

Executive Summary

This report explores the potential of electric mobility (e-mobility) to empower women in Ecuador and contribute to a just transition. While e-mobility is still in its early stages in the country, it presents an opportunity to improve gender equality in the transport sector. However, challenges remain, as women risk job displacement due to new technologies and are underrepresented in various sectors of e-mobility. To address these issues, the report recommends strengthening data collection and analysis disaggregated by gender, developing and implementing gender-sensitive policies and programs, promoting capacity building for women, supporting pilot projects that consider gender throughout the process, raising awareness and addressing concerns among women, and fostering collaboration among stakeholders. Additionally, the report emphasizes the importance of addressing the broader gender gap by including women in decision-making processes, collecting gender-disaggregated data, improving the safety of public spaces, and promoting women's presence in all levels of the transportation sector. By implementing these recommendations, Ecuador can ensure a just transition to e-mobility that benefits all citizens and fosters a more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive transportation system.

Introduction:

This report delves into the state of e-mobility in Ecuador, focusing on its potential to empower women and contribute to a just transition. It analyzes opportunities, challenges, and existing gaps related to gender and e-mobility, drawing insights from various stakeholders.

Current State of E-Mobility:

E-mobility is in its early stages in Ecuador, with several pilot projects showcasing its potential but lacking mechanisms for widespread adoption.

The SOLUTIONSplus project has advanced e-mobility adoption in Quito, but challenges remain regarding mobility standards, regulations, import duties, charging infrastructure, and government initiatives.

Gender and E-Mobility:

Opportunities:

E-mobility can improve gender equality in the transport sector by creating new job opportunities for women in areas like manufacturing, maintenance, and operation of electric vehicles.

It can provide cleaner and safer working environments compared to conventional transportation options.

Challenges:

Women risk job displacement without proper policies addressing the impact of new technologies on their current roles, such as deliveries and waste collection using non-motorized vehicles. A lack of gender-disaggregated data on transportation hinders understanding women's mobility patterns and needs.

Policy and Regulations:

National and local mobility policies like the National Plan for Sustainable Mobility (NUMP) and Quito's Sustainable Urban Mobility Master Plan (PMMS) incorporate a gender perspective.

Policy gaps exist regarding the institutionalization of a comprehensive gender approach across the entire transport sector value chain, encompassing decision-makers, users, entrepreneurs, maintenance personnel, and operators.

Addressing the Gender Gap:

Despite progress in representation, with women holding decision-making positions and entering the sector in various roles, they still face resistance from peers and underrepresentation in transport planning, vehicle design, maintenance, and operations.

Programs targeting women and addressing their needs are crucial to reduce the gap, alongside raising awareness among their male peers to reduce resistance.

Institutionalizing programs, even with leadership changes, is essential to ensure sustainability.

General Recommendations:

Women as agents of change: Include them in decision-making processes, especially in sustainable urban development, to eliminate barriers like pay disparity and promote inclusion, accessibility, and sustainability. This empowers women to contribute to growth and become more independent.

Collect gender-disaggregated data: This data, covering aspects like gender, age, job, and travel patterns, helps understand diverse mobility needs and improve public transport accessibility and safety for women and marginalized groups.

Improve public space safety: Ensure public spaces are well-designed, accessible, visible, and well-lit, with safety features and proximity to services, to create a sense of security for all.

Women in all levels of the sector: Ensure women's presence in both technical and executive positions to achieve gender mainstreaming in all aspects of transportation. This leverages diverse perspectives and fuels innovation.

Conclusion:

A just transition to e-mobility in Ecuador requires addressing gender considerations and ensuring women's participation and equal opportunities throughout the process. By implementing the recommendations above, Ecuador can unlock the potential of e-mobility to create a more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive transportation system that benefits all citizens.