

ASIAN EST INITIATIVE





United Nations
Centre for Regional Development



Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan

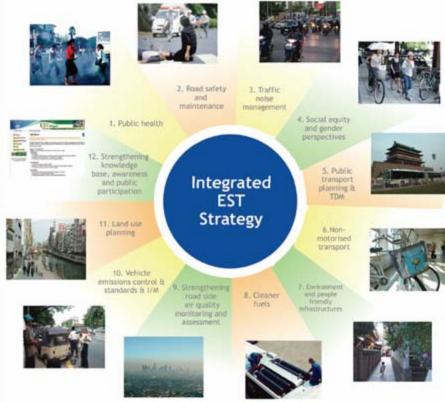
WHAT IS EST?

Although there is no single, commonly held definition of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST), the concept of EST is centred on the transportation systems and activities that meet social, economic, and environmental sustainability. EST offers an alternative to uncontrolled motorization and its related problems, comprising a complementary package of high quality public transport, non-motorized transport (walking and cycling), transport demand management measures, clean fuels, transit oriented development, intelligent transport systems, and road safety programmes that will create a new paradigm for urban mobility and accessibility.

While transportation is essential to meeting Asia's socioeconomic needs, balancing these needs with the need to protect the environment should be at the heart of the concept of EST. The **Asian Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Initiative** was jointly launched by United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) in 2004 in close collaboration with national governments, international organizations, and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies. It aims to build a common understanding across Asia on the essential elements of EST and the need to adopt an integrated approach at the local and national levels to deal with multi-sectoral environment and transport issues, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction.

The twenty goals of the Bangkok 2020 Declaration (2010-2020), agreed at the fifth Regional EST Forum in 2010, provide the basis for identifying, developing and implementing necessary policies, programmes and measures in realizing EST in Asian countries (www.uncrd.or.jp/env/5th-regional-est-forum/doc/bangkok_declaration.pdf).

Currently, participating countries include 23 Asian countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam). The Asian EST Initiative promotes an integrated approach covering twelve thematic areas as described right. For further details, please refer to the EST Sourcebook (UNCRD, 2007) and the UNCRD homepage of the Asian **EST** Initiative (www.uncrd.or.jp/env/est/).



WHY EST MATTERS?

While the transport sector has been an important factor contributing to Asia's remarkable economic growth, it is the **third largest energy consumer** in the region. Furthermore, its energy consumption is growing faster than that of any other sector or region, mainly driven by a rapid increase in motorization and the strong transport demand from economic development.



Asian cities today face a transport and environmental crisis



Parallel to the growing urbanization of Asia, the number of motor vehicles per 1,000 inhabitants showed a dramatic increase by 321% between 1990 to 2005, thus leading to a discussion as to whether the transportation system of the respective countries is sustainable. This has important repercussions not only in terms of energy security for the region, but also air pollution, GHG emissions, traffic congestion, road accidents, freight inefficiencies, greater rural-to-urban migration, and damage to economic productivity.

Additionally, polluting transport systems pose a major health threat to the growing populations as the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that suspended particulate matter (SPM) leads to the premature deaths of over 0.5 million people per year worldwide. The SPM level in many Asian cities often exceeds WHO standards more than twofold.

Without major efforts to address air pollution and GHGs from the transport sector, growing vehicle ownership and usage, and increasing traffic accidents, it is expected that environmental quality, economic productivity, social equity, human health, and all other aspects of sustainability will be significantly undermined. Therefore, the Asian EST Initiative presents an opportunity to make the new decade (2010-2020) for sustainable transport.



The transport sector is emerging as the fastest growing source of global GHGs emissions and accounts for 23% of energy-related CO₂ emissions in the world

2

Components of the Initiative

Regional EST Forum in Asia

The Regional EST Forum in Asia is the key component of the Initiative. The annually held Forum comprises: (a) high-level government representatives (mainly from the Ministries of Environment, Transport, Urban Development, and Health); (b) a Subsidiary Expert Group of internationally renowned experts in various EST areas; and (c) international organizations, research institutions, NGOs and donor agencies. Starting with the ASEAN + 4 (China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Mongolia), the Regional EST Forum has been further expanded to cover eight South Asian countries and Russian Federation, thus bringing the total number of participating countries to twenty three.

The Regional EST Forum in Asia has the following objectives:

- a) Foster a common understanding across Asia on the essential elements of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) as well as the need for an integrated approach to deal with a range of social, economic, and environmental issues in the transport sector;
- b) Provide a strategic and knowledge platform for sharing experiences and disseminating best practices, policy instruments, and technologies in the transport sector among Asian countries;
- c) Set in motion a regional mechanism and consultative process to address policy and institutional issues and gaps to deal with multi-sectoral environment, public health and transport issues;
- d) Facilitate intergovernmental discussion on how sustainable transport policy options and measures can be integrated into the overall policy, planning and development;
- e) Provide a platform for interagency coordination both at national and international levels towards facilitating partnerships and collaboration between governments and international organizations such as development banks, bi-lateral and multilateral donors, etc.; and
- f) Facilitate improved regional input and information on sustainable low-carbon transport to international discussions and negotiations on climate change.

Manila Policy Dialogue in 2004

The *Manila Statement*, which was adopted by fourteen participating governments (ASEAN, China, Japan, Mongolia, and the Republic of Korea) in the Manila Policy Dialogue on Environment and Transport in the Asian Region held on 16-17 January 2004 in Manila, the Philippines, urged Asian countries to: (a) formulate National EST Strategies, and (b) establish a Regional EST Forum to share best practices and provide necessary advisory support and technical feedback towards national strategy formulation and other EST- related activities.

