Sustainable Urban Transport in the Asia-Pacific region

Ishtiaque Ahmed, PhD
Sustainable Transport Section
Transport Division

United Nations ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Sustainable Urban Transport

1. Sustainable urban transport is a global and regional challenge.

2. It provides unique opportunities towards three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental aspects.

3. Enormous opportunities exist in relation to sustainable urban transport.
Transport and SDGs

17 Partnerships for the Goals
16 Peace, justice and strong institutions
13 Climate action
11 Sustainable cities and communities
9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure
3 Good health and well-being

- 1 No poverty
- 2 Zero hunger
- 3 Affordable and clean energy
- 7 Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- 9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- 11 Sustainable cities and communities
- 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions
- 17 Partnerships for the goals

Directly linked
Indirectly linked
The Regional Action Programme

In 2016, 3rd Ministerial Conference on Transport, adopted the Regional Action Programme (2017-2021)

Sustainable urban transport is one of the seven theme topics
The Committee on Transport

Sixth session of the Committee on Transport

Environmental and social sustainability aspects related to urban transport

Outcome of this meeting and inputs to the new RAP
UN ESCAP

1. 2021, 4th Ministerial Conference on Transport, expected to adopt the Regional Action Programme (2022-2026)

2. Sustainable urban transport is going to be one of the theme topics.
ESCAP project on sustainable urban transport

Asia-Pacific Sustainable Urban Transport Systems to support the region’s achievement of the 2030 Agenda

**Objective:** To equip member States with a set of sustainable urban transport recommendations to facilitate the implementation of sustainable transport policies and programmes and strengthen regional cooperation in this region.
ESCAP project on sustainable urban transport

A study has been conducted: China, India, Russian Federation and Viet Nam

Main theme topics are:

a) Green transport
b) Smart transport
c) Safe transport
Philippines

JEPPNEY
India

Chakda

Rickshaws
Recommendations
Political leadership and Vision

TFL, London, 2018
Socially inclusive urban transport

World Bank, Myanmar, 2019
Decarbonized (Micro-)Mobility
Urban transport financial sustainability
Digital Services for Multimodality
By the users and for the users
Urban governance and transport

CNN, Shenzhen, 2020
Bangkok Declaration on “City and Transport: Safety, Efficiency, and Sustainability”.

A Regional Meeting for Asia and the Pacific on the “City and Transport: Safety, Efficiency, and Sustainability” was organized by Transport Division of ESCAP in a virtual format on 9-10 June 2021 in which the participants adopted the Bangkok Declaration on “City and Transport: Safety, Efficiency, and Sustainability”.
Contents of the draft Declaration

The draft Declaration has two main parts:

a) 19 Preambular Paragraphs and b) 19 Operative paragraphs

Preambular Paragraphs are the background part:

• the key role of urban transport systems
• negative aspects of the current urban transport systems
• importance of quality, efficient safe and environmentally friendly urban transport
• increase in micromobility and electric mobility
Contents of the draft Declaration

Preambular Paragraphs (continued)

• Importance of travel demand management
• Modernizing rolling stocks and infrastructure for mass transit
• Inclusiveness and gender dimensions
• Impact of COVID-19 pandemic
• Research, collaboration and sharing of information
• Efficient manpower development.
Contents of the draft Declaration

The Operative Paragraphs include opinions of the meeting participants and actions related to:

- COVID-19 pandemic
- public passenger transport
- use of Active Mobility
- integration of transport planning and land-use planning
- urban transport safety
- transport demand management and mobility
- modal shift to environmentally friendly modes of transport
Contents of the draft Declaration

The Operative Paragraphs (continued):

- actions related to gender, inclusiveness, urban transport connectivity
- traffic management
- public participation in transport projects
- development of skilled manpower,
- consideration of development of an ITS coordination mechanism
- multimodality and
- continuation of active dialogue within the framework of ESCAP.
THANK YOU