



# High-Level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum in Asia

“Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions- Empowering Cities  
towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits  
& Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era”

10-12 December 2024  
Manila, Philippines

# **High-Level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum in Asia**

Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions-  
Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon  
Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits &  
Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era

**10-12 December 2024**

**ADB Headquarters, Manila, the Philippines**

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**Pre-Events of the High-Level 16th Regional EST Forum in Asia  
on (9 December 2024)**

- Urban mobility (GIZ SMMR/UNCRD)
- Inclusive Transport - High-Volume Transport (HVT)
- Low-Carbon Transport (GCAP/SLOCAT)
- Health and Transport (WHO/ADB Health and Transport Team)
- Data to Deal (ADB/Climate Compatible Growth)
- Sustainable Bus Transport (ASRTU/Busworld/UNCRD)

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## High-Level 16th Regional EST Forum in Asia: 2024

### COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

TITLE	DETAILS
<b>Forum Chair</b>	H.E. Timothy John R. Batan, Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation, the Government of the Philippines
<b>Co-organizers</b>	Department of Transportation (DOTr), Government of the Philippines
	Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Government of the Philippines
	Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Government of the Philippines
	Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan
	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
	United Nations Centre for Regional Development of Division for Sustainable Development Goals/ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNCRD – DSDG/UN DESA)
<b>Supporting Organizations</b>	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)
	World Health Organization (WHO)
	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
	German International Cooperation (GIZ) - Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) and Sustainable Mobility in Metropolitan Regions in ASEAN (SMMR)
	International Union of Railways (UIC)
	International Transport Forum (ITF)
	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
	Busworld Foundation
	International Road Federation (IRF)
	SLOCAT Partnership
	Asian Transport Outlook (ATO)
	Eco-Mo Foundation
	Clean Air Asia (CAA)
	International Federation of Public Transport (UITP)
	Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)
	Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU)
	Business Environment Council
	Climate Compatible Growth (CCG)
	Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS)
	Global Climate Action Partnership (GCAP)
	University of Gothenburg
	High Volume Transport
	World Resources Institute (WRI)



**H.E. FERDINAND  
"BONGBONG" MARCOS, JR.**  
President of the Philippines

#### **Welcome Message**

The Department of Transportation's (DOTr) hosting of the High-Level 16th Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum in Asia attests to the agency's steadfast commitment to advancing sustainable urban mobility. This gathering brings together thought leaders, innovators, and advocates to address the pressing challenges of modern urbanization. It is a call to enhance our cities and transport systems to ensure they serve as engines of growth while preserving the delicate balance with nature—a global decarbonization effect.

As we stand at the crossroads of transport-system innovation, let this forum be an opportunity for transformative dialogue and decisive action. May the shared expertise and collaboration among nations inspire solutions that foster inclusivity, reduce environmental footprints, and drive economic resilience. Let this event stand as a beacon of progress, where aspirations take form of policies, partnerships, and innovations that benefit not just the present but the generations yet to come.

In our shared journey towards the Bagong Pilipinas, let us champion sustainable urban mobility not only as a necessity but as moral imperative. Let us forge partnerships that transcend borders, uplift lives, and craft policies that harmonize progress with environmental preservation. By empowering our cities and communities, we pave the way to a future where every Filipino--and every citizen in Asia—can look forward to a greener, more resilient tomorrow.

I wish you a meaningful and productive gathering.

  
FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.



**H.E. JAIME J. BAUTISTA**  
Secretary,  
Department of Transportation,  
the Government of the Philippines

## Welcome Message

We acknowledge the need to address the urgent issues of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss. The Department of Transportation has in place a number of initiatives to achieve Net-Zero and ecological goals.

Addressing these crises requires the transport industry to integrate nature-positive solutions and circular economy principles, which will preserve ecosystems, reverse biodiversity loss, and enhance sustainable development outcomes.




Our approach entails the careful planning and implementation of environmentally sound infrastructure, technologies, and policies. Under our Public Transport Modernization Program, we promote electric public vehicles, recycling end-of-life vehicles and construct electric railway systems.

A transition to Net-Zero transportation demands transformational changes across policies, infrastructure, and technologies, as well as promoting sustainable practices.

Digitalization of transport systems can also improve operational efficiency, while shared, active and public transit modes offer eco-friendly alternatives that reduce dependency on personal vehicles.

With advanced, eco-centric infrastructure and technologies, cities and communities can transition towards low-carbon economies that support global climate goals and accelerate progress.

We fully support the thrust for sustainable urban mobility solutions but need to innovate to be able to accelerate our efforts.

  
**JAIME J. BAUTISTA**  
Secretary    
DOT-OSCC SJR 24-004037





**H.E. MANUEL M. BONOAN**  
Secretary, Department of  
Public Works & Highways,  
Government of the Philippines

## Welcome Message

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) fully supports the goals of the Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia, as reflected in its 16th theme, "*Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions – Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits and Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era.*" Recognizing the transport sector's dual role as both a contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and a driver of decarbonization, the DPWH emphasizes the importance of policy reforms, sustainable investments, technological advancements, and behavioral transformations to achieve these goals.

As the primary agency responsible for the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of the nation's roads and bridges, we recognize the critical role of sustainable and resilient infrastructure in addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental degradation. It is our mandate to ensure that our projects not only support economic growth but also contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, enhance disaster resilience, and protect the environment for future generations.

Aligned with the principles of environmentally sustainable transport, the DPWH continues to implement green engineering practices and climate-resilient designs in our infrastructure projects. We are integrating features such as permeable pavements, energy-efficient lighting, and provisions for active transport modes, such as walking and cycling, to create more inclusive and environmentally conscious road networks. Our commitment extends beyond construction; we actively engage with stakeholders, pursue partnerships, and advocate for policies that promote sustainability and resilience in the transport sector.

Through this forum, we reaffirm our support for regional collaboration and knowledge-sharing to achieve sustainable transport solutions. By transforming the nation's infrastructure arm into a model of sustainability and resilience, the DPWH aspires to set benchmarks for development that harmonize economic progress with environmental stewardship, contributing meaningfully to the global agenda for sustainable development.

  
**MANUEL M. BONOAN**  
Secretary





**H.E. JACQUELINE A. CAANCAN, CESO III**  
OIC Assistant Secretary for Environment and  
concurrent Director of Environmental Management  
Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural  
Resources, Government of the Philippines

## Welcome Message

The Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR) recognizes the critical role of the transport sector in shaping our environmental future. While transportation contributes significantly to air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, it also presents an opportunity to drive transformative change through sustainable solutions.

In line with our mission to protect and improve air quality, the EMB is updating the Philippines' Integrated Air Quality Improvement Framework - Air Quality Control Action Plan. A cornerstone of this initiative is the proposed transition from EURO 4/IV to EURO 5/V vehicle emission and fuel standards. This milestone underscores our commitment to promoting cleaner, more efficient vehicles and fostering healthier communities.

As the lead agency for environmental regulation and management, the EMB is steadfast in supporting the country's shift to a sustainable, low-carbon economy. We champion cleaner transport technologies such as electric vehicles, the adoption of higher fuel standards, and the enforcement of stricter emission regulations. These efforts align with our broader vision of achieving environmental resilience and sustainable development.

The High-Level 16th Regional EST Forum serves as a vital platform for collaboration, bringing together regional and international partners to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and craft innovative strategies for environmentally sustainable transport systems. Through this forum, we reaffirm our dedication to advancing policies and actions that align with global sustainability goals while addressing the unique needs of our communities.

The EMB remains committed to spearheading initiatives that protect the environment, enhance resilience, and promote inclusive growth. Together, let us drive forward the transition to cleaner, greener, and more sustainable transport systems—ensuring a healthier and more sustainable future for all.

Thank you and Mabuhay!

**H.E. JACQUELINE A. CAANCAN, CESO III**  
OIC Assistant Secretary for Environment and concurrent Director for Environmental Management Bureau,  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Philippine



**H.E. ASAO KEIICHIRO**  
Minister,  
Ministry of the Environment, Japan

## **Welcome Message**

It is my great honor that all the representatives from Asian countries come together here in Manila, Philippines, to hold the Sixteenth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia.

At present, we are facing three global crises: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

Among these, regarding climate change, at the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28), the global stocktake to assess the progress of climate change measures throughout the world was conducted under the Paris Agreement for the first time, where need for urgent actions required to keep the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal within reach was emphasized and need for deep, rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 was recognized.

In light of global trends, this year, Japan incorporated realization of “Circular and Ecological Society”, enabling growth and development of economy and society through promoting urgent reform of economic and social system, maintaining environmental capacity, and improving quality of the environment, into “The Basic Environment Plan” that specifies the direction of national environmental policy, in order to address three global crises - climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

In the Asian region where motorization is progressing rapidly, we are required to deal with challenges in the transport sector on regional scale and global scale at the same time.

“Aichi 2030 Declaration”, which was adopted at the Fourteenth Regional EST Forum in 2021, highlights the significance to share the comprehensive goal for transport sector in Asian countries including solution for global issues and to track the implementation required to realize the goals, taking into account the new global trends aimed at achieving the goal of the Paris Agreement and SDGs.

I hope that the Forum will be a fruitful one, leading to realization of Aichi 2030 Declaration and sustainable development of Asian region.

**H.E. ASAO Keiichiro**  
Minister  
Ministry of the Environment, Japan



**MR. DAVID HANIF**

Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development,  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

## Welcome Message

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the Sixteenth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia, hosted by the Government of the Philippines, at the ADB Headquarters in Manila. This year's chosen theme '*Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions- Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits & Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era*', is a timely opportunity to highlight the many ways sustainable urban mobility supports progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Cities are spaces to deliver holistically on the 2030 Agenda by leading the global transition to low-carbon development while at the same time ensuring improved air quality, enhanced public health, reduced inequality, and greater economic opportunities through efficient connectivity. This is precisely the kind of transformative and integrated action called for at both the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Summit in 2023 and the Summit of the Future in 2024.

