Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development





## THE GREEN URBAN MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Fourth Edition | October 2024







#### Ahmedabad Metro Phase II Inauguration





India Sets up Taskforce to Accelerate EV Drive for 2047

Bengaluru Suburban Rail System Envisages Transformative Impact





Empowering Women through E-Auto Training

Barrier-Free Mobility: Unifying efforts towards Inclusive Transportation



Community-led Electric Bicycle Sharing System



Transforming Public Transport for Visually Impaired Commuters in Mysuru

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## SECTION GUMP News Updates Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurates Ahmedabad Metro Phase II



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurating Ahmedabad Metro Phase II Photo Credit : Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC)



Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Svenja Schulze at Ahmedabad Metro Phase II Photo Credit : GMRC

On 16 September 2024, Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi inaugurated eight new stations as part of Ahmedabad's Phase II metro project. Ms. Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) visited the metro during her trip to India, highlighting the strength of the Indo-German Cooperation in promoting sustainable urban mobility.

The Indo-German Green Urban Mobility Partnership (GUMP), which has provided substantial financial support for urban transport infrastructure, exemplifies this cooperation. Indian and German partners are working together towards creating efficient and inclusive mobility systems to meet the needs of India's rapidly growing urban population.

## Srinivas Katikithala (IAS), Appointed as New Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)



Mr. Srinivas Katikithala, newly appointed Secretary of MoHUA Photo Credit : MoHUA

The Union Government has appointed senior IAS officer Mr. Srinivas Katikithala as the new Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India. Mr. Srinivas has over three decades of experience in public administration, having held key positions in the Ministry of Minority Affairs and Gujarat's Revenue Department. His leadership is expected to advance MoHUA's urban development initiatives.

## Inauguration of Low-Floor Modern Buses in Chennai

One of the first lots of the lowfloor modern buses under the programme, "Climate-Friendly Modernisation of Bus Services in Major Cities of Tamil Nadu" was launched on 9 October 2024 by Mr. S.S. Sivashankar, Honourable Minister for Transport, in presence of Mr. K Phanindra Reddy, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Transport Department, Ms. Michaela Kuechler, Consulate General, Chennai, and Mr. Wolf Muth, Country Director, KfW. The programme supported by KfW on behalf of German Development Cooperation supports the Transport Department, Government of Tamil Nadu in modernising public transport, enhancing accessibility and contributing to climate change mitigation.



Inauguration of low-floor modern buses in Chennai by Transport Minister, Tamil Nadu Photo Credit : MTC, Chennai

# India Establishes Taskforce to Accelerate EV Adoption by 2047

The Government of India is driving the sustainable adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) with a new taskforce aimed at addressing financial, regulatory, infrastructural, and technological gaps. This initiative follows a 114% growth in EV adoption from 2015 to 2023, with the market exceeding four million registered vehicles by mid-2024.

The taskforce, which includes representatives from bilateral and multilateral organisations, industry partners, and other stakeholders, will develop a comprehensive roadmap linking India's EV targets with its *Vikasit Bharat 2047* vision. The Indo-German Development



Electrification of Buses in Surat Photo Credit : GIZ

Cooperation project "Promotion of Transformation to Sustainable and Climate-Friendly E-Mobility," will lead the development of a charging infrastructure roadmap. Consultations with Indian ministries, charge point operators, power distribution companies, and other stakeholders have already started. The roadmap will focus on expanding and innovating infrastructure, encouraging private sector investment, implementing smart grid technologies, and promoting public-private partnerships. It will also standardise protocols for interoperability and support policies for sustainable practices and local manufacturing.

This strategic approach aims to boost EV adoption,

generate employment, reduce urban pollution, and enhance energy security, positioning India as a global leader in sustainable transportation and supporting its climate goals and economic development.

## SECTION | Collaboration and Cooperation || for a Greener Future

KfW Collaborates with K-RIDE to Implement the Bengaluru Suburban Rail System

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The KfW Development Bank, supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), has collaborated with Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (K-RIDE), a joint venture of the Government of Karnataka and the Ministry of Railways, to implement the Bengaluru Suburban Rail system.

