

# Peshawar, Pakistan

Status of the project: ongoing technical assistance



## Basic Information

Urban area: 1,217 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 4,269,079 | Growth rate: +3.29%

GDP per capita: USD 1,406 (Pakistan)

## Modal Share

Formal public transport: 15%

Private cars: 62%

Private motorbikes or 2-wheelers: 22%

Freight vehicles: 1%

National GHG emissions per capita: 1.99 (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)

## Context

Peshawar is the capital city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. This city is located 160 km west of Pakistan's capital city Islamabad. It has 1,970,042 inhabitants, spread over an area of 157 km<sup>2</sup>. The metropolitan area counts 4,269,079 inhabitants spread over an area of 1,217 km<sup>2</sup>. The city is run by the Peshawar Municipal Corporation.

The city has recently introduced a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, the "Zu Peshawar". It was conceived and built with assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the French Development Agency (AFD) and started operating in August 2020. Operated by TransPeshawar, the BRT system includes one main corridor stretching over 28 km from Chamkani in the east, to Hayatabad and Karkhano Market in the west, and is complemented by a 68 km long network of 8 feeder routes, which connects the main corridor system and provides service to other parts of the city.

According to a feasibility study conducted ahead of the implementation of the BRT system, the modal share of cars and motorcycles dominated largely, representing respectively 62% and 22%. Public transport, including Rickshaws only represented 15% of the modal share.

Peshawar lacks a sufficient public service offer, forcing people to rely on private cars which leads to traffic congestion, road safety issues and poor air quality. The city does not have a sufficient road network, infrastructure for non-motorised transport or proper traffic management. The city has also identified a need for better control of land use and urban development.

To overcome these challenges and prepare a comprehensive plan addressing not only transport issues but also improving the quality of life in the city the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Urban Mobility Authority (KPUMA) has decided to develop a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP). The SUMP would also consider local economic development and health issues, among other mobility-related topics.

The SUMP should allow to develop a Transport Management Plan and establish a Road Safety Authority. It will also include measures to improve non-motorized transport. Another area of the SUMP should consist in equipping the city to better monitor traffic and GHG emissions. Finally, it will build capacities in KPUMA for sustainable mobility planning.

## Support from the Partnership

**Technical Assistance:** Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP)

**Funded by:** AFD

**Funding amount:** EUR 1,200,000 (budget includes SUMP for 3 cities in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province)

**Implemented by:** AFD and ADB through MobiliseYourCity Asia

**Local counterpart:** Transport Department Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Urban Mobility Authority

**Supported activities:**

- SUMP elaboration for the city of Peshawar
- Conceptual design for identified priority projects (i.e., BRT transit corridor and line extensions, cable car)

## Status of implementation

**Project start:** July 2021

**Expected project completion:** September 2022

**Completed outputs:**

- Inception Phase
- Next expected outputs
- Diagnosis report
- Development of urban mass transit corridors
- Consolidation of the existing public transport network
- Improvement of the road and parking management
- Institutional reform

## Insights from practice: lessons learned from the SUMP process

### Managing one SUMP process for Peshawar, Swat and Abbottabad

Since Peshawar, Swat and Abbottabad belong to the same province i.e., Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, financing of urban mobility lies within the purview of the provincial government. Therefore, one SUMP process shall be developed for three cities located within the provincial government's jurisdiction.

The management and supervision of the SUMP will be the responsibility of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Urban Mobility Authority (KPUMA), recently created with support from ADB to plan and regulate transportation within the province. The capacities of the transport authority will be strengthened throughout the planning process to facilitate the coordination with the three cities and the management of the elaboration and implementation of the SUMP. Additionally, the staff will be trained to use a tailored software that will allow them to more effectively plan future investments in urban mobility – a prerequisite to ensuring the successful implementation of the SUMP.

The development of the SUMP is being conducted with participation of both the provincial and local authorities, under the leadership of KPUMA. This coordination process has been facilitated through the establishment of three technical SUMP committees for each of the involved cities, Abbottabad, Swat and Peshawar.

The urban mobility diagnosis is currently ongoing. The data collection process and activities will be implemented by three different teams on the ground, one for each city.