

## Jerusalem electric vehicle policy

Israel has set an ambitious goal to ensure that all new vehicles on its roads will be electric by 2030, marking a significant step towards reducing air pollution and carbon emissions.

About 1.3 million cars, or 30% of the country's total, will be electric by 2030. That is up from 70,000 today, which is less than 2%, the ministry said in an official forecast.

Accordingly, from 2030, all vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel oil will be banned from entering Israel, and 100% of all new vehicles in Israel will be powered by electricity and CNG. Progress will be gradual: by 2022, 27,000 of all private vehicles sold in Israel will be electric, 177,000 by 2025, 665,000 in 2028, and 1.4 million by 2030.

Electric vehicles: Israel's Ministry of Energy. In Israel, there is a standard concerning electric vehicles - which says that if you do not want to replace batteries and want to recharge the battery at a charging station - this is the responsibility of the Ministry of Energy (5), Avner explains.

In Israel, the Ministry of Transport and Road Safety is tasked with the planning, development and regulation of infrastructure as well as integrated transport systems. In their work, there is a particular emphasis on safety and promoting mobility and logistics services, which will contribute to social and economic growth in Israel. (1)

As an example of the Ministry of Transport and Road Safety's work, this article will focus on the development of electric buses and vehicles in Israel. We know that the Minister of Transport and Road Safety in Israel, Bezalel Smotrich wants to encourage the development of electric-powered buses in the country. It is hoped that by 2025, 60% of buses in Israel will be electric-powered.

In 2019, Smotrich commented that Ministry was "advancing this plan with a large investment. The objective is to reduce pollution," as studies reveal that buses are not great when it comes to air pollution. "We are moving with giant steps towards the goal of a future with a greener, cheaper and more efficient transportation system," the Minister explained. (2)

In this interview with Avner Flor, Senior Director, Division of Motor Vehicles within the Ministry of Transport and Road Safety, Israel, we learn how investing in this form of power reduces air pollution and is a significant step towards the ambition of a greener, cheaper and more efficient transportation system in Israel.

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It is worth noting here an example of a project supported by Israel's Ministry of Energy concerns a folding electric vehicle by a company who won a grant of NIS 2 million. (6) Avner then shares with us Israel's plans to scale up electric vehicle use and charging stations in the country.

"We don't know where the world will be going, not only in terms of manufacturing cars. While in Jerusalem, the Ministry of Transport and Road Safety wants to achieve this aim by 2035 but for now, we await a decision on this.

"As part of Israel's public transportation system, there are currently 100 electric buses in Haifa, Jerusalem and other areas like Tel Aviv where there is light rail. There is an ambition to increase the number of electric buses in the country which is part of the Ministry of Transport and Road Safety's policy."

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