The Regional EST Forum in Asia brings together policymakers from local and national levels, urban planners, researchers, and industry leaders to collaborate, exchange ideas, and explore innovative solutions for integrating sustainability into urban transportation systems. Together, we aim to empower cities with the knowledge, tools, and strategies necessary to reduce ecological and carbon footprints and foster economic resilience in a world grappling with the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

Asia's demographic and economic significance makes it a focal point for global sustainability efforts. While the region accounts for 58 per cent of the global population and generates 48 per cent of the global GDP, it faces unique challenges and opportunities in the transition to sustainable urban mobility. The region's rapid urbanization, growing middle class, and expanding cities underscore the need for efficient, inclusive, and low-carbon transportation systems. The sustainable development of Asia is also hindered by a net transport infrastructure deficit. Sustainable development in the Asia region will require a well-developed transport infrastructure as well as passenger and freight transport services to provide access to essential markets, goods and services. In this regard, cities play a pivotal role in implementing innovative solutions and measures, including nature-based solutions, by fostering partnerships, investing in infrastructure, and aligning local policies with global agendas and agreements such as the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, among others.

While it is of paramount importance to expand metro systems, high-speed rail, and bus rapid transit networks to reduce reliance on personal vehicles, there is equally a pressing need for Asian cities to integrate non-

motorized transportation systems such as dedicated and safe walking and cycling provisions in the overall transport policy, planning, financing and infrastructure development.

I am pleased to learn that the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia also calls for international actions and support for capacity building, both financial and technical assistance. Such support is essential for the implementation of the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030). I am also pleased to recognize that with the leadership of our outreach centre in Nagoya, Japan - the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), the Forum has been providing an important avenue to strengthen regional input to various regional and global fora such as the high-level political forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), and the UN Climate Change Conference, and the UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference, among others.

In this regard, this year's EST Forum will also have a chance to contribute to global conversations around sustainable transport and its role in SDG implementation. The Member States of the United Nations have requested the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs to develop an *Implementation Plan for the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport 2026 – 2035*, in collaboration with the UN Regional Commissions and in consultation with the Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders. The 16th Regional EST Forum will provide valuable ideas and inputs to the Implementation Plan that is expected to be launched in late 2025.

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to the Government of the Philippines for hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia. I also take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Government of Japan for its continued support to the Regional EST Forum in Asia since its inception in 2004, and also to our partners and co-organizers, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), for their valuable support.

I also wish to acknowledge the meaningful support provided to the Forum by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the German International Cooperation (GIZ) - Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) and Sustainable Mobility in Metropolitan Regions in ASEAN (SMMR), International Union of Railways (UIC), International Transport Forum (ITF), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Busworld Foundation, SLOCAT Partnership, Eco-Mo Foundation, Clean Air Asia (CAA), International Federation of Public Transport (UITP), and Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), among others, for their valuable support in organizing the Forum.

I wish you all a highly successful event.

**MR. NAVID HANIF**

Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UN DESA



**JAMIE LEATHER**  
Director, Transport Sector Office, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

## Welcome Message

Transport is an operational priority for ADB under its [Strategy 2030](#) development framework, and as ADB has committed to be the climate bank for Asia and the Pacific, we have worked with governments, partner institutions, private sector, and civil society to deliver projects, mobilize financing, and implement cutting-edge knowledge to prioritize comprehensive approaches and innovations for more sustainable and better transport systems, to meet the region’s growing needs.

ADB is honored and privileged to be supporting and hosting this high-level forum on environmentally sustainable transport, gathering stakeholders, partners, and policymakers to address the crisis of climate change through better, transformative transport. This forum is aligned not just with our key initiatives with Strategy 2030 and on achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): it is but one of the many steps for our commitment to be the region’s climate bank, with ADB being the first multilateral development bank to set clear climate investment targets for 2030.

ADB is supporting its developing members in several transport sustainability areas—such as in electric mobility, rail and mass transit, and climate-resilient roads—while mainstreaming climate adaptation into its transport operations, which ensures that engineering specifications, master planning, maintenance and contract scheduling take into account climate adaptation measures. Also, this year, we launched the [Green Roads Toolkit](#), which serves as a comprehensive compendium of measures for guiding the planning, development, construction, and management of roads, and provides good practices under nine dimensions including decarbonization, climate resilience, conserving biodiversity, disaster preparedness, and responsible sourcing of materials. We also initiated the [Asian Transport Outlook \(ATO\)](#) to strengthen the knowledge base on transport in the region, working with interested parties in developing the ATO as an instrument to track the implementation of the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, The Aichi Declaration, and other relevant international agreements on sustainable development in the transport sector.

We believe that the knowledge, discussions, and lessons learned from this Forum can serve to improve and further the implementation of current and future transport projects in Asia and the Pacific. We look forward to working more closely with international organizations and relevant institutions, and the public and private sectors, as partners to implement necessary and innovative approaches to accelerate the uptake and commitment to environmentally sustainable transport.

**JAMIE LEATHER**  
Director, Transport Sector Office, ADB



**ANDRÉS PIZARRO**

Manager – Transport; Public Sector Clients, Region 1,  
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

### Welcome Message

As a recently established multilateral development bank, specialized in infrastructure, we would like to commend the leadership and efforts of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) to maintain relevant the Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum for almost 20 years. This Forum provides a unique opportunity to conduct high-level policy dialogue on climate- and nature-positive transport infrastructure development in Asia. Recognizing this, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is pleased to join UNCRD, the Ministry of Environment of Japan, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the first time in 2024 as a co-organizer of the 16th EST Forum. We are very keen to build strong relationships with governments, private sector leaders, and development partners to maximize our impact.

AIIB is committed to developing livable cities to improve the quality of life of their citizens. In fact, enhancing urban mobility is identified as one of the priority investment areas in our Sustainable Cities Strategy. This has resulted in a robust portfolio of urban transport investments. I firmly believe that the enhancement and construction of mass transit systems plays a pivotal role to decarbonize metropolitan areas.

As stated in our Corporate Strategy, from the outset, AIIB's mandate is to prioritize green infrastructure development. AIIB-funded projects are designed to not only support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but also to be fully aligned with the Paris Agreement. We aim to contribute to climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience through our investment operations. The impact of our urban mobility projects is especially relevant as they promote a modal shift from the private vehicle to greener transport modes. All this together reinforces the Bank's mission to foster sustainable economic development in Asia and beyond.

The goals established under the Aichi 2030 Declaration on Environmentally Sustainable Transport inspire AIIB to contribute to achieve universally accessible, safe, affordable, efficient, clean, low-carbon, resilient, multi-modal passenger and freight transport in Asia. I consider that the goals to be discussed during the 16th EST Forum (i.e., air pollution, economic sustainability, and urban access) are crucial to address the urgent need for sustainable transport in Asia. The engagement of AIIB with the Asian Transport Outlook (ATO), started from 2023, strengthen our data and knowledge base to better align our transport investments with the goals listed above.

We would like to also commend the Government of the Philippines for hosting the 16th EST Forum and especially the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) for their key role in delivering sustainable transport across the archipelago. We are very excited to co-organize this event and are looking forward to exchanging insights from the participants. Together, we can explore low-carbon pathways toward building a more sustainable transport future for Asia.

### **ANDRÉS PIZARRO**

Manager – Transport; Public Sector Clients, Region 1, AIIB



## **PRE-EVENTS:**

### **(1) Urban mobility (GIZ SMMR/UNCRD)**

**(09:00-17:00, Auditorium Hall 1)**

The ASEAN-German Cooperation Project Sustainable Mobility in Metropolitan Regions (SMMR) was launched in 2019 and will close at the end of 2024. The full-day pre-event of the SMMR project will feature a number of key sessions, including the following:

1. *Sharing the SMMR Journey and Approach* to touch on city partnerships, knowledge products, and lessons learned;
2. *SMMR City Partner Presentations* to showcase work plans co-developed with support from the project;
3. *Dissemination of the ASEAN Guidelines* to share guidance on *Light Electric Vehicles and Urban Freight Transport (sUFT)*, and 2021 Guidelines on Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning and the Phnom Penh Declaration on *Sustainable Urban Mobility*; and
4. *Dissemination of the Capacity Building Programme* to introduce the digitized version of the *Avoid-Shift-Improve for Sustainable Urban Mobility (ASI.SUM)* capacity-building programme.

### **(2) Inclusive Transport - High-Volume Transport (HVT)**

**(09:00-12:00, Auditorium Hall 2)**

The High-Volume Transport Applied Research Programme (HVT), funded by UK Aid, undertakes research into sustainable transport development in LICs across Africa and South Asia. This session will have two parts: (1) Exploring HVT research highlighting the inequalities across the transport sector and digging into how those currently excluded need to not only be the beneficiaries of development, but importantly that they are agents of change driving that development. (2) A training workshop that will provide tailored support to enhance the capacity of decision makers to plan for accessible, inclusive, greener transport, and to include the voices of all parts of society in that process.

### **(3) Low-Carbon Transport (GCAP/SLOCAT)**

**(09:00-12:00, Innovation Hub)**

The Global Climate Action Partnership (GCAP) and SLOCAT Partnership 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 as well.

### **(4) Health and Transport (World Health Organization/ADB Health & Transport Team)**

**(09:00-12:00, Learning Resource Center 3)**

This pre-event will focus on road safety and respiratory health from transport emissions. The event will begin with a session focused on scene-setting and recent work on these topics, which will be followed by discussion in two primary segments. The first segment will focus on transport and clean air [investing in lung health], with discussion of the health impacts of traffic-related air pollution and active transport and health in the Philippines. The second segment will be a roundtable discussion focused on investing in post-crash systems, saving lives and reducing



disabilities. The pre-event will conclude with an open discussion with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the ADB Health and Transport Team.

