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# Support to the National Agenda for Sustainable Urban Development in Brazil

## Context

The ANDUS Project was created to support the Brazilian government in improving national and municipal policies for sustainable urban development in Brazil. The Paris Agreement on climate change, the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda are the beacons of this strengthening of the urban agenda. About 85% of the Brazilian population lives in cities (IBGE, 2010), a result of the intense process of urbanization in the country in recent decades, marked by deep regional, intraregional, urban and intra-urban inequalities.

The growth of cities, in number and expansion, has challenged the administrative and planning structures of municipalities and metropolitan areas. The result is an insufficient and unevenly distributed technical infrastructure (transportation, sanitation, including solid waste) and a lack of adequate public and community facilities, which contributes to social disparity and environmental problems. Informal settlements (favela) are often located in risk areas such as flood banks and hillsides. Estimates suggest that there are around 45 million inhabitants living in these areas of cities. Given the increase in extreme events in recent years, due to climate change and high degradation of natural resources, impacts such as floods, landslides, water scarcity as a result of dry periods have intensified in almost all urban areas of the country.

Cities in Brazil and around the world are in a phase marked by transformations: digital, environmental, socio-demographic, economic and labor. In order to achieve greater equity and address the transformation processes, it is necessary to reorient urban development practices, facing the challenges by taking advantage of the potential of territorial diversity and considering the tripod of sustainability (social, environmental and economic).

Since 2017, the ANDUS Project has directly supported the construction of coordinated and articulated strategies for sustainable urban development at the federal, state and municipal

Project Name	Support to the National Agenda for Sustainable Urban Development in Brazil
Comissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) as part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI)
Project Region	Brazil
Implementing Agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Political Partners	Ministry of Cities (MCid) and Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA)
Budget	7.000.000,00 €
Overall term	07/2017 to 01/2025

levels, including the incorporation of socioeconomic development, climate change mitigation and adaptation and digital transformation; the construction of a territorial vision that considers the country's regional diversity; and multilevel, multisectoral, interfederative and interinstitutional action. In 2023, ANDUS was extended for two more years of implementation to continue working together with the federal government and Brazilian municipalities. The new stage of the project will focus on sustainable urban development in the Amazon, black women as agents of change in local climate action, solid waste management, among other topics.

## Objective

The project's objective is for actors at the federal, state and municipal level to implement coordinated strategies for sustainable urban development, including climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

## Approach

The project aims to support governments, institutions and entities



Rio de Janeiro, RJ



Left: people working with solid waste.

Center: a black woman smiling.

Right: aerial view of Belém, Pará, representing an Amazonian city.

at the federal, state and municipal levels in implementing sustainable urban planning and management strategies with a focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation. The project works in partnership with the Ministry of Cities and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil to strengthen the integration of climate actions in cities and enhance the technical capacities of the responsible management teams.

The project has a long track record of working with municipalities of all regions and types to develop strategies promoting the sustainability and climate resilience of cities, such as the application of nature-based solutions and urban green areas, macro-zoning and land regularization. To reach the largest number of municipalities, the project opted for a methodological approach of mentoring and peer learning that, over the next two years, will be applied in a total of 15 municipalities, specifically on the themes of Sustainable Management of Urban Solid Waste, Municipal Territorial Planning in the Amazon, and Black Female Leaders for Urban Climate Resilience. At the end, this methodology will be consolidated and documented for application in technical assistance processes between the federal and municipal levels.

At the national level, the project is working on strategies, instruments and policies with the potential to promote a new urban development paradigm, putting climate change and

sustainability at the center of the debate. The Brazilian Charter for Smart Cities, the Guide for the Elaboration and Revision of Master Plans and the Sustainable Urban Development Goals (SUMD) were formulated together with the political partner in a participatory manner. In the next two years, new and innovative mechanisms to integrate climate actions into national programs and policies will be defined.

At the heart of all project activities is a collaborative approach to implementing urban instruments and creating policies and projects. As the main tool for realizing this collaborative urbanism, the Network for Sustainable Urban Development (ReDUS) platform was developed.

### Impacts

Brazilian municipalities will have the regulatory and policy framework, capacities, knowledge and networks needed to implement concrete actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve municipal climate adaptation. These concrete actions include measures to improve land regularization and land use, nature-based solutions to increase environmental quality, and urban planning that protects the environment and guarantees the right to the city for all people. In this new phase of the ANDUS project, it is expected that at least four municipalities will improve solid waste management, four municipalities will organize urban

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