

AirQo — Makerere University's Low-Cost Air-Quality Sensor Network for African Cities

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Uganda

Quality score: 90/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Makerere University engineers built AirQo in 2015 to fill Africa's air-quality data gap with low-cost, solar-powered sensors. It now runs 200+ monitors across Kampala, Nairobi, Lagos and Accra with \$4.3M in Google.org funding, feeding peer-reviewed pollution research.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	3/3
Scalability	3/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	3/3
Inclusiveness / equity	3/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[AirQo, Makerere University](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[About AirQo \(official\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[Low-cost air quality sensors help Uganda tackle rising air pollution](#) — World Economic Forum — accessed 2026-09-08

[Integrated air quality information for Kampala](#) — Environmental Science: Atmospheres (RSC) — accessed 2026-09-08

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