

Clean Air Network

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Response to the 2025-2026 Policy Address



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On September 16, we released our response to the Hong Kong Government's 2025-2026 Policy Address. Clean Air Network, guided by the vision of "Clean Air for All," welcomes the measures to improve air quality announced by the Chief Executive in the Policy Address, including the continual construction of charging stations for electric vehicles, the study of green shipping fuels and the continuing development of mass transit.

We urge the government to consider the following comprehensive recommendations across three major areas:

1. **Comprehensively Promoting Green Transport and Green Shipping**

Our organization welcomes the "Roadmap on Green Transformation for Public Buses and Taxis" announced by the government last December. To achieve the goals of zero vehicular emissions and carbon neutrality by 2050, the government should also actively promote the adoption of electric commercial vehicles, including light, medium, and heavy goods vehicles. We support the ongoing commercial electric vehicle trials and request the government formulate a more specific direction and timeline for implementation.

Regarding green shipping, we also have the following recommendations:

- **Develop an Onshore Power Supply (OPS) Development Policy:** Led by the Environment and Ecology Bureau, a clear policy direction should be established. This includes promoting the construction of onshore charging infrastructure, overseeing the retrofitting of berths, and investing in substations to ensure coordination with the power grid.
- **Strategy for Electrification of Local Shipping:** The government should formulate a comprehensive strategy to promote the electrification of operational and river trade vessels. In addition to subsidizing the electric ferry pilot scheme, a roadmap for the electrification of government vessels is needed to accelerate market adoption. The government should also consider the construction of shore power infrastructure at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal.
- **Regional Vessel Emission Coordination Mechanism:** We support a regional emission reduction strategy. This would harmonize the electrification process, encourage related measures, and facilitate the planning of green fuel infrastructure to promote a "Green Shipping Corridor."

- **Quantitative Study on Vessel Emissions:** We recommend that the Environmental Protection Department conduct a dedicated study to obtain precise data on vessel emissions. This would quantify the benefits of onshore power supply and shipping electrification on improving Hong Kong's air quality, providing a scientific basis for future policies.

2. Continuously Tackling Outdoor Air Pollution

Over the past decade, Hong Kong has made significant progress in improving its ambient and roadside air quality, yet it still lags behind other major cities. In 2023, Hong Kong's short-term Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) only achieved a 75% attainment rate, with particularly noticeable gaps in nitrogen dioxide and ozone levels. In 2024, roadside nitrogen dioxide levels exceeded the World Health Organization's stringent standards by 550%.

With evolving public health risks and demographic changes, we must intensify our air purification efforts. Hong Kong's indoor air quality lacks systematic management, posing greater risks to vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and patients.

3. Legislating to Regulate Indoor Air Quality Policy

Policy discussions in Hong Kong have historically centered on ambient and roadside air quality, but indoor air quality is equally important, especially in the post-pandemic era where many people spend the majority of their time indoors. Recent studies indicate that public health risks are shifting from environmental pollution to indoor pollution, primarily stemming from volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

To combat airborne infectious diseases, strengthening indoor air quality control is crucial. It is particularly important to establish indoor air quality guidelines for premises serving vulnerable groups, such as nurseries, kindergartens, and elderly care homes.

To this end, the government needs to amend the Air Pollution Control Ordinance to incorporate regulatory targets for indoor air quality, prioritizing the setting of strict standards with regular reviews. Concurrently, it should continuously monitor and publish indoor air quality data in all government buildings and expand the Environmental Protection Department's "Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme" to cover premises without mechanical ventilation and air conditioning systems.

Incorporating Air Quality into the "Basic Housing Units Bill"

The authorities' current proposal for "Minimum Living Environment Standards for Basic Housing Units" includes building area, fire and structural safety, lighting and ventilation, and the provision of an external window. Our organization recommends that air quality also be included within this scope, mandating that every household has a means to introduce fresh air and sunlight. This includes, but is not limited to, windows or a ventilation system, such as the installation of exhaust or convection fans, and placing stoves near a window to reduce the accumulation of air pollutants.

Coming together and planning the future: annual offsite meeting

On September 13, the Clean Air Network family including our Board of Directors, Advisors, Team and Key Partners came together for our annual offsite.

This was a great opportunity for us to learn, reflect on our journey, and aspire to make an even greater impact in the coming year.

We are immensely grateful to everyone who contributed their effort and explored the way forward to achieve our vision "Clean Air for All".

We:

- Reviewed the current state of environmental advocacy in Hong Kong, the challenges and opportunities we face in the future;
- Examined the newest research in the realm of air quality and environmental sciences; and
- Shared and refined our long term strategy and mid term development plan, going through progress made and obstacles met.



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our partners across academia, business, healthcare, education, the impact sector, media, and beyond.

We would also like to acknowledge our dedicated Board of Directors, Advisors, and the committed CAN team, whose tireless efforts make our progress possible.



Summer internship sharing: From data analysis to arts, literature and geography

"Clean Air is Social Justice", how can we enact justice and understand Clean Air on different levels on the campus?

In visual arts class, students appreciating Claude Monet's famous painting, "Waterloo Bridge" can understand how its hazy beauty originated from the severe air pollution in London at the time, obscuring the true view of the city. In Chinese Literature, reading Taiwanese poet Yu Kwang-chung's "Accusation of a Chimney," is a vivid depiction of how air pollution devours a pristine environment.

Last weekend (September 20), CAN hosted a sharing session titled "Integrating Clean Air Education in Schools". It brought together teachers and students who participated in our Summer Internship Program in August, along with teachers and students from partner schools, to discuss how to promote "Clean Air" education on campus.

Inspiring Interdisciplinary Learning

During the CAN Secondary Students' Internship Summer Programme 2025 in August, we introduced students to data visualization, enabling them to analyze air pollution issues in different regions of Hong Kong using extensive geographical, economic, and demographic data. This internship experience challenged conventional perceptions: people often assume that air pollution is not a mainstream curriculum topic and is mostly related to science. In reality, air-related issues worthy of exploration can be found across arts, science, visual arts, religious and ethical studies, and even humanities.

As Principal Elisa Wong of Valtorta College said, "Air is something everyone is entitled to, but Clean Air is not something every region has. Clean Air is Social Justice. Youth should consider the issue and what they can do, while teachers can share it through various subjects and talks."

CAN's education program is recruiting! We welcome teachers and students of all subjects!

[Application for students](#)



Clean Air Student Council announces a new team for the 2025-2026 school year

We're happy to announce that the Clean Air Student Council (CASC) has successfully held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday for the 2025-2026 school year, welcoming a new cohort of 19 passionate students from 7 schools!

We witnessed the students from the previous year pass on the torch to the new team, sharing their experiences and feelings from their work on the Council. They divided into groups to plan activities for the next year-seeing their passionate discussion and a new crop of students joining the cause of Clean Air was truly inspirational.

This year they will continue to organise two major events:

- 3rd Clean Air Public Speaking Contest in November 2025
- 7th Clean Air Conference in May 2026

Established in 2019, CASC is the youth branch of Clean Air Network which partnered with over 10 schools and empowered more than 1200 students to take action against air pollution.

If you are keen to be involved in CASC's work, connect with them [here](#) and at [their Instagram](#) to stay informed about upcoming programs.

[Instagram](#)



Going forward, our newsletter will include a dedicated section for IAQ to share information from Hong Kong and the globe.

Our vision of "Clean Air For All" in Hong Kong includes all people in all places and Indoor Air Quality is an important but under-appreciated aspect of air quality. Hong Kong is an urban area where a majority of the population spends most of their time indoors at work, school, transit and leisure. As such, we began this project in May 2025 in to an effort to raise awareness of IAQ issues among not just the general public, but private sector businesses, social welfare sector, education sector and healthcare sector to manage IAQ in their spaces for the benefit of all users of their spaces.



Case Study: Wellness in the workplace – How Dah Chong Hong make use of the latest renovation opportunity to elevate Indoor Air Quality for employees

Placing a strong emphasis on employee well-being and workplace environment, Dah Chong Hong Holdings Limited (DCH) strengthened the indoor air quality (IAQ) management in its headquarter office to foster a healthy and comfortable atmosphere.

[Read more](#)



CAN Indoor Air Quality study: Identify existing solutions for IAQ monitoring, reporting and improvement

This report presents a comprehensive evaluation of indoor air quality (IAQ) technologies, policies, and practices in global cities comparable to Hong Kong, with a primary focus on the unique challenges and developments specific to Hong Kong. Although the city has made significant advances in IAQ monitoring, it continues to struggle with issues such as limited IAQ reporting, inadequate management of residential air quality, and a need for more stringent regulatory frameworks and collaborative efforts.

Photo: [Clement Souchet](#) on [Unsplash](#)

[Read more](#)

編輯精選



Animation: The journey of Clean Air Kid

Have you seen this cute cloud in our social media photos? He's our mascot and he has a name, Clean Air Kid! Click here to go to our youtube and learn about his story and how our fluffy white cloud has gone grey.

[Watch here](#)



Eco Expo Asia

We are proud to be a supporting media partner for the Hong Kong Trade Development Council's yearly Eco Expo Asia once again! Showcasing green products, equipment and technology, the fair brings together business, academics and experts to reduce carbon emissions and pave the way for a greener future.

The fair will be open to the public for free on the last day 31 October, to encourage citizens to

participate in environmental protection and promote green living.

[Read more](#)



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