



# AFD and Urban Mobility

**70%** of the world population will be living in urban areas by 2050 Less than **40%** of urban populations in developing countries have access to high-quality public transport according to the United Nations

### 7 million

premature deaths are caused by air pollution every year according to the World Health Organisation (WHO)

The development of sustainable and inclusive urban mobility systems is one of the requirements for cities to remain "livable": everyone must be able to get around their cities easily and safely, have access to essential services and breathe clean air. AFD mainly finances structuring public transport systems, transfer hubs, and non-motorised transport facilities such as bike lanes and sidewalks..

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# Developing efficient, safe, inclusive and low-carbon urban mobility systems

## **Our lines of operation**

- Support low-carbon urban mobility planning and effective governance frameworks. Through the MobiliseYourCity partnership, AFD has developed an urban mobility planning methodology that is policy-based (defining a vision), participatory (including all residents and users) and realistic (built on available financing)
- Promote the urban integration of "heavy" modes, by systematically developing active modes (walking and cycling). When AFD finances metros, tramways and bus rapid transit systems, it focuses on developing a "complete corridor" approach through a full redevelopment and integration of improved urban facilities, such as bicycle lanes, better access to stations and easier connections with standard buses and minibuses
- Provide mobility solutions tailored to secondary cities. In Africa, a large part of urbanization takes place in "secondary" cities. These cities require

appropriate solutions as they often lack financial and technical resources. This includes structuring the main bus lines and improving the urban road network to make it safer for pedestrians and users of two-wheelers.

• Help modernize paratransit sector. In most cities in developing countries, collective transport services are mainly provided by informal private operators of buses and minibuses. They provide a flexible service across the city, but often cause congestion, pollution and road safety issues. The modernization of this sector is a focus area of operation.

 Support innovation in the digital and energy transformation of mobility services. AFD assists its partners in the transition towards electric mobility, which is central to the decarbonization of the sector. With the DigitalTransport4Africa partnership, AFD develops high-quality open data: the "digital commons".

FOCUS on

#### The MobiliseYourCity (MYC) partnership

Launched in 2015 to promote low-carbon urban mobility planning, the MYC partnership now counts 66 cities and 15 governments among its members. It is both a knowledge-sharing platform (see our methodologies, handbooks and case studies on mobiliseyourcity.net) and an actor in urban mobility.

By mobilizing multi-donor funds, this partnership works on pilot projects to modernize informal transport, support governance and assist active modes. All this action requires long-term support.

### Air quality

In 2020, AFD established a roadmap to assist in the formulation and implementation of public policies designed to improve air quality. Air pollution causes at least seven million premature deaths a year and an annual loss of several percentage points in worldwide GDP. It is indeed a major health, environmental and social issue on every continent.

Through an array of French and international partnerships, AFD supports the drivers for action "upstream" (raising awareness among public authorities and civil societies, improving knowledge about pollution), as well as public policy measures and investment requirements, with a focus on the transport sector (public transport, electric mobility).

## **Our key financial commitments**



#### Dominican Republic: a wide range of operational tools

AFD has been operating in the urban mobility sector in the Dominican Republic since 2011. By the end of 2022, it will have provided over \$1.1 billion of financing to the country to:

• Develop the metro and urban cable network, which currently carries about 320,000 passengers a day, and develop the city area. This includes Line 2 of the metro and its extension towards the more vulnerable Santo Domingo East neighborhood, the first urban cable line in the country, an increase in the capacity of Line 1, and the development of the new La Barquita neighborhood, which accommodates under-privileged people from flood-prone riverside neighborhoods

• Produce a sustainable mobility plan in Santo Domingo by mobilizing the MYC partnership, develop an Urban Mobility Observatory and prepare the future investments

• Support public policy measures, such as measures to support electric mobility, the introduction of vehicle roadworthiness tests and a driver's license reform, tighter regulations for the road transport profession, its modernization by grouping longestablished operators into bus concession companies, and measures for fare and ticketing systems to improve intermodal transport.

#### The Dakar regional express train, a structuring route for the city's development

Dakar suffers from heavy congestion, which also causes air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. To address these challenges, the Senegalese authorities have developed high-capacity structuring public transport routes. The regional express train (TER) provides a safe and efficient service on a route that runs from downtown Dakar to the new city of Diamniadio. The train line has 13 stations, and contributes to a more balanced range of transportation alternatives in the region.

The project has been implemented by APIX, with a total cost of  $\leq 1.1$  billion, financed by a pool of donors, including AFD with  $\leq 230$  million.

Commissioned in late 2021, the project reduces the travel time for commuters by 45 minutes and minimizes congestion along the corridor. A daily traffic of 115,000 passengers is expected, which will reduce GHG emissions by about 19,000 tCO<sub>2en</sub> a year.

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) contributes to implement France's policy on international development and solidarity. Through its financing of NGOs and the public sector, as well as its research and publications, AFD supports and accelerates transitions towards a fairer, more resilient world. It also provides training in sustainable development (at AFD Campus) and other awareness-raising activities in France.

With our partners, we are building shared solutions with and for the people of the Global South. Our teams are at work on more than 4,000 projects in the field, in the French Overseas Departments and Territories, in 115 countries and in regions in crisis. We strive to protect global public goods – promoting a stable climate, biodiversity and peace, as well as gender equality, education and healthcare. In this way, we contribute to the commitment of France and the French people to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Towards a world in common.



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