



Clean Air Goals to
Transform our World





Air quality is a fundamental aspect of quality of life and an essential component of sustainable development.

Air Quality has major impacts on human health and the environment.

- Everyone's health is affected by air pollution. Children, older adults and people with respiratory or heart diseases are especially vulnerable.
- Multi-stakeholder oversight of monitoring, data and analysis through Airshed organizations is critical to ensuring a neutral approach, based on science, to understanding air quality.
- In addition to the Air Quality Health Index, monitoring data needs to be available to the public, including from emerging small sensor technology.

Air Pollution is a Global Health Risk.

Globally, air pollution is responsible for an estimated 6.5 million deaths annually, or one in nine premature deaths every year. This makes it the world's largest environmental health risk, and among the largest global health risks according to the World Health Organization.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more **sustainable future for all**. These interconnected goals address global challenges and are a call-to-action for a sustainable planet. @globalgoalsUN

Air Quality is integral to impacting most of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

- **No Poverty** (UN Goal 1)
Improved air quality leads to a better quality of life through improved health and increased productivity.
- **Zero Hunger** (UN Goal 2)
Air pollution is harmful to plant growth and can reduce the quality and output of food crops.
- **Good Health and Well-Being** (UN Goal 3)
Poor air quality impacts respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and is a leading cause of death around the world.
- **Clean Water and Sanitation** (UN Goal 6)
Harmful air pollutants from the burning of fossil fuels can cause acid rain which is detrimental to water quality and ecosystem health.
- **Affordable and Clean Energy** (UN Goal 7)
Cleaner fuels are better for human health and the environment, including climate change.
- **Decent Work and Economic Growth** (UN Goal 8)
Air quality affects population well-being and productivity, agriculture health, natural ecosystems and climate which all impact economic growth.

- **Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** (UN Goal 9)
Decreased energy use and reduced emissions from industry and transportation sources would reduce harmful air pollution.
- **Sustainable Cities and Communities** (UN Goal 11)
Reducing massive urban energy consumption and pollution would increase the sustainability of cities by increasing the health of its citizens and slowing climate change.
- **Responsible Consumption and Production** (UN Goal 12)
Decreasing consumption and production would reduce waste, harmful emissions and damage to our environment.
- **Climate Action** (UN Goal 13)
Addressing climate change will improve air quality and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions will slow climate change.
- **Life Below Water** (UN Goal 14)
Rising sea levels and ocean health can be affected by minimizing our carbon footprint with small changes in our daily lives that reduce air pollutants.
- **Life on Land** (UN Goal 15)
Increased carbon emissions in the atmosphere is the result of deforestation and forest degradation; resulting acid rain damages biodiversity and forest health.



At WCAS, we join the call-to-action outlined by United Nations Sustainable Development Goals knowing that reducing air pollution and improving air quality will help ensure a better future for us all.

Join us as a clean air advocate!

LEARN MORE

@airshedwest on Twitter

**MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES**

wcas.ca

info@wcas.ca

587-499-4900