



Urban Development

SDG alignment of urban development projects (as at December 31, 2019)

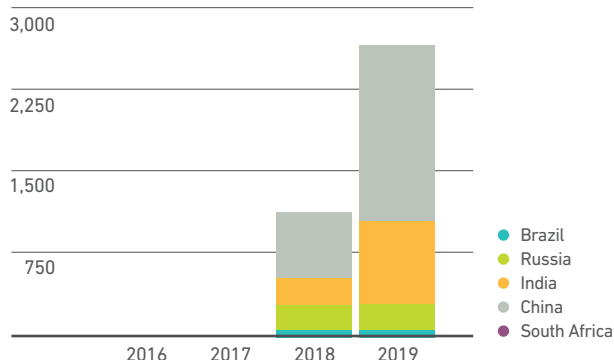
Primary SDG alignment



Direct contribution to additional SDGs



Cumulative approvals for urban development projects (as at December 31) USD m



USD 1.5 bn

Approved by NDB in 2019 for urban development projects

NDB considers sustainable urbanisation initiatives to be increasingly important as a rapidly growing share of the population of EMDCs live in urban areas. More efficient and sustainable urban environments have multiple positive spin-off effects on living quality, energy use, economic productivity and inclusive access to opportunities. NDB seeks to support sustainable urbanisation in its member countries, with a focus on projects that improve urban water and electricity supply, sanitation, transport, climate resilience, integration of information technology and associated social infrastructure and services.

In 2019, NDB approved five loans for urban development projects in India and China amounting to more than USD 1.5 billion. Four of the loans approved address urban transport and connectivity, aiming to improve productivity, accessibility to social services and climate-resilience of cities.

- In **China**, the Bank provided a sovereign loan of RMB 2.1 billion for the Yinchuan Green Transport Project. Located in the capital city of the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, the project will improve the efficiency and reach of public transport services by developing a green bus system. On an annual basis, the project is expected to help reduce CO₂ emissions by around 45,000 tons, save around 30 million m³ of natural gas and lower the operating costs for Yinchuan's bus system by around RMB 60 million.
- Also in **China**, the Bank approved a RMB 2.76 billion sovereign loan for the Huangshi Modern Tram project. The project, which will be implemented by the Municipality of Huangshi, entails the construction of a modern tram network with a total length of about 28 km. The tram line is expected to help better integrate key areas of economic activity across the city and spur socio-economic development by improving connectivity in a sustainable way.
- In **India**, NDB provided a sovereign loan amounting to USD 225 million for the Indore Metro Project. The project will entail the construction of a new metro line of about 31 km in the city of Indore, the commercial capital of the state of Madhya Pradesh. Upon completion, the metro line is expected to handle around 126 million passenger trips per year, contributing to the reduction of vehicle congestion and pollution while delivering better connectivity for local residents.



Guangxi Chongzuo Water Resource Rehabilitation and Ecological Conservation Project in China

- Also in **India**, a sovereign loan of USD 300 million was provided by the Bank for the Assam Bridge Project. The project includes the construction of a major bridge with the total length of approximately 8.3 km in the city of Guwahati, the regional hub of trade, commerce and services in north-eastern India. Providing essential connectivity across the north and south banks of the Brahmaputra River, the project is expected to improve access to economic, health and educational centres and contribute to improved socio-economic conditions for residents of Guwahati and its surrounding region.

Loan approvals for urban development projects by the Bank in 2019 also included one project related to integration of water and waste-water management into sustainable urbanisation plans.

- In **China**, the Bank approved a USD 300 million sovereign loan for the Guangxi Chongzuo Water Project. Over recent decades, the rapid urbanisation of Chongzuo – a city located in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in southwest China – has resulted in the degradation of water quality and ecological resources. The project seeks to improve the urban water environment and enhance flood protection in Chongzuo mainly by rehabilitating and connecting water bodies and developing a smart water management system to promote the sustainable use of local resources.

As at December 31, 2019, NDB had cumulatively approved ten loans for urban development projects with a total amount of USD 2.7 billion, accounting for 18% of the Bank's cumulative approvals. These projects are primarily aligned with SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities, and may also contribute to achieving SDGs 6, 9 and 13.

18%

Share of urban development projects in NDB's cumulative approvals as at December 31, 2019