

# Why Cities Matter Now

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Breathe Cities Executive Director



# Why Cities Matter Now

Air pollution is experienced most directly in **cities.**

“I recognise the critical importance of addressing air pollution in our city, and significantly realize the greatest environmental risks to human health due to the air pollution.”



**Chadchart Sittipunt**,  
Governor of Bangkok

“Toxic air pollution is a public health crisis in many of our cities – leading to premature death and chronic disease.”



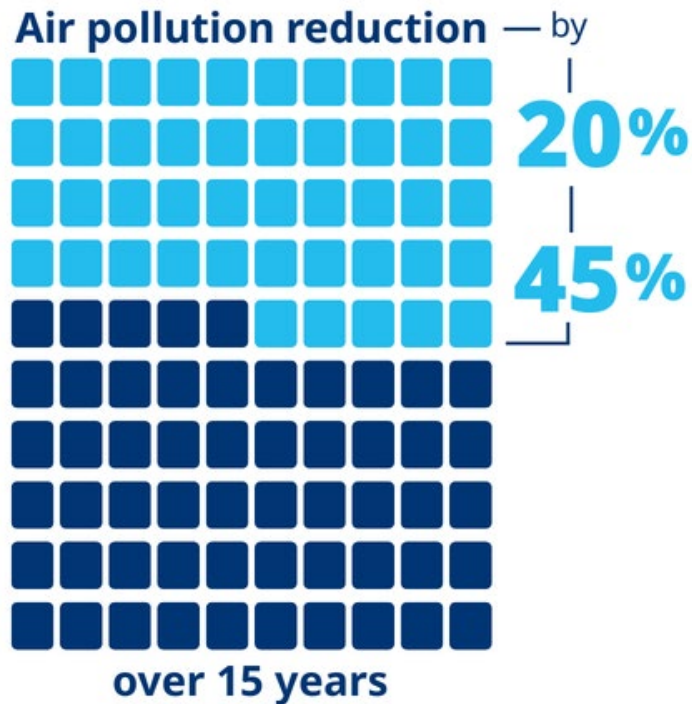
**Sadiq Khan**,  
Mayor of London

“Jakarta continues to make meaningful strides in promoting inclusive climate and clean air actions – from expanding air quality monitoring and green open spaces, to engaging communities and developing Low Emission Zones [...].”



**Pramono Anung**,  
Governor of Jakarta

# Rapid Progress is Possible



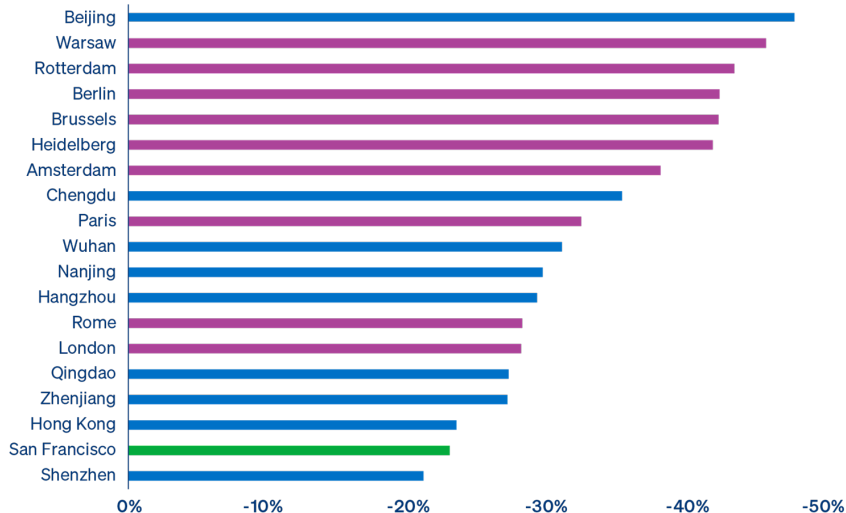
Each block represents a 1% reduction in air pollution.



