



UN Decade of Sustainable Transport (2026-2035)

Call for inputs from the United Nations system

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Responding organization: UN-Habitat

Questions

- 1. How can the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport best boost sustainable transport around the world and increase its contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals? What kind of a shared vision of sustainable transport should the UN advocate for in the Implementation Plan?**

From UN-Habitat's perspective, contributions to the "Implementation Plan for the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport" could focus on aligning sustainable transport with urban planning, housing and infrastructure development, inclusivity, equity, and resilience, particularly in the context of cities and human settlements. Below are a few areas that may be relevant to include in the implementation plan:

- **Promoting Sustainable Urban Mobility and Transport**
 - Advocate for the integration of sustainable transport systems into urban planning processes, ensuring that transport networks are aligned with land-use planning, affordable housing, and public spaces.
 - Support the adoption of low-carbon and zero-emission transport solutions, such as electric vehicles, cycling infrastructure, and pedestrian-friendly urban designs.
 - Promote connectivity and the development of efficient, affordable, and accessible public transport systems, particularly in rapidly urbanizing areas and informal settlements. This would include promoting TOD, 15-minute city approach, mixed-use, density, etc.
- **Ensuring Inclusivity and Equity**
 - Emphasize the importance of inclusive transport systems that cater to the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.
 - Advocate for affordable transport options to ensure that low-income populations are not excluded from accessing jobs, education, and essential services.

- Promote gender-responsive transport planning to address safety concerns and improve mobility for women and girls.
- **Strengthening Resilience in Transport Systems**
 - Support the development of transport infrastructure that is resilient to climate change impacts, such as flooding, extreme heat, and other natural disasters, which emphasizes risk-informed, data-driven, and inclusive urban mobility planning.
 - Support national and local governments in preparing plans for integrate transport planning with disaster risk reduction strategies to ensure that transport networks remain functional during emergencies – e.g. climate resilient infrastructure strategies
- **Raising Awareness, Capacity Building, and Knowledge Sharing**
 - Campaign - Raise awareness about the importance of sustainable transport in achieving global sustainability goals.
 - Engage the High-Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport, the UN Road Safety Advisory Board and SLOCAT to promote accelerated implementation for sustainable transport solutions.
 - Develop an on-line platform that provides an overview of tools, guides, manuals etc. and capacity-building training modules for local governments and other key stakeholders on sustainable transport planning and implementation.
 - Share promising practices and case studies from cities that have successfully implemented sustainable transport solutions and organise city-to-city learning exchanges.
 - Support the collection and analysis of data on urban transport systems to inform evidence-based decision-making and monitor progress towards sustainable transport goals.

2. What are some of the key impediments to sustainable transport and how can the UN Decade strategically address these?

Key impediments to sustainable transport:

- **Lack of integration with urban planning:** Many cities develop transport networks in isolation from land-use planning, leading to inefficient and car-dependent urban growth.
- **Financial constraints:** Insufficient investment and lack of sustainable financing mechanisms hinder the development of public transport and active mobility infrastructure.
- **Limited inclusivity and accessibility:** Transport systems often neglect the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, children, and persons with disabilities.
- **Resilience challenges:** Many urban transport networks are not designed to withstand climate change-related disasters, such as flooding and extreme heat.
- **Insufficient data and monitoring frameworks:** Lack of comprehensive, real-time data on urban transport systems hampers evidence-based decision-making.

Strategic solutions:

- **Integrating sustainable transport in urban planning** through national and local policies that promote mixed-use, high-density, and transit-oriented development (TOD).
- **Mobilize resources**, supporting national and local governments in developing frameworks for sustainable management of transport infrastructure and investment in for example walking and cycling pathways ensuring sustainable finance through Own-Source Revenue, Land value capture/sharing, etc
- **Strengthen partnerships**, collaborating with international financial institutions, governments, and the private sector to mobilize resources for sustainable transport projects, particularly in developing countries
- **Multi-stakeholder collaboration**, facilitating partnerships between governments, civil society, academia, and the private sector to drive innovation and investment in sustainable transport.
- **Improve data collection and monitoring**, building on the SUM4All work on tracking progress, support the development of indicators and frameworks to monitor progress towards sustainable transport goals at the urban level and contribute to global reporting on the implementation of the Decade of Sustainable Transport.

3. Please share up to five (5) main policy recommendations that should be included in the Implementation Plan? If applicable, indicate the level most aligned with the policy recommendation (global, regional, national, subnational and local, or other).

- 1) **(Global & National)** Promote **sustainable urban mobility policies** that integrate transport with land-use planning, housing, and public spaces.
- 2) **(National & Subnational)** Support the **adoption of low-carbon** along the Avoid-Shift-Improve framework, including promotion of electric vehicles, cycling, and pedestrian infrastructure.
- 3) **(Regional & Local)** Improve **public transport connectivity and affordability**, particularly in informal settlements and rapidly urbanizing areas.
- 4) **(National & Local)** Develop **climate-resilient transport infrastructure** by integrating risk-informed, data-driven planning approaches.
- 5) **(Global & Regional)** Strengthen **monitoring and evaluation mechanisms** to track progress in sustainable transport implementation using globally recognized indicators.

4. How can the implementation of the plan be effectively monitored, and what methods can be used to track its progress across Member States? Please share most relevant existing monitoring frameworks and indicators?

- Develop urban-level indicators for sustainable transport aligned with the Sustainable Urban Mobility for All (SUM4All) framework.
- Support national and local governments in setting up real-time data collection systems to track transport performance and inform policy decisions.
- Strengthening of SDG 11.2.1 indicator framework (proportion of population with access to public transport), through enhancing the methodology and promotion of the “secondary indicators” recommended as part of SDGs 11.2, which includes transit system performance, affordability, safety/ security, comfort, access and modal shift.
- Establish multi-stakeholder partnerships to facilitate knowledge sharing and best practices exchange among cities and regions.

5. Please share up to three (3) examples of concrete initiatives, projects or programmes that your entity is engaged in that can contribute to the success of the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport? Please, make sure to include relevant links.

- **Urban Mobility Design, Planning & Policy Support**
 - UN-Habitat works with national and local governments to mainstream sustainable urban mobility strategies
 - Example: UN-Habitat's "Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan" projects, Pan-African Action Plan for Active Mobility (PAAPAM) co-implementing with UNEP, road safety projects under UN Road Safety Fund.
- **Resilient Transport Infrastructure for Climate Adaptation and Mitigation**
 - Supports cities in developing climate-resilient transport plans and integrating disaster risk reduction measures.
 - Example: Supports for climate resilient road infrastructure for Kenya, Low-carbon mobility system projects (under EU-funded Solutions Plus, Smart Energy Solutions for Africa (SESA)).
- **Capacity-Building & Knowledge Sharing**
 - Developing an online knowledge platform with tools, manuals, and training modules for local governments and stakeholders.
 - Example: technical capacity development activities under the above-mentioned programmes and projects

6. Please provide up to five (5) main reports or other publications that the Implementation Plan of the UN Decade should draw upon. Please, make sure to include relevant links

1. New Urban Agenda (<https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/>)
2. UN-Habitat World Cities report (<https://unhabitat.org/wcr/>)
3. SloCAT partnerships (<https://slocat.net/>)
4. PAAPAM ([Pan-African Action Plan for Active Mobility | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#))
5. SolutionsPLUS ([Home | SOLUTIONSplus](#))
6. Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation (SURGe) ([COP27 Presidency Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation \(SURGe\) | UN-Habitat](#))