**(5) Data to Deal (ADB/Climate Compatible Growth)**  
**(13:00-16:00, Auditorium Hall 2)**

During this session, an approach for developing bankable transport-energy low carbon pathways is to be presented and discussed. The workshop builds on the Data-to-Deal (D-2-D) approach developed by the UK-based Climate Compatible Growth Program (CCG), which was originally tested in Costa Rica and applied in several countries in Latin America, with the objective to understand its potential for guiding investments for low carbon transport in Asia & the Pacific.

D-2-D provides a flexible framework of options for low carbon development tailored to individual country circumstances. The D-2-D includes a 7-step approach to be conducted in close collaboration and interaction with key stakeholders, leading to investment plans and financing strategies for low carbon development. During this session, participants will have the chance to test the method. This includes discussing different cross-sector trade-offs relevant for low carbon development planning, as well as the institutional arrangements needed to facilitate a holistic approach in DMCs for low carbon development and accessing climate finance.

**(6) Sustainable Bus Transport (ASRTU/Busworld/UNCRD)**  
**(13:00-16:00, Learning Resource Center 3)**

The Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU) is a coordinating body working under the aegis of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways Govt of India. ASRTU has 57 years of expertise in promoting public transport in the country, with 70 SRTUs, collectively operating about 150000 lakh buses and providing employment to 1.0 million people. ASRTU works in liaison with many counterpart associations including Busworld India Foundation, which aims at shaping the future of mobility by developing bus and coach as a sustainable part of the solution.

ASRTU, Busworld, and UNCRD will deliver a roundtable on sustainable bus transport to establish a common vision and recommendations for the development of an efficient, safe, affordable and sustainable bus mobility system in India and Southeast Asia. The roundtable will include contributions from partners including KSRTC, PwC, WRI, Trans-consult Ltd, and UN ESCAP.



**United Nations**

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



## High-Level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia

### ***Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions- Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits & Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era***

10-12 December 2024

ADB Headquarters, Manila, the Philippines

### **Provisional Concept Note**

#### **Introduction**

Fifty four percent of the global urban population, comprising more than 2.2 billion people, resides in Asia<sup>1</sup>. Projections indicate that by 2050, Asia's urban population will surge by 50%, adding an additional 1.2 billion people<sup>2</sup>. This growth presents both opportunities and challenges. One of the most urgent challenges that we face is the rapid rise in demand for urban transportation, with the number of vehicles doubling every six years<sup>3</sup>. According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), passenger demand is anticipated to soar by 79%, while freight demand will nearly double by 2050<sup>4</sup>. Most of this demand is expected to be in developing Asia and the Pacific. This exponential growth in the transport sector leads to more construction of transport infrastructure and services in the region. The carbon dioxide emissions from the transport sector are projected to continue to increase by more than 50% by 2050 in the Asia-Pacific region<sup>5</sup>. Meanwhile, economic activity in Asia and the Pacific has increased, with the region expected to contribute about two-thirds of global growth in 2023<sup>6</sup>. In this context, the transport sector is one of the key sources of greenhouse gas emissions, exacerbating climate change and poses a major threat to global biodiversity, natural ecosystems and the environment.

The "New Nature Economy Report," published by the World Economic Forum, revealed that over half of the world's total GDP, about \$44 trillion in economic value, is dependent

<sup>1</sup> <https://unhabitat.org/asia-and-the-pacific-region#:~:text=Urbanization%20continues%20to%20be%20a,an%20additional%201.2%20billion%20people.>

<sup>2</sup> <https://unhabitat.org/asia-and-the-pacific-region>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.adb.org/what-we-do/topics/transport/overview>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.itf-oecd.org/sites/default/files/repositories/itf-transport-outlook-2023-summary-en.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/ESCAP\\_79\\_13\\_E.pdf](https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/ESCAP_79_13_E.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/REO/APAC/Issues/2023/09/27/regional-economic-outlook-for-asia-and-pacific-october-2023#:~:text=Economic%20activity%20in%20Asia%20and,services%20and%20synchronized%20monetary%20tightening.>

on nature and its services<sup>7</sup>. The current state of biodiversity loss and nature degradation are at an alarming rate. Data shows that the extent and condition of natural ecosystems have declined by 47%, including the loss of more than 85% of wetland areas, and an average of around 25% of species are at risk of extinction (IPBES, 2019)<sup>8</sup>. The economic and social costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse are enormous. Moreover, the World Bank report “the Economic Case for Nature: A Global Earth-Economy Model to Assess Development Policy Pathways” estimated that the collapse of select ecosystem services provided by nature – such as wild pollination, provision of food from marine fisheries and timber from native forests – could result in a decline in global GDP of \$2.7 trillion (2.3% annually) in 2030<sup>9</sup>. Meanwhile transport and biodiversity nexus is under evaluated in the policy domain. To this regard, transport policy and planning, including infrastructure development in harmony with ecosystems restoration and nature preservation places strategic importance while member countries implement UN SDGs and Paris Agreement along with UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030).

In the context of the triple planetary crisis—climate change, growing pollution, and loss of nature and biodiversity—it is urgent for the transport sector to strategically incorporate ecological considerations along with Net-Zero strategy through innovative policies, environment friendly infrastructure development, state-of-the-art technologies in harmony with nature, and nature-based solutions. This strategy presents a comprehensive package of solutions for restoring natural ecosystems and conserving biodiversity. By mainstreaming circularity in the transport sector with an objective to achieve nature-positive outcomes, countries and cities can safeguard the natural environment, while nature positive calls for halting and reversing biodiversity loss with an objective to fully restore all the ecosystems. Examples of innovative, nature-positive solutions include but not limited for developing green corridors to connect fragmented habitats, implementing wildlife overpasses and underpasses for safe wildlife movement, and ensuring no net loss of biodiversity through habitat restoration. Building elevated roads to reduce habitat fragmentation and mitigate sea-level rise impacts, using natural materials and vegetation for soil erosion control, establishing robust recycling systems for end-of-life vehicles, using recycled materials and tires for road construction, and utilizing carbon capture technologies and exploring CO<sub>2</sub>-absorbing materials. Reducing the carbon footprint of the transport sector and restoring biodiversity and natural ecosystem are crucial not only to sustain the trajectory of economic growth, but also help to effectively address poverty, combat climate change, and achieve the SDGs by 2030.

The transport sector provides a significant opportunity towards global decarbonization effort due to its substantial greenhouse gas emissions. Achieving net-zero emissions in the transport sector requires transformation changes in policies, planning, infrastructure, technologies, institutional reform, governance, capacity building and promoting behavioral changes for sustainable practices. Investing in resilient transport

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<sup>7</sup> [https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_New\\_Nature\\_Economy\\_Report\\_2020.pdf](https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_New_Nature_Economy_Report_2020.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

<sup>9</sup> <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/81385f4e89ae1c1e2278e404728bc1d4-0320072021/original/GEEM-2pg-Jun28.pdf>

infrastructure and low-carbon technologies are vital for empowering cities towards low-carbon pathways for achieving co-benefits and improving the socio-economic resilience of communities. Robust nature positive infrastructure development and the adoption of low-carbon technologies and solutions in the transport sector not only strengthen the resilience of cities and communities but also enhance safety, security, productivity, and innovation, while creating opportunities for socio-economic development and environmental protection. To accomplish this goal, Asia will require an estimated investment of \$1.7 trillion per year until 2030<sup>10</sup>. Given the increasing frequency of climate-induced natural disasters and the impacts of climate change, these investments must prioritize resilient urban infrastructure development to mitigate risks and adapt to changing environmental conditions.

Creating dedicated funds to support integrated land use, urban and transport planning is also necessary. Sustainable urban mobility solutions such as low-carbon transport modes such as rail and other mass transit options, digitalization of transport systems towards efficiency in operation and management, and non-motorized transport (NMT) are indispensable towards achieving safe, efficient, affordable, accessible, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban mobility for all. Digital advancements are reshaping the mobility landscape by enhancing energy efficiency, promoting the adoption of active and shared transportation modes, and enhancing the convenience and reliability of public transit with other advantages. These measures along with next generation infrastructure and technological advancements in the transport sector not only empower cities and communities but also pave the way for a successful transition to low-carbon and resource efficient economies accelerating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate goals towards net-zero emissions.

Since 2005, the Regional EST Forums have brought together a national government with multiple line-ministries in their quest for more sustainable transport development. National government participants include the Ministries of Transport, Environment, Health, Urban and Rural Development, Highways and Railways. A key aspect of the EST Initiative is the annual EST Forum meetings hosted by participating countries. Each Regional EST Forum will review and discuss three goals from the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030)

([https://uncrd.un.org/sites/uncrd.un.org/files/files/documents/2022/Jun/10\\_aichi\\_2030\\_declaration-20\\_oct\\_2021-adopted.pdf](https://uncrd.un.org/sites/uncrd.un.org/files/files/documents/2022/Jun/10_aichi_2030_declaration-20_oct_2021-adopted.pdf)), following a phased approach adopted by participating countries. The 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum to be hosted by the Government of the Philippines in Manila is expected to focus on: *Goal 1c - Air pollution, Goal 3 - Economic sustainability, and Goal 5 - Urban access.*

The 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum will also have an opportunity to contribute to global conversations around sustainable transport and its role in SDG implementation. In 2023, the General Assembly, through its resolution A/78/148 titled “Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”, proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport 2026 – 2035. The General Assembly also called for closer UN cooperation on transport, invited the

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.adb.org/what-we-do/topics/transport/overview#urban-transport>

Secretary-General to hold a Third UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference, and called for celebrations of the World Sustainable Transport Day on 26 November. The Member States also requested the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs to develop an Implementation Plan for the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport, in collaboration with the UN Regional Commissions and in consultation with the Member States, the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders. In this regard, the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum can provide ideas and inputs to the Implementation Plan that will be launched in late 2025.