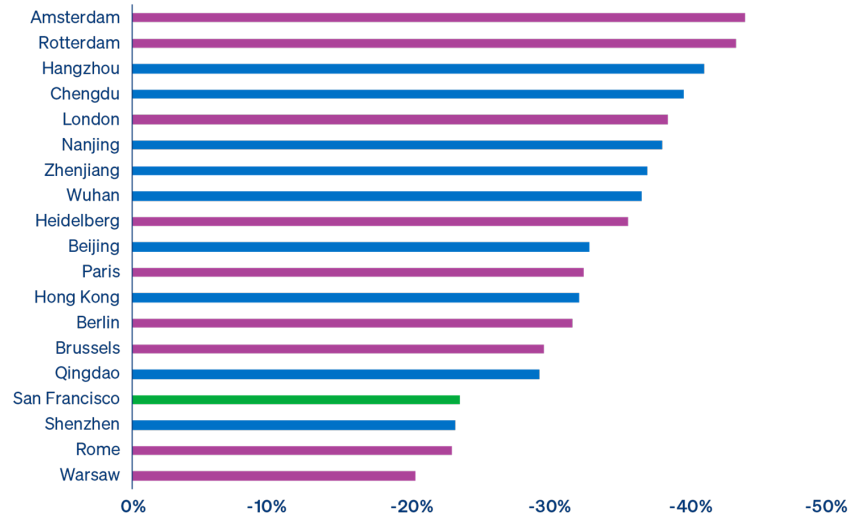
# Asia is Emerging as a Clean Air Leader

19 leading cities reduced both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> by over 20% in 15 years

PM<sub>2.5</sub> change 2010 to 2024



NO<sub>2</sub> change 2010 to 2024



Central East Asia Europe North America

# What Leading Cities Prioritise

## Systems for delivery



Data



Policy Tools



Coordination

## Major sources of pollution



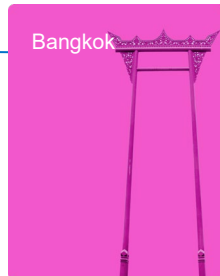
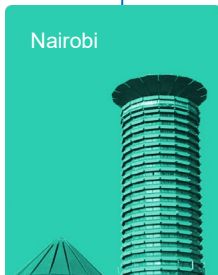
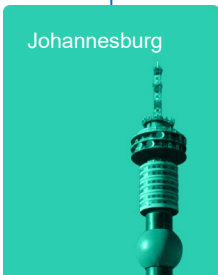
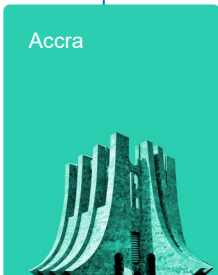
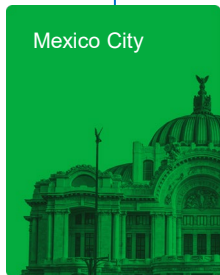
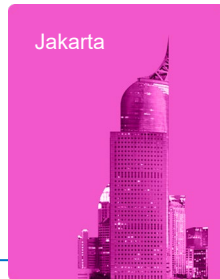
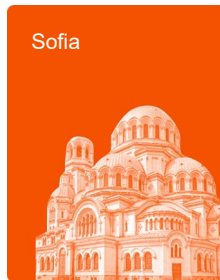
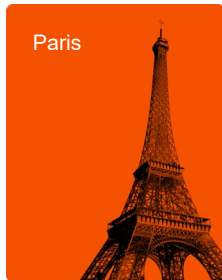
Transport



Energy



Buildings / Housing  
Energy



# Our Pillars



Data and research



Stakeholder and community  
engagement



Technical assistance



Lesson sharing



CLEAN  
AIR  
FUND

C40  
CITIES

Bloomberg  
Philanthropies

# From Vision to Delivery



## Bangkok

### From seasonal response to structured governance

- Pollution Control Zone action plan
  - Regional coordination across neighbouring provinces
  - 15 districts engaged in community-led action
- ★ Robust air quality monitoring with 70 reference stations and 816 low-cost sensors



## Jakarta

### From health burden to structural reform

- Low Emission Zone roadmap
  - Industrial and vehicle emissions measurement and reporting
  - 25 additional sensors and public health tools
- ★ Doubled its public transport coverage; full bus fleet electrification by 2030

Shared direction:  
Stronger Institutions, Better Data, Healthier Cities.



The evidence is clear. Delivery is possible.

*Rapid clean air progress is already happening — and cities are driving it.*