



Pune, India:

## Electric Vehicle Cell

Model: Non-Commercial Convening

Pune created India's first Electric Vehicle (EV) Cell in October 2021- a cross-department team aiming to **build the EV ecosystem**. It has already fast tracked several EV policies and interventions.





## THE CHALLENGE

The EV ecosystem consists of multiple city departments and various other stakeholders. Pune needed to fill the gap of effective coordination to become "EV ready" and align with national goals of carbon neutrality.



## **HOW IT WORKS**

The EV Cell formed a monthly steering committee chaired by the Municipal Commissioner, and a working committee supported by a secretary from the environment department. RMI India, a non-profit organisation, provides technical assistance. Other departments involved include Roads, Transport, Electrical, Environment, and Motor Vehicles.

The Cell engages with the private sector and facilitates cross-departmental implementation and policymaking to overcome the challenges identified and support the active participation of the manufacturers and operators in the transition to low-carbon transportation models. For example, the Cell produced the city's first EV Readiness Plan.

The Cell also convened property developer associations to give feedback on a municipal policy requiring charging stations on a percentage of parking bays in new buildings. The Cell engaged with a rickshaw drivers union, banks, and manufacturers to create better financing opportunities for rickshaw electric transitions.

The work of the Cell is increasingly relevant given Pune's ongoing public transport electrification, expected to reach 50% of its bus fleet in 2023.



## LESSONS

Convening government departments and private actors is an effective way to strengthen the EV ecosystem. Focusing on both **policy and implementation**, as the Pune EV Cell is doing, can accelerate this process.

Cities can work with non-governmental partners to bring in expertise and technical support; in this case it also allows Pune to test ideas more freely. For example, the EV Cell convened stakeholders to explore solutions to ongoing challenges in the electrification of rickshaws.