## **Objectives of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia**

Overall, it is envisaged that the 16<sup>th</sup> EST Forum will have a strong urban focus. This also means that the review and discussion of goal 1c (air pollution), goal 3 (economic sustainability) and goal 5 (urban access) will have a strong urban focus. Other objectives for the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia include:

- a. to discuss innovative funding and financing approaches for safe, low-carbon and sustainable urban transport development;
- b. to discuss policies and programmes towards catalyzing more effective, accountable, inclusive, and transparent institutions and institutional arrangements in transport sectors;
- c. to discuss how to improve gender balance and inclusiveness – a large part of the urban population does not have proper access to services and opportunities, and this especially applies to women, elderly and physically disadvantaged groups;
- d. to share international best practices and cases of sustainable urban mobility solutions;
- e. how to ensure socio-economic equality in the transport sector in Asia for achieving safe, inclusive, affordable, and sustainable transport facilities, and services for the benefit of all;
- f. to discuss nature positive transport solutions towards bio-diversity conservation and ecosystem restoration; and
- g. to provide inputs and ideas to the Implementation Plan of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport 2026 – 2035.

## **Title and Theme of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum**

The theme of the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum is proposed as ***“Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions- Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits and Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era”***.

## **Organizers and Partners of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum**

The High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum is hosted by the Government of the Philippines with lead representation by Department of Transportation (DOTR), supported by Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR); and co-organized by Ministry of the Environment of Japan, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development of Division for

Sustainable Development Goals/ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA). The Forum is supported by a number of international organizations and UN agencies such as World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Bank (WB), German International Cooperation (GIZ) - Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) and Sustainable Mobility in Metropolitan Regions in ASEAN (SMMR), International Union of Railways (UIC), International Transport Forum (ITF), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Busworld Foundation, International Road Federation (IRF), SLOCAT Partnership, Asian Transport Outlook (ATO), Eco-Mo Foundation, Clean Air Asia (CAA), International Federation of Public Transport (UITP), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU), Business Environment Council, Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), Climate Compatible Growth Programme (CCG), High Volume Transport, University of Gothenburg, World Resources Institute (WRI), and a wide range of other organizations.

## **Participants of the High-level 16th Regional EST Forum in Asia**

Participation in the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia is by invitation only. It is expected that approximately 300 participants (200 international participants and 100 domestic participants), including high-level government representatives including policymakers, planners, and government officials from Asian countries, city mayors, representatives of international organizations, experts and resource persons, NGOs, academia, and the private sectors will be attending the Forum. Participation in the UN Forum is free of charge.

## **Structure of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia**

A three-day event is planned from 10 to 12 December 2024.

### **A. Pre-Events**

As an integral part of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum, there will be a possibility for other partner organizations to organize and conduct pre-events/ post-events during the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum. Details on the pre-event, side-events, and post-event will be shared in due course. Interested organizations should contact EST Secretariat ([est@uncrd.or.jp](mailto:est@uncrd.or.jp)).

### **B. Ministerial Session (DAY 1)**

In 2021 for the first time, a Ministerial Session was conducted with great success as an integral part of the 14<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum held in Aichi, Japan. A hybrid Ministerial Session will be organized at the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum following the success of 2023.



## **C. The Philippines Day (DAY 1)**

It is proposed that Day 1: *Spotlight on The Philippines* apart from the formal opening of the 16<sup>th</sup> EST Forum, the introduction of the theme of the 16<sup>th</sup> EST Forum through a Keynote address and the Philippines session will focus on the Philippines Transport Sector. This will be an opportunity for the Government of the Philippines to showcase its plans for the development of its transport sector and seek inputs from a range of national and international stakeholders including but not limited to the representatives from the Philippines Government and representatives from multilateral and bilateral donor organizations, the private sector and selected representatives from different organizations that can provide capacity-building assistance to the Philippines.

## **D. Technical field visits**

The technical field visit is expected to be conducted by the Government of the Philippines on the last day of the Forum.

## **E. Exhibitions**

As a key component of the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum, an exhibition is expected to showcase major accomplishments, technological expertise, and success stories of governments, international organizations, and private sector through paper posters or digital posters.

## **Input and Outcome Documents of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum**

In support of the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum, several policy recommendation papers will be prepared and made available for the benefit of the countries. These papers will be linked to the three Aichi 2030 goals that will be reviewed and discussed in the 16<sup>th</sup> EST Forum. The chairman summary will be developed and adopted by the EST participating countries in the Forum. The elements of the Chairman Summary will be circulated in advance for comments/input to the governments participating at the Forum.

## **Nature of the Forum (in person)**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia will be mainly an in-person event. However, the Ministerial segment of the Forum could be conducted as a hybrid event.

## **Contact**

### **Secretariat of the Regional EST Forum in Asia**

United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)-DSDG/UN DESA

Nagono 1-47-1 Nakamura-ku, Nagoya 450-0001, JAPAN and

Tel: +81-52-561-9382/9417/9536

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# *Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions- Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits & Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era*

10-12 December 2024

ADB Headquarters, Manila, the Philippines

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### Pre-events Day: 9 December 2024 (Monday)

Time	Organizations/ Activities	Venue
09:00-17:00	Urban mobility (GIZ SMMR/UNCRD)	Auditorium Hall 1
09:00-12:00	Inclusive Transport - High-Volume Transport (HVT)	Auditorium Hall 2
09:00-12:00	Low-Carbon Transport (GCAP/SLOCAT)	Innovation Hub
09:00-12:00	Health and Transport (WHO/ADB Health and Transport Team)	Learning Resource Center 3
13:00-16:00	Data to Deal (ADB/Climate Compatible Growth)	Auditorium Hall 2
13:00-16:00	Sustainable Bus Transport (ASRTU/Busworld/UNCRD)	Learning Resource Center 3

### Main-Event Day 1: 10 December 2024 (Tuesday)

08:00-09:00	Registration	ADB Avenue
09:00-09:45	Opening Ceremony	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
09:45-09:50	Group Photograph	Central Courtyard
09:50-10:00	Tea/Coffee Break	Auditorium Hallway
10:00-10:30	Keynote Speech: 1	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
10:30-12:00	High-Level Plenary Session: 1	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
12:00-13:00	Networking Lunch	Haven, Level 2 Staff Hub
13:00-14:30	High-Level Plenary Session: 2	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
14:30-16:00	High-Level Plenary Session: 3	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
16:00-16:30	Tea/Coffee Break	Auditorium Hallway
16:30-18:00	High-Level Plenary Session: 4	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
18:00-20:00	Welcome Reception by the Philippines Government	ADB Staff Hub

End of Day 1

### Main-Event Day 2: 11 December (Wednesday)

09:00-9:15	Keynote Speech: 2	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
09:15-10:45	High-Level Plenary Session: 5	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
10:45-11:00	Tea/Coffee Break	Haven, Level 2 Staff Hub
11:00-12:30	High-Level Plenary Session: 6	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
12:30-13:30	Networking Lunch	Executive Dining Room
13:30-15:00	Country Breakout Sessions: 1	Auditorium Halls 1
	Country Breakout Sessions: 2	Auditorium Halls 2
	Country Breakout Sessions: 3	Briefing Theater 2
	Country Breakout Sessions: 4	Lecture Theater 2
15:00-15:45	Tea/Coffee Break	Auditorium Hallway
15:45-16:45	High-Level Plenary Session: 7	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
16:45-18:15	High-Level Plenary Session: 8	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
18:15-20:30	Evening Reception by ADB	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2 Gallery

End of Day 2

### Main-Event Day 3: 12 December 2024 (Thursday)

09:00-10:30	High-Level Plenary Session: 9	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
10:30-10:45	Tea/Coffee Break	Auditorium Hallway
10:45-11:45	Chair's Summary – Review by EST Participating countries	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
11:45-13:00	High-Level Plenary Session: 10	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
13:00-14:00	Networking Lunch Break	Haven, Level 2 Staff Hub
14:00-14:45	Closing Session	Auditorium Halls 1 and 2
15:00-18:00	Technical Field Visit	Camp Aguinaldo Station of the Metro Manila Subway Project

- End of the Forum -



**United Nations**

Department  
Economic and  
Social Affairs



## **Sustainable Urban Mobility Solutions- Empowering Cities towards Low Carbon Pathways for Achieving Co-benefits & Economic Resilience in the SDGs Era**

### **High-Level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum in Asia**

**10-12 December 2024**

**ADB Headquarters, Manila, the Philippines**

#### **Forum Chair:**

**H.E. Timothy John R. Batan, Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development,  
Department of Transportation, Government of the Philippines**

#### **Co-organized by:**

**Department of Transportation (DOTr), Government of the Philippines,  
along with Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Government of the  
Philippines**

**Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Government of the Philippines  
Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan**

**Asian Development Bank**

**Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank**

**United Nations Centre for Regional Development of Division for Sustainable Development  
Goals/ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs**

#### **Supporting Organizations**

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), German International Cooperation (GIZ) - Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) and Sustainable Mobility in Metropolitan Regions in ASEAN (SMMR), International Union of Railways (UIC), International Transport Forum (ITF), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Busworld Foundation, International Road Federation (IRF), SLOCAT Partnership, Asian Transport Outlook (ATO), Eco-Mo Foundation, Clean Air Asia (CAA), International Federation of Public Transport (UITP), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU), Business Environment Council, Climate Compatible Growth (CCG), Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), Global Climate Action Partnership (GCAP), University of Gothenburg, High Volume Transport, World Resources Institute (WRI), among others.