In December 2023, Ioan agreements totalling EUR 500 million and a grant of EUR 4.5 million were signed between KfW and the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Additional agreements were signed in February 2024



The signing of loan agreements for the Bengaluru Suburban Rail project– KfW and Ministry of Finance, India Photo Credit : KfW/Swati Khanna

Government of Karnataka and K-RIDE kick-

off the project by signing the project contours Photo Credit :

KfW/K-RIDE

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with K-RIDE in the presence of Mr. M B Patil, Honourable Minister, Government of Karnataka, and Mr. Achim Burkart, Consulate General, German Embassy.

On behalf of the German Financial Cooperation, KfW supports the implementation of the suburban rail system with a strong focus on inclusivity, accessibility through multimodal integration, as well as gender and biodiversity as integral components of the public transport system.

The Bengaluru suburban rail system will comprise four lines covering approximately 148.8 kilometres with 58 stations, along with the construction of two depots for train parking and maintenance.

The project is expected to have a transformative impact on the city's traffic and environmental landscape. By reducing greenhouse gas emissions, alleviating traffic congestion, and cutting down road accidents, the project will contribute to improved air quality, fewer respiratory diseases, and overall better public health for Bengaluru's residents.

This collaboration underscores the shared vision of the Indian and German Governments to promote sustainable urban mobility and build a greener future for Bengaluru.

## Integrated Metro Development in Gujarat: A Multimodal Approach

Under the Green Urban Mobility Partnership (GUMP), KfW is providing financing to the Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC) on behalf of the German Government to develop new metro systems in the cities of Surat and Ahmedabad. The primary objective is to ensure that the new metro systems integrate seamlessly with the existing urban transport network, enhancing first and last-mile connectivity to metro stations.

By strengthening accessibility and facilitating smooth transitions between different transport modes, including active mobility and multimodal transportation, this project goes beyond mere infrastructure development. It focuses not only on building metro systems but also on bridging gaps between various transport options. Additionally, this approach emphasises capacity building to foster a sustainable urban mobility ecosystem.

To streamline the implementation process, GMRC has established a designated MMI team (Multi Modal Integration) responsible for overseeing the design phase, coordinating with other stakeholders and monitoring the implementation process throughout the project cycle. This focused approach on multi stakeholder coordination helps to align the interests and objectives of different transport providers, leading to a more integrated and efficient urban mobility system.

In line with this, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is developing a Green Mobility Zone (GMZ) strategy for Surat under the Indo-German development cooperation project Sustainable Urban Mobility - Air Quality, Climate Action, and Accessibility (SUM-ACA). This strategy builds on the MMI plans and identifies additional interventions to steer mobility behaviour around the metro towards low-emission practices. Scaled up to the entire city, the GMZ strategy will ensure that the introduction of the metro system enhances the potential for emission reduction across the city of Surat.

# Catalysts for Sustainable Mobility Solutions in India: GIZ and KfW Partnership

In June 2024, experts from KfW and GIZ teams came together to discuss opportunities for deepening their collaboration within the Indian urban mobility sector.

In the premises of the Bengaluru Suburban Rail project partner K-RIDE, GIZ participated in a workshop of Ramp MyCity on improving accessibility at public transport stations, with a focus on inclusivity. Following this, KfW visited GIZ's offices in Bengaluru to learn from their most recent local activities in the framework of the Green Urban Mobility Innovation Living Lab (GUMILL), a develoPPP project between Bosch India and GIZ India.

Furthermore, both organisations explored synergies between their portfolios and identified the following action points:



Daniel Moser, Project Director, GIZ India hands over an audit report about accessibility standards prepared by GUMILL to Dr Manjula N., MD, K-RIDE Photo Credit : KfW / Sebastian Ebert



Experts from KfW and GIZ meet in Bengaluru and Delhi Photo Credit : KfW / Sebastian E

Identification of cooperation potential in overlapping cities where both partners are currently active or planning to be active. mobility projects.

### **\***

**Resource sharing:** Exploring mechanisms for sharing knowledge and best practices to maximise the effectiveness of

#### Leveraging Gender Mainstreaming through joint activities in the framework of Gender Labs in Bhubaneshwar. Surat, and Chennai.

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**Exploration of joint thematic** areas with strong synergy potential for Financial and **Technical Development** Cooperation, such as Multi-Modal Integration and Active : Mobility.

