

# EVENT SNAPSHOT



URBAN CLIMATE  
CHANGE RESILIENCE  
TRUST FUND  
Asian Development Bank

## USG and ETG highlight data-driven air quality management



### EVENT DETAILS

Wednesday, 22 January 2020,  
2:00-3:00PM.  
4653E ADB Headquarters, Manila,  
Philippines.

### SPEAKER

- Sean Wihera, Director of Business Development, Clarity Movement

### EFFECTIVE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT THROUGH EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING

The need for data – driven air quality management was highlighted in a knowledge sharing session jointly organized by ADB's Urban Sector Group (USG) and Environment Thematic Group (ETG) of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department.

The ETG is implementing TA9608-REG: Strengthening Knowledge and Actions for Air Quality Improvement with co-financing from the Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF).

More than 30 staff and consultants representing various departments learned from Clarity Movement, a technology solution provider, how new low-cost air quality monitoring technologies that use a combination

of a nodal network of air quality sensors and a cloud-based system for data storage, modelling and analysis could enable governments to identify effective actions.

Furthermore, real-time emissions data can be used to better calculate the public health benefits and corresponding economic benefits of city/ neighbourhood scale investments, such as zero emission public transportation.

The interactive session created the opportunity to exchange insights on pollution hotspot analysis, data visualization and sharing with the public, the exigency of calibrating air quality sensors, and a comparison on cost and effectiveness of different air quality monitoring technologies.

### URBAN CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE LESSONS

**Poor air quality is the most pressing environmental health issue today.** Governments should be enabled to make informed decisions on effective air quality management measures based on reliable data and complemented with an appropriate communication platform and data visualization to inform the public.

**Integrated strategies to meet air quality standards should be linked to efforts in addressing climate change.** The interplay between air pollutants and GHGs should be clearly understood, as well as the need to work at different scales given the contrast between localized impacts

and the trans-boundary nature of air pollution.

**Health cost savings and burden of disease can be cost-effectively measured.** This can improve the value proposition of decarbonisation activities or de-risk future clean air investments.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

- TA 9608-REG <https://www.adb.org/projects/51347-001/main>
- Zehra Abbas, Principal Environment Specialist, [zabbas@adb.org](mailto:zabbas@adb.org)
- Virinder Sharma, Senior Urban Development Specialist, [vsharma@adb.org](mailto:vsharma@adb.org)

### UCCRTF Financing Partners