First Regional EST Forum in Asia in 2005

As a follow-up to the outcome of the Manila Policy Dialogue, the launch meeting of the Regional EST Forum in Asia was organized in Nagoya, Japan on 1-2 August 2005 with the participation of government representatives (both from the Ministries of Environment and Transport) from fourteen countries and international experts. The participants adopted the *Aichi Statement*, which sets a concrete future vision for the promoting EST in Asia in the future. Both the *Manila Statement* and *Aichi Statement* urged UNCRD to play a catalytic role in promoting EST in Asia by initiating a range of activities and pilot demonstration projects at the national and regional levels in collaboration with key regional institutions.

Second Regional EST Forum in Asia in 2006

UNCRD, MOEJ and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Indonesia jointly organized the Second Regional EST Forum in Asia on 11-12 December 2006 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia during the Better Air Quality 2006 Week. The supporting organizations for this Forum were the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia), WHO, Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), Seoul Development Institute (SDI), and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). In particular, WHO sponsored for the first time the participation of Ministry of Health officials from selected countries flagging the importance of the public health sector.



Asian Mayors' Policy Dialogue in 2007

In order to further promote EST at the local and city levels, UNCRD, the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC), the MOEJ, and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) successfully organized the Asian Mayor's Policy Dialogue for the Promotion of EST in Cities, in April 2007, Kyoto, Japan. The Dialogue provided an excellent platform to discuss the progress made from city perspectives in relation to the overall recommendations made in the *Aichi Statement* as well as in the AWGESC Framework. As a key outcome of the Mayor's Dialogue, the *Kyoto Declaration* was adopted and signed by participating mayors and senior government representatives declaring that they would further promote EST through city-level actions and programmes.

Third Regional EST Forum in Asia in 2008

The Third Regional EST Forum was held in Singapore from 17 to 19 March 2008 in collaboration with the National Environment Agency (NEA) of the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore, Land Transport Authority (LTA) of the Ministry of Transport of Singapore, and MOEJ. The Forum was also attended by governmental representatives from South Asian countries for the first time. Country initiatives, policies, best practices, and issues concerning twelve thematic areas of EST as defined in the Aichi Statement were shared and discussed among twenty-two countries.

Fourth Regional EST Forum in Asia in 2009

The Fourth Regional EST Forum was jointly organized by the Ministry of Land, Transport, and Maritime Affairs (MLTM) of the Republic of Korea, MOEJ, and UNCRD from 24 to 26 February 2009 in Seoul, which resulted in the adoption of the *Seoul Statement* for the promotion of EST in order to achieve a low carbon society and green growth in Asia.

Special Event of Asian Mayors in 2010

The UN Forum on Climate Change Mitigation, Fuel Efficiency and Sustainable Urban Transport was held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, on 16-17 March 2010. As an integral part of the UN Forum, the Special Event of Asian Mayors for the Signing of the Kyoto Declaration for the Promotion of EST in Cities was jointly organized by UNCRD and MOEJ. These ten new signatories have brought the total signatories to forty-four Asian cities.

Fifth Regional EST Forum in Asia in 2010

The Fifth Regional EST Forum in Asia was jointly organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) of the Kingdom of Thailand, UNCRD, MOEJ, and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) from 23 to 25 August 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Forum was attended by approximately 200 participants, comprising high-level government representatives from twenty-two Asian countries, international experts and resource persons, representatives from various UN and international organizations, and local observers from Thailand. The Fifth Forum participants agreed on *Bangkok 2020 Declaration*—

Sustainable Transport Goals for 2010-2020.

- Bangkok 2020 Declaration -

The Bangkok 2020 Declaration is an important milestone in the development of sustainable transport in Asia. It is the first declaration on strengthening of environmentally sustainable transport (EST) in developing Asia, which contains time-bound goals as well as indicators to assess the progress in achieving these goals. Reflecting a regional political consensus, the Declaration is expected to influence the decisions of governments and transport stakeholders in the region on overall transport policy, planning and development over the next decade.

Sixth Regional EST Forum in 2011

The Sixth Regional EST Forum was co-organized by the Ministry of Urban Development (MOUD)-India, UNCRD, WHO/SEARO, and MOEJ, in conjunction with Urban Mobility India (UMI) 2011 as an integrated event titled "Conference cum Exhibition on Sustainable Mobility" from 3 to 6 December 2011 in New Delhi, India. The Conference was composed of forty-two sessions and attended by approximately 700 participants, including high-level government representatives from twenty-one Asian countries, Subsidiary Expert Group Members of the Regional EST Forum, international resource persons, representatives from various UN and international organizations, Indian officials from central and state governments, urban local bodies, and parastatals as well as academics, students, NGOs, and representatives from the private sector. The Sixth Forum discussed the progress made by the countries in addressing the goals of the Bangkok 2020 Declaration.

Kyoto Declaration

As of June 2011, forty-four cities have become signatories of the Kyoto Declaration for the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport in Asia. UNCRD always welcomes cities in Asia to join the Asian EST Initiative by signing the Kyoto Declaration, (for more information, see http://www.uncrd.or.jp/env/est/index kyoto declaration.htm).

List of Signatories by Country (44 Cities in 16 countries)

1) Bangladesh: 1 (Sylhet)

2) Cambodia: 2 (Siem Reap, Phnom Penh)

3) China: 2 (Suzhou, Tianjin)

4) India: 5 (Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati and Surat)

5) Indonesia: 9 (Banjarmasin, Batam, Makassar, Palembang, Semarang, Surabaya, Surakarta, Tangerang, Yogyakarta)

6) Japan: 2 (Kyoto, Nagoya)

7) Lao PDR: 2 (Luang Prabang, Vientiane)

8) Malaysia: 2 (Kuching, Penang) 9) Mongolia:1 (Ulaanbaatar)

10) Nepăl: 1 (Kathmandu)

11) Pakistan: 2 (Karachi, Islamabad)

12) Philippines: 4 (Baguio, Cebu, Makati, Quezon)

13) Republic of Korea: 4 (Chuncheon, Donghae, Jeju, Seoul)

14) Singapore

15) Sri Lanka: 3 (Colombo, Kandy, Matale) 16) Thailand: 3 (Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Korat) 1st 22 Signatories 2nd 12 Signatories 3rd 10 Signatories

Foro de Transporte Sostenible para América Latina



Regional EST Forum in Latin America

Recognizing the progress made under the Regional EST Forum in Asia, there has been an expressed interest in replicating the Asian EST Initiative in Latin American region. As a result, the first Foro de Transporte Sostenible para América Latina (FTS, Sustainable Transport Forum for Latin America) was co-organized by UNCRD, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and Ministry of Transport of Colombia, held in Bogotá, Colombia on 23-24 June 2011. As a key outcome of the important inaugural Forum, nine Latin American countries adopted the Bogotá Declaration, containing twenty-three goals for sustainable transport. This newly established regional policy Forum is planned to be held biannually and the next Forum is expected to be held in Mexico in 2012.