## Joint GIZ-KfW Effort – Gender in Mobility Challenge



The Berlin Senate and GIZ jointly launched the "Urban Mobility-Berlin India (UMBI)" programme. Additionally, there has been an Innovation Corridor Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the State of Karnataka and Berlin which was signed in March 2022. Phase I of UMBI concluded in May 2023 with an innovation challenge that saw start-ups from Berlin and India participating. Phase II of the UMBI programme, which focused on addressing gender in mobility, was successfully concluded in September 2024.

KfW also provided a "problem statement" titled Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP) - Empowering Women in Public Transport: Inclusive Mobility, Widespread Utility, and Data-Driven Solutions. The solutions developed by the innovators of the Gender in Mobility Challenge will



Women using public urban transport in India Photo Credit : KfW / Jonas Wresch

benefit BSRP and the local public transport eco-system by addressing gender-related challenges in transport and by contributing actively to various strands of upcoming BSRP activities such as multimodal integration, the Gender Action Plan and stakeholder outreach, amongst others. In addition. the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT), a major public transport authority in Bengaluru, as well as private sector representatives provided problem statements addressed by innovators during the challenge.

## SECTION Innovating for a Sustainable, Energy-Efficient World

## Greening the Rails: KfW-Financed Stations Target Certification for Sustainability, Energy-Efficiency, and Accessibility

The Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP), co-financed by the KfW Development Bank on behalf of the German Government, has started preparations in 2024 to achieve a significant milestone with the envisaged certification of all its 58 stations by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC). This certification signifies that the stations are sustainable and energyefficient, and also designed to be accessible to all.

With the goal of adhering to

the IGBC's stringent green building standards, the BSRP's Executing Agency, K-RIDE, is committed to reducing energy consumption and minimising environmental impact. A successful certification process will underscore the project's efforts to create convenient, inclusive, and accessible infrastructure for all commuters.

Other projects co-financed by KfW have already set an example for a successful IGBC certification process. Nagpur Metro has successfully finalised the certification process for many of its stations. For Mumbai Metro, the Mumbai Metropolitan **Regional Development** Authority (MMRDA) has applied for certification for the first batch of stations. And in the future, all stations of upcoming MMRDA metro lines, will be made eligible for the highest ranking. Finally, Metro Surat and Metro Ahmedabad in Gujarat are preparing for the certification.



This Mumbai station is a model of sustainable and energy-efficient design *Photo Credit : KfW / Jonas Wresch* 

## RE2EV: RE and Second Life Batteries Powered EV Charging Station

India is setting new benchmarks in sustainable e-mobility with the development of its first rooftop solar Photo Voltaic (PV) and second-life battery-backed Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station, located near Bengaluru International Airport. This first of its kind innovative facility in India integrates solar power and repurposed batteries, creating a model for a circular economy that supports cleaner, greener electric transportation. The use of clean energy for charging significantly reduces the lifecycle greenhouse



Frontal view of the charging station with the second life battery hub *Photo Credit : GIZ* 

gas emissions of EVs. By utilising repurposed batteries, the station not only supports a more sustainable energy system but also reduces the need for additional grid infrastructure.

This pilot initiative, developed in collaboration with the state electricity distribution company, represents a crucial step in advancing renewable energy solutions for EV charging. It aims to demonstrate the viability of combining solar PV with second-life batteries to enhance the environmental and financial sustainability of electric transportation.

The project highlights the potential of integrating renewable energy and circular economy principles to address the challenges of e-mobility. Its success has the potential to pave the way for similar initiatives across India, setting a precedent for future developments in the sector. The innovative project received significant recognition and was featured across several publications in mainstream media.

### First-of-its-kind battery-powered EV charging station to come up near airport

#### The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

In a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) will now make use of secondlife batteries (batteries which will be used for different applications after their initial life cycle is over) of vehicles to store solar energy which can power an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station. In coordination with

In coordination with GIZ and Nunam, Germanbased companies, a pilot project is being set up around 1.5 km away from Kempegowda International Airport in Devanahalli. While the companies will be investing in the rooftop solar system and batteries, Bescom will provide all other infrastructure.

