

State of air quality financing in Asia

Shirish Sinha

Executive Director of Programmes

Clean Air Fund

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CLEAN AIR FUND'S FLAGSHIP REPORT

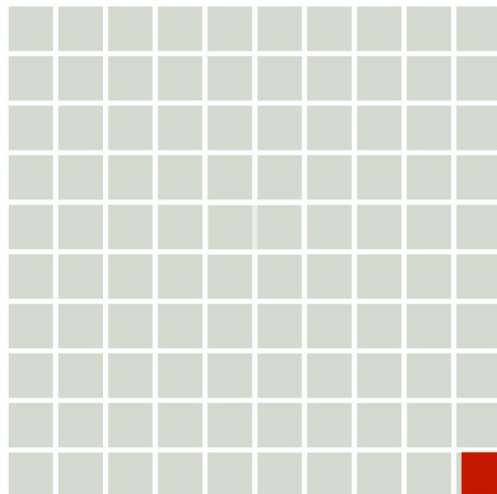
The State of Global Air Quality Funding report produces leading analysis and insights on international development finance flows to air quality to support improvements in the **quantity, quality and geographical spread** of finance being provided.



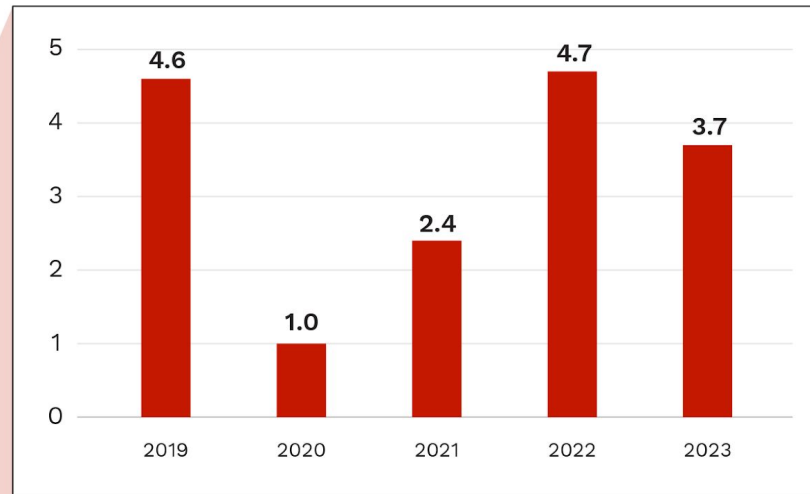
OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY RECEIVED 1% OF DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Outdoor air quality funding as a proportion of international development funding, 2019–2023 (\$ billion)

International development funding,
2019 – 2023



Outdoor air quality funding (\$ billion)



- Over the 2019–2023 period, outdoor air quality funding remains at 1%, amounting to \$16.4 billion over 2019–2023.
- Funding fell by 20% from \$4.7 billion to \$3.7 billion, between 2022 and 2023
- Funding growth is slowing when comparing the 2018–2022 and the 2019–2023 periods.

GROWTH IN TOTAL AIR QUALITY FUNDING IS STARTING TO SLOW

§Over the 2019-2023 period, outdoor air quality funding remains at 1%, amounting to \$16.4 billion over 2019-2023.

Total air quality funding accounted for 5.9% of international development funding, totalling \$119.9 billion over 2019-2023.

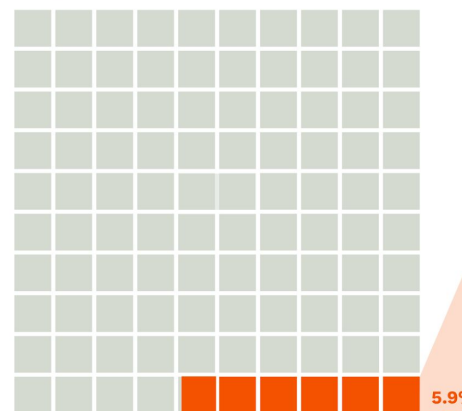
Total air quality funding category is dominated by air quality co-benefit funding.

Funding for projects delivering air quality co-benefits went up by 7% from \$27.1 bn to \$28.8bn between 2022-2023.

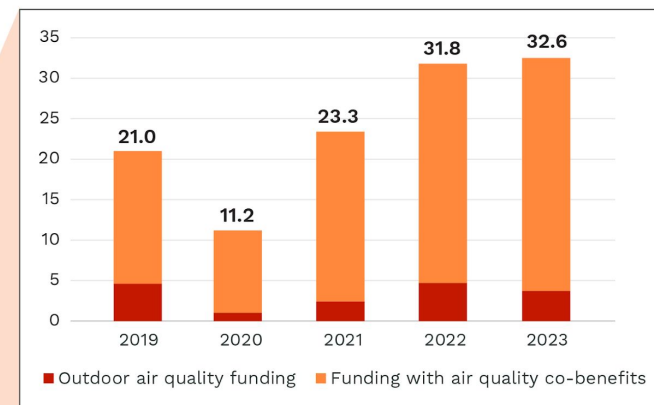
International Development Funders should make air quality an explicit objectives across development and climate projects