*Pre-events of the High-level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia (9 December 2024)*

**DAY 1: 10 December (Tuesday)**  
**MINISTERIAL SESSIONS & SPECIAL SESSIONS**

Time/ Venue	Provisional Programme
<b>08:00-9:00</b> ADB Avenue	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09:00 - 9:50</b>	<b>Opening Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia (50 mins)</b>
<b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b>	<p><b>Welcome and Opening Remarks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Jesus Ferdinand D. Ortega</b>, Undersecretary for Road Transport and Infrastructure, Department of Transportation, Government of the Philippines (5 mins)</li> <li>- <b>Engr. Nenita R. Jimenez</b>, Chief, Development Planning Division, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Government of the Philippines (5 mins)</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Jacqueline A. Caancan, CESO III</b>, OIC-Assistant Secretary for Environment and concurrent Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Director, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Government of the Philippines (5 mins)</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Haruhiko Hakuno</b>, Councillor, Minister's Secretariat Deputy Director-General, Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Fatima Yasmin</b>, Vice-President for Sectors and Themes of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) (5 mins)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Andrés Pizarro</b>, Manager – Transport; Public Sector Clients, Region 1, Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) (5 mins)</li> </ul> <p><b>Special Address by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Li Junhua</b>, Under-Secretary-General for the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)</li> </ul> <p><b>Photo Session (Venue: Central Courtyard)</b></p>
<b>09:50 – 10:00</b> Auditorium Hallway	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b> Auditorium Halls 1 and 2	<b>Keynote Speech 1: H.E. Timothy John R. Batan, Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation, the Government of the Philippines</b>

10:30-12:00	<p align="center"><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Plenary Session 1 (Hybrid Session): Ministerial Statements (90 mins)</b></p>	
Auditorium Halls 1 and 2	<p><b>Ministerial Statements (3~5 mins per statement)</b></p> <p><b>Session Chair:</b> H.E. Timothy John R. Batan, Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation, the Government of the Philippines</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> C. R. C. Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/DSDG/UN DESA</p> <p><b>Ministerial Statements by the EST Participating countries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Participating countries in the EST Initiative:</b> The Philippines, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam (tbc)</li> <li>● <b>Statements by selected high-level guest speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr Young Tae Kim</b>, Secretary-General, International Transport Forum (ITF) -video address</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Angela Enriquez</b>, Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Global Change, U.S. Department of State</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Maruxa Cardama</b>, Secretary General, SLOCAT</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Susanna Zammataro</b>, Director General of the International Road Federation (IRF) video address</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
12:00-13:00 Haven, Level 2 Staff Hub	Networking Lunch	
13:00-14:30	<p align="center"><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Plenary Session 2: Spotlight on the Philippines (90 mins)</b></p>	
Auditorium Halls 1 and 2	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS (45 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Mr. Leonel Cray P. De Velez</b>, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation, Government of the Philippines (10 mins)</li> <li>● <b>Engr. Nenita R. Jimenez</b>, Chief, Development Planning Division, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Government of the Philippines (10 mins)</li> <li>● <b>Mr. Rene Freytag</b>, Chief Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (10 mins)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Session Chair:</b> <b>Mr. Timothy John R. Batan</b> Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation, Government of the Philippines</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Jose Bienvenido Manuel M. Biona</b>, Executive Director Electric Vehicle Association of the Philippines and Professor, Mechanical Engineering of De La Salle University (10 mins)</li> </ul> <p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION (40 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. John Dominic Z. Zafe</b>, Director IV, Public-Private Partnership Center, Project Development Service</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Sandy Gaspay-Cabarle</b>, Associate Professor, University of the Philippines, Institute of Civil Engineering</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Sofia Paula R. Fulmaran</b>, OIC, Strategic Planning Division, Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP)</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Satomi Sakaguchi</b>, Senior Transport Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Markus Roesner</b>, Director, Railways and Logistics, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Andrés Pizarro</b>, Manager – Transport; Public Sector Clients, Region 1, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What policies and strategies have been established to promote sustainable urban mobility solutions in the Philippines? What key challenges does the government face in implementing these policies and strategies?</li> <li>2. What are some notable success stories of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in the Philippine transport sector? Under what circumstances have PPPs performed well or underperformed? What measures can be implemented to address shortcomings associated with PPPs in current conditions?</li> <li>3. How can cooperation among different government departments (e.g., DOTr, DPWH, DENR) and agencies be strengthened to accelerate implementation of the goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030)?</li> <li>4. Public awareness and institutional capacity of government agencies are essential for promoting and implementing sustainable urban mobility solutions. How can international cooperation be strengthened to facilitate knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and human capacity development in the Philippines?</li> </ol> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (5 mins)</b></p>	<p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Ms. Glynda Bathan-Baterina</b>, Deputy Executive Director, Clean Air Asia (CAA)</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> <b>Ms. Dang Espita-Casanova</b> Program Manager, CAA</p>
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<p><b>14:30-16:00</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Plenary Session 3: Special Session on Quality Road Infrastructure’s Contribution to Economic Sustainability (Aichi Goal 3) &amp; Sustainable Development (90 mins)</b></p> <p>By 2030, realize sustainable economic and employment growth by leveraging science, technology and innovation and green investments in quality passenger and freight transport infrastructure and services in a manner that fully incorporates environmental and social impacts throughout the lifecycle of the transport infrastructure and services, (Based on SDG 8.4, SDG 9.1, 12.1 and 12.c).</p>	
<p><b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b></p>	<p><i>In the context of the increasing severity and frequency of climate-related natural disasters, implementing climate change countermeasures has become a crucial global priority. This special session focuses on greener and more climate-resilient road infrastructure development in Asia and the Pacific which is essential for achieving economical sustainability, sustainable regional development and SDGs.</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>PRESENTATIONS (40 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Presentation 1</b> (ATO state of play): Is Asia on track to achieve Goal 3 Economic Sustainability of the Aichi Declaration by 2030? – by <b>Mr. Alvin Meija</b>, Asian Transport Outlook Co-lead (10 mins)</li> <li>• <b>Presentation 2:</b> Technologies and Initiatives for Quality Road Infrastructure development in Japan – by <b>Mr. Shinichiro Nagao</b>, Director for International Affairs, Planning Division, Road Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Government of Japan (10 mins)</li> <li>• <b>Presentation 3:</b> Achieving sustainable economic growth by harnessing science, technology and innovation in the transport sector in Asia and the Pacific – by <b>Dr. Madan B. Regmi</b>, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (10 mins)</li> <li>• <b>Presentation 4:</b> Green Roads Toolkit: Paving the way to sustainable and resilient and eco-friendly road infrastructure development – by <b>Ms. Ritu Mishra</b>, Transport Specialist, ADB Sectors Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB) (10 mins)</li> </ul> <p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION (45 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Punya Chupanit</b>, Director General, Ministry of Transport, Thailand</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Krishna Murari Singh</b>, Director, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Shinichiro Nagao</b>, Director for International Affairs, Planning Division, Road Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Government of Japan</li> </ul>	
		<p><u>Session Chair</u> <b>Mr. Masamichi Hashimoto</b>, Assistant Vice-Minister, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Government of Japan</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Mr. Jamie Leather</b>, Director, Transport Sector Office, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> <b>Mr. Karl Peet</b>, EST Expert</p>

	<p>- Representative of the Government of Singapore  - <b>Prof. Yoshitsugu Hayashi</b>, Distinguished Professor, Tokai Gakuen University, Japan  - <b>Ms. Ritu Mishra</b>, Transport Specialist, ADB Sectors Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</p> <p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quality road infrastructure and well-developed road networks are crucial for promoting long-term economic growth and sustainability. What policies and technological advancements can EST countries adopt to support high-quality road infrastructure development that balances economic growth and sustainability while minimizing environmental impact, especially in light of the shift toward electrification and potential reductions in fossil fuel tax revenues?</li> <li>2. The use of high-quality materials and improved design features enhance the overall durability, resilience, and sustainability of road networks to withstand climate-related natural disasters. How can these improvements be made cost-effective for large-scale implementation in developing countries?</li> <li>3. How can Aichi 2030 Declaration-Goal 3 help drive multimodal transport approaches to create more integrated and resilient road transport systems and services in EST countries?</li> <li>4. What are the key challenges faced by road infrastructure projects in maintaining quality while aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? How can international cooperation and development partners contribute to addressing these challenges?</li> <li>5. What are the primary financial and technological challenges in promoting and investing in green, climate-resilient, high-quality road infrastructure? Additionally, what methods can be used to effectively monitor and measure the impact of such infrastructure on achieving the SDGs in Asia?</li> </ol> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (5 mins)</b></p>	
<p><b>16:00-16:30</b>  <b>Auditorium</b>  <b>Hallway</b></p>	<p><b>Tea/Coffee Break</b></p>	



16:30 - 18:00	<p align="center"><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Plenary Session 4: Aichi Goal 1C: Air pollution (90 mins)</b></p> <p align="center">By 2030, reduce air pollution and contamination caused by traffic, including PM2.5, other air pollutants and noise. (Based on SDG 3.9, 11.6).</p>	
<p align="center"><b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b></p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS (40 mins)</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 1 (ATO state of play):</b> Is Asia on track to achieve <i>Goal 1C: Air Pollution of the Aichi Declaration</i> by 2030? – by <b>Mr. Adwait Limaye</b>, Asian Transport Outlook (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Cases from EST countries:</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 2:</b> Policy and Efforts to Address Transport related Air Pollution Issues in Japan – by <b>Ms. Rieko Nishiyama</b>, Researcher, Environmental Mobility Policy Division, Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Presentation 3:</b> The Role of Mass Transit Systems in Urban Air Quality – by <b>Mr. Alberto Alcubilla Arribas</b>, Senior Climate Finance Specialist; Sectors, Themes and Finance Solutions Department, AIIB (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Policy recommendations:</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 4:</b> Policy recommendations to enable the implementation of <i>Goal 1C: Air Pollution of the Aichi 2030 Declaration</i> – by <b>Ms. June Yeonju Jeong</b> UNEP and <b>Ms. Glynda Bathan-Baterina</b>, CAA (5 mins each)</p> <p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION (40 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. V. Anbu Kumar</b>, IAS, MD, Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation, India</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Machakaji Maharjan</b>, Director General, Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, Ministry of Urban Development, Nepal</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Hashan Mahmud</b>, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Ibrahim Naeem</b>, Director General, Environment Protection Agency, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy, Maldives</li> <li>- <b>Ms. June Yeonju Jeong</b>, Regional lead for Asia and the Pacific, Sustainable Mobility Unit UNEP</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Sonal Shah</b>, Executive Director of Centre for Sustainable and Equitable Cities and Expert at High Volume Transport Applied Research programme</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Tu My Tran</b>, Head Sustainable Mobility, ICLEI</li> </ul>	<p><b>Session Chair:</b> <b>H.E. Mr. Devendra Dahal</b>, Minister, Physical Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Nepal</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Mr. Simon Ng</b> Chief Executive Officer Business Environment Council</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> <b>Dr. Kulwant Singh</b>, EST Expert</p>

