

# The CALAC+ Programme Climate and Clean Air in Latin American Cities PLUS



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Swiss Confederation

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC

An alliance between cities. What is good for the air is good for the climate

Chile, Colombia, Peru and Mexico

## Theme

Climate change mitigation

## Partners

The programme is implemented by SWISSCONTACT in coordination with environment and transport ministries, public transport management entities and with private transport sector entities.

## General information

The transport sector in Latin America is a major source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the prime cause of black carbon release, and has a negative effect on health and the climate. Public authorities are redoubling their efforts in designing, adopting and applying strategies for public transport systems that are integrated and low in GHG and soot emissions, and for cleaner off-road machinery.

## Project objective

To reduce harmful air pollutants, by deploying soot-free and low-carbon urban public transport engines and off-road machinery to protect human health and mitigate climate change.

## Beneficiaries

The populations of Santiago de Chile, Bogota, Lima and Mexico City. The total population of these cities is around 28 million, one quarter of which are living under the national poverty line.

## Budget

**Total:** SDC CHF 5'900'000

**Phase 1:** SDC CHF 2'850'000

## Duration

**Phase 1:** March 2018 - July 2021

**Phase 2:** August 2021 - July 2025



**The transport sector in Latin America is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and the prime cause of black carbon release, negatively affecting public health and the climate. In the face of growing pressure from the public and civil society for solutions to reduce air pollution in urban areas, the authorities of a growing number of Latin American cities are redoubling their efforts in designing, adopting and applying strategies for integrated public transport that is low in greenhouse gas and soot emissions, and for cleaner off-road machinery.**

Switzerland has a long tradition of finding innovative normative and technological solutions for improving air quality, working with leading private sector companies and internationally recognized universities in this field. Switzerland is actively engaged internationally, sharing its experience in air quality management and supporting global efforts to tackle air pollution and climate change, such as through the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and through various development cooperation initiatives around the world, including in Latin America, such as a collaboration with Santiago and Bogota from 2013 to 2015.

The **Climate and Clean Air in Latin American Cities Plus Programme (CALAC+)** pursues a zero black carbon vision towards healthier and more sustainable cities, by means of fostering a shift towards soot-free and low-carbon urban buses and off-road machinery.

At the regional level, the programme will achieve this by providing national decision-makers with specialist information to inspire and ensure that governments are committed to investing for the future in the cities' transport sector in close coordination with private stakeholders.

CALAC+ will help strengthen the voluntary alliance that is developing among Latin American cities that are committed to adopting rapid measures that have a positive impact on two fronts: public health and the climate. At the global level, CALAC+ will share the experiences made in Latin America through the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC).

The Paris Climate Agreement adopted in December of 2015 is a clear signal towards low carbon emission development and resilience. For this to happen there must be a large-scale transformational change, which includes the transport sector. By sharing its experience and supporting policy makers in partner countries, Switzerland is contributing to this transformation in Latin American cities, by reducing short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) and greenhouse gas emissions, and by working with a cooperation approach that is both regional and international, North-South and South-South. At the same time, CALAC+ will help achieve Sustainable Development Goals 3 (health), 7 (clean energy), 11 (sustainable cities) and 13 (climate action).

## Intervention strategy

CALAC+ will work jointly with public transport sector stakeholders and with the provision of off-road machinery in Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru.

The CALAC+ target group is the population of those countries' four capitals: Santiago de Chile, Bogota, Lima and Mexico City, chosen following an evaluation, which found that they have the right conditions for the implementation of this project. The total population of these cities is around 28 million, one quarter of which are living below the national poverty line.

## General objective

To reduce harmful air pollutants and protect human health – above all that of the more vulnerable and poorest communities – and to mitigate climate change through the deployment of low-carbon and soot-free engines in public urban transport and off-road machinery in four Latin American cities.

## Expected outcomes

### Outcome 1

#### **Buses that are soot-free and low in carbon emissions.**

To ensure that the urban public bus emissions of ultrafine particles, black carbon and greenhouse gases are significantly and sustainably reduced. The programme will achieve this through technical assistance and support for improving legal frameworks, environment and transport regulations (municipal and national), investment planning and institutional capacity-building, creating the best conditions for establishing soot-free and low carbon emission technologies

### Outcome 2

#### **Urban policy incubators for off-road machinery**

Helping to develop smart policies for significantly reducing the ultrafine particles, black carbon and greenhouse gases emitted by urban off-road machinery (construction and industry sectors). These emissions are still not regulated in Latin America, but they contribute largely to poor air quality with negative impacts on human health and climate change

### Outcome 3

#### **Global information management network**

Sharing – regionally in Latin America and globally – systematized experiences on successful policies, actions and profitable technologies, which help reduce fuel consumption, air pollution and carbon emissions from bus fleets and off-road machinery in the urban context. Best practice and lessons learned will be made available through existing networks and platforms, such as the CCAC and the OECD.

## CONTACT

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