The CODATU Technical Cooperation (CTC)

Assisting national and local authorities of developing and emerging countries in conceiving their own sustainable urban mobility policies and projects

WHO WE ARE?

CODATU is an association created in 1980 during the Dakar World Conference on Urban Transport with the objective of promoting sustainable urban mobility in cities of the south. To reach this objective, CODATU develops and implements capacity building and technical cooperation projects and programs between cities to share experiences and expertise. Since 2014, CODATU has strengthened his action on the field by developing, with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD), technical cooperation projects that directly benefit national and local authorities in building capacities in the urban mobility and transport sector.

Based on the success of these projects, CODATU has developed its own technical cooperation model based on experiences and knowledge sharing, to respond to the needs expressed by the national and local authorities and to reinforce capacities on specific technical items. To implement capacity building projects, CODATU is able to mobilise a large network of high level international experts from the public and private sector, mostly members of the association. Finally, the CODATU technical cooperation aims to promote city-to-city cooperation and the development of long-term relationships based on political and technical exchanges.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

The CODATU technical cooperation projects is intended to southern local and national governments and urban mobility authorities wishing to reinforce their capacities and knowledge to ensure the development and implementation of sustainable urban mobility projects and policies, at national and local level. To be more effective, the CTC should be linked to a concrete project and a strong political ambition.

The implementation of new mass transit projects is often considered simply as an infrastructure issue instead of a key milestone in the development trajectory of a city. They represent a real opportunity to rethink the urban mobility system and the city in general. Many southern cities need to globally review their urban development schemes and plans based on outdated approaches and data that no longer respond to the needs and the new demands of citizens in terms of urban mobility. Beside those global challenges, there is a clear need for innovative operational solutions on the field.

To effectively support cities and urban transport authorities in modernising and restructuring the urban transport supply that will better respond to the demand, and to support them in developing a more inclusive, integrated and sustainable urban mobility system, the national governments should be capable of proposing a long-term vision and provide the necessary resources for implementation to decision-makers and operators.

Montacer Hassani
General Director of Administrative Development, Information Systems and Smart Transport – Ministry of Transport, Tunisia

Interview with CODATU, March 29th 2018
**Direct beneficiaries of the technical cooperation are:**

- Ministries in charge of urban mobility;
- Cities and local governments having direct responsibilities if the field of urban mobility;
- Transport Organizing Authorities.

These three types of institutions are the direct applicants of the technical cooperation that will then directly or indirectly benefit other urban mobility stakeholders and citizens. However, in some cases, the request for a technical cooperation project could be also formulated by development banks that would like to propose a capacity building program (trainings, thematic workshops, complementary technical studies, short-term experts’ missions, etc.) to the beneficiary entities of a loan for the development of transport and urban infrastructure projects.

For the implementation of the technical assistance, CODATU mobilises its international network of members and experts from the public and private sectors (urban mobility authorities, transport operators, consultants, local governments and cities, etc.)

A Memorandum of Understanding is signed between the beneficiary, CODATU and the funding entity (if different from the beneficiary) for a duration of at least 2 or 3 years of cooperation.

**WHAT WE DO**

A technical cooperation project is conceived in accordance with the identified need for capacity building in relation with the development and implementation of public transport systems and urban mobility projects and plans.

**CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS CAN BE RELATED TO:**

- The establishment of an urban transport and mobility authority;
- The development and implementation of national urban mobility policies and strategies;
- The development and implementation of financial mechanisms for urban mobility and transport;
- The development, integration and implementation of mass transit projects;
- The elaboration and implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans;
- The development of intermodality between different transport modes in urban areas;
- Active modes development and integration and innovative policies;
- New information and communication technologies applied to urban transport and mobility;
- The improvement of paratransit urban transportation systems;
- Others (on demand).

The main items must be identified by the Beneficiary based on current projects and specific needs.

**FOLLOWING THE DEMAND, CODATU PROPOSES A TAILORED-MADE ACTIVITY PLAN THAT CAN INCLUDE:**

- Urban Mobility Forums organised at national and local levels to support for example the building of a common long-term vision for urban mobility;
- Participative thematic workshops intended to beneficiary local experts and target groups on specific technical items to encourage the emergence of innovative solutions;
- Technical visits to allow the Beneficiary to take advantage of other experiences to inspire the development of new solutions on the ground;
- Short-term expert missions to assist the local experts on specific tasks (elaboration of terms of references for new studies and projects, review of study reports, implementation of pilot projects, etc.);
- Long-term technical assistance to assist the beneficiary in developing in-depth studies.
Programme of activities (2015-2017) of the Technical Cooperation between Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL), SYTRAL (Lyon transport authority) and CODATU, funded by AFD.

A SUCCESSFULL MODEL OF COOPERATION

To ensure the success of the technical cooperation, CODATU mobilises internal human resources and its network of members and experts following an organisational model (scheme here below) that turned out to be effective in different geographical areas. The CODATU team can work in French, English, Spanish and Portuguese as well. Nonetheless, the success of the cooperation strongly depends on the level of involvement and commitment of the Beneficiary who must ensure the active mobilisation of its staff and of other technical local stakeholders, especially during workshops and experts’ missions.
The global budget for the implementation of the activities can range from 100k€/year to 200k€/year depending on the Beneficiary specific requests. It is strongly recommended to schedule an additional budget for complementary technical studies.

The best way to identify problems and real needs of citizens in terms of urban mobility is to live it daily. Working with decision-makers and local stakeholders has been the key that allowed me to better understand the challenges and propose a tailored-made programme of activities and studies to identify concrete solutions. As a young engineer and professional in the field of urban mobility, I found extremely interesting to work on several operational technical issues like interchange stations, light metro systems, financial mechanisms for urban transport, urban mobility governance, and others. But beside technical issues, the biggest added value of this professional and personal experience has been through urban mobility passioned people that I worked with every day.

Bruno Almeida Maximino, CODATU Cooperation manager in Sao Paolo, 2017-2019

EXAMPLES OF CODATU TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

2015-2017 Technical Cooperation in Kochi (India) // Signatories: Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL), French Development Agency (AFD), SYTRAL and CODATU // Funded by AFD
Download the cooperation book: « The Kochi Metro Experience. A valuable contribution to the history of Indian metros » (EN)

2016-2018 Technical Cooperation in Tunisia // Signatories: Ministry of Transport of Tunisia, French Development Agency (AFD) and CODATU // Funded by AFD
Download the cooperation book: « Vers une mobilité urbaine durable en Tunisie. Une coopération technique au service du changement » (FR)

2016-2018: Technical Cooperation in Peru // Signatories: Ministry of Transport of Peru, French Development Agency (AFD), CEREMA and CODATU // Funded by AFD
Download the cooperation book: « ¿Cómo implementar un sistema integrado de transporte en las ciudades peruanas? Recomendaciones para lograr el cambio de paradigma » (ES)

2016-2019: Technical Cooperation in Sao Paulo (Brazil) // Signatories: State of Sao Paulo, French Development Agency (AFD), STIF (Paris Transport Authority) and CODATU // Funded by AFD

2016-2019: Technical Cooperation in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) // Signatories: State of Rio de Janeiro, French Development Agency (AFD), STIF (Paris Transport Authority) and CODATU // Funded by AFD


2019-2020: Technical Cooperation in Cali (Colombia) // Signatories: Department of Valle del Cauca (Cali), French Development Agency (AFD) and CODATU // Funded by AFD

2019-2021: Technical Cooperation in Tunisia // Signatories: Ministry of Transport of Tunisia, French Development Agency (AFD) and CODATU // Funded by AFD


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