"Sustainable transport can be understood as the provision of services and infrastructure for the mobility of people and goods needed for economic and social development and improved quality of life and competitiveness. These services and transport infrastructure provide secure, reliable, economical, efficient, equitable and affordable access to all, while mitigating the negative impacts on health and the environment locally and globally, in the short, medium and long term without compromising the development of future generations. "

Bogotá Declaration





For further details of the Regional EST Forum in Latin America including the full text of the Bogotá Declaration, please visit www.uncrdlac.org/fts/index.html



AICHI STATEMENT (2005)

--Towards establishment of the Regional Forum for the promotion of environmentally sustainable transport (EST) in Asia --

The participants, having met in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan from 1-2 August 2005, for the International Conference on Environment and Transport, to draw up and adopt a statement on the establishment of a Regional EST Forum for the promotion of environmentally sustainable transport in Asia,

Reaffirming and building upon the 'Manila Statement' agreed upon by the participants at the intergovernmental Manila Policy Dialogue on Environment and Transport in the Asian Region, held in Manila, the Philippines, from 16-17 January 2004,

Reaffirming and building upon the 'Framework for Environmentally Sustainable Cities in ASEAN', agreed upon by the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC) and officially endorsed by the ASEAN Environment Ministers in December 2003.

Reaffirming and building upon the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) adopted in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) which underlines the importance of environmentally sustainable transport and the required actions to be taken at national and international level.

Noting the important contribution sustainable transport systems can make towards realizing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) set by the United Nations, through improving access to education, employment opportunities, and health care,

Noting the importance of achieving greater synergies among the various efforts to promote environmentally sustainable transport in Asia, at the regional, national and local level,

Acknowledging that continued economic growth in Asian countries will result in significant further growth in transport demand, which will require a wide range of effective measures at the national and local level to prevent or minimize negative environmental and social impacts associated with the rapid growth in motorization,

Considering that efforts to promote environmentally sustainable transport will result not only in the improvement of human health through the reduction of urban air pollution but will also have important complimentary benefits, including the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the reduction of deaths and injuries from road accidents, the reduction of harmful noise levels, and the reduction of traffic congestion levels,

Recognizing the need for both national and local level governments to develop and adopt integrated policies, strategies, and programmes incorporating key elements of environmentally sustainable transport such as:

a. Public health

- Promoting integrated transport policies that mitigate the negative human health impacts of motorized transport
- Recognizing the high costs incurred to the national health system due to non-sustainable transport modes
- Strengthening the coordination and cooperation among health and transport agencies

b. Land-use planning

- Accepting a vision of cities for people rather than for cars, with a focus on the movement of people and goods rather than vehicles
- Supporting urban planning with a particular emphasis on public transport, non-motorized transport, traffic safety and environmental control
- Encouraging the integration of both land-use and transport planning to reduce the unplanned, low-density expansion of urban areas
- Promoting urban revitalization through mixed-use development, favouring concentrated development around public transport nodes

c. Environment and people friendly urban transport infrastructures

- Providing affordable and socially acceptable transport infrastructure and facilities in urban areas
- Recognizing that overprovision of infrastructure can induce additional travel by private motorized vehicles and result in increased pollution and congestion, unless appropriate consideration is made
- Acknowledging the importance of mass transit systems in meeting the needs for increased mobility in an environment friendly manner

d. Public transport planning and transport demand management (TDM)

- · Maintaining or increasing the share of public transport by improving the quality of such services
- Controlling the demand for private motorized travel through a combination of policies, such as regulatory
 measures (manage demand for road space), fiscal policies (such as parking fees, vehicle taxes, road or
 congestion charging, and fuel taxes, etc.), and infrastructure design measures
- Recognizing Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) as a low-cost mass transit option which can be implemented quickly to meet the growing demand for mobility
- Recognizing Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) as a mass transit option which can be implemented to meet the growing demand for mobility, where appropriate

e. Non-motorized transport (NMT)

- Acknowledging the dependence of all-income groups on non-motorized transport and its importance as an environmentally sustainable mode of transport
- Aiming to maintain or enhance the existing role of non-motorized transport, especially in dense urban areas, especially for short trips
- Encouraging the provision of higher-quality infrastructure and the development of city-level master plans for footpaths and cycle ways
- Increasing safety for non-motorized transport

f. Social equity and gender perspectives

- Acknowledging the need for, and contribution of, safe and affordable urban transport systems to the alleviation of poverty and the promotion of social development
- Recognizing that public transport has to address the conditions of women and the need to build the institutional capacity to better include gender aspects in urban transport planning
- Providing infrastructure that particularly caters to the needs of the most vulnerable users, including children, the elderly, and the physically disabled

g. Road safety and maintenance

- Creating appropriate inter-agency coordination and management mechanism to address the road safety in transport policies and programmes
- Acknowledging road safety as a primary guiding principle for transport planning
- Mobilizing resources for formulation and implementation of multi-stakeholder integrated road safety action plans

h. Strengthening road side air quality monitoring and assessment

- Improving road side air quality monitoring in urban city centres to better understand the impacts of road side pollution on people traveling on the roads and people working or living close to the roads
- Improving and harmonizing road side monitoring methodologies in line with the internationally standardized methodologies for ambient air quality monitoring

i. Traffic noise management

- Improving traffic noise monitoring in urban city centres to better understand the impacts of road side noise on people traveling on the roads and people working or living close to the roads
- Acknowledging the need for standards on noise levels and the enforcement of such standards by establishing management mechanisms
- Promoting the prevention of excessive noise through the promotion of non-motorized modes and highquality public transport

i. Cleaner fuel

- Phasing out leaded gasoline as rapidly as possible, and phasing down sulphur levels in gasoline and diesel as required to achieve advanced vehicle emission standards
- Acknowledging the contribution of alternative fuels such as Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and biomassderived ethanol and biodiesel as a means to reduce vehicle emissions
- Planning for an eventual transition to renewable fuels

k. Vehicle emission control, standards, and inspection and maintenance (I/M)

