

Quito, Ecuador:

Low Emissions Last Mile Logistics

Model: Business-Focused
International Partnerships

With international partners, start-ups, and a range of private businesses and local communities, the city of Quito set up an **e-mobility hub** focused on last-mile logistics - the final stage in a delivery process.



THE CHALLENGE

Traffic congestion and pollution in the historical city centre have had **significant heritage and environmental impacts** in Quito. Plans to mitigate these impacts did not previously come to fruition.



HOW IT WORKS

The city's Transport and Environment Departments worked on a pilot e-mobility hub with Solutions Plus - an international EU-funded project and consortium of cities and partners.

Co-design workshops involving public and private actors helped to develop plans for the pilot. In November 2022, the first phase began using 10 e-cargo bikes, resulting in 1,071 km travelled, carrying 16 tons of cargo, making 229 deliveries and achieving a reduction in emissions of 491.74 kg CO₂e.

With seed funding, three local start-ups built the bikes. Companies then applied to participate. These included restaurants, courier companies, and informal recycler associations, using the e-bikes to do their last mile deliveries.

Solutions Plus covered costs and the city's Environment Fund - a city institution that seeks climate finance - administered the funds. A data analyst from the city provided technical guidance on engaging city focal points and stakeholders, as well as survey methodologies.



The e-mobility hub is part of Quito's Climate Action plan and its Zero Emissions Policy. In 2023, phases two and three of the pilot will include four e-quadracycles and four e-vans.



LESSONS

International and multi-city partnerships can **catalyse innovative projects** and this is most beneficial when external funding complements local priorities and local funding. As in Quito, embedding the pilot in existing plans, policies and international commitments, such as the C40 Green and Healthy Streets Accelerator, was critical.

Real-world testing and validation allows for the involvement of a variety of players, helping to ensure inclusion, such as working with both informal recycler associations and larger courier companies.