"We have a 220 kV Kar-



Karnataka has the highest number of public EV charging stations in the country ahead of States like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi. FILE PHOTO

nataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (KPTCL) station near the airport where we will set up the station. Twentyfour vehicles can be charged in the EV station at once," said a senior official from Bescom. The EV charging station will have a rooftop solar in-

stallation, which will power the station during solar hours. "There will be two stacks of batteries (each stack will have 18 batteries) with a total capacity of 45 kVA in which excess solar energy will be stored. This energy will be used to power the station during nonsolar hours." While solar-powered EV stations have been set up before, second-life batteries have never been used to store energy and supply it to the station, according to the Bescom official.

The project is expected to be completed in another 15 to 20 days. "Around 80% of the work is already completed and it will soon be open for public use," the official said. Depending on how the project works out and the response, Bescom will decide about replicating it in other places.

Ing in other places. The Energy Department had recently announced that Karnataka has the highest number (5,765) of public EV charging stations in the country ahead of States like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi. Out of these, 4,462 stations are in Bengaluru Urban district.



Picture of Solar PV panel installed in the rooftop Photo Credit : GIZ



Coverage regarding the project in The Hindu

# **SECTION** Breaking Barriers: Advancing Accessibility and Inclusion

## Enhancing Bus 🖢 Accessibility for People

Ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities is a fundamental aspect of creating an inclusive and equitable society. Public transportation plays a crucial role in providing mobility and enhancing the independence of individuals. The physical design of buses and bus stops reduces barriers and is a critical component of accessibility. This includes features such as low-floor buses. ramps, priority seating, and secured areas for wheelchairs and mobility devices. Additionally, tactile indicators, audible announcements, and clear signage contribute to a more inclusive environment for individuals with visual or hearing impairments.

One of the projects under the Green Urban Mobility Partnership (GUMP) is the "Climate-Friendly Modernisation of Bus Services in Major Cities of Tamil Nadu." The stateowned Tamil Nadu State **Transport Corporation** transports around 18 million people daily with a fleet of more than 21,000 diesel buses. As a first step of the project, 2,200 old and uneconomical diesel buses are to be replaced by modern, more energyefficient models, with 552 of them being low-floor. Later, 500 more electric buses will be deployed. All of them will be equipped with an automatic passenger information, acoustic information and a cashless ticketing system for easier use of public transport for all.



Bus with a foldable ramp to enable access for all Photo Credit : Transport Development Finance Corporation (TDFC/ PIU)

## Empowering Women through E-Auto Training

The Indo-German development cooperation project Sustainable Urban Mobility - Air Quality, Climate Action, and Accessibility (SUM-ACA) is taking a significant step towards promoting gender inclusivity and sustainable transportation. In Kochi, the project has launched a comprehensive e-auto driver

training programme specifically designed for women.

The programme focuses on equipping women with the skills to become proficient e-auto drivers.

#### **Programme highlights:**



**Comprehensive Driving** Training: Includes both theoretical and practical

lessons in Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) driving.



**Road Safety and Traffic Education:** Covers essential road safety practices and traffic regulations.



Financial and Business Management: Provides training in financial literacy and business management.

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Women participants in Kochi receiving hands-on e-auto driving training Photo Credit : GIZ

 Gender Sensitisation:
Promotes awareness of gender issues in the transportation sector.

The initiative will benefit 80 women, enhancing Kochi's green mobility while creating economic opportunities. SUM-ACA has also conducted successful Training of Trainers in Bengaluru and Kochi recently. This ensures that qualified trainers are available to support the initiative and expand its reach.

Launched on 16 August in collaboration with the SCMS College of Engineering and Technology, this programme aims to empower women and promote sustainable transport solutions. The launch of this e-auto driver training programme marks a significant milestone in SUM-ACA's commitment to sustainable urban mobility and gender inclusivity. It is a testament to the project's dedication to creating a more equitable and environmentally friendly transportation system for all.

## Navigating the Urban Landscape with Complete Street Designs

Indian cities are among the fastest growing in the world, and with rapid urban expansion comes the need for sustainable and equitable development. A key component of this is creating safe and accessible roads for all, ensuring that urban spaces cater to the needs of every citizen.

