

Request for Proposals – Consultancy Service on Super Pollutants Finance Advocacy May 2025

The Clean Air Fund is seeking an experienced consultant to undertake a 6-month service contract, from June 2025 until December 2025, with the potential of an extension. The individual will have expertise in climate and/or development finance and a background in advocacy and policy engagement related to climate change and/or development topics. Familiarity with the short-lived climate pollutants/super pollutants policy space and stakeholders would be a plus. The consultant will complement in-house advocacy and policy work on black carbon, air quality and super pollutants, by developing the Clean Air Fund's black carbon finance advocacy sub-strategy and research and policy outputs, to make the case for additional finance for black carbon mitigation.

The estimated time commitment to deliver this work is 3 days per week over the 6-7 months. Alternative employment arrangements can be considered.

Background to the Clean Air Fund

Air pollution is the world's largest environment health threat, with 99% of the world's population breathing air deemed to be unsafe by the World Health Organisation. Launched in 2019, the Clean Air Fund (CAF) is a philanthropic initiative with a mission to tackle air pollution around the world. Our aim is to help build and support a powerful global movement for clean air. We achieve this by bringing together funders, researchers, policy makers and campaigners working on a wide range of issues to find and scale solutions that will provide clean air for all.

More information about the Clean Air Fund can be found on our website: www.cleanairfund.org

About Super Pollutants at the Clean Air Fund

Climate change and air pollution are inextricably linked. These two global crises share many of the same sources, solutions and pollutants. Super pollutants or short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) contribute to global warming, cause local environmental degradation and harm human health. CAF's first dedicated programme in this space focuses on black carbon, a major contributor to both air pollution and climate change. Continued inaction on super pollutants presents a missed opportunity for mitigating near-term warming, avoiding climate tipping points and reducing the global burden of disease caused by air pollution.

CAF's Super Pollutants portfolio seeks to reduce black carbon emissions globally. The Super Pollutants team is working for air pollution and climate change to be addressed together and is delivering high-impact projects aimed specifically at tackling black carbon. Our ambition is to see countries slash black carbon emissions by [35% by 2030 from 2010 levels](#), achieving mitigation consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5°C and a step up in action from current status quo (a projected 3% reduction over the same time period).

The team leads a broad programme of work spanning science research, policy and advocacy, and pilot implementation projects to drive increased national, city and international action on reducing black carbon emissions. The policy and advocacy work has multiple strands, including convening black carbon experts and the air quality and climate change communities, supporting engagement with national and subnational governments on black carbon mitigation, and supporting engagement with regional and global regulatory frameworks on air quality and climate change. The final strand is on making the case for additional black carbon finance, which supports all other policy engagement activities and is critical for unlocking implementation to mitigate black carbon emissions. Despite black carbon's climate and health impacts,

finance for solutions in heavily polluting (or black carbon-rich) sectors is very limited. According to the Clean Air Fund's [State of Global Air Quality Funding 2024](#), funding for projects addressing black carbon-rich sources between 2018-2022 was estimated at \$560 million each year. Clean Air Fund aims to mobilise additional funds for reducing black carbon emissions from high-emitting sectors, including those that produce high levels of other super pollutant emissions. To contribute to this, Clean Air Fund is developing a set of outputs to identify the gaps in finance for black carbon and advocate for increased funding for mitigation for black carbon, alongside other super pollutants.

Project deliverables & prospective activities

Proposed deliverables:

1. Build on existing Super Pollutants portfolio approach to advocacy on black carbon, to develop and implement with the team a finance-focused advocacy strategy for black carbon across 2025-2026.
2. Manage the delivery of research and policy outputs (likely two) to support advocacy on black carbon finance, for instance through:
 - a. Managing the development of planned outputs, with inputs from external advisors and partner organisations;
 - b. Selecting and working with external partners to develop research outputs;
 - c. Project managing the development of outputs to ensure they are delivered in a timely manner;
 - d. Providing reviews and coordinate expert input into development of the outputs;
 - e. Organising communications and advocacy around the outputs to maximise their impact and uptake among relevant international policy and finance stakeholders, in collaboration with Clean Air Fund Communications and Advocacy portfolios.
3. Lead the production of a State of Black Carbon Funding factsheet, extracting data from the upcoming State of Global Air Quality Funding report due to be published in October 2025.
4. Support preparations for activities at significant international events to showcase black carbon finance advocacy outputs and make the case for greater black carbon finance.

The selected candidate will also contribute to the following activities. These will include, but are not limited to:

- Liaise with selected experts who provide high-level strategic advice for finance advocacy.
- Input into Clean Air Fund fundraising proposals on matters relating to black carbon finance advocacy, where relevant.
- Input into Super Pollutants portfolio documents and strategies.
- Lead on developing briefings related to finance and super pollutants to support Clean Air Fund participation at major events.

Desired experience & competencies:

Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of multilateral finance, particularly development and climate finance infrastructure • Capability to develop and lead projects independently • Previous policy and/or advocacy experience at an international level related to climate and/or development topics • Experience in managing relationships with external stakeholders • Previous exposure or evidence of interest in climate and air quality issues
Competencies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust understanding of international climate and development finance systems • Strong written and verbal communication skills • Thorough and organised approach to project management, with excellent attention to detail as well as the ability to see the “big picture” • Strategic thinking capabilities, including strategy development • Ability to work autonomously and with an instinctive problem-solving approach • Research skills and ability to interpret quantitative data and present it in an easily understandable format • Demonstrable alignment with CAF’s mission, values and goals

Performance & co-ordination

The Executive Director, Strategic Partnerships will provide overall supervision of the chosen consultant’s performance. The day-to-day work will be coordinated by the Policy Manager – Super Pollutants (based in the Clean Air Fund London office), who will act as the primary point of contact. The consultant will be working closely with the Super Pollutants and Advocacy portfolios in executing their assignment under the contract.

How to apply

Please complete a short proposal (this can take either the form of a covering letter or a short proposal + CV) outlining how you would meet the brief. Please also include an overall budget based upon estimated days and day rate, and return by email to superpollutants@cleanairfund.org by midnight (BST) on **15th May 2025**.

Timeline

Activity	Deadline
RfP published	2 nd May 2025
Deadline for proposals	15 th May 2025
Review of proposals and decision on preferred bidder	23 rd May 2025
Proposal finalisation, and agreement	28 th May 2025
Contracting and project start	2 nd June 2025
Deadline for completing the work	10 th December 2025