Clean Air Fund Grant Narrative Report – *insert grant no.*

Date of Document	30 June 2026

Grant Title	Investment case for improved air quality to support health and wellbeing in South Africa
Grant Number	001542 (Internal)
Grant Budget	$150 042
Grant Timeframe	Start Date: 01 September 2025 End Date: 31 December 2026
Reporting period	Start Date: 01 April 2026 End Date: 31 July 2026
Grant Purpose	*Fund the investment case for improved air quality and health in SA*

1. Grantee Review of progress	The Institutional and Context Analysis (ICA) desktop review was completed, followed by stakeholder interviews with key institutions, including the University of Johannesburg, the South African Medical Research Council, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, the Centre for Environmental Rights, Groundwork, Sedibeng District Municipality, National Treasury, and the Department of Transport. An interview with the Department of Health, which is essential to the project, is still pending. Data requests were submitted to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) for macroeconomic data, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for air pollution data, and the Department of Health for health-related data to support the analysis. Air pollution and macroeconomic data have been obtained, while the health-related data is still pending. **Main achievement:** The Institutional and Context Analysis (ICA) desktop review and stakeholder interviews with key institutions were completed, and air pollution and macroeconomic data were successfully obtained. These achievements established a strong evidence base and enabled the initiation of the draft Investment Case.

2. Lessons learned	Early and continuous engagement with key stakeholders and data custodians is essential to facilitate timely access to relevant information and ensure that the analysis is informed by comprehensive and credible evidence. The process also highlighted the importance of initiating data requests well in advance and maintaining regular follow-up, particularly where access to specialised health-related data depends on multiple institutional processes.

3. Deliverables Status	**Summary:** The following deliverables have been initiated and progressed to date: (i) compilation of existing air quality, health, and contextual data from publicly available online sources, with formal requests submitted for national-level health data from the National Department of Health; and (ii) completion of the desktop review to inform the investment case and analytical work. In addition, interviews for the institutional context analysis are underway.

Deliverable	Due Date	Status
Inception workshop	31 March 2026	Completed
Data compilation and validation	31 December 2026	In progress
Capacity building workshops	30 November 2026	In progress

	Notes: – The Institutional and Context Analysis (ICA) desktop review was completed. – Stakeholder interviews were conducted with key institutions, including UJ, SAMRC, DFFE, the Centre for Environmental Rights, Groundwork, Sedibeng District Municipality, National Treasury, and the Department of Transport. – Data requests were submitted to Stats SA for macroeconomic data, CSIR for air pollution data, and the Department of Health for health-related data. – Air pollution and macroeconomic data were successfully obtained and are informing the analysis. – The development of the draft Investment Case has commenced, drawing on the findings from the ICA, stakeholder interviews and provided macroeconomic & pollution data. – The Department of Health interview and health-related data are still pending and will be incorporated once available.

4. Indicators Status	**Summary:** A total of 8 stakeholder interviews were conducted, comprising 6 female participants (75%) and 2 male participants (25%). The stakeholders represented a range of sectors, including government, academia and research, civil society & environmental advocacy and local government. The ICA desktop review was completed, and air pollution and macroeconomic data were obtained. The development of the draft Investment Case has commenced. The interview with the Department of Health and the required health-related data remain pending and will be incorporated into the analysis once received. Overall, the project remains well on track, with progress aligned with the planned implementation timeline.

Year 2026			
Objective	**Indicator**	**Target**	**Actual**
To develop an evidence-based Investment Case for improved air quality to support health and wellbeing.	Institutional and Context Analysis (ICA) completed, including stakeholder consultations and relevant data collection, and findings used to inform the development of the Investment Case.	Complete the ICA desktop review, conduct stakeholder interviews, obtain relevant air pollution, macroeconomic and health data, and initiate the draft Investment Case.	The ICA desktop review was completed, and 8 stakeholder interviews were conducted, comprising 6 female participants (75%) and 2 male participants (25%). Air pollution and macroeconomic data were obtained, and development of the draft Investment Case has commenced.

5. Risk Assessment	The main risk relates to delays in obtaining health-related data and securing an interview with the Department of Health, as these inputs are essential for informing the health component of the Investment Case. Delays may affect the completeness and timing of the analysis. To mitigate this risk, regular follow-ups with the Department of Health will continue, while the available air pollution and macroeconomic data are being used to advance the development of the draft Investment Case. Overall, the project remains well on track, and no significant risks to the achievement of the planned outputs have been identified at this stage.

6. Financial Summary	
	Has the grant been kept to budget? Yes ☒ No ☐

Summary: The project budget remains aligned with planned activities. Spending to date reflects costs associated with hosting three inception workshops for the investment case and multisectoral action plan, the UNDP Delivery Enabling Services costs, Documentary production and Project Coordinator monthly salary payment.

Planned activities

- MSAP workshop facilitator (consultant)
- MSAP 2 days' workshop (venue, catering)
- Technical expert monthly salary
- Design and printing (Investment case & policy brief)
- Investment case Launch (venue & catering)

Total under spend: $60 950,26

Signed	
	Name: Deshni Pillay **Position: NCR Team Lead** **Company: United Nations Development Programme** **Signature:** DocuSigned by: Deshni Pillay C8CF4C0EF4C04AA...