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The massive use of cars in Damascus, coupled with the lack of a reliable public transport system and the dense urban environment of Damascus, has led to traffic congestion on major roads and in downtown Damascus.

The Metro Green Line will be the first part of an important scheme dedicated to the improvement of public transport in Damascus. This project is one of Damascus Governorate's priorities.

The preliminary studies are funded by a grant from the European Union under its Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) and is managed by the European Investment Bank (EIB). The Governorate of Damascus, through the Directorate of Traffic and Transport Engineering, is in charge of supervising this study.

The partnership between Damascus Governorate and the EIB for this technical assistance project will help Damascus Governorate to better manage and supervise the Metro project and to strengthen the management capacities of the Governorate.

One of the objectives of this technical assistance project is the definition of the Green Line route. The line will run from Moadamiyeh to Qaboun (around 16.5 km) and will serve major points of the city: Sumaria, Mezzeh, the campus and the universities, Al Hijaz and the Old City, Abbasiyeen Square and Qaboun Pullman Bus Station. This study will last 18 months and will be completed in late 2008. During the technical assistance project the social, archaeological, geotechnical and hydrological contexts will be considered.

A campaign informing the public of the reasons behind the decision to proceed with a Metro system in the Green Line corridor from the Southwest to the Northeast of Damascus will begin on April 27, 2008, and will be carried out using various communications media:

- Brochures, distributed in several public places in Damascus. (A detailed list of these places will be available on the Green Line website.)
- The Green Line website will be officially launched on April 27, 2008:

<http://www.damascus-metro.com>  
e-mail: [info@damascus-metro.com](mailto:info@damascus-metro.com)

The inhabitants of Damascus will be invited to send their comments and queries to the project team, using questionnaires distributed with the brochures, or using the website.

Damascus Governorate views this public consultation as a key element to insure the success of this major project.

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