Complete street designs offer a holistic approach to urban planning, integrating key aspects such as accessibility, equity and sustainability. By providing space for different modes of transport, this design philosophy not only improves safety and encourages active modes of transport (such as walking and cycling), but also reduces reliance on



Experts gathered to discuss Complete Street Development in Rajkot Photo Credit : GIZ

private vehicles. Key features of complete streets include wide pavements, safe cycle lanes, accessible crossings, safe junctions, and green infrastructure.

To address this need, GIZ is conducting capacity

development workshops on 'Complete Street Development' in Sustainable Urban Mobility - Air Quality, Climate Action, Accessibility (SUM-ACA) project partner cities -

Rajkot, Surat, Mysuru, Hubbali-Dharwad, Kochi, Trivandrum,





Bhubaneshwar, Rourkela and Shillong. cities. The workshops focus on implementation guidelines, principles of integrated urban roads, project management, maintenance and design guidelines.

Participants at the Complete Street Development workshop Photo Credit : GIZ

## Transforming Public Transport for 1777 Visually Impaired Commuters in Mysuru

India's vast population of visually impaired individuals faces significant challenges in navigating public transportation. To address this issue, the Indo-German development cooperation projects 'Green Urban Mobility Innovation Living Lab (GUMILL) and 'Sustainable Urban Mobility - Air Quality, Climate Action, Accessibility (SUM-ACA) are implementing a aroundbreaking solution: the OnBoard system.

Developed and patented by IIT Delhi, OnBoard is a bus identification and navigation system that will be installed on 200 city buses in Mysuru. This system is designed to provide audio cues, making it easier for visually impaired individuals, senior citizens, and others with special needs to identify and board buses safely.

By focusing on frequently used routes, OnBoard will empower the visually impaired community in Mysuru to access public transportation independently. Through a comprehensive testing phase involving at least 400 users, GUMILL aims to refine the system and ensure its effectiveness in meeting the diverse needs of its users.

OnBoard represents a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and accessible city for all. By breaking down barriers to mobility, this innovative solution has the potential to improve the quality of life for countless individuals in Mysuru and beyond.



Demo for Visually Impaired Government Officials in Mysuru Photo Credit : GIZ



Bus and User Module Photo Credit : GIZ

## Barrier-Free Mobility: Unifying efforts towards Inclusive Transportation

Recognising the critical role of data-driven strategies and the value of multi-institutional partnerships in ensuring equitable urban transport, GIZ organised a panel forum titled "Barrier-Free Mobility: Unifying Efforts towards Inclusive Transportation" on 8 May 2024. This forum aimed to bring together diverse stakeholders to explore methods for aggregating accessibility-related data, including real-time information from the private sector and e-commerce companies, onto a unified platform. The workshop also discussed the potential establishment of a Universal Accessibility Alliance, which would include government agencies, Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), private sector entities, and others, to advance inclusive mobility.

The report emphasises that despite efforts, India's transportation systems remain largely inaccessible to its 26.8 million people with disabilities (PwDs), limiting their social and economic inclusion. To address these gaps, the workshop brought together stakeholders from government, private sector, and civil society to discuss collaborative approaches.

Key findings include the need for better data collection on accessibility issues, the role of private sector companies





Experts from government, private sector, and civil society unite to explore innovative solutions for inclusive mobility Photo Credit : GIZ

like e-commerce platforms in providing real-time accessibility data, and the establishment of a Universal Accessibility Alliance. The alliance would unite various stakeholders to promote inclusive mobility. facilitate the integration of technology, and ensure datadriven policymaking.

Recommendations also include improving digital literacy among PwDs, leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) for geospatial

mapping, and ensuring collaborative efforts between







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**SECTION** | **Transforming Public Transport** 

## Revamping Rajkot's Public Transport System: A Sustainable Future

Rajkot's public transport system has undergone significant transformation since its inception in 2012. The initial launch of the Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) marked a pivotal moment, followed by the introduction of city buses in 2013. Today, the system serves over 50,000 passengers daily, with half utilising the BRTS.

To further enhance the system's efficiency and sustainability, Rajkot Rajpath Limited (RRL) is expanding its fleet with electric and CNG buses. In collaboration with the Indo-German development cooperation project Sustainable Urban Mobility -Air Quality, Climate Action, and Accessibility (SUM-ACA), RRL is optimising bus routes based on passenger demand, bus stop spacing, and accessibility. This will ensure more frequent service on high-demand corridors.

As part of these improvements, the number of buses on the BRTS corridor is set to increase from 22 to 28. Additionally, Ten high-demand routes have been identified for the deployment of new buses. To provide passengers with a seamless experience, RRL is developing a journey planning app. This innovative tool will enable citizens to access bus route information, view routes passing through specific stops, obtain realtime bus updates, check expected arrival times, and book tickets.

These advancements demonstrate Rajkot's commitment to providing a reliable and sustainable public transport system that meets the needs of its growing population.

## Namma Kalaburagi Sarige: Real-time Bus Tracking App

Kalaburagi, India, is at the forefront of urban mobility with the launch of the Namma Kalaburagi Sarige mobile app, an initiative by the Green Urban Mobility Innovation Living Lab (GUMILL), a develoPPP project between Bosch India and GIZ India. This app is set to revolutionise public transport in Kalaburagi, offering several key features. Users can effortlessly plan trips, find the best routes, and explore various options with one-stop journey planning. Real-time bus tracking allows passengers to see exactly where their bus is and when it will arrive, eliminating long waits.

The Kalaburagi City Transport



Honourable Minister for Transport Mr. Ramalinga Reddy unveils the *Namma Kalaburagi Sarige app*, a game-changer for public transport in Kalaburagi *Photo Credit : GIZ* 

Corporation (KKRTC) serves about 65,000 commuters daily with a fleet of 90 buses. As of 5 August 2024, the app has seen over 21,000 downloads, with more than 14,000 active users. On a daily basis, an average of over 4,000 commuters use the app to enhance their travel experience.

The app benefits not only riders but the entire city. Authorities can monitor bus operations,

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Namma Kalaburagi Sarige app showcasing real-time bus tracking and easy journey planning Photo Credit : GIZ

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identify areas for improvement, and ensure a more efficient transportation system. The *Namma Kalaburagi Sarige* app exemplifies successful collaboration, supported by the Government of Karnataka, with The launch was attended by Mr. Ramalinga Reddy, Honourable Minister for Transport. The Directorate of Urban Land Transport also played a crucial role in this partnership.

The success of the *Namma Kalaburagi Sarige* app provides valuable insights for future urban mobility projects. This initiative underscores Kalaburagi's commitment to enhancing public transportation and setting a benchmark for other cities to follow.

## **VI ECTION Powered by People: Community-VI Led Initiatives for Change**

## Community-led Electric Bicycle Sharing System

In a pioneering effort to promote sustainable urban mobility in Bengaluru has launched a community-led bicycle sharing system. With procurement assistance from the Green Urban Mobility Innovation Living Lab (GUMILL), a develoPPP project between Bosch India and GIZ India, this initiative marks a significant step towards fostering a culture of cycling within the neighbourhood.

The system had its soft launch on 22 September 2024, officiated by Ms. Pamela Baijal from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The fullscale launch took place on 29 September 2024 engaging the wider community. This phased rollout reflects the community's commitment to building momentum and awareness for sustainable mobility.

What makes this bicycle sharing system unique is its community-driven model. Managed entirely by residents, the system uses a cloudbased spreadsheet to monitor bicycle usage and manage subscriptions. Offering flexible weekly and monthly plans, the service is designed to be both affordable and accessible. Users will handle basic maintenance costs, ensuring that the bicycles remain in top condition and available for the long term.

Unlike traditional bike-sharing programmes, the *Malleswaram* initiative is fully owned and operated by the community. Profits from rentals are reinvested to expand the fleet, ensuring the initiative's sustainability and further empowering residents to take control of their transportation needs.

By adopting this system, the *Malleswaram* community



Ms. Pamela Baijal from BMZ officiating the soft launch of the community-led electric bicycle sharing system in *Malleswaram Photo Credit : GIZ* 

aims to reduce traffic congestion, lower carbon emissions, and encourage a healthier lifestyle. It is a grassroots effort that showcases the power of community collaboration to

drive meaningful change. As more residents opt for cycling, *Malleswaram* is poised to serve as a model for other neighbourhoods looking to adopt similar sustainable mobility solutions. This initiative not only promotes environmental responsibility but also strengthens community ties, making *Malleswaram* a pioneer in citizen-led urban transformation.

