

A Sustainable, Green, Blue and Digital Havana

Project Update | Cuba

Implementing Agency: UNDP

**Implementing partner: Provincial Government
of Havana**

Responsible party: CITMA Provincial Delegation



1. Project Overview

Five components connected by a common integrated urban transformation logic

OBJECTIVE Promote integrated urban development in Havana through climate-resilient, low-carbon, nature-positive and inclusive solutions.

- 01

Integrated Urban Planning

Governance, regulatory frameworks, planning and geospatial platform.
- 02

Decarbonization

Active and electric mobility; energy efficiency and solar energy in health facilities.
- 03

Circular economy in urban solid waste management

Data, pilot waste solutions and business models with employment opportunities.
- 04

Nature and Food Systems

Green corridors, biodiversity and sustainable, resilient urban agriculture.
- 05

Knowledge, South-South Cooperation and Scaling Up

Gender-responsive knowledge products, exchange through GPSC and replication of solutions.

2. Implementation Status

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From formulation to a coordinated implementation adapted to the Cuban context



01 START

Formalize the Project Management Unit (PMU).

Conduct Initiation Workshop, (approve multi-year plan, initial acquisitions, baselines, risk update and coordination protocol)

02 NATIONAL ALIGNMENT

Convergence with the Provincial Development Strategy and with the economic transformation of the country underway.

Complete national formalities and implementation agreements before operational start-up.

Immediate milestone: operationalizing management arrangements with a realistic schedule of activities, procurement, and co-financing.

3. Immediate Priorities

Next 6–12 months: secure governance, evidence and implementable pilots

01

Activate program governance

0–3 months

Formalize the PMU and inter-institutional mechanism; agree responsibilities, decision-making cadence and critical path.

02

Turn the PRODOC into an executable portfolio

0–6 months

Finalize baselines, prioritize sites and select low-cost, high-impact packages with assured maintenance.

03

Unlock the first demonstration projects

3–12 months

Launch studies and procurement for mobility, health energy systems, circular pilot and biodiversity corridor.

Selection criteria: global environmental impact + visible social benefit + operational feasibility + replication potential.

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4. Key Challenges and Proposed Response

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Transparency on risks and a management decision associated with each one

CHALLENGE	CONTEXT ASSESSMENT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
Institutional Coordination	Fragmented mandates and multiple scales	Documented decisions and responsible leads by component
Technical capacity	Technical gaps, impact of sanctions on procurement and importation	Tiered packages and support linked to deliverables
Financing and Co-financing	Currency and exchange rate and O&M sustainability	Traceability and revenue/maintenance models
Data and Monitoring	Baselines and indicators to be finalized	MRV protocol and geospatial platform
Climate Resilience	Hurricanes, flooding, salinity and heat	Site-based assessment; NBS, native species and resilient designs

Positioning: request support to reduce risks, ensure bankability and accelerate verifiable results.

5. Where GPSC and Partners Can Add Value

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Targeted support to move from preparation to demonstration and scale-up

01 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Metropolitan governance, prioritization of pilots and financing mechanisms adapted to Cuba.

02 PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING

Low-carbon mobility, circular economy and nature-based solutions in coastal cities.

03 MONITORING AND BANKABILITY

MRV of global benefits, models and instruments to convert pilots into bankable portfolio.

Havana offers a real laboratory to integrate nature, mobility, energy and waste through municipal pilots that generate employment, data and replicable models.

