

## ABOUT US

### Project Coordination

Verkehrsclub Deutschland e.V. (VCD)

### Project Partners

Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz (BUND)  
Centre for Sustainable Alternatives (CEPTA)  
Det Økologiske Råd (The Danish Ecocouncil)  
Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH)  
European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E)  
Levegő Munkacsoport (Clean Air Action Group/CAAG)  
Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU)  
VCÖ – Mobilität mit Zukunft

### Duration

39 months (2012-09-01 to 2015-11-31)

### Clean Air

- contributes to an improved implementation of the Air Quality Directive on a regional and local level.
- challenges continuing violations of European air quality legislation.
- communicates best practice cases and solutions to stakeholders through publications, workshops and online.
- informs decision makers, media and the public about harmful effects of air pollution to both public health and the environment.

### CONTACT

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[www.cleanair-europe.org](http://www.cleanair-europe.org)



## Clean Air

is a project by nine European environmental organisations that fight for clean air in European cities. Despite the existing legislative framework and the citizens' right to clean air, continuing violations of air pollution limits remain a problem in many cities. Air pollution threatens health, environment and climate. It's time to take action!

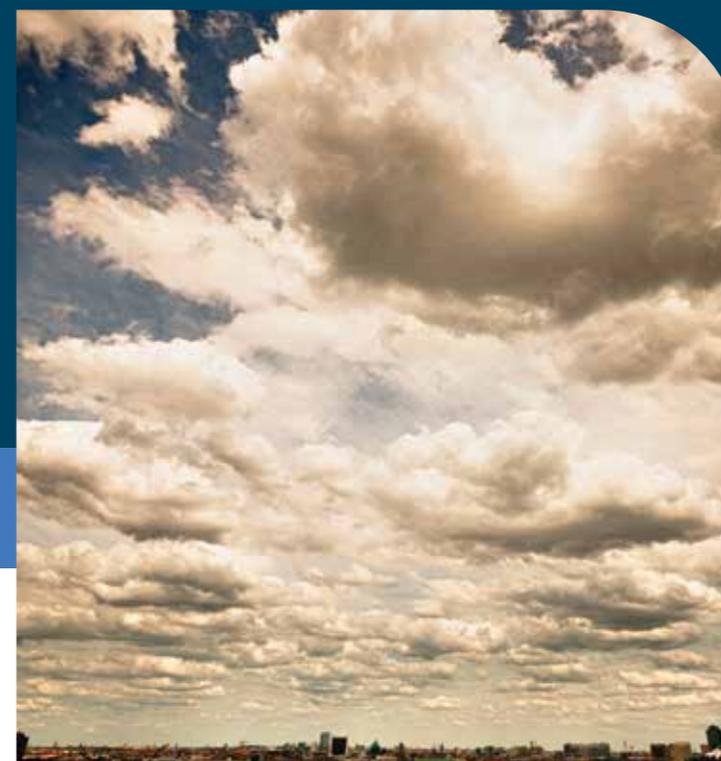
[www.cleanair-europe.org](http://www.cleanair-europe.org)

Started in 2009, the associated campaign „Sootfree for the Climate“ aims to reduce diesel soot emissions, which accelerate climate change and pose a threat to public health. To this day twelve European NGOs have joined the campaign.

[www.sootfreeclimate.org](http://www.sootfreeclimate.org)

## CLEAN AIR FOR EUROPEAN CITIES

NGOs take action on air quality



## IT'S TIME TO TAKE ACTION!

Every day we inhale about 15.000 litres of air. Besides the essential oxygen, a lot of dangerous pollutants end up in our lungs. In particular nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM) constitute serious danger to public health. Moreover, individual pollutants such as diesel soot as a component of PM also considerably contribute to climate change.



### Air pollution policy in the EU

The European Union put air pollution on its agenda and aims to achieve an air quality that “causes no significant adverse effects to human health or the environment and thus no corresponding danger” (Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution). The main legislative framework is the 2008 Air Quality Directive (AQD), introduced as a means to improve implementation of already existing EU air pollution law. Furthermore, the European Court of Justice established in its judgments that every European citizen has the right to breathe clean air.

### NGOs step in to improve air quality

Nevertheless violations of air pollution limits still occur frequently, even though EU member states committed to those goals by integrating the AQD into national law. So despite of this legislative framework, the implementation of the AQD is insufficient.

To improve implementation nine NGOs take action in the LIFE project Clean Air to push for better air quality in European cities by distributing relevant information, available technologies and best-practice.

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### Verkehrsclub Deutschland (Germany)

VCD is an association for sustainable mobility and a major German organisation for transport and environment. It coordinates the overall project and heads the press and public relations section. Additionally, VCD manages the projects Clean Buses and European Biking Cities. Both target stakeholders at different levels of government to implement measures for clean buses and to strongly promote cycling as a direct means to curb air pollution.



### Deutsche Umwelthilfe (Germany)

Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (DUH) is an independent non-profit environmental and consumer-protection organisation. In its Clean Air projects, DUH organises workshops to inform NGOs, lawyers and citizens' initiatives about EU air quality legislation and the possibilities to take legal action. In addition, DUH carries out surveys about the implementation of air quality measures and coordinates efforts of European NGOs to push Air quality legislation.

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO



### The Danish Ecocouncil (Denmark)

The Ecocouncil is an NGO and academic organisation dealing with environmental policy on a scientific basis. Within the project Copenhagen serves as a model city for air quality and efforts to fulfil PM and NO<sub>2</sub> limits. Furthermore, Ecocouncil will strengthen the issues of exhaust (ultrafine) particles and how bicycles and road pricing can improve air quality.



### Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz (Germany)

BUND (Friends of the Earth Germany) is one of the largest environmental NGOs in Germany and the first to combine nature protection and environmentalism. Through a set of guidelines, BUND aims at informing cities about effective air pollution control measures. Furthermore, it initiates a campaign to make inland navigation cleaner.



### Naturschutzbund Deutschland (Germany)

NABU, the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union, is one of the oldest and largest environmental associations in Germany. The NABU project "Clean air in ports" aims to collect and discuss possible measures for cleaner air in ports, disseminate this knowledge and encourage networking between ports on the issue.



### Centre for Sustainable Alternatives (Slovakia)

CEPTA is an association for environmental protection, civil participation, sustainable development and healthy lifestyle. In order to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> and air pollutant emissions CEPTA launches a programme and certification scheme for ecological driving, e.g. training in driving schools within the LIFE project Clean Air.



### Transport & Environment (EU/Brussels)

Representing 50 organisations across Europe, T&E is the leading NGO voice on smarter and greener transport policies at the EU level in Brussels. For the Clean Air project, T&E attends policy development for air quality legislation and provides scientific information for policy makers and the public.



### VCÖ – Mobilität mit Zukunft (Austria)

VCÖ is the key organisation for environmentally sustainable, fair and economically efficient mobility in Austria. In its Clean Air actions, VCÖ addresses national stakeholders to discuss what transport policy instruments are needed to improve air quality in Austria (such as congestion charges and low-emissions zones).



### Clean Air Action Group (Hungary)

A national federation of more than one hundred NGOs, CAAG is one of the best-known environmental organisations in Hungary. CAAG advocates for a renewal of Budapest's bus fleet and the spread of multimodal mobility in Hungary and furthermore proposes financial instruments to fund these measures.