	<p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Given the rapid population growth and urbanization in Asia and the Pacific, which combination of transport policies and measures have been most effective in reducing air pollution including PM2.5 and other harmful pollutants in Asian cities? What policy measures can EST countries adopt to incentivize the private sector and individuals to transition to cleaner, greener modes of transport, and how can these policies be tailored to the region’s diverse economic contexts?</li> <li>2. Smart transportation technologies and policies, such as transport demand management, smart growth, autonomous vehicles, intelligent traffic management systems, and real-time data analytics, contribute to reducing air pollution and improving the overall efficiency of urban transport systems. How these smart technologies, including electric vehicles (EVs) and mobility-as-a-service (MaaS) platforms be scaled up across urban and rural areas? How can governments and private sectors support their widespread implementation?</li> <li>3. What role non-transportation factors such as integrated land-use planning, urban planning, transport planning, and energy production, play in mitigating air pollution from the transport sector, and how can these sectors be integrated into a comprehensive approach to combat air pollution?</li> <li>4. How can the Aichi 2030 Declaration Goal 1C (Low-Carbon: climate change mitigation), in conjunction with other international agreements like the Paris Agreement, can contribute to greater synergies between climate change mitigation and air pollution reduction in the region?</li> <li>5. What strategies can enhance climate mitigation and adaptation for sustainable public transport development in Asian cities, including domestic waterways and shipping, to effectively reduce air pollution including PM2.5 and other harmful pollutants from transport sector?</li> </ol> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (5 mins)</b></p>	
<p><b>18:00-20:00</b> ADB Staff Hub</p>	<p><b>Welcome Reception</b> Hosted by: Government of the Philippines Venue: ADB Staff Hub</p>	

<b>DAY 2: 11 December (Wednesday)</b>	
<b>HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS</b>	
<b>9:00-9:15</b> Auditorium Halls 1 and 2	<b>Keynote Speech 2: Reflections on 25 years of advocacy on air quality and sustainable transport-</b> by <b>Mr. Cornie Huizenga, Former Executive Director Clean Air Asia, Secretary General SLOCAT Partnership, Co-team leader Asian Transport Outlook (ATO) and EST Expert</b>
<b>9:15 – 10:45</b>	<b>High-Level Plenary Session</b> <b>Plenary Session 5: Aichi Goal 5 - Urban Access (90 mins)</b> By 2030, ensure access to accessible, inclusive, safe, efficient, affordable, and sustainable transport facilities, systems, and services for urban dwellers, including physically disabled and vulnerable groups through the development of urban transport infrastructure and services (Based on SDG 11.2 and 11.7).
<b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS (30 mins)</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 1 (ATO state of play):</b> Is Asia on track to achieve <i>Goal 5 - Urban Access of the Aichi Declaration</i> by 2030? – by <b>Mr. Mel Eden</b>, Asian Transport Outlook (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Cases from EST countries:</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 2:</b> Green-Slow Mobility as a Sustainable Community Solution – by <b>Mr. Takanori Obayashi</b>, Manager of Decarbonization Project Team, City of Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture, Japan (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Policy recommendations:</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 3:</b> Policy recommendations to ensure accessible, inclusive, safe, efficient, affordable, and sustainable urban transport for all – by <b>Mr. Philip Turner</b>, Head of Sustainable Development, International Association of Public Transport (UITP) (10 mins)</p> <p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION (45 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Ramachandran R.</b> IAS MD, Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation, India</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Indika Kumari Abeysinghe</b>, Municipal Commissioner, Kandy Municipal Council, Sri Lanka</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Michael Replogle</b>, Founder and Director Emeritus Institute for Transportation and Development Policy</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Rebecca Stapleton</b>, Senior Transport Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Yuan Xiao</b>, Senior Specialist – Sustainable Cities; Sectors, Themes and Finance Solutions Department, AIIB</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Kalpana Viswanath</b>, CEO Safetipin and HVT Ambassador</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the key challenges and barriers preventing the full integration of accessible urban transport services in developing countries, and how can these challenges be addressed in terms of policy, planning, financing, and infrastructure development?</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Session Chair:</b> <b>H.E. Mr. Litta Khattiya</b>, Vice Minister, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Lao PDR</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Ms. Maruxa Cardama</b>, Secretary General of the SLOCAT Partnership</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> <b>Ms. Sowmya</b>, WRI India</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. How can urban transport systems be designed to accommodate the diverse mobility needs of all sectors of society, including people with disabilities, the elderly, women, children, low-income communities and other vulnerable and marginalized groups <i>so that no one is left behind</i>?</li> <li>3. What roles do digital technologies (e.g., mobile apps, digital platforms, real-time data) play in enhancing the accessibility and efficiency of urban transport systems, contributing to more inclusive urban mobility? How can cities and national governments collaborate more effectively and vertically to develop and implement shared visions, policies and programmes for sustainable urban transport that prioritize public transportation and active mobility solutions for all?</li> <li>4. How can public-private partnerships (PPPs) be utilized to improve urban accessibility and inclusiveness? What are some of the best practices from the region and beyond towards the realization of inclusive and accessible urban transport systems?</li> <li>5. How can urban design promote accessibility without compromising inclusivity and environmental sustainability?</li> <li>6. What are some successful examples of road/ street space regulation and management in Asian cities (e.g., implementing parking ceilings, creating mixed-use areas) that serve as integral components of sustainable urban mobility planning?</li> </ol> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (10 mins)</b></p>	
<p><b>10:45-11:00</b> Haven, Level 2 Staff Hub</p>	<p><b>Tea/Coffee Break</b></p>	
<p><b>11:00-12:30</b></p>	<p><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b>  <b>Plenary Session 6: International Partners' Initiatives Towards the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030) &amp; the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport (2026–2035)</b>  <b>(90 mins)</b>  International Organizations to give presentations on their activities in support of the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030)</p>	
	<p><i>In response to the call from EST countries for greater international support to the implementation of the Aichi 2030 Declaration on Environmentally Sustainable Transport—Making Transport in Asia Sustainable (2021-2030), this session focuses on the initiatives, programs, and project activities of international partners that support to the goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration. This includes but</i></p>	

	<p><i>is not limited to the financial support, capacity building, and policy development that aligned with the six goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration. Additionally, this session aims to discuss possible regional inputs to the on-going global discussions on sustainable transport and its role in achieving the SDGs, as well as to the Implementation Plan of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport 2026–2035 to be agreed in 2025.</i></p>
	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief</b>, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) (10 min.)</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Madan B. Regmi</b>, UN ESCAP (Messages from Regional Committee) (8 min.)</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Endo Kazushige</b>, Director of CORINS/TECRIS Center, Japan Construction Information Center (8 min.)</li> </ol> <p><b>International Partners' Initiatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Presentation by: <b>Prof. Marie Thynell</b>, Senior Advisor and Assoc. Professor in Peace and Development Research, WEXSUS, University of Gothenburg (5 min.)</li> <li>2. Presentation by: <b>Ms. Soumya Chattervedula</b> ICLEI Asia Deputy Director (5 min.)</li> <li>3. Presentation by: <b>Ms. Sowmya M.</b>, WRI India (5 min.)</li> </ol> <p><b>ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION (40 mins)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Governments</u>: <b>Mr. V. Anub Kumar</b> IAS MD, KSRTC, and <b>Mr. Ramachandran R.</b> IAS MD, BMTC, India</li> <li>2. <u>UN Agencies</u>: <b>Dr. Madan B. Regmi</b>, UN ESCAP; <b>Ms. June Yeonju Jeong</b>; UNEP</li> <li>3. <u>Multilateral Banks</u>: <b>Mr. Jamie Leather</b>, ADB; <b>Mr. Tomás Herrero Diez</b>, AIIB</li> <li>4. <u>Donor Agencies</u>: <b>Ms. Angela Enriquez</b>, U.S. Department of State; <b>Ms. Xin Yun</b>, Technical Advisor, GIZ; <b>Mr. Rohan Modi</b>, GIZ/TUMI</li> <li>5. <u>International Organizations</u>: <b>Ms. Maruxa Cardama</b>, SLOCAT <b>Dr. Guineng Chen</b>, ITF; <b>Mr. Phillip Turner</b>, UITP; <b>Ms. Lucie Anderton</b>, UIC; <b>Ms. Tu My Tran</b>, ICLEI; <b>Mr. Pawan Mulukutla</b> WRI India</li> <li>6. <u>University/Academia</u>: <b>Prof. Mark Howells</b>, Climate Compatible Growth (CCG), Imperial College London; <b>Prof. Marie Thynell</b>, University of Gothenburg</li> <li>7. <u>Non-government/Foundation/ Association</u>: <b>Dr. T. Surya Kiran</b>, Executive Director, Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU); <b>Dr. Endo Kazushige</b>, Genter Incorporated Foundation; <b>Ms. Glynda Bathan</b>, CAA; <b>Ms. Christine Lian He</b>, Global Forum on Human Settlements</li> <li>8. <u>Private/Public sector</u>: <b>Mr. Hare Ram Yadav</b>, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), Delhi,</li> </ol>

