



“Bicycle instead of Car”: Sustainable mobility in Harare | Chronicle on our climate partnership

Dear friends of the "Harare-Munich" partnership,
last year has been a challenging one. Not always have international news been good. This update is different! Packed with inspiring news, it shows that progress is possible.

So find out more about this long-term project that promotes sustainable mobility in the city of Harare, Zimbabwe. Where open tables lead to open streets – no longer exclusively for cars, but for people.



“The street is for everyone.”
Ana Carolina Cortes, GIZ Harare

Photo 1: © 2023 Andreas Gebert

A short History of the Partnership

The partnership between Munich and Harare goes way back to 1996 and has seen a wide range of cooperations and contacts. It intensified in 2017 with the sustainable urban and transport development activities that are very important to the society of both cities. The current focus is promoting active forms of mobility.

Meet the stakeholders

In Harare:

- Department of Works, Traffic & Transportation Section (([LINK](#))) and City Administration of the City of Harare
- Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ (Harare)/ Expert for Municipal Partnerships Worldwide (FKPW) (([LINK](#)))
- Active Mobility Groups, NGOs and Cycling Clubs in Harare
- Private Sector
- Artists Nyasha Jeche & Marcus Zvivanashe from CaliGraph (([LINK](#)))



In Munich:

- Department of Mobility (DM) (([LINK](#))), Department of Labor and Economic Development (DLED) (([LINK](#))) and Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) of the City of Munich (([LINK](#)))
- Former City Administration Experts
- Cycling Clubs (ADFC) (([LINK](#)))
- Private Sector (experience consulting GmbH)(([LINK](#)))
- Artist Markus Heinsdorff (([LINK](#)))

The Munich Exchange in November 2023

In November 2023 Harare based artists Nyasha Jeché and Marcus Zvivanashe from CaliGraph made their way to Munich in order to team up for a second time with the German artist Markus Heinsdorff to work intensively on their **joint art-approach for the current project “Bicycle instead of Car”**.

Goals of the Exchange

The exchange aimed to learn more about the realities of artists in Munich and Harare and to create a joint art-environment project as part of the climate partnership between both cities.



“Art can make people aware of the ongoing climate change around us.”

Markus Heinsdorff, Artist

Photo 2: © 2023 Andreas Gebert

The Workshop @Kreativquartier, HALLE 6

On November 8th members of the Departments of Mobility and of Labor and Economic Development teams in Munich, GIZ Harare, as well as members of the responsible unit of urban mobility in Harare teamed up with involved artists in a workshop at “Kreativquartier” in Munich. The Harare team joined via video call.

What happened there? The participants connected and exchanged plans. They celebrated first achievements and reviewed the status-quo. Then they rolled up their sleeves and brainstormed until they had created a strong vision for the project.



Aligned like this, they started to further develop a sustainable mobility concept that changes the image of cycling in Harare with the help of art.



“Let’s make cycling cool!”
Nyasha Jeche, Artist

Photo 3: © 2023 Andreas Gebert

The Event @Kreativquartier, HALLE 6

At a subsequent event on November 10th the artistic vision was presented by the artists Nyasha Jeche, Marcus Zvivanashe and Markus Heinsdorff. Their plans for a festival that celebrates sustainability and the cycling culture in 2024 include:

- closing down the Copa Cabana Square (busy central square in Harare) for cars
- producing art that enables visitors to get into contact with the local community
- tables with photos of the international bike culture to bring ideas to Harare
- an installation of old and worn out bike tires and use it for a kinetic experience
- a travelling exposition on sustainability and mobility in Zimbabwe curated by five additional local artists which offers interaction and inspiration

Ultimative goal of their vision: Sensitize people for importance of climate change and sustainability and engage with them via interactive tools and art.

After the artistic vision Camilla Huys from Munich DLED Team, Laura Sanchez Serrano of the Munich DAC and by Ana Carolina Cortes, GIZ representative for Harare shed light on the challenges and achievements of the collaboration so far. The event was documented by Visual Recording artist Britta Krondorf and a camera team. For the afterparty food and drinks were served and the band Pamuzinda performed wonderful music from Zimbabwe. It was a very inspiring evening full of fruitful networking and mutual appreciation.



Photo 4-7: © 2023 Andreas Gebert



Biggest Insights

In promoting a modern cycling culture, art can become a very strong driver for socio-ecological change. Art also creates a new channel to encourage people to change their behavior in terms of sustainable development, and it also reaches new target groups – children and young adults, for example.



“The beauty about art? When you look at it, it directly speaks to you!”

Marcus Zvivanashe, Artist

Photo 8: © 2023 Andreas Gebert

What’s left to say?

Maitabasa, thank you and Dankeschön to everyone who contributed to this exchange and keeps doing so.

All the best,

Camilla Huys and the entire Harare-Munich team

PS: For more information on the international work of DLED Munich, please visit:

<https://stadt.muenchen.de/infos/entwicklungszusammenarbeit.html>



Photo 9: ©2023 Markus Heinsdorff