LEDS GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

Factsheet

December 2015

The Transport Working Group

Countries facing significantly increasing demands for transport services over the coming decades have a unique opportunity to meet this demand and enable economic growth while minimizing greenhouse gas emissions.

Sustainable transport systems are based on minimizing travel, shifting to more environmentally (as well as socially and economically) sustainable mobility, and improving transport technologies, fuels and institutions.

The Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP) Transport Working Group provides technical assistance, tools and training on strategies that support low-emission development in transport systems.

The Working Group is building a LEDS transport community, supporting champions and innovators, creating networks of experts on low-emission transport, and exploring opportunities for collaboration at local and regional levels. A team of international transport experts from EMBARQ (the sustainable urban transport and planning program of the World Resources Institute), the United States Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are leading these activities.

The 'Avoid–Shift–Improve' approach

The traditional approach to developing transport systems has focused on expanding infrastructure: building new roads and railways and providing more vehicles to meet growing demand. This approach has led to proliferating sprawl, traffic congestion and associated economic impacts, costs to public health from reduced local air quality and increased accidents, and direct and indirect costs from global climate change impacts.

Developing sustainable transport systems is based on an 'Avoid–Shift–Improve' (ASI) approach. This shifts the focus to the policies and behaviors behind the demand for transport. LEDS prioritizes solutions that seek to:

- **avoid** or reduce trips through the integration of land-use and transport planning
- **shift** to more efficient and less carbon-intensive modes of transport, such as public transport, walking and cycling
- **improve** the environmental efficiency from each kilometer traveled through progress in vehicle and fuel technology.

The Avoid-Shift-Improve (ASI) framework supports the holistic design of sustainable low-emission development strategies for transportation systems.

This approach addresses the long-term root problems, rather than marginally improving the status quo.

The Transport Working Group in action

Peer learning and knowledge sharing

The Transport Working Group facilitates learning and knowledge sharing for stakeholders in low-emission transport planning and implementation. This includes supporting high-level planning processes and offering webinars, forums, training and workshops for technical experts. Find more at: www.edsgp.org/transport-toolkit

Toolkit

The 'Low-Emission Development Strategies in Transport' toolkit provides transport analysis tools and technical resources to support government planners, decision-makers and technical practitioners that are planning and implementing LEDS at national and local levels. This web-based, user-friendly toolkit is helping to build a LEDS GP transport community, support champions and innovators in climate-resilient development, and link networks of transport experts. For more information, please visit: www.ledsgp.org/working-groups/transport/ and provide feedback at: transport@ledsgp.org

Advisory services

The Transport Working Group provides timely, high-quality, no-fee technical assistance on transport issues as part of the LEDS GP's 'Remote Expert Assistance on LEDS' (REAL) service. Experts from around the world will be available to provide objective advice, conduct reviews and brief assessments, collect data and recommend sources of longer-term support for individuals and organizations planning and implementing sustainable transport systems. For more information on how to request expert assistance, please visit: www.ledsgp.org

Technical assistance for Peru

In 2012, the Peruvian ministries for Environment, Transport, and Energy and Mines asked the Transport Working Group to assist the country in building a comprehensive, robust and streamlined approach to climate change mitigation in the transport sector, as well as an integrated approach to other strategic sectors.

Applying a collaborative, peer-to-peer approach, the Transport Working Group organized a series of technical workshops with experts from Colombia and Mexico, and provided technical assistance through in-person meetings, weekly calls and reviews of key documents. Through this, the Transport Working Group provided technical contributions towards the development of Peru's national climate action plan and many other initiatives:

- The Peruvian Transport Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA, which was jointly developed with the Peruvian ministries of Environment and Transport, with support from GIZ-Transfer, the World Resources Institute, the LEDS GP, the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Transitemos and other local partners) secured funding from the NAMA Facility.
- Peru's Ministry of Transport formed an internal working group to coordinate work and policies related to climate change.
- A new national greenhouse gas inventory was completed, which supports critical analysis of the transport sector.
- Peru passed its first national law addressing climate change.

Join us

Membership of the Transport Working Group is open to all interested parties. To join or find out more about the Working Group, contact Benoit Lefevre PhD, Director of Transport and Climate, World Resources Institute/ EMBARQ at: transport@ledsgp.org or Angela Enriquez at: angela.enriquez@wri.org or visit: www.ledsgp.org

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