

# Khouribga, Morocco

Partner city

**Status of the project:** Ongoing preparation of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan



## Basic Information

**Urban area:** 52 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 216,397 | **Growth rate:** 0.65%

**GDP per capita:** USD 3,237

**National GHG emissions per capita:** 2.62 (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq)

**Exposure to climate change:** HIGH

## Context

Khouribga is an inland urban area and an industrial hub in central Morocco. Located 120 km from Casablanca and 154 km from Rabat, Khouribga serves as the capital of the Khouribga province in the Béni Mellal-Khénifra region. The city emerged in 1923 by French authorities after the discovery of rich mineral reserves and held a strong position as the biggest exporter of phosphate in the world. Due to various mining sites in the region, the local economy is heavily dependent on the mining sector as it contributes significantly to Morocco's economy, accounting for about 10% of the GDP and 72% of national phosphate exports in 2013.

The city is located at the intersection of two major roads. Khouribga has a small railway station for interurban transport located in the centre of the city. It is used for both passenger and freight transport. The railway station was one of the stops of the journey of the climate train from Casablanca to Safi during COP22 in Morocco, raising awareness for sustainable transport. Apart from a city bus, there is no existing mass transit system in the city.

There is no existing transport master plan or similar document. The Municipality of Khouribga, the local counterpart, does not have the mandate and responsibility to finance mass public transport infrastructure, even though it has the authority to borrow from international finance sources. Systems and procedures are not in place to monitor, evaluate or report on urban mobility.

## Support from the Partnership

**Technical assistance:** Project management assistance for Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP)

**Funded by:** AFD

**Funding amount:** EUR 100,000

**Implemented by:** AFD through MobiliseYourCity Morocco

**Local counterpart:** Commune de Khouribga

**Supported activities:**

- Support the Khouribga Commune in the preparation, launching and piloting of the SUMP study to contribute to its technical quality, its implementation, its coherence with the MobiliseYourCity orientations as well as with the different approaches at the national and local level in terms of low-carbon transport planning.
- Ensure that the SUMP study is well articulated with opposable planning documents (urban planning, environment).

## Status of the SUMP process

**Project start:** 2019 Q2

**Expected project completion:** 2023 Q4

**Completed outputs:**

- Terms of reference for the SUMP
- Procurement process to hire a consultant for the SUMP study finalized
- Launching the SUMP process with local consultant

**Next expected outputs:**

- SUMP process

*Last update in December 2023*