

Lomé, Togo

Partner city

Status of the project: Ongoing Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan



Basic Information

Urban area: 333 km²

Population: 1,477,660

National capital city

GDP per capita: USD 1,700 (Togo)

National GHG emissions per capita: 1.06 (tCO₂eq)

Context

Lomé is the capital and largest city of Togo and represents nearly 20% of the country's population. Lomé is located on the Gulf of Guinea and serves as an important port city, as well as a commercial and industrial hub. The city is home to various economic activities, including agriculture, manufacturing, and services.

The transport system in Lomé is primarily composed of taxis, both collectives and motorcycles. Minibuses are also present, but are mostly reserved for intercity transport. There is limited evidence on traffic congestion in Lomé so far. Lomé's mobility rate (the average daily number of trips per inhabitant) is 2.3, a rather usual rate for a Sub-Saharan city. The population's low age average (the mean age in Togo is 17 years old) and problems regarding affording services such as moto-taxis, taxis and private cars limit the mobility of Lomé's population. There is no formal transport master plan, but the SUMP elaboration process started in April 2023 under the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA – EU funding) and SYSTRA as a consultant. The mission includes a feasibility study for supporting measures for SOTRAL, Lomé's public bus company.

Local institutions, including the Ministry of Transport (*MTRAF - Ministère des Transports Routiers, Aériens et Ferroviaires*) and DAGL (*District Autonome du Grand Lomé*) are responsible for managing the transport system. However, there are no clear mandates or responsibilities for financing mass public transport infrastructure, and most institutions, except MTRAF, lack the authority to borrow from international finance sources. Although some systems and procedures exist to monitor, evaluate, and report on urban mobility, they are only partially in place.

The main current challenge concerning urban mobility in Lomé is transport massification, as motorcycles remain the primary motorised mode. Additionally, there is a significant challenge regarding road safety, particularly for pedestrians, who rely heavily on walking, especially the younger population, and face suboptimal conditions for pedestrian movement. These issues have adverse effects on the environment, public health, and economic development. The primary objective of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) is to formulate a comprehensive transport strategy that addresses these challenges, improves mobility for residents, and contributes to sustainable urban development.

The provided technical assistance provided will contribute to institutional strengthening by improving the capacity of local institutions to formulate and implement sustainable urban transport policies and programs. This will involve working with local stakeholders to identify key challenges, devise action plans, and establish mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating progress. By supporting the development of a SUMP, the technical assistance will facilitate the creation of a more efficient, safe, and sustainable urban transport system in Lomé, ultimately benefiting the city's residents and fostering economic growth.

Support from the Partnership

Technical assistance: Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP)

Funded by: EU, under the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA)

Funding amount: 600,000 EUR

Implemented by: AFD

Status of the SUMP process

Project start date: 2023

SUMP adoption date: Expected mid-2024