

Kenitra, Morocco

Partner city

Status of the project: ongoing technical assistance



Basic Information

Urban area: 76 km²

Population: 430,000 (2014) | Growth rate: 1.8%

GDP per capita: USD 3,007

National GHG emissions per capita: 2.62 (tCO₂eq)

Exposure to climate change: HIGH

Region capital city

Context

Kenitra is the 4th most important industrial city in Morocco and is strategically located 12 km from the Atlantic Ocean.

The city is currently involved in large-scale transport projects:

- The « Atlantic Free Zone » (AFZ), the largest industrial and export free zone in Africa, located 23 km east of the city and hosting industrial activities such as a major car manufacturing plant,
- The future port of Kenitra Atlantique,
- The new highspeed railway linking Tanger to Kenitra opened in November 2018.

Kenitra is undergoing a strong demographic and economic growth leading to significant transport problems. Most notably, the increasing number of daily travels by workers between Kenitra and the AFZ has led to traffic congestion, road safety issues and overall under optimisation of the mobility system.

Kenitra has an existing mass transit system, but there is no existing transport master plan or similar document.

The Local Counterpart does not have the mandate and responsibility to finance mass public transport infrastructure. It does not have the authority to borrow from international finance sources. Systems and procedures are not in place to monitor, evaluate and report on urban transport.

The city authority is currently developing two strategic plans in parallel: a planning document related to urban planning ("SDAU") and a planning document related to urban mobility ("PDU"). Meanwhile, the city of Kenitra is looking for solutions to limit traffic congestion while improving the information for commuters about other transport alternatives.

Support from the Partnership

Technical Assistance: Pilot Project development

Funded by: AFD

Funding amount: EUR 180,000

Implemented by: AFD through MobiliseYourCity Maroc

Local counterpart: Kenitra Province and Municipality ;

Supported activities:

- Finance and support the organization of an Open Innovation Challenge mobilising industrial companies from AFZ, local government, start up to tackle mobility issues using innovative approach

Status of implementation

Project start: 2021

Expected project completion: Q1 2022

Completed outputs:

Next expected outputs

- Proof of Concept of innovative approach for the transport between Kenitra and the Atlantic Free Zone.

Highlights in the past year

COVID-19 crisis has unfortunately delayed the pilot project, which is currently on standby.