- Rapidly phasing-in strict emission standards for new vehicles, with due regard to manufacturing lead times and to the provision of compatible fuels
- Adopting and enforcing vehicle inspection and maintenance programmes for vehicle emissions and safety, based on high-volume, test-only inspection centres with stringent quality control
- Reducing emissions from in-use vehicles by retro-fitting of emission control devices and/or the conversion to lower-emitting fuels

I. Strengthening knowledge base, awareness, and public participation

- Promoting coordination and cooperation among groups collecting or managing information on EST through a decentralized network of knowledge providers
- Developing and disseminating best practice on EST
- Increasing the understanding and awareness of the civil society and decision-makers on the beneficial aspects of EST with the aim to accomplish changes in policies, investment decisions, and personal behaviour

Noting the best practice principles presented in this document, the participants are thus called upon to:

- unanimously endorse the Regional EST Forum and welcome the contribution by its expert members to conduct periodic high-level policy dialogues and expert consultations to share opinions, ideas, and information on best practices and effective policy instruments among the participating countries on environment and transport related issues in the Asian Region;
- welcome the initiatives of UNCRD in extending assistance to the countries of the region, especially the developing countries, in preparing national EST strategies, and request the expert members of the Forum to play a catalytic role by providing substantial input and strategic feedback towards the formulation of such strategies;
- 3. welcome the involvement of all groups including international organizations, bilateral organizations, nongovernmental organizations and civil society, academic institutions, foundations, private enterprises, and others, in developing and promoting a decentralized cooperation network to contribute to activities undertaken in support of the Forum such as knowledge management, capacity-building, and the formulation of integrated action plans;
- 4. request UNCRD to cooperate with other related organizations and initiatives both at the national and international levels in identifying and exploring sources of potential assistance and collaboration for capacity-building activities, including demonstration and pilot projects, as well as for the implementation of policies, strategies, and action plans developed by the participants of the Forum; such efforts may include providing assistance to the Forum participants in utilizing the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and financing from the bilateral and international organizations to implement EST measures.

KYOTO DECLARATION (2007)

for the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport in Cities

We, the Mayors and governmental representatives of Asian cities, having met in Kyoto, Japan on 23-24 April 2007 at the Asian Mayors' Policy Dialogue for Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Cities, to discuss and address key policy issues on environment and transport from city perspectives under the overall framework of the Regional EST Forum,

Recognizing that cities in the region are faced with a number of critical environment and transport related issues, their implications for human health, economic well-being, and social equity, and the emerging need to define and implement clear goals at the city level in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) adopted at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD),

Reaffirming and building upon the Aichi Statement agreed upon at the First Meeting of the Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum in Asia, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 1-2 August 2005,

Noting the objectives of the Regional EST Forum, an initiative of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) in cooperation with Asian countries, which is comprised of high-level government representatives and experts in various thematic areas related to EST, and which provides a strategic and knowledge platform for sharing experiences and disseminating best practices, policy instruments, tools, and technologies,

Emphasizing that the Regional EST Forum has identified in the Aichi Statement the need for both national and local governments to develop and adopt integrated policies, strategies, and programmes incorporating key elements of environmentally sustainable transport,

Realizing the importance of strengthening regional cooperation for sustainable cities through the framework of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC) and other initiatives, such as the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI) and the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment,

Acknowledging the important role that Mayors could play in implementing local-level actions to make cities healthy, green, and environment- and people-friendly in cooperation with key stakeholders, and also addressing local issues which have regional and global implications, such as climate change,

Recognizing the importance of achieving greater synergy between local actions and national strategies and programmes to realize EST,

We, the Mayors, thus hereby declare our intention to:

1.resolve to demonstrate leadership and ownership in promoting EST and setting the vision in Asian cities in motion in close collaboration with the national government, the private sector, civil society, and regional and international communities,

2.commit to implementing integrated policies, strategies, and programmes addressing key elements of EST such as public health; land-use planning; environment- and people-friendly urban transport infrastructure; public transport planning and transport demand management (TDM); non-motorized transport (NMT); social equity and gender perspectives; road safety and maintenance; strengthening road side air quality monitoring and assessment; traffic noise management; reduction of pollutants and greenhouse gas emission; and strengthening the knowledge base, awareness, and public participation,

- 3. dedicate ourselves to specifically addressing priorities that are often under-emphasized but are nevertheless vital and central to EST, such as the provision of exclusive pedestrian and bicycle lanes, and ensuring safe and comfortable movement of women, children, the elderly, and the physically impaired,
- 4. dedicate ourselves to specifically address the adverse impact of the growing number of motorcycles in most Asian cities.
- 5. ensure sustainable financing and equitable pricing structures for implementing EST,
- 6. resolve to actively collaborate and cooperate through the Regional EST Forum in order to share information and promote the incorporation of EST elements in city master plans and programmes,
- urge the international and donor community to acknowledge the importance of city-based actions and
 programmes concerning EST, and strongly appeal to them to actively support the implementation of these
 actions and programmes by providing financial assistance, and facilitating technology transfer and capacitybuilding through pilot and demonstration projects,
- 8. call for city-to-city cooperation to address issues of common concern and to bridge knowledge, policy, and technology gaps in the environment and transport sector, and
- 9. explore possible opportunities for organizing similar policy dialogues on a regular basis in collaboration with the international and donor community.