Session Chair:  
**H.E. Mr. Thun Yuthea Leng**,  
Secretary of State, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Government of Cambodia

Moderator:  
**Mr. Michael Replogle**,  
Founder and Director Emeritus Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, and **Mr. Holger Dalkmann**, EST Expert

Rapporteur:  
**Ms. Angel Cortez**, SLOCAT

	<p><b>Mr. Arun Kalarikkal Asokan</b>, Deputy General Manager, Kochi Metro Rail Limited, <b>Mr. Mohammad Saiful Kabir</b>, Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited, Bangladesh; <b>Ms. Vaishakhi Shah</b> and <b>Ms. Sonia Arora</b>, PricewaterhouseCoopers. <b>Mr. Prasanna Patwardhan</b>, President, BOCI</p> <p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In what ways can international financial institutions, multilateral development banks, international organizations and development partners enhance their support for sustainable transport in Asia, particularly in terms of financing, technical assistance, and institutional capacity-building?</li> <li>2. How can international partners collaborate with regional organizations to strengthen policy development, governance structures and institutional arrangements for sustainable transport, ensuring alignment with both the Aichi 2030 Declaration and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?</li> <li>3. What roles do capacity-building initiatives play in empowering local governments and stakeholders to implement sustainable transport projects, and how can international partners ensure these initiatives are effectively tailored to meet local needs and contexts?</li> <li>4. How can international partners contribute to the ongoing global discussions on sustainable transport in the context of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport (2026–2035), and what regional perspectives from Asia should be emphasized in these dialogues? How does it help advance the goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration in Asia?</li> <li>5. What specific policy recommendations can be made for integrating sustainable transport strategies into overall national development plans and climate action plans, and how can international partners assist in mainstreaming these policies at the city and local levels?</li> </ol> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (5 mins)</b></p>	
<p><b>12:30-13:30</b> <b>Executive Dining Room</b></p>	<p><b>Networking Lunch</b></p>	

<b>13:30-15:00</b>	<p align="center"><b>Breakout Sessions: EST Country Presentation</b>  <b>(Four Groups in Parallel) (90 mins)</b>  Country Report Presentation (EST country cases): Voluntary country reports focusing on the Aichi Goals under discussion at the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum</p>			
	<p><b>Group 1:</b>  <b>Venue: Auditorium Halls 1</b></p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u>  <b>Mr. Tenzin</b>, Director General, Department of Surface Transport, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Bhutan)</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u>  <b>Ms. Lucie Anderton</b>, UIC</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u>  <b>Mr. Parthaa Bosu</b>, DFAG</p> <p><u>Countries:</u>  - Bhutan  - Cambodia  - P.R. China  - Malaysia  - Singapore  - Republic of Korea</p> <p><i>Comments by expert Panels</i></p>	<p><b>Group 2:</b>  <b>Venue: Auditorium Halls 2</b></p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u>  <b>Mr. Krishna Murari Singh</b>, Director, Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, India</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u>  <b>Mr. Tomás Herrero Diez</b>, AIIB</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u>  <b>Ms. Bianca Vlad</b>, AIIB</p> <p><u>Countries :</u>  - India  - Brunei Darussalam  - Lao PDR  - Mongolia  - Sri Lanka</p> <p><i>Comments by expert Panels</i></p>	<p><b>Group 3:</b>  <b>Venue: Briefing Theater 2</b></p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u>  <b>Mr. Machakaji Maharjan</b>, Director General, Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, Ministry of Urban Development, Nepal</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u>  <b>Ms. Xin Yun</b>, GIZ</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u>  <b>Mr. Rohan Modi</b>, GIZ/TUMI</p> <p><u>Countries:</u>  - Bangladesh  - Indonesia  - Iran  - Nepal  - The Philippines</p> <p><i>Comments by expert Panels</i></p>	<p><b>Group 4:</b>  <b>Venue: Lecture Theater 2</b></p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u>  <b>Mr. Ibrahim Naeem</b>, Director General, Environment Protection Agency, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy, Maldives</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u>  <b>Prof. Marie Thynell</b>, WEXSUS</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u>  <b>Ms. Sowmya M</b>, WRI India</p> <p><u>Countries:</u>  - Japan  - Maldives  - Thailand  - Timor-Leste  - Viet Nam</p> <p><i>Comments by expert Panels</i></p>
<b>15:00-15:45 Auditorium Hallway</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>			
<b>15:45-16:45</b>	<p align="center"><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b>  <b>Plenary Session 7: Reporting back on Breakout Sessions on Country Reporting (60 mins)</b>  Country representative will present the group reports focusing on the goals under discussed at the breakout sessions.</p>			
<b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Presentation by Country Breakout Group 1</b></li> <li>○ <b>Presentation by Country Breakout Group 2</b></li> <li>○ <b>Presentation by Country Breakout Group 3</b></li> <li>○ <b>Presentation by Country Breakout Group 4</b></li> </ul> <p align="center"><u>Moderator:</u>  <b>Dr. Kalpana Viswanath</b>, CEO Safetipin and HVT Ambassador</p> <p align="center"><u>Rapporteur:</u>  <b>Mr. Parthaa Bosu</b>, Lead, Strategy and Partnerships, DFAG</p>		<p><u>Session Chair:</u>  - <b>Mr. Yatender Kumar</b>, Under Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Government of India</p>	



16:45-18:15	<p align="center"><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Plenary Session 8: Innovative Funding and Financing Approaches for Safe, Resilient, Low-carbon and Sustainable Urban Transport Development in Asia (90 mins)</b></p>	
<p><b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b></p>	<p><i>Asia needs to invest \$1.7 trillion per year up to 2030 to maintain its growth momentum, eradicate poverty, and respond to climate change. However, many Asian developing countries face financial constraints that limit their ability to fund large-scale infrastructure development through traditional means. Consequently, innovative funding and financing approaches are crucial to attract private sector investment and bridge the funding gap. This session focuses on innovative funding and financing approaches for safe, low-carbon and sustainable urban transport development in Asia.</i></p>	
	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS (30 mins)</b></p> <p><i>Key Presentation 1: Transport finance needs in Asia – by <b>Mr. Jamie Leather</b>, Director, Transport Sector, ADB</i></p> <p><i>Key Presentation 2: Panda Bonds and Sustainability-linked Loans for Greener Transport – by <b>Mr. Alberto Alcubilla Arribas</b>, Senior Climate Finance Specialist; Sectors, Themes and Finance Solutions Department, AIIB</i></p> <p><i>Key Presentation 3: Unlocking Climate Finance for Transport Transformation: New Tools for LMICs – by <b>Ms. Cristina Albuquerque</b>, Global Electric Mobility Director, WRI</i></p> <p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION (45 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Shailesh Kumar</b>, Director, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India</li> <li>- <b>Prof. Mark Howells</b>, Climate Compatible Growth</li> <li>- <b>Dr. T. Surya Kiran</b>, Executive Director, Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU)</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Lucie Anderson</b>, Head of Sustainability, International Union of Railways (UIC)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Rajesh Kumar Ojha</b>, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), Delhi</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Hari Ganesh Subramaniam</b>, General Manager (Finance), Chennai Metro Rail Limited</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Mohammad Saiful Kabir</b>, Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited, Bangladesh</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Rajendra Baburao Rupnawar</b>, General Manager (Security &amp; Planning), Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd.</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Le Thanh Phuong</b>, Hanoi Metropolitan Railway Management Board, Viet Na</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Cristina Albuquerque</b>, Global Electric Mobility Director, WRI India</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Given Asia’s need to invest \$1.7 trillion annually through 2030 to sustain growth, reduce poverty, and address</li> </ol>	<p><u>Session Chair:</u> <b>H.E. Prof. Dr. Shiva Raj Adhikari</b>, Vice-Chairman, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Mr. Bertrand Goalou</b> Principal Transport Specialist, ADB</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> <b>Mr. Holger Dalkmann</b>, EST Expert</p>

