connect/publications/can-we-prevent-another-dieselgate



The TRUE initiative exists to promote action to address this conclusion, and in particular to support the gathering of data on real world emissions which is essential for strong evidence-based policy development, and informed consumer

choices. More specifically, TRUE will undertake on-road testing, publish research and undertake awareness raising. TRUE will work with all relevant stakeholders to promote its objectives. In particular it will:

- 
Publish research on real world vehicle emissions (LDV and HDV), technologies, policy solutions and other relevant matters.
- 
Publish real world emissions data with the objective of raising awareness about the magnitude and scope of excess vehicle emissions.

- 
Work with cities and other relevant authorities to support real world testing programs (remote sensing, PEMs tests) in order to support city efforts to inform consumers with transparent emissions data, and to support effective policy.
- 
Raise funds to support this work.

A major first step for the TRUE initiative was announced at a joint event with the Mayors of Paris and London in March 2017.

At this event the first TRUE pilots - in London & Paris - were announced. They will be led by ICCT, working with T&E, C40 Cities, Emissions Analytics (EA), and funded by FIA Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Joshua and Anita Bekenstein Charitable Fund. They will provide a large amount of data on the emissions of vehicles in both cities. This information will be captured on a database and in a report. The TRUE partners believe that many more cities should undertake similar efforts.

Mayor Hidalgo calling the TRUE initiative “a truly innovative study of the true emissions of vehicles” and emphasised the importance of the transparency which it will bring for good policy development and trust. Mayor Khan said that the initiative, which uses real world testing of vehicles, would deliver the “robust and independent data needed to put an end to the smoke and mirrors around vehicle emissions”.

“This is a great example of how the same steps that improve lives also fuel progress against climate change,” said Michael R. Bloomberg, C40 President of the Board and U.N. Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change.



Sheila Watson, Deputy Director, FIA Foundation with Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London and Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris to announce the TRUE partnership in Paris, March 2017.



“ Thanks to the @FIAFdn to be part of #TRUEmissions project. Citizens deserve true data on their vehicles’ emissions. ”

Anne Hidalgo
Mayor of Paris
(Twitter quote)



“ These new vehicle scorings will empower consumers to make informed choices that protect public health and the planet. ”

Michael R Bloomberg
U.N. Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change



“ The toxicity of the air in London and many other big cities is an outrage, and schemes of the type we are introducing in London and Paris have the potential to make a massive difference to the quality of the air we all breathe. ”

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London



TRUE - The Real Urban Emissions Initiative

FIA Foundation, 60 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DS, United Kingdom

For more information contact: true@fiafoundation.org

www.trueinitiative.org