Belo Horizonte, Brasil

Status of the project: ongoing technical assistance



Basic Information Urban area: 14,420 km² Population: 5,700,000 | Growth rate: 1.05% GDP per capita: USD 17,239 Modal Share: Formal public transport: 28.1% Walking: 34.8% Cycling: 0.4% Private cars: 36.6% National GHG emissions per capita: 5.12 (tCO₂eq) Region capital city

Context

Belo Horizonte has a series of plans (Master Plan, PlanMob-BH, Belo Horizonte – a Smart City, etc.) and policies in place that are reviewed and monitored on a regular basis to help guide the urban development of the city. Belo Horizonte has already made important progress towards sustainability and in the medium and long run Belo Horizonte envisions becoming an example of smart and sustainable urban development for Brazil and Latin America.

However, road transport remains responsible for 53% of greenhouse gas emissions in Belo Horizonte and could reach 6 million tons of CO_2 emissions by 2030.

With regard to mobility, Belo Horizonte already has an innovative Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (2010, reviewed in 2016), called PlanMob-BH, with comprehensive measures related to eight strategic areas: (1) active mobility, (2) collective mobility, (3) motorized individual mobility, (4) traffic calming and circulation, (5) urban logistics, (6) sustainable city, (7) universal accessibility, and (8) management, supervision and operation. Each strategic intervention is complemented by actions and indicators for short (2020), medium (2025) and long-term (2030) planning horizons.

Partner city

Support from the Partnership

Technical Assistance: Pilot Project development

Funded by: BMU through the International Climate Initiative (IKI)

Funding amount: EUR 100,000

Implemented by: the Wuppertal Institute and UN-Habitat through the project Urban Pathways which is ongoing (2017-2021)

Local counterpart: Belo Horizonte Transport and Traffic Company (BHTRANS)

Supported Activities:

Establishment of a partnership with the city of Bremen, Germany, which helps Belo Horizonte implement a Zone 30 and a "bicycle street". The Zone 30 pilot-project foresees a wide deployment of vertical and horizontal signalling, reallocation and repositioning of parking spaces to provide the reduction of the speed, and enlargement of sidewalks with the creation of small areas of coexistence for pedestrians with the insertion of urban furniture. Beyond the immediate mobility related issues, Belo Horizonte also recognises these measures as an opportunity to revitalise the downtown area and enhance the quality of life by creating pedestrian streets and giving the space used for cars back to the people.

Status of implementation

Project start: 2017

Expected project completion: 2021

Completed outputs:

• Implementation of Zone 30 in Cachoeirinha neighbourhood