We are thus convinced that the concerted efforts of national governments, city authorities, the private sector, civil society, and the donor and international community will contribute to a more profound vision of EST for Asian cities in the 21st century.

We express our sincere appreciation to the organizers, experts, and participants for contributing their ideas, opinions, and experiences which will greatly help us in achieving this milestone.

(Extended - 12 November 2008)

Subsequently twelve Asian cities (Baguio, Bangkok, Batam, Cebu, Colombo, Guwahati, Karachi, Kathmandu, Makassar, Makati, Palembang, and Surat) having met in the Special Event of Asian Mayors on Environmentally Sustainable Transport during Better Air Quality (BAQ) 2008 Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand on 12 November 2008, unanimously endorsed and signed the Kyoto Declaration for the promotion of environmentally sustainable transport (EST) in Asia.

(Extended - 16 March 2010)

Subsequently ten Asian cities (Ahmedabad, Banjarmasin, Chiang Mai, Chuncheon, Donghae, Islamabad, Kandy, Penang, Surakarta, and Tangerang) having met in the Special Event of Asian Mayors on the Signing of the Kyoto Declaration for the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport in Cities during the United Nations Forum on Climate Change Mitigation, Fuel Efficiency and Sustainable Development of Urban Transport in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 16 March 2010, unanimously endorsed and signed the Kyoto Declaration for the promotion of environmentally sustainable transport (EST) in Asia.







SEOUL STATEMENT (2009)

~ Towards the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) for a Low-Carbon Society and Green Growth in Asia ~

The participants, having met in Seoul, the Republic of Korea from 24 to 26 February 2009, for the Fourth Regional EST Forum, to draw up and adopt a statement for the promotion of environmentally sustainable transport in Asia,

Noting that Asia is experiencing the fastest economic growth and by mid of this century, and at the current growth rate there might be more motorized vehicles in Asia than there would be in Europe and North America combined, and that the profound impact of this trend on quality of human life and environment can not be underestimated,

Reaffirming and building upon the integrated EST measures defined under the Aichi Statement adopted at the First Regional EST Forum in Asia, held in Nagoya, Japan, on 1-2 August 2005, and considering that efforts to promote environmentally sustainable transport will not only result in the improvement of human health through the reduction of urban air pollution, but will also have important complementary (co-)benefits, including the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions,

Recognizing the outcome of the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific held in Seoul in 2005, which endorsed environmentally sustainable economic growth, Green Growth, as a policy focus and important strategy for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as decoupling environmental degradation from development,

Noting the commitment made by the Ministries of Health in Member States in the resolution of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific in September 2008 to assess the health implications of the decisions made on climate change by the transport sector and advocate for the decision that provide opportunities for improving health,

Realizing that transport services affect all aspects of sustainability - social, economic, and environmental - and that there is a need for safe, clean, and energy-efficient transport in order to achieve green growth through low-carbon transport in Asia, the participants are thus called upon to:

1.address transport issues with the broader environmental aims of green growth to encompass the transportenergy-carbon emission nexus, from energy consumption to the emissions and climate change perspectives;

2.develop strategies for low-carbon transport including the increasing shift to energy-efficient and low carbon modes to mitigate the effects of transport on climate, and the effects of climate change on transport services and other socioeconomic sectors:

3.focus on sustainable mobility and transport demand management (TDM) tools and measures [such as – parking controls (including parking charges and pricing), road pricing and congestion charging, fuel and vehicle taxation, low and zero emission zones, car-free day, city centre pedestrianization, public transport priority and improvement measures, transit oriented development, appropriate road- space allocation to high-occupancy vehicles, efficient and affordable mass transit systems (such as BRT), and measures to help and develop non-motorized transport (walking and cycling)], etc. with stakeholder consultation and participation rather than relying only on end-of-pipe solutions, so that local air pollutants and GHG emissions from transport sector can be addressed concurrently and effectively, thereby contributing to materializing a Low Carbon Asian Society;

4.as far as possible exploit benefits of adopting intelligent transport system (ITS), and of utilizing market mechanisms such as tax credits for environmentally friendly technologies, to make the transport services environment and people friendly, cost effective as well as energy efficient;

- develop city partnerships and collaboration across national boundaries within Asia and between Asian cities
 and cities from other regions for mutual technical assistance and cooperation on implementing environmentally
 sound practices in transport sector, including recognition of the special needs of the post conflict countries;
- 6. strengthen regional cooperation, in particular among the international organizations and donors active in the region and member countries, to further improve and deepen the transport agenda at energy efficiency and climate change-related fora, including the Conference of Parties (COP), for achieving low-carbon society and green growth bearing in mind the ultimate objective of reducing global emissions under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and
- 7. request international organizations and donor communities to mobilize necessary capacity building services and financial support to the developing member countries to enable them to overcome the complex technical barriers involved in developing transport projects for taking full benefit of the GHG market under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) stipulated by Kyoto Protocol.