Total air quality funding as a proportion of international development funding, 2019-2023 (\$ billion)

International development funding, 2019 – 2023



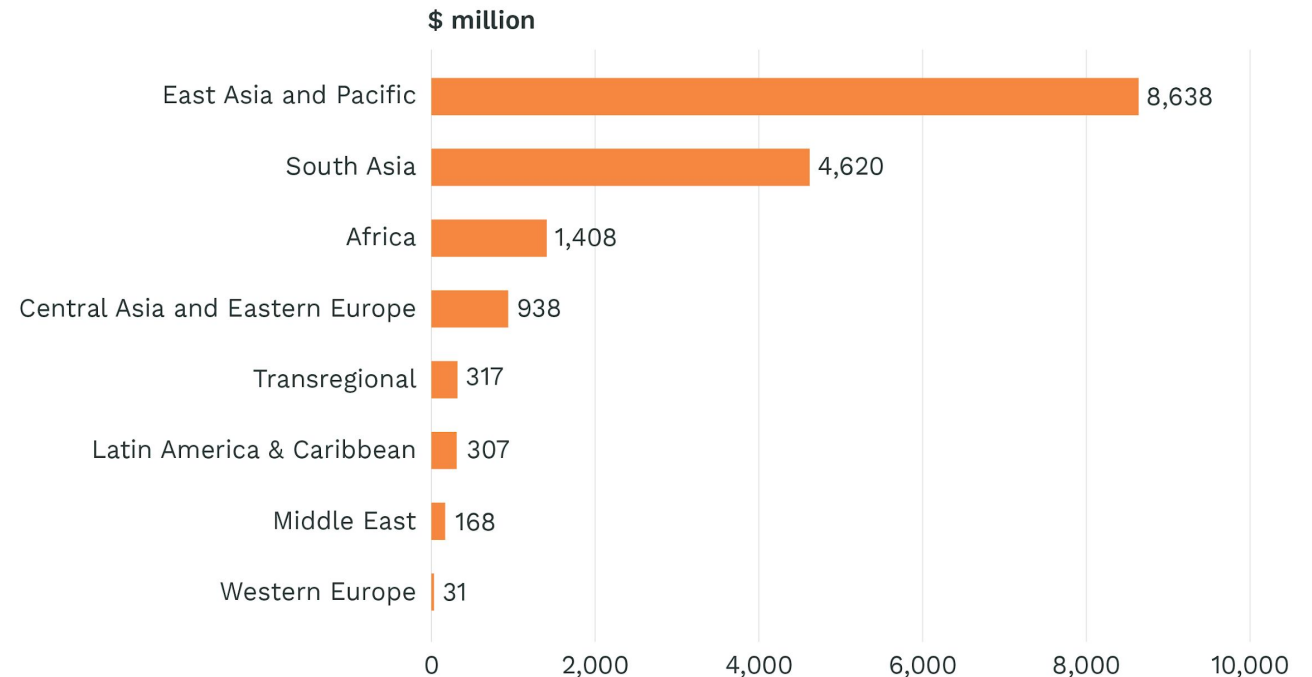
Total air quality funding (\$ billion)



EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC LEADS THE OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY FUNDING CHART

- East Asia and Pacific and South Asia lead the outdoor air quality funding chart, over the 2019 to 2023 period.
- Africa is ranked as third highest recipient of outdoor air quality funding between 2019-2023, but picture skewed by just one country, Egypt, which received 5% of outdoor air quality funding between 2019 and 2023

Outdoor air quality funding by recipient region, 2019–2023 (\$ million)



SMALL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES RECEIVE THE MAJORITY OF OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY FUNDING

- Three countries (Philippines, Bangladesh and China) received 65% of outdoor air quality funding between 2019-2023
- All countries, except Egypt, in the Top 10 recipients of outdoor air quality funding are in Asia.

RANKING	2018–2022 RANKING	COUNTRY	OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY FUNDING 2019 – 2023 (\$ BILLION)
1	1	Philippines	5.2
2	2	Bangladesh	3.0
3	3	China	2.5
4	6	India	1.2
5	5	Egypt	0.9
6	4	Mongolia	0.7
7	7	Pakistan	0.4
8	8	Uzbekistan	0.2
9	9	Kazakhstan	0.2
10	10	Cambodia	0.1

TOP 10 FUNDERS FOR OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY

- As with total air quality funding, JICA and ADB dominated the landscape, providing two-thirds of all outdoor air quality finance during the most recent period analysed.
- Although JICA remained the largest funder over the 2019–2023 period, ADB was the leading provider of outdoor air quality finance in 2023

TOP 10 donors of outdoor air quality funding, 2019–2023

Name	Value (\$ million)	Share of total (%)
Japan International Cooperation Agency	7.218	44
Asian Development Bank	3.858	23
KfW Group (Germany)	1.090	7
Export-Import Bank of Korea	695	4
World Bank Group	691	4
Government of Canada	585	4
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	497	3
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	380	2
Government of Germany	204	1
Agence Francaise de Developpement/ Proparco (France)	171	1

