

Setting strategic objectives and identifying potential grants/projects that Clean Air Fund could support in start-up phase in South Africa in 2023

Request for proposals

About the Clean Air Fund

Air pollution (AP) is one of the biggest threats to human health, climate, and the environment. [Clean Air Fund](#) (CAF) is a philanthropic organisation that supports partners to create a future where everyone breathes clean air. We:

- Fund and partner with organisations across the globe that promote air quality data, build public demand for clean air and drive action.
- Influence and support decision makers to act on air pollution.
- Lead a coalition of funders working on climate change, health, mobility, and children.

We run a global programme and country/regional programmes in the UK, India, Poland, Bulgaria, the UK and started a new programme in Ghana in 2022.

About this brief

- CAF selected its first Africa geography, Ghana, in 2021. In 2022 we appointed a Country Lead, prepared and negotiated some initial grants. In 2022, CAF decided to extend to a second African geography. South Africa was selected from a short list of 3 – including Nigeria and Kenya. In September 2022, CAF's Chief of Staff made a visit to South Africa and concluded the following:
- South Africa is a larger emitter and an influential country in the region, and globally, on climate issues. It is the first country to agree a **Just Energy Transition Partnership (JET-P)** – announced at COP26, with \$8.5bn of funding from donor countries to support South Africa reduce emissions.
- South Africa has well developed legal and policy frameworks. Major cities including Cape Town, eThekweni (Durban), Johannesburg, Tshwane (Pretoria) and Ekurhuleni are signatories to the C40 Cities Air Quality Declaration and have Air Quality Management Plans.
- Clean air is a social justice issue in South Africa – the apartheid system involved spatial segregation, with Black communities housed in areas close to industrial facilities and other pollution sources. In March 2022, the High Court ruled that high levels of pollution in the Highveld coal mining area were a breach of constitutional rights and ordered the Env. Minister to enact regulation to improve AQ within 12 months
- South Africa has an active civil society – with a number of NGOs indicating an interest in working with CAF. The Africa Climate Foundation, an important peer, has suggested that there is a gap for CAF, and they are keen to collaborate going forward.
- There is space for CAF to operate effectively alongside other grantmakers (including the Africa Climate Foundation and C40) and donors in the climate change and environmental health space.

In October, CAF's Board agreed that CAF should confirm South Africa as its second lighthouse geography in Africa. The Board recommended that CAF should determine specific objectives for its first phase of operations (2023-24), as well as identify potential grantees with whom CAF could partner to design some initial projects.

Purpose and deliverables

Clean Air Fund is seeking a consultant or consultancy to undertake a 3-4 week assignment between 1 January and 3 March to help set some strategic objectives for CAF's first two years of operation (2023-2024) in South Africa, and to identify 4-6 potential grantees with whom we could collaborate to shape some specific projects/grants – acknowledging the complex dynamics between Government and civil society in this relatively young democracy. The consultant will also be asked to advise CAF on where to establish its operational base, along with necessary legal requirement for set up.

Specific **deliverables** should include:

1. **3 strategic objectives** to guide delivery in 2023-24. These should align with CAF's 2023-2026 overarching strategy (attached). The objectives should be accompanied by a set of outcomes defining what CAF's grantmaking could achieve, when complementing action from Government and investments from other funders, in the domains of **improving data, building public support and demand**, and **driving action** on air pollution by Government, cities and business
2. An assessment of where CAF's funding could have the greatest impact – for example – in which **specific cities or regions**, and in support of which **specific air pollution reduction efforts** (transport calming, coal phase out, waste burning)
3. **Up to six Concept Notes** (each 1-2 pages) detailing the objectives and outcomes of some potential projects with identified grantees. Projects could potentially be developed to address the following gaps:
 - Generating more data on AP emissions and sources in selected localities/cities – possibly by supporting the extension of networks of low cost sensors (**data**),
 - Supporting national government (particularly the Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment – DFEE) to advance ambition, legislation and policies on clean air action (**drive**),
 - Strengthening capacity of cities such as Johannesburg and eThekweni (Durban) to implement Air Quality Management Plans – working alongside existing actors such as C40 (**drive**),
 - Catalysing + mobilising demand for cleaner air from a wide range of stakeholders (**demand**) – particularly from youth climate activities and the health community
 - Potentially working directly with businesses to measure and mitigate their AP footprint (**drive**).
4. We are also seeking advice from the consultant as to where CAF should establish an office, and the concrete steps required to make this happen. Initial thinking is that Johannesburg makes best sense because:
 - a. It is the largest city with a rapidly growing population
 - b. There is strong appetite to work on AP (it is a C40 city)
 - c. It is part of Gauteng Province which includes Pretoria and Ekurhuleni (also C40 cities)
 - d. It is close to the seat of Government and other donors based in Pretoria

Timeline

Draft report to be delivered by 24 February 2023. Final draft by 3 March

Selection Criteria

Bids of no more than 6 pages should be submitted to CAF by 16 December 2022. They should include a section on why the applicant is qualified to take on the assignment – detailing similar assignments undertaken in the environment and climate space in South Africa, profiles / CVs of team members (strong preference for South Africa-based consultants), knowledge of the sector, expertise in air pollution, network of relevant contacts or relationships with key actors in Government and civil society.

The bid should also indicate how the assignment will be undertaken with the timeline and staging posts, plus a detailed budget.

The assignment will be managed by CAF's Chief of Staff, who will serve as the main contact point.

- The consultant(s) will be responsible for the deliverables as set out in this scope of work
- A small CAF team (Programme Director/Country Lead Ghana/Chief of Staff) will meet with the consultant(s) weekly to receive an update on progress, review materials, and give steers as required
- CAF's Chief of Staff will aim to visit South Africa in mid February for up to 5 working days to join meetings with key external stakeholders and to participate in a strategy workshop with the consultant(s)

The winning bid will be selected by 22 December 2022. Bids should be sent to Nick Smith – n.smith@cleanairfund.org by 17.00 GMT 16 December 2022.