

Enabling a 1.5°C Future: Strategies for Sustainable and Resilient Transport Systems

Pre-event on the occasion of the 16th Regional EST Forum

9 December 2024

9:00 -12:00

Innovation Hub

ADB Headquarters, Manila, Philippines

Session organisers: SLOCAT Partnership and Global Climate Action Partnership (GCAP)

Master of ceremonies: Angel Cortez, Project Officer, SLOCAT

Desired outcomes for the session:

The Asia-Pacific region remains the largest and fastest growing transport CO₂ emitter among all regions and the negative impacts from transport in the region will continue to rise unless there is a paradigm shift. But the Asia-Pacific region is also experiencing growing momentum towards a net-zero future for transport. Providing data, policy, technical and financial support for the decarbonisation and sustainability of transport in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly its low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) is one of the most impactful actions the international community can take.

Actions to mitigate emissions from the transport sector and adapt it to the impacts of climate change present very strong positive synergies with the economic development, equitable prosperity and resilience of Asia-Pacific economies and societies. To unleash such synergies we need to foster the connection of climate action and policies for transport to the broader economic development, equitable prosperity and resilience goals of the country and the national policies that develop them.

2025 presents a critical window of opportunity for national policymakers to strengthen transport actions for climate and sustainability through the revisions of the Nationally Determined Contributions and the preparations towards the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport. The coming year also marks a pivotal moment for fostering international and regional cooperation to support knowledge-based policymaking and technical capacity in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Global Climate Action Partnership (GCAP) and SLOCAT warmly invite you to a policy exchange on strategies for transforming transport systems in the region in line with climate and sustainability goals. Participants will explore practical approaches to viable pathways and supportive cross-sectoral implementation plans and technologies. The session will build upon the technical cooperation among countries of the Leadership Group for Clean Transport in Asia. Key

findings of recent policy analyses by SLOCAT and the Asian Transport Outlook (ATO) will be presented too.

Contact [Angel Cortez](mailto:angel.cortez@slocatpartnership.org) (angel.cortez@slocatpartnership.org) for more information about this event.

Preliminary agenda

Time	Segment
15 mins	Welcome and ice-breaker activity (2-3 Mentimeter Questions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Possible tour de table depending on event turn-out</i> Angel Cortez, Project Officer, SLOCAT
10 mins	Regional cooperation: Leadership Group for Clean Transport in Asia Angela Enriquez, Foreign Affairs Officer, Clean Energy, US Department of State
10 mins	Regional trends and gap analysis of NDCs Alvin Mejia, Program Manager, Asian Transport Outlook
10 mins	Q and A
Policy exchange - National policies and cross-sectoral implementation plans to transform transport systems in the Asia-Pacific region World Café <i>Each session comprising of 30 mins discussion + 10 mins reporting 1 staff facilitating each table and summarising the outcomes</i>	
35 mins	Session I: Scaling Up Clean and Sustainable Public Transport Systems in Asia The session will facilitate a policy exchange on scaling and modernising public and collective transport systems in Asia, focusing on the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs), the integration of resilient charging infrastructure, and the improvement of affordable and inclusive public transport systems. Participants will also discuss how these advancements align with broader economic development and climate resilience goals. Guiding Qs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>What policy frameworks and national strategies are needed to scale up and modernise public transport networks (e.g., bus rapid transit, metro, cycling) while reducing CO2 emissions?</i> <i>How can governments in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) address barriers to EV adoption and public transport access, and what role can international cooperation play in overcoming these challenges?</i> <i>What role does the private sector have in promoting electric mobility in your country, and how can government policy schemes support this?</i>
15 mins	BREAK
35 mins	Session II: Unlocking Climate Finance and Building Capacity for Clean Transport

	<p>The session will discuss policy frameworks and financial strategies for unlocking climate finance to support transport decarbonization. Participants will explore opportunities for cross-sectoral governance, capacity building, and the role of public-private partnerships and multilateral funding in scaling up clean transport systems across the region.</p> <p>Guiding Qs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How can national policies integrate financing models (e.g., public-private partnerships, development bank initiatives) to mobilize resources for fossil-free transport projects?</i> • <i>What capacity-building policies are needed to develop the workforce and governance structures for a successful transition to low-carbon transport, and how can regional cooperation support this effort?</i>
35 mins	<p>Session III: Accelerating Low-Carbon Freight Transport Solutions</p> <p>This session will exchange policy insights and strategies on how the Asia-Pacific region can deploy intermodal, low-carbon freight transport systems to reduce emissions across supply chains. The session will cover the role of alternative fuels, fuel efficiency improvements, and the integration of renewable energy sources in freight systems.</p> <p>Guiding Qs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What national policies can support the adoption of low-carbon freight transport, and how can countries collaborate regionally to improve logistics efficiency while reducing environmental impacts?</i> • <i>What role can freight carriers play to decarbonise the sector? Please discuss if any such initiative has been taken in your country.</i> • <i>What role can renewable energy and alternative fuels play in decarbonizing freight transport, and how can policies incentivize businesses to adopt these solutions?</i>
15 mins	<p>Looking ahead at the pivotal 2025</p> <p>Maruxa Cardama, Secretary General, SLOCAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations for the region’s next NDCs, connected to reporting from the technical exchange • Alignment for 2025

Room requirements: Please fill out the session requirements [form](#).