

## Sustainable Urban Development between Buenos Aires, Argentina and City of Copenhagen, Annual report for 2019

*Danish Authorities in International Cooperation*



### Project description

The inception project on Sustainable Urban Development between City of Copenhagen, City of Buenos Aires and the public water company AySA was initiated in 2019. The cooperation focuses on energy efficiency in public buildings, climate adaptation and energy efficiency/production in waste water treatment.

### Expected outcomes

#### Energy efficiency in public buildings

Buenos Aires achieves significant energy savings and carbon emission reductions as a result of investments in energy efficient measures in its buildings based on solid business cases. In cooperation with Copenhagen, the City has gained better control and overview of energy consumption and knowledge on where to direct investments for maximum impact.

#### Climate adaptation

The City of Buenos Aires develops a long-term planning method for systematically working on climate change adaptation in relation to water issues. At the same time, the City takes advantage of the climate challenge to create more beneficial and sustainable green and recreational opportunities in and around the city.

#### Waste water and energy

AySA begins optimizing a demonstration wastewater treatment plant, Planta Norte, based on solid business

cases. AySA makes a plan on how to systematically energy optimize wastewater treatment plants and sewer systems across greater Buenos Aires.

### Key activities in 2019

A fact-finding and scoping mission was carried out in March. Potential cooperation areas of mutual interest were identified and followed by three expert missions from Copenhagen to Buenos Aires and Buenos Aires experts participating in Danida Fellowship Centre courses on change management and water management. In addition, the top leaders of AySA visited Copenhagen in September 2019.

The sector counsellor has built a very close and open relationship with key personnel at the City and AySA, who bring him to meetings with other departments, because the Danish perspective has proven a great door opener for cross-sector cooperation in the City.

Two MoUs have been signed at national level between Denmark and Argentina on the topics of water and energy, which has aligned TC and SSC activities and provided access to spread the achievements in Buenos Aires to the rest of the country.

### Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019

The cooperation with City of Copenhagen has been warmly welcomed by Buenos Aires as all three areas have either political or top management demand for external expertise and action. Concrete and ambitious work plans have been developed jointly between experts on all three tracks.

Inspired by the early dialogue with the experts from Copenhagen and the sector counsellor, Buenos Aires and AySA have already initiated a number of efforts:

- Bringing in green and blue surface solutions in planning how to handle cloudbursts,
- Preparing for a comprehensive climate change adaptation plan – the city's first.
- Addressing incentive issues on saving energy.
- Making a tender for a feasibility study on energy improvements at AySA's Planta Norte.

Status: /Preparation phase/SSC Preparation

Partners: City of Buenos Aires and AySA

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