german cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

In cooperation with

Transition to Sustainable E-Mobility (Trans2SMo)

Background

Bangladesh is already home to one of the world's largest electric mobility markets, but much of it remains outside the formal system. Bangladesh's e-mobility story is not about starting from zero, it is about bringing an already-electrified mass market into a safe, regulated and climate-smart system.

The country already hosts one of the world's largest electric fleets by volume, led by 4-5 million electric three-wheelers including e-rickshaws and easy bikes serving over 112 million passenger trips daily and supporting a market valued at around USD 871 million. These vehicles have filled a critical last-mile mobility gap and created livelihoods, but much of the sector remains informal, unregistered and weakly regulated. As a result, Bangladesh's largest EV segment operates with limited safety standards, unplanned charging practices, poor-quality lead-acid batteries and inadequate recycling systems, creating risks for passengers, distribution utilities, the environment and public health.

At the formal end of the market, the contrast is stark. As of August 2026, BRTA reported only 914 registered EVs against more than 6.72 million registered vehicles. High upfront costs, limited consumer financing and inadequate charging infrastructure continue to constrain adoption. In FY 2026–27, the total tax incidence on imported EVs valued up to USD 25,000 was reduced from 93% to 64%, while duties on EV chargers were removed. As of August 2026, SREDA has approved 33 EV charging stations nationwide, although the number of operational stations remains considerably lower.

Policy momentum is now emerging. Bangladesh's 30% EV penetration ambition by 2030, the draft Electric Vehicle Industry Development Policy 2026, proposed registration fee reductions, AIT exemptions and tax incentives for EV and battery manufacturers, and the January 2026 launch of BUET-developed, government-approved e-rickshaw pilots in Dhaka signal a shift from ad-hoc adoption toward a regulated transition. However, the power sector dimension remains central. Bangladesh generated only around 2% of its electricity from low-carbon sources in 2025, meaning EV scale-up must be accompanied by grid planning, renewable energy, smart charging and battery management.

Against this backdrop, Trans2SMo supports Bangladesh to formalise its existing electric mobility base, unlock safe and affordable EV adoption, and align transport electrification with energy security, environmental protection and inclusive mobility. The project strengthens policy support, capacity development, expert training, and pilot initiatives to deliver inclusive, climate-friendly transport solutions. By leveraging the potential of EVs and supporting integrated urban mobility, Trans2SMo contributes to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Bangladesh.

Objective

The project aims to accelerate Bangladesh's transition to sustainable e-mobility through policy enhancement, capacity development, and pilot initiatives focused on mass transit.

Project title	Transition to Sustainable E-Mobility (Trans2SMo)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project value	Up to 4.15 million EUR
Working in	Bangladesh
Partner ministry	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR)
Implementing agency	Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Agency (SREDA), Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA)
Period	October 2024 – September 2027





Left: The project aims to promote safe, well regulated e-vehicles in Bangladesh

Right: Stakeholders convene to explore electric bus depot and charging facility in Norway

Photos: © GIZ BD/ Md Rizwanul Hasan (left), GIZ BD (right)

Contact Person

Stoyanka Stich
stoyanka.stich@giz.de

Our Approach

Trans2SMo collaborates with the Power Division under the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR), the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA), and the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) to advocate for sustainable electric mobility in Bangladesh. The project also works with the Ministry of Industries and other relevant agencies to support policy advancement and institutional coordination, including existing national plans of converting 30% of the transport mode to electric by 2030 as stipulated in Electric Motor Registration and Operation Guideline 2023.

The project conducts need analysis, business model development, and baseline analysis to adopt e-mobility in national implementation strategies through assessing the policy gap, skills gap and limitations of adopting innovative technologies. Its goal is to provide technical support to political, regulatory, and economic environment, and to promote electric mobility focusing on mass transport. The project is designed to address existing policy and regulatory gaps, support the development of implementation strategies, build capacity in the electromobility sector, and demonstrate pilot projects for mass transport. It also raises awareness among policymakers, the private sector, academic institutions, and other relevant stakeholders.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- The Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources (MPEMR) and the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges (MRTB) have adopted an implementation strategy for sustainable transport with a focus on electric vehicles, coordinated with relevant stakeholders.
- Specialists and managers from public authorities or companies have developed measures to improve electric mobility after participating in academic training courses on sustainable mobility with a focus on electric mass transportation.
- Private companies and public actors have implemented 25 electromobility projects in the context of sustainable mobility in cities particularly affected by air pollution.

Key outputs

- Create the foundational basis for improving the legal, institutional, and administrative framework for sustainable and inclusive electric mobility
- Strengthen the skills of specialists and managers in public authorities, educational institutions, and companies in the field of sustainable mobility
- Demonstrate the sustainability of the use of electric vehicles through pilot measures in selected cities

Published by
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Transition to Sustainable E-Mobility (Trans2SMo)
GIZ in Bangladesh
PO Box 6091, Gulshan 1
Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
T + 880 2 5506 8746-52
E giz-bangladesh@giz.de
I www.giz.de/bangladesh

As at August 2026

Design and print EXECUTE, Dhaka

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication

On behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

In Cooperation with Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh