



CHANGING TRANSPORT

Facilitating climate actions in mobility

ENHANCING CLIMATE AMBITION IN TRANSPORT

Six Action Recommendations for Policymakers to Align Transport with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Agenda



Building on existing transport-related roadmaps, calls for action, discussion papers and research findings, GIZ devised six essential recommendations for policymakers and other officials dealing with climate action and ambition in the transport sector. As policymakers draft their upcoming NDC revisions, they can heed these recommendations, which have been broadly formulated to allow adaptation to divergent national contexts.

In addition to enabling emission reductions, the recommendations address various sustainable development challenges in the transport sector. Beyond fighting climate change, taking action in all six areas will thus help to reduce air pollution, noise and congestion, while also enhancing access to transport, road safety and the efficiency of the freight sector, thereby contributing to six of the 17 SDGs.



Please find the study here.

Authors: Marion Vieweg (Current Future), Daniel Bongardt (GIZ)
Contact: Daniel Bongardt daniel.bongardt@giz.de +49 228 4460-1416
www.changing-transport.org

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On behalf of:



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Shifting the
paradigm towards
zero-carbon
targets for 2050

1

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Dear _____

To avoid, shift, improve and electrify passenger and freight transport, a comprehensive long-term approach is necessary.

Moving away from the marginal reduction of emissions and towards the creation of a zero-carbon transport system by 2050 is essential for reaching global climate goals – and for making transport more equitable, sustainable and safe.

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A photograph of a flooded street in a tropical town. In the foreground, a wooden boat carries two women. The street is lined with buildings, some with balconies, and a large tree on the right. Several other boats are visible in the background. The sky is overcast.

Ensuring the
resilience
of transport
systems

2

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Dear _____

Services and infrastructure may be threatened by slow-onset impacts, such as sea level rise and increasing temperatures, or by extreme weather events. Authorities on all levels need to consider climate risks in transport planning and climate-proof transport services and infrastructure.

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ENHANCING CLIMATE AMBITION IN TRANSPORT

Empowering
cities
with national
support

3

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Dear _____

Urban transport is associated with significant impairments to quality of life due to congestion, noise, and poor air quality. Due to urbanization, cities play an increasingly important role in the transport transformation, but require national support.



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ENHANCING CLIMATE AMBITION IN TRANSPORT

Investing in
sustainable rail,
inland shipping
and multimodal
hubs

4

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Dear _____

Investing in clean and efficient rail infrastructure and multimodal hubs is crucial for augmenting mobility options while drastically reducing energy demand in long-distance passenger and freight transport. Investments have to go hand-in-hand with the phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies.



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A long freight train with green boxcars is shown on a gravel track. The train extends into the distance, with overhead power lines visible. Three green hexagonal callouts are overlaid on the image, containing text about enhancing system efficiency and climate ambition in transport.

5

Enhancing
system efficiency
in freight
and logistics

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Dear _____

Policymakers should seek to shift demand to rail and waterborne freight, to encourage the use of multimodal hubs, to promote the adoption of efficient vehicles, and to optimize logistics (e.g. by avoiding inefficient trips). Governments need to guide development and investment in the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the overall freight system.

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Accelerating
electrification
with renewable
energy

6



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Dear _____

For decarbonization, the use of electric vehicles powered exclusively by renewable electricity is crucial. Every country can start electrifying its transport system now and work on decarbonizing the electricity mix in parallel. The freight sector should become electric wherever possible, but e-fuels and hydrogen may be needed to supplement electrification in long-haul transport. Electrification will reduce air and noise pollution and can substantially reduce overall system costs.

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