Cheonggyecheon in Seoul before the Restoration Project



Bangkok Declaration for 2020

- Sustainable Transport Goals for 2010-2020



5th EST Regional Forum (2010)

We, the participants, who are representatives of Asian countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam), international organizations, bilateral and multilateral agencies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), research organizations, and expert sustainable transport professionals, having met at the Fifth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia, held in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand, from 23 to 25 August 2010, to draft and adopt a declaration, the *Bangkok 2020 Declaration*, in order to demonstrate our renewed interest in, and commitment to, realizing a promising decade (2010-2020) of sustainable actions and measures for achieving safe, secure, quick, reliable, affordable, efficient and people-centric and environment friendly transport in rapidly urbanizing Asia,

Noting the identification of transport as a theme under Agenda 21 on sustainable development and the outcome of the high-level meeting of the 9th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-9) in 2001 which reached important decisions on transport sector issues concluding that improving transport systems to promote sustainable development, including improving accessibility, can foster economic and social development, help integrate developing countries into the world economy, and contribute to the eradication of poverty,

Reaffirming and building upon the *Aichi Statement* agreed upon by the participants at the First Regional EST Forum, held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, on 1-2 August 2005, and its integrated approach to promoting environmentally sustainable transport will result not only in the improvement of human health through the reduction of urban air pollution, but also the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, deaths and injuries from road accidents, harmful noise levels, and traffic congestion,

Reaffirming and building upon the Seoul Statement, agreed upon by the participants at the Fourth Regional EST Forum, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 24 to 26 February 2009, that urged the need to address transport issues within the context of the broader environmental aims of Green Growth to encompass the transport-energy-carbon emission nexus, to develop strategies for low-carbon transport that include a shift to energy-efficient and low carbon modes to enhance energy security, and mitigate the effects of transport on climate as well as of climate change on transport services and other socioeconomic sectors,

Noting the findings of the 18th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18) held in May 2010, that basic transport infrastructure and services are still lacking or inadequate in many developing countries (both in urban and rural areas), making it difficult for the poor, including women, youth, and children, to access basic services, including those related to health and education, and for workers to have access to jobs, and that in the case of rural areas lack of adequate rural transport infrastructure perpetuates poverty, poses constraints on the marketing of agricultural produce and other income-generating opportunities, and thus hampers efforts to achieve the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

Noting that transport-related carbon dioxide emissions are projected by international bodies to increase approximately 57 per cent worldwide in the period 2005-2030, whereby the largest part of this increase would come from the increase in private motorized vehicles in Asia,

Noting the UN General Assembly Resolution (64/255) of 2March 2010 on improving global road safety, proclaimed 2011-2020 as a decade of action for road safety, and **deeply concerned** that about half of all road traffic fatalities and injuries occur in the Asian and Pacific region, most of which are related to vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, children, and cyclists, due to streets that lack the necessary safety infrastructure such as exclusive pedestrian and bicycle lanes, safe street crossings, kerb ramps for the disabled, and lack of post-accident care,

Recognizing the specific mobility needs of low-income groups, as well as women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities which must be addressed to achieve socially-equitable communities and a better quality of life for all,

Acknowledging the importance of an EST strategy based upon the concept of Avoiding unnecessary motorised transport - Shifting to more sustainable transport modes and – Improving transport practices and technologies,

We, the participants of the Fifth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia express our intent to voluntarily develop and realize integrated and sustainable transport policy options, programmes, and projects that will help realize the following EST goals and objectives by the year 2020 in the Asian region (EST 20):

I. Strategies to Avoid unnecessary travel and reduce trip distances

<u>Goal 1:</u> Formally integrate **land-use and transport planning** processes and related institutional arrangements at the local, regional, and national levels

<u>Goal 2:</u> Achieve **mixed-use development** and medium-to-high densities along key corridors within cities through appropriate land-use policies and provide people-oriented local access, and actively promote transit-oriented development (TOD) when introducing new public transport infrastructure

<u>Goal 3:</u> Institute policies, programmes, and projects supporting **Information and Communications Technologies** (ICT), such as internet access, teleconferencing, and telecommuting, as a means to reduce unneeded travel

II. Strategies to Shift towards more sustainable modes

<u>Goal 4:</u> Require **Non-Motorized Transport** (NMT) components in transport master plans in all major cities and prioritize transport infrastructure investments to NMT, including wide-scale improvements to pedestrian and bicycle facilities, development of facilities for intermodal connectivity, and adoption of complete street design standards, wherever feasible

<u>Goal 5:</u> Improve **public transport** services including high quality and affordable services on dedicated infrastructure along major arterial corridors in the city and connect with feeder services into residential communities

<u>Goal 6:</u> Reduce the urban transport mode share of private motorized vehicles through **Transportation Demand Management** (TDM) measures, including pricing measures that integrate congestion, safety, and pollution costs, aimed at gradually reducing price distortions that directly or indirectly encourage driving, motorization, and sprawl

<u>Goal 7:</u> Achieve significant shifts to more sustainable modes of **inter-city passenger and goods transport**, including priority for high-quality long distance bus, inland water transport, high-speed rail over car and air passenger travel, and priority for train and barge freight over truck and air freight by building supporting infrastructure such as dry inland ports

III. Strategies to Improve transport practices and technologies

<u>Goal 8:</u> Diversify towards more sustainable **transport fuels and technologies**, including greater market penetration of options such as vehicles operating on electricity generated from renewable sources, hybrid technology, and natural gas

<u>Goal 9:</u> Set progressive, appropriate, and affordable **standards** for fuel quality, fuel efficiency, and tailpipe emissions for all vehicle types, including new and in-use vehicles

<u>Goal 10:</u> Establish effective vehicle testing and compliance regimes, including formal vehicle registration systems and appropriate periodic vehicle **inspection and maintenance** (I/M) requirements, with particular emphasis on commercial vehicles, to enforce progressive emission and safety standards, resulting in older polluting commercial vehicles being gradually phased-out from the vehicle fleet, as well as testing and compliance regimes for vessels

<u>Goal 11:</u> Adopt **Intelligent Transportation Systems** (ITS), such as electronic fare and road user charging systems, transport control centres, and real-time user information, when applicable

<u>Goal 12:</u> Achieve improved **freight transport** efficiency, including road, rail, air, and water, through policies, programmes, and projects that modernize the freight vehicle technology, implement fleet control and management systems, and support better logistics and supply chain management

