



# Bogota – COLOMBIA

## Rapid bus system on dedicated routes

### A sustainable development scheme

#### Contract facts

**TRANSIT AUTHORITY:**  
Bogota District

**NETWORK NAME:**  
TransMilenio

**CONTRACT START:**  
2000

**CONTRACT DURATION:**  
10 years

#### TransMilenio key figures

**PASSENGERS TRANSPORTED:**  
1.4 million/day

**COMMERCIAL SPEED:**  
27.8 km/h

**VEHICLE FLEET:**  
approximately 1,000 articulated buses

**NETWORK:**  
84 km of dedicated routes serving 114 stations, 40 additional km currently under construction

#### ➔ Challenge

In Bogota, 80% of the 7 million inhabitants use public transport to get around. 28,000 older buses used to crawl through the streets of Bogota at a commercial speed of 8 km/h. The average journey for a passenger was 1 hour 30 minutes. More than 3,000 traffic accidents involving buses caused the deaths of 800 people each year. In order to deal with this chaotic situation, the Bogota authorities called in experts to set up a huge new system to structure and rationalize public transport.

#### ➔ Objectives

During this enquiry, three aims were targeted:

- Free up the super-congested urban environment.
- Increase use of public transport.
- Improve its performance and image.

#### ➔ Veolia Transport's solutions

Under the leadership of the district of Bogota, Veolia Transport, part of the operators' consortium, took part in the rejuvenation of the city. Veolia Transport brought its worldwide knowledge and expertise to help the organizing authority run the BRT.

##### Creation of a welcoming environment

- The completion of 230 km of cycle paths.
- The rehabilitation of 300,000 m<sup>2</sup> of pavement.
- The plantation of thousands of trees.
- The restriction of private car use during rush hours.

##### Construction of dedicated routes

- Construction at ground level of a central 4-lane corridor for exclusive use of articulated buses.
- Creation of stations with an enclosed central platform, only accessible to pedestrians via walkways.
- Automatic real-time information system alerting passengers to imminent arrivals and destinations served.

#### Results

- Vehicle occupancy rates have risen from 45 to 95%.
- Travel time has fallen from 1 hour to 35 minutes.
- 81% reduction in traffic accidents.
- The number of assaults has fallen by 60%.
- A reduction of almost 40% in air pollution.

*In December 2006, TransMilenio became the first transit project in the world to be approved by the UN as a "Clean Development Mechanism" (CDM). Initiated by Bogota's transit authority, this CDM registration recognizes that TransMilenio will reduce the urban area's greenhouse gas emissions by 1.7 million tons within 7 years.*