

A BREATH OF CHANGE

10 Solutions for Cleaner Air in the Indo-Gangetic Plains and Himalayan Foothills

COOKING



124 million households lack clean cooking options = **32%*** of air pollution

Solutions

- Expand access to electric, biogas, LPG, & cleaner biomass cookstoves
- Strengthen supply chains
- Strengthen women-led distribution networks

TRANSPORT



Outdated vehicles & low fuel quality = **17%** of air pollution

Solutions

- Promote EVs, Euro VI emission standards
- Improve fuel quality
- Robust vehicle inspection
- Scrappage programs for old vehicles
- Promote public transport, walking, & cycling

AGRICULTURE



Agricultural practices including crop residue burning, & inefficient manure management = **12%** of air pollution

Solutions

- Subsidize machinery to stop crop burning
- Reduce nitrogen fertilizer overuse
- Improve livestock manure management

INDUSTRIES



Industries emissions = **21%** of air pollution

Solutions

- Upgrade brick kilns & transition to cleaner fuels
- Upgrade industrial furnaces & boiler technologies
- Modernize power plants & expand renewables

WASTE



Open waste burning, unmanaged debris, & road dust = **2%** of air pollution

Solutions

- Monitor open waste burning & build awareness
- Mandate recycling of construction & demolition waste
- Enforce dust control & pave busy roads

ABATEMENT

HEALTH

Health systems and people unprepared; air pollution multiplies health risks



Solutions

- Embed health in air pollution analytics, measures, & coordination
- Reduce exposure via masks, public air purifiers, advisories
- Build capacity to monitor/treat air-pollution illness in vulnerable groups

EDUCATION

Air pollution reduces students' learning; education systems lack clean air curricula



Solutions

- Improve classroom air quality with monitors & purifiers
- Integrate clean air & environmental topics into curricula
- Strengthen education & training for air quality skills

PROTECTION

GOVERNANCE

Fragmented responsibilities; weak enforcement; lack of accountability



Solutions

- Establish legal & regulatory frameworks
- Empower multi-ministerial air quality agencies
- Integrate airshed management in national & local plans

MARKET-BASED INSTRUMENTS

Fiscal constraints & harmful subsidies limit clean air funding



Solutions

- Phase out polluting subsidies
- Introduce pollution taxes
- Launch Emissions Trading Systems for industry
- Tap carbon markets for clean air projects

REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Over **50%** of air pollution in major cities is transboundary



Solutions

- Set a shared PM_{2.5} target ("35 by 35")
- Harmonize networks & knowledge platforms
- Institutionalize governance

FRAMEWORKS

CROSS-CUTTING ENABLERS

INCENTIVES | INFORMATION | INSTITUTIONS | INFRASTRUCTURE



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**A BREATH OF CHANGE:
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HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS**
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