IV. Cross-cutting strategies

- <u>Goal 13:</u> Adopt a zero-fatality policy with respect to road, rail, and waterway **safety** and implement appropriate speed control, traffic calming strategies, strict driver licensing, motor vehicle registration, insurance requirements, and better post-accident care oriented to significant reductions in accidents and injuries
- Goal 14: Promote monitoring of the health impacts from transport emissions and noise, especially with regard to incidences of asthma, other pulmonary diseases, and heart disease in major cities, assess the economic impacts of air pollution and noise, and devise mitigation strategies, especially aiding sensitive populations near high traffic concentrations
- <u>Goal 15:</u> Establish country-specific, progressive, health-based, cost-effective, and enforceable **air quality and noise** standards, also taking into account the WHO guidelines, and mandate monitoring and reporting in order to reduce the occurrence of days in which pollutant levels of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, carbon monoxide, and ground-level ozone exceed the national standards or zones where noise levels exceed the national standards, especially with regard to environments near high traffic concentrations
- Goal 16: Implement sustainable low-carbon transport initiatives to mitigate the causes of global climate change and to fortify national energy security, and to report the inventory of all greenhouse gases emitted from the transport sector in the National Communication to the UNFCCC
- Goal 17: Adopt **social equity** as a planning and design criteria in the development and implementation of transport initiatives, leading to improved quality, safety and security for all and especially for women, universal accessibility of streets and public transport systems for persons with disabilities and elderly, affordability of transport systems for low-income groups, and up-gradation, modernization and integration of intermediate public transport
- <u>Goal 18:</u> Encourage innovative **financing** mechanisms for sustainable transport infrastructure and operations through measures, such as parking levies, fuel pricing, time-of-day automated road user charging, and public-private partnerships such as land value capture, including consideration of carbon markets, wherever feasible
- <u>Goal 19</u>: Encourage widespread distribution of **information and awareness** on sustainable transport to all levels of government and to the public through outreach, promotional campaigns, timely reporting of monitored indicators, and participatory processes
- <u>Goal 20:</u> Develop dedicated and funded **institutions** that address sustainable transport-land use policies and implementation, including research and development on environmentally-sustainable transport, and promote good **governance** through implementation of environmental impact assessments for major transport projects

Inviting countries to voluntarily report progress by utilizing the EST Forum -

Annex 1

Measuring Progress on the Bangkok Declaration for 2020

This annex outlines the type of performance indicators that countries may consider in achieving a successful EST strategy. The Bangkok Declaration for 2020 is a voluntary document, and thus countries may opt for developing a number of additional / alternative indicators and measures to monitor progress domestically.

The objective of such comprehensive list of indicators is to provide guidelines for objective measurement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the transport system to achieve the desired goals.

Strategy	Indicator
"Avoid" Strategies	Meta Indicator: Change in vehicle kilometres travel per person over time at the metropolitan and national levels
Integrated Land Use- Transport Planning	Number of cities in the country having formally developed integrated land use-transport plans
	Requirements for local compliance with regional integrated land use-transport plans
Mixed-Use Development	Reduction in average passenger trip length in the city
	Reduction in average freight trip distance regionally and nationally
	Number of units developed in purpose-built mixed-use projects
	Number of public transport projects achieving transit-oriented development (TOD) around stations
	Population and employment per square kilometre along major public transport corridors
	Number of public transport corridors achieving an increase in development and population density
	Amount of increase in property value along corridors of quality public transport projects
Information and Communications Technologies (ICT)	Number of policies developed encouraging ICT as a substitute for travel
	Average broadband speed of internet services
	Penetration of broadband among different income groups
	Penetration rate of mobile telephones in the country
	Increase in the amount of teleconferencing over business travel
	Number of policies and/or programs that promote telecommuting
	Estimated number of trips avoided through telecommuting

"Shift" Strategies	Meta Measure: Mode share of all major transport modes at the metropolitan and national levels, including passenger transport (walking, bicycles, car driver, car passenger, motorcycle driver, motorcycle passenger, motorized three-wheelers, non-motorized three-wheelers, buses, minibuses, and urban rail), inter-city transport (private motorized vehicles, bus, rail, and boat), and freight transport (truck, rail, barge, minivan, and non-motorized)
Non-Motorized Transport	Number of cities with NMT specifically highlighted in the city's integrated transport master plans
	Note the existence of national and local policies requiring drop curbs at interface between footpaths and intersections
	Note the existence of national and local policies mandating minimum footpath widths, and note the minimum width
	Note the existence of national and local policies mandating dedicated pedestrian signals at major intersections
	Promote the monitoring and measurement of the quality of pedestrian facilities and the number of cities surveyed or audited for a "walkability" score
	Number of cities with dedicated cycleways
	Number of kilometres of cycleways
	Number of secure bicycle parking spaces
	Number of cities with shared bicycle programmes and number of shared bikes per programme
	Number of cities with pedicabs (cycle rickshaw) improvement programmes
	Number of public transport systems with formal integration of pedicabs (cycle rickshaws)
	Number of cities participating in a Car-Free Day programme
Public Transport	Number of cities with trunk bus corridors operating on dedicated busway lanes in the median of the roadway (Bus Rapid Transit)
	Number of kilometres of dedicated, median busways (Bus Rapid Transit)
	Number of cities with bus systems using pre-board fare verification and stations designed for at-level fast boarding
	Number of cities utilizing electronic fare cards on their public transport system
	Number of cities with a fully integrated fare structure across public transport modes
	Number of cities with elevated or underground metro systems (MRT)
	Number of kilometres of MRT

