THE C40 CITIES FINANCE FACILITY
What is the C40 Cities Finance Facility?

Given rapid demographic and economic growth in many cities around the world, investment in high quality urban infrastructure is desperately needed. Owing to shortfalls in municipal budgets, cities are increasingly looking at a wider range of financing options to bridge their infrastructure needs, particularly in partnership with the private sector. At the same time cities need to significantly reduce their carbon footprints and enhance their climate resilience.

A collaboration of C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The CFF is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, the Government of the United Kingdom and the United States Agency for International Development. The CFF supports cities in developing and emerging economies to develop finance-ready projects to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement; limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and strengthening resilience against the impacts of a warming climate.

“The CFF is a space which generates the opportunity to develop plans and implement projects that will benefit our cities.”

—Eduardo Venadero, Former Director of Electric Transport Services (STE), Mexico City
Why is the CFF needed?

Cities are responsible for more than 70% of global energy-related carbon emissions.

In 2050, 70% of the world’s population will live in cities.

An estimated $4 trillion per year in infrastructure investment is needed in developing countries to leapfrog the fossil fuel-driven economic development of the past.

Almost 400 cities are actively seeking finance for 1,143 projects worth close to US$60 billion.

Only 0.8% of the capital managed by pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, insurance companies and other institutional investors is currently allocated to infrastructure.

“The CFF will allow cities to leverage significant public and private financing for green infrastructure projects, enabling cities to accelerate their ambitious emissions reductions”

— Eduardo Paes, Former Mayor of Rio de Janeiro
How does the CFF work?

A tailored plan of trainings and workshops to develop institutional capabilities within city administrations to access finance, to structure infrastructure projects in a sustainable manner and to undertake similar projects more independently in the future.

A knowledge and learning programme that catalyses change by disseminating knowledge to other cities, practitioners and policy makers to remove barriers to climate action in cities.

A dedicated CFF in-city expert, alongside national and international experts, joins the city’s project team to help develop technically and financially sound investment projects structured in the city’s best interests.
The CFF works in the best interests of cities rather than on behalf of a specific capital provider, supporting projects prioritised by cities – from creating a cycle avenue in Bogotá which maximises socio-economic benefits, to supporting community-based ecosystem adaptation in eThekwini (Durban), to developing zero emission bus corridors in Mexico.

A key component of the CFF’s support is the provision of an embedded sectoral expert to facilitate effective co-operation with a city administration.

The CFF ensures that cities retain full ownership throughout the project preparation process and take all decisions about a project’s progression.

If you are interested in partnering with us, please get in touch!

“It is refreshing when partners ask what we need and how they can support us, rather than telling us what we should do.”
— Jo Douwes, Deputy Chief Resilience Officer, eThekwini (Durban) Municipality