

Lomé, Togo

Partner city

Status of the project: Ongoing Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan & upcoming implementation support



Basic Information

Urban area: 333 km²

Population: 2,188,376

National capital city

GDP per capita: USD 1,700 (Togo)

Modal share:

Walking 51%,

Private motorcycle 20%,

Shared motorcycle (moto-taxis) 19%

Shared taxis 4%

Private car 3%

Bicycle 1%

Bus (SOTRAL cie) 1%

National GHG emissions per capita: 1.06 (tCO₂eq)

Exposure to climate change: HIGH

Context

Lomé is Togo's capital and largest city, representing nearly 20% of the country's population. Lomé is located on the Gulf of Guinea and serves as an important port city and 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 of 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. However, 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 supporting measures for SOTRAL, Lomé's public bus company.

Local institutions manage the transport system, including the Ministry of Transport (MTRAF -Ministère des Transports Routiers, Aériens et Ferroviaires) and DAGL (District Autonome du Grand Lomé). In particular, MTRAF is the main actor in charge of public transport sector management. MTRAF has a clear mandate to implement and finance public transport, and MTRAF has access to Togo's national budget resources as well as international finance. 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 adversely affect the environment, public health, and economic development.

Support from the Partnership – Mobility Planning

Project description

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

Local counterpart: Ministry of Road, Air, and Rail Transport (TRAF) – Autonomous District of Great Lomé (DAGL)

Supported activities:

- Support to developing a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Grand Lomé

The primary objective of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) is to formulate a comprehensive transport strategy that addresses Lomé's challenges, improves mobility for residents, and contributes to sustainable urban development.

The provided technical assistance contributes to institutional strengthening by improving the capacity of local institutions to formulate and implement sustainable urban transport policies and programmes. This involves 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 facilitates creating a more efficient, safe, and sustainable urban transport system in Lomé, ultimately benefiting the city's residents and fostering economic growth.

Status of the SUMP development process

Project start date: 2023 Q2

SUMP expected adoption date: 2024 Q3

Local counterpart: MTRAF

Completed outputs:

- Official launch event on 16th May 2023
- Comprehensive survey program implemented in May-June 2023
- 3 roundtables on sustainable mobility organised in 2023
- 3 training sessions on mobility organised in 2023

Next expected outputs

- SUMP completion is foreseen for Q3 2024
- SUMP adoption is foreseen for Q4 2024

Support from the Partnership: Implementation Support 1

Project description

Technical Assistance: Paratransit Pilot Project

Funded by: AFD through MobiliseYourCity Global

Funding amount: EUR 450 000

Implemented by: CODATU

Local counterpart: Ministry of Road, Air, and Rail Transport (TRAF) – Autonomous District of Great Lomé (DAGL)

Supported activities:

- Institutional development and capacity building: To enhance the ability of local authorities to modernise the paratransit sector by supporting the implementation of new regulations.
- Technical assistance: The project's objectives will be to improve the quality of service and working conditions of motorbike taxis by providing targeted training for drivers, improving the infrastructure of stopping points and creating a dedicated building for the profession, providing access to information, registration procedures and medical and social services.

Status of the pilot project implementation

Expected project start: 2025 Q2

Updated in December 2024