# Safe School Precincts Initiative Launched in Malleswaram

Each year, over 42 children lose their lives in road traffic crashes on Indian streets. (World Bank Report) Ensuring safe access to education is not only vital for children's wellbeing but also directly supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 and 11, which focus on quality education and building sustainable, inclusive cities. By improving the safety of children's daily school commutes, we not only promote the use of sustainable transport options but also enhance the overall safety of urban areas.

In response to these challenges, the develoPPP project between Bosch India and GIZ India, Green Urban Mobility Innovation Living Lab (GUMILL) has launched a pilot project for safe school precincts in *Malleswaram*, a test-bed area with numerous educational institutions. This area faces challenges such as congestion, roadblocks, unsafe pedestrian movements, and long commute times due to one-way streets and narrow carriageways. The pilot aims to address these issues by studying the travel patterns of school children and identifying infrastructure gaps within a 250–300-meter buffer around schools.

The pilot involves a detailed

spatial analysis of accessibility around schools, using data from student travel diaries and International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) star ratings. The study will include surveys and questionnaires to understand children's travel patterns, preferences, parents' safety concerns, and gather their perspectives. The schools will also audit their environments to document existing infrastructure.



iRAP, Star Rating 4 Schools Audit Photo Credit : GIZ

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Interacting with school students on active mobility and sustainable transport Photo Credit : GIZ

The findings will provide a roadmap for policy, planning, and design interventions, aiming to improve non-motorised transport (NMT) accessibility around schools.

## **VII** Unlocking Knowledge Together

## Exploring E-Bus Excellence: Latin America and India



TUMI Collaborative Expedition between LATAM and India in Delhi, India *Photo Credit : GIZ* 

GIZ India supported the Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) partnered under the Green Urban Mobility Partnership (GUMP) to organise an international technical exposure visit to better understand the public bus electrification implementations in India for the delegates from the Latin Countries (LATAM), such as Brazil, Mexico, Columbia.

The delegates represent partner cities of the TUMI E-Bus Mission, national development banks, and ministries from Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. The delegates visited the Indian cities of Mumbai, Surat, and New Delhi to experience and gain insights about the transition from ICE-based public transport buses to electric buses, fast-charging infrastructure development and e-mobility financing frameworks.

GIZ India in collaboration with Surat Municipal Corporation and Sitilink organised a two-day visit to Surat city. The visit offered opportunities for technical knowledge exchange and insightful site visits.



Visit to Integrated Command and Control Center in Surat, India Photo Credit : GIZ

#### **Key Discussion Points:**



## Mobilogues 2.0: Enhancing Capacity for a Greener, Inclusive Urban Transport

In a significant step towards sustainable urban mobility, Mobilogues 2.0 was launched on World Environment Day as part of the Indo-German development cooperation project Sustainable Urban Mobility - Air Quality, Climate Action, and Accessibility (SUM-ACA). This initiative, jointly hosted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India and GIZ, aims to enhance capacity building and foster interdisciplinary dialogue on urban mobility solutions.

Building upon the success of its predecessor, Mobilogues

2.0 continues to disseminate knowledge and promote collaboration among various stakeholders. The webinar series has covered a wide range of topics, from greening urban transport and advancing gender inclusion to exploring the fundamentals of living labs.

#### Key highlights:



#### **Broad Topic Coverage:**

The series has addressed critical issues such as sustainable transport trends, challenges, and best practices.

In the coming months, Mobilogues 2.0 will continue to address key urban mobility challenges. Upcoming topics include transit payment technologies, parking management in Indian cities, planning safe routes to school, designing inclusive transit systems for persons with disabilities, promoting active

mobility, creating gender-responsive public transport, and exploring policies to reduce traffic congestion and improve urban air quality.

Stay tuned for more information on these upcoming webinars and other exciting developments in the field of sustainable urban mobility.

Webinar #7: Parking Management in Indian Cities - 12 November 2024, 16:00 (IST) onwards

Webinar #8: Safe Route to School -28 November 2024, 16:00 (IST) onwards



#### **Global Experts:**

Speakers from around the The webinars have attracted world have shared their insights and experiences.

#### **Growing Participation:**

over 450 participants from diverse backgrounds.









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