

Modern Mobility – Global

New initiative for transport in cities

The growth of cities is unstoppable. The global population will be 10 billion by the middle of this century. Seven billion of these people will live in cities, marking a historical turning point. However, along with this growth, transport problems will also increase significantly. Even now, transport is the cause of more than a quarter of environmentally harmful emissions worldwide and one of the fastest-growing producers of greenhouse gases; a large share of this comes from cities. Constant congestion is part of everyday life in most large cities around the world and levels of noise and particulate pollution are increasing steadily, with disastrous effects on the environment and our health. If the current transport systems are not enhanced or replaced by more efficient and sustainable systems, cities will come to a standstill in the near future. In order to counteract this, the German Federal Government has launched a new billion-euro initiative called TUMI (Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative). KfW Development Bank is implementing this initiative and is financing sustainable transport projects all over the world.

creativity, as well as for personal well-being and participation in society. When people can move freely around their city, they are able to get more out of life, find a better job, socialise more easily and make use of education and healthcare services. In other words: mobility provides opportunities for advancement, both on an individual level and for society as a whole.

However, in many large cities around the world, this is currently not the case. Transport infrastructures are frequently unable to keep up with the rapid growth of cities. Often, cities are over-reliant on individual transport which – at least in its current form – is detrimental to the environment and to our health. This, in turn, stifles the economy and generally excludes poorer people even further. According to estimations from the International Energy Agency (IEA), the number of cars

Project name	TUMI – Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country/region	Worldwide

Context

The future of humanity is determined in cities. It is therefore of vital importance that cities are developed, since around two-thirds of the world's population will live in urban centres by 2050. It is precisely there where it will become clear whether climate change can be slowed and resource consumption can be reduced, while at the same time making businesses more productive and creating a liveable environment. Transport is a particularly important issue for urban development. Mobility is a prerequisite for economic growth, trade and





Local public transport often benefits women. Photos: KfW photo archive, photographer: Bärbel Högner / KfW Group, photographer: Florian Kopp (front)

on the road is expected to have doubled to 1.7 billion by 2035. This will have consequences: the average road speed will decrease. For example, in Sao Paulo, commuter traffic jams on peak days can add up to over 300 kilometres – further than the distance from Frankfurt to Nuremberg. Many cities are already in danger of becoming gridlocked. More and more cities are also faced with extremely high levels of air pollution, which represents a significant health risk for city inhabitants.

This is why cities around the world need sustainable and integrated transport systems. Taking the bus or the underground, riding a bike, walking or using products available as part of the sharing economy – these options all make cities and metropolitan regions healthier, safer, fairer, more climate-friendly and more prosperous. Although the car will still be essential for the foreseeable future, it is important to plan and establish integrated transport systems and to promote the use of cleaner engines. Enhanced mobility does not necessarily go hand-in-hand with increased traffic volumes; with clever planning and well-coordinated transport, it can mean the opposite. The cities of the future must therefore be compact and connected. German development cooperation aims to promote exactly this.

Project approach

Rapid urbanisation provides the opportunity to lay the groundwork for sustainability: for this purpose the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) launched TUMI at the end of 2016. KfW is implementing the initiative together with other partners and is financing – within the framework of TUMI – sustainable urban mobility projects all over the world, with a

total annual volume up to one billion euros. TUMI is broad in scope and is intended to generally support cities in building new transport systems and establishing or improving sustainable forms of transport. This can include non-motorised transport in the form of cycle lanes, as well as bus routes, underground lines or trams. In principle, anything that contributes to making transport more sustainable can be considered, including new integrated transport concepts or the use of app-based models for transport control systems. The initiative is not limited to a specific region and will initially run for five years, although there will probably still be great demand after this period, as large infrastructure projects take years to become operational. Furthermore, according to research by the World Resources Institute, the fastest growing cities currently have the lowest levels of funds per resident, and therefore also little funds to spend on expensive transport projects.

Impact

The demand for grants or loans for urban transport projects in developing countries and emerging economies is considerable. Nairobi, for example, wants to introduce an efficient bus system with the support of KfW. Lima, the capital city of Peru, is currently building a new underground system. In the Indian city of Nagpur, KfW is also financing an underground system as part of an integrated mobility system; in South Africa KfW is financing cycle lanes. And these are just some examples from a long list of ongoing or planned projects. Over the course of the five years, millions of people all over the world will benefit from projects and programmes such as these.



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