	<p>climate change, what innovative financing models can help bridge the funding gap for sustainable urban transport development, particularly in developing countries with limited financial resources?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. How can public-private partnerships (PPPs) and new and innovative financing mechanism be effectively leveraged to fund large-scale urban transport infrastructure projects in Asia? What are some successful examples from the region that demonstrate the impact of PPPs in enhancing urban mobility?</li> <li>3. What role can green financing mechanisms, such as green bonds or climate funds, play in developing sustainable infrastructure projects across the region? How can international financial institutions and development agencies support Asian cities in financing low-carbon, resilient transport systems?</li> <li>4. How can EST member countries prioritize infrastructure investments to adapt to a changing climate and evolving transport demands, such as upgrading road networks for climate resilience or integrating new technologies to improve efficiency and reduce operational costs?</li> <li>5. How can financial incentives be designed to encourage the adoption of low-carbon technologies in the transport sector, such as supporting the deployment of electric vehicles, renewable energy infrastructure, and intelligent transport systems to optimize transport network efficiency and reduce environmental impacts?</li> <li>6. In what ways can South-South cooperation be strengthened through bilateral and multilateral financing institutions to advance resilience strategies within the transport sector? How can these partnerships facilitate knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, and access to innovative funding mechanisms? What are some examples of successful South-South collaborations that have improved transport infrastructure and service development, and what lessons can be drawn to enhance future cooperation efforts in the region?</li> <li>7. How can cities in Asia align transport funding strategies with national and global climate goals, such as the Paris Agreement and SDGs?</li> <li>8. How can cities improve governance structures to attract investment while ensuring accountability and transparency in transport financing?</li> </ol>	
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	<p>9. What are some of the best cases of innovative financing mechanisms in the region (e.g., land value capture mechanisms (such as value-based taxes or fees, integrated fare systems and digital payment technologies, congestion pricing and road usage charges)?</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (10 mins)</b></p>	
<b>18:15-20:30</b>	<p><b>Evening Reception</b>  Hosted by: Asian Development Bank (ADB)  Venue: Auditorium Halls 1 and 2 Gallery</p>	
<b>Time</b>	<p><b>DAY 3: 12 December (Thursday)</b>  <b>HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS</b></p>	
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<p><b>High-Level Plenary Session</b>  <b>Plenary Session 9: Transform Cities and Communities through Nature Positive Sustainable Transport Solutions (90 mins)</b></p>	
	<p><i>Given that over half of the world’s GDP, approximately \$44 trillion, relies on nature and its services, and the biodiversity loss and nature degradation occurring at alarming rates. This special session focuses on integrating sustainable transport development for nature conservation. It will highlight innovative approaches to preserve biodiversity and restore the ecosystem in full-scale through nature-positive transport solutions relevant to the transport sector.</i></p>	
<b>Auditorium Halls 1 and 2</b>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS (30 mins)</b></p> <p><b>Presentation 1:</b> Conserving biodiversity and restoring ecosystems towards a nature-positive future for all: Emerging lessons from Asia and beyond – by <b>Dr. Dindo Campilan</b>, Regional Director for Asia and Hub Director for Oceania, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Presentation 2:</b> ADB’s experience of greening the transport sector in harmony with nature and biodiversity – by <b>Ms. Karma Yangzom</b>, Principal Environment Specialist, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB (10 mins)</p> <p><b>Presentation 3:</b> A Street Lasts for 1,000 years’ — Planning for Nature-Positive Cities and Communities – by <b>Dr. Yuan Xiao</b>, Senior Specialist – Sustainable Cities; Sectors, Themes and Finance Solutions Department, AIIB (10 mins)</p> <p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION (50 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Tenzin</b>, Director General, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Bhutan</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Hashan Mahmud</b>, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Chutinthon Mankhong</b>, Chief, Sustainable Transport Promotion Group, Ministry of Transport, Government of Thailand</li> </ul>	<p><b>Session Chair:</b>  <b>Mrs. Priyanga M</b>, IAS, North-West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation, India</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b>  <b>C. R. C. Mohanty</b>, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/DSDG/ UN DESA</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b>  <b>Mr. Karl Peet</b>, EST Expert</p>

- **Ms. Yoko Watanabe**, Director, Environment Climate Change, Resilience, and Environment Cluster, Asian Development Bank
- **Dr. Dindo Campilan**, Regional Director for Asia and Hub Director for Oceania, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- **Dr. T. Surya Kiran**, Executive Director, Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU), India

**Discussion points:**

1. Does a city have a future without biodiversity?
2. What does “nature-positive” sustainable transport mean in the context of urban development, and why is it essential for future cities and communities?
3. How can sustainable transport policies, programmes and strategies be designed to actively support biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration in cities? What specific and innovative approaches or technologies can the transport sector adopt to minimize impacts on natural ecosystems?
4. What are the socio-economic co-benefits of implementing nature-positive sustainable transport solutions? How can these co-benefits be effectively communicated to policymakers and the public to gain better support, investment and replicability?
5. How can EST countries effectively encourage the use of green infrastructure and nature-based solutions such as green (tree-lined) corridors, safe wildlife crossings, permeable pavements for groundwater recharge, and green roofs within transport networks to promote biodiversity, restore ecology and enhance urban resilience?
6. How can nature-positive transport solutions (including road networks) be better leveraged to expand rural access while creating synergies across the food-water-energy nexus? What lessons can be learned from EST countries and other regions.
7. What role do non-motorized transport (NMT) modes (e.g. walking and cycling) play in creating nature-positive cities?
8. How can cities use modern information and communication technologies (ICTs) and digital tools like GIS, AI, and IoT to monitor and optimize the environmental impacts of their transport systems?

	<p>9. How can cities incentivize private sector investments in nature-positive transport infrastructure and solutions?</p> <p>10. What role do international agreements (e.g., CBD's Global Biodiversity Framework) play in shaping local transport policies that are nature-positive?</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion (10 mins)</b></p>	
<b>10:30-10:45</b> <b>Auditorium</b> <b>Hallway</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	
<b>10:45-11:45</b> <b>Auditorium</b> <b>Halls 1 and 2</b>	<b>Chair's Summary -Review by EST Participating countries</b>	
<b>11:45-13:00</b>	<b>High-Level Plenary Session</b> <b>Plenary Session 10: Adoption of the Chair's Summary (90 mins)</b>	
<b>Auditorium</b> <b>Halls 1 and 2</b>	<p><b>Country Interventions and Adoption of the Chair's Summary</b> Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, The Philippines, Pakistan, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam (tbc)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>High-Level 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum Chair:</b> Session Chair: <b>H.E. Timothy John R. Batan</b>, Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation, Government of the Philippines</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Facilitators / Moderators:</b> <b>C. R. C. Mohanty</b>, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/ DSDG/UN DESA and <b>Mr. Holger Dalkmann</b>, EST Expert</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rapporteurs:</b> <b>Ganesh Raj Joshi</b>, Researcher, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA, and <b>Mr. Karl Peet</b>, Conservation Biology Institute</p>	
<b>13:00-14:00</b> <b>Haven, Level</b> <b>2 Staff Hub</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b>	
<b>14:00-14:45</b>	<b>Closing Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional EST Forum in Asia (30mins)</b>	
<b>Auditorium</b> <b>Halls 1 and 2</b>	<p><b>Closing Session (25 mins)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Astra Bonini</b>, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Ramesh Subramaniam</b>, Director General and Group Chief, Sectors Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Andrés Pizarro</b>, Manager – Transport; Public Sector Clients, Region 1, Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Haruhiko Hakuno</b>, Councilor, Minister's Secretariat Deputy Director-General, Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Timothy John R. Batan</b>, Undersecretary for Planning and Project Development, Department of Transportation</li> </ul>
<p><b>15:00-18:00</b>  <b>Metro Manila</b>  <b>Subway</b>  <b>Project</b></p>	<p><b><u>Technical Field Trip</u></b>  <b>-Safety Briefing for the Technical Tour participants</b>  <b>-Technical Field Trip: Camp Aguinaldo Station of the Metro Manila Subway Project</b></p>

*- End of the Forum -*

## METRO MANILA SUBWAY PROJECT

The Metro Manila Subway Project has a route length of 33.1km running from Valenzuela to Paranaque City, with a connection to NAIA (Ninoy Aquino International Airport) and interoperability services with the southern Metro Manila and Laguna stations of the North-South Commuter Railway (NSCR). Once completed, end-to-end travel time from Valenzuela to Pasay City shall be reduced from more than 1.5 hours to 45 minutes.

MMSP is divided into nine (9) Contract Packages, seven (7) of which are Civil Contracts, CP106 is the Electro-Mechanical System while CP107 as the Rolling Stock contract

### ABOUT THE TECHNICAL TOUR SITE

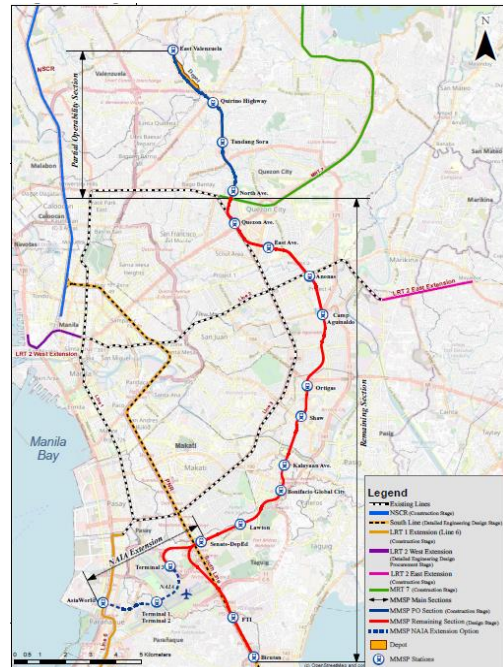
Contract Package: **CP103**

Location: **(Anonas & Camp Aguinaldo Stations)**

Contract Package 103 (CP103), covering the civil works for Anonas and Camp Aguinaldo stations and viaduct segments, was successfully awarded to Sumitomo Mitsui Construction Corporation Ltd (SMCC) on 27 September 2022.

Following the commencement of works on 01 May 2023, significant progress has been made on CP103, particularly at Camp Aguinaldo Station (CAS). Construction at this key station has advanced to the Basement 3 Level (platform level) marking a critical phase in the development of the Metro Manila Subway Project.

The tunneling works for CP103 will be executed with the use of Tunnel Boring Machines (**TBMs**), most of which have already been successfully transported to the construction site. They will connect the project's key stations: East Avenue, Anonas, Camp Aguinaldo, and Ortigas Stations. The CP103 tunnel section will span an estimated total length of 6,076 meters and will require the construction of approximately 8,110 tunnel rings. Each tunnel ring comprises six segments, engineered to meet structural and safety standards. During the tunneling activities, the TBM can drill up to three (3) meters per day during its initial drive, and up to nine (9) meters per day during the main drive.



<b>Total Project Cost</b>	PHP 488.5 billion
<b>Ridership</b>	519,000 passengers on the first day of operations
<b>Trains / Rolling Stock</b>	30 8-car Train Sets (total of 240 train cars) (Train set capacity: 2,288)
<b>Train Speed</b>	120 kph
<b>Headway</b>	5 to 6 minutes











