



Colombia Transit-Oriented Development NAMA



This past November, the joint Germany-UK NAMA Facility chose Colombia's transit-oriented development (TOD) nationally appropriate mitigation action (NAMA) to be one of its four recently funded NAMAs, making it the first of its kind to be funded internationally. The Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP), which led the development of the NAMA through its Mitigation Action Implementation Network (MAIN), will partner with Colombian development bank Findeter to deliver USD 20 million in technical and financial resources to catalyse the building of TOD neighborhoods in

cities across the South American nation. This multi-sector NAMA was developed over the past two years in close coordination with Findeter, the national Ministries of Transport, Environment, Housing and Planning, local officials, private developers, university researchers and local non-governmental organisations (NGOs). While Colombia's innovative bus rapid transit (BRT) systems have become a global model for low-cost, sustainable urban transportation, new urban development has not been fully integrated with the transit lines, causing traffic problems and air pollution to return. Colombia's TOD NAMA provides a comprehensive approach to fighting the ever-increasing motor vehicle traffic and air pollution that continues to choke cities around the world. The fundamental 'technology' of this NAMA is the TOD neighborhood, which focuses commercial real estate development and affordable housing near transit stations and enables people to walk, commute, work, shop and play safely. The key elements of TOD include high-quality pedestrian amenities, frequent public transit service and mixed-use development (retail, housing, commercial, services, public space). The TOD NAMA will transform urban development in Colombia, shifting how and where public and private investments are made to increase the environmental, economic and social return on Colombia's continuing investments in mass transit and social housing. The TOD NAMA is designed to continue the work that the BRT systems began and to address local investment gaps, technical capacity needs, imperfect public-private collaboration, inadequate urban policy integration and limited value capture and finance mechanisms. 'This is an important stepping stone in realising the significant promise of NAMAs to transform key sectors and reduce greenhouse gas emissions,' said Ned Helme, president of CCAP. 'NAMAs are win-win propositions because they encourage sustainable development and combat climate change in ways that help reduce poverty, improve the health of citizens and support private-sector investment.' CCAP looks forward to working with Colombian officials to begin implementing the NAMA.