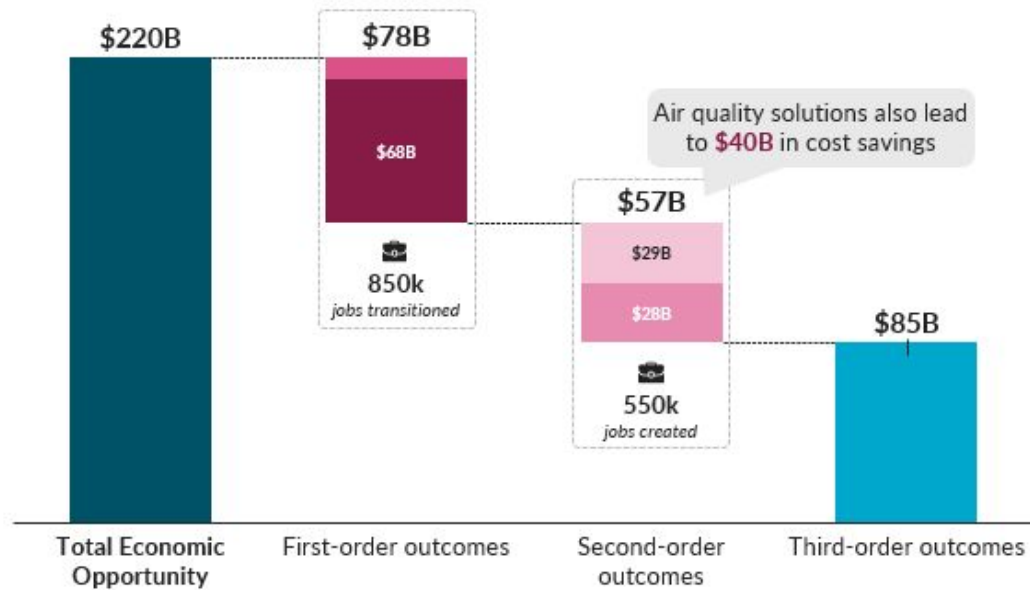


WHY FUNDERS STRUGGLE TO PRIORITISE AIR QUALITY

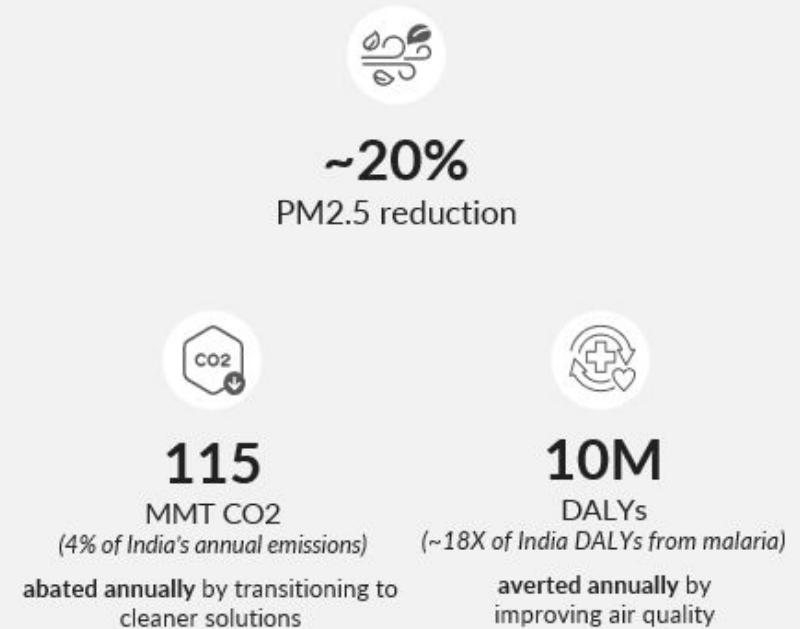
- Feedback from qualitative interviews:
 - § Air quality is not a central objective for funding institutions
 - § Siloed approaches to climate and development agendas within institutions hamper prioritisation
 - § A lack of awareness of the impact of air quality across staff and leadership
 - § A lack of reliable, current air quality data and monitoring to inform funding decisions
 - § Finance and technical resource constraints within institutions

The Air Quality Management Opportunity for India

Air quality management in India can unlock an economic opportunity of \$220 B (~5.5% of GDP in 2025)....



....while reducing air pollution and generating additional environmental and health co-benefits



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDERS

1. Integrate clean air as an explicit co-benefit across development and climate projects
2. Target investments towards funding “deserts”, including to Asian countries that are currently underserved
3. Strengthen cross-donor engagements and collaborate on the way air quality funding is tracked
4. Prioritise efforts to reduce emissions of black carbon, a critical super pollutant
5. Catalyse private sector participation in air quality projects
6. End funding for fossil fuel-prolonging projects

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BETTER AIR QUALITY
CONFERENCE 11-13 MAR • BANGKOK



Shirish Sinha – ssinha@cleanairfund.org