Transportation Demand Management	Number of cities or areas utilising congestion charging
	Number of cities or areas utilizing road tolls
	Number of cities employing a formal parking levy system, in which a parking levy is defined as a set land tax charged to each non-residential parking space, and is assessed regardless of whether or not the parking space is utilized
	Number of cities with active parking management programmes
	Amount of any increase in fuel levies
	Number of cities or regions which have adopted measures to discourage ownership and/or operations of private vehicles
	Amount of vehicle duties or taxes
Inter-City Passenger and	Increase of mode share of high-quality inter-city bus services
Goods Transport	Increase of mode share of inter-city conventional rail services
	Increase of mode share of high-speed inter-city rail services
	Number of kilometres of high-speed inter-city rail
	Number of kilometres of freight rail lines
	Number of inland dry ports
"Improve" Strategies	Meta Measure: Fuel efficiency levels of passenger and freight fleets
Cleaner Fuels and Technologies	Market share of alternative fuels for road transport, including renewably-generated electricity, natural gas, and sustainably managed and cultivated biofuels that do not compete with food crops
	Market share of electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles, and fuel cell vehicles
Standards	Note current fuel quality standards and the time line for attainment of EURO IV (or equivalent) fuel quality standard
	() () () () () ()
	Note current vehicle emission standards for each vehicle class
Inspection and Maintenance	Note current vehicle emission standards for each vehicle class
	Note current vehicle emission standards for each vehicle class Note current fuel economy standards for each vehicle class Note the nature of commercial vehicle testing requirements, including frequency of tests, emission levels required, safety
	Note current vehicle emission standards for each vehicle class Note current fuel economy standards for each vehicle class Note the nature of commercial vehicle testing requirements, including frequency of tests, emission levels required, safety features examined, and number of vehicles retired Number of cities that conduct roadway spot checks on vehicle

Intelligent Transportation Systems	Number of public transport vehicles per city with Automatic Vehicle Location tracking technology
	Number of public transport stations and vehicles using real-time information displays
	Number of cities with a control centre to manage traffic incidents and manage public transport fleets
Freight Transport	Quantify improvements in freight vehicle fuel efficiency
	Quantify changes in freight vehicle types
	Quantify network efficiency gains
"Cross-Cutting" Strategies	
Safety	Reductions in number of traffic accidents
	Reductions in number of transport-related injuries and deaths
	Adoption of a zero-accident policy framework
Health	Incidence levels of disease and illnesses related to transport emissions including asthma, other pulmonary diseases, heart disease, stroke, and flu
	Reduction in number of days with restricted outdoor activity due to health concerns of air quality
	Number of cities with policies in place to prohibit smoking in public places, including public transport systems
Air Pollution and Noise	Number of cities with ambient air quality monitoring, including monitors for particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5, nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulphur oxides (SOx), carbon monoxide (CO), and ground-level ozone, especially with monitors in high traffic areas and ports
	Air quality levels for particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5), nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulphur oxides (SOx), carbon monoxide (CO), and ground-level ozone for each major city
	Number of days air quality is within local standards and WHO guidelines for all major pollutants in each major city
	Number of cities with formal noise monitoring programme
	Number of cities that spot check noise levels on vehicles
	Number of cities with time-of-day noise restrictions and noise reduction programmes
Climate Change and Energy Security	Note whether the transport sector is included as part of the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), and note the specific transport sub-sectors in the NAMA
	Note the number of transport GEF projects approved for the country

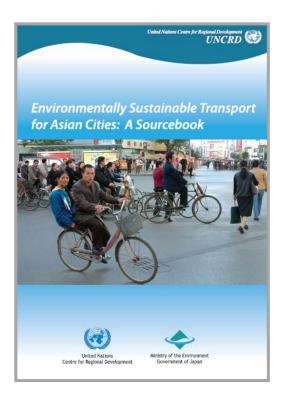
Social Equity	Amount and type of security measures provided on public transport systems
	Off-peak frequency of public transport systems
	Number of public transport vehicles and stations permitting full universal access for users in wheelchairs and parents with prams
	Number of public transport stations and kilometres of footpaths with tactile paving tiles for the sight impaired
	Number of kilometres of footpaths that have been upgraded to be fully accessible to persons in wheelchairs
	Relative affordability levels of public transport services for low-income groups
	Employment generated from EST projects and availability of related job training opportunities
Finance and Economics	Number of applications for greenhouse gas emission reduction credits
	Total amount of revenues generated from greenhouse gas emission reduction credits
	Total amount of revenues generated from congestion charging schemes
	Total amount of revenues generated from roadway tolls
	Total amount of revenues generated from parking levies
	Number of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) implemented
	Total amount of revenues generated from land value capture initiatives
	Number of Benefit-Cost analyses conducted on transport projects, considering, direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts
	Note the results of Benefit-Cost analyses conducted on transport projects
Information and	Number of EST-related publications
Awareness	Number of outreach and promotional efforts on EST
Institutions and Governance	Number of staff at Transport, Environment, and Health Ministries dedicated to EST
	Amount of financial resources of the national government dedicated to EST
	Human and financial resources devoted to EST at the regional and local levels
	Existence of unit at National Government level dedicated to non- motorized transport and number of cities with local government units dedicated to non-motorized transport to promote walking
	Structure and relationship of national, regional, and local actors involved in EST, including engagement with civic and business sectors
	Note environmental impact assessments (EIAs) for evaluating the impact of transport infrastructure initiatives prior to environmental clearance



"BRT provides a sophisticated metro-quality transit service at a cost that most cities, even developing cities, can afford."

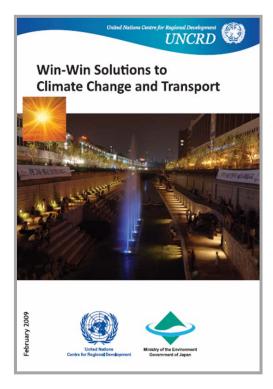


Each weekend, the world's most expensive two-kilometres of property becomes a "pedestrian paradise."



UNCRD EST SOURCEBOOK (April 2007)

Available at http://www.uncrd.or.jp/env/publication/est_sourcebook.pdf



Available at http://www.uncrd.or.jp/env/publication/win_win_solutions.pdf

Formulation of a National Environmentally Sustainable **Transport Strategy for the Philippines**

Final Report · May 2011



Formulation of a National Environmentally Sustainable Transport Strategy for the Philippines (April 2007)

Available at http://www.uncrd.or.jp/env/est/docs/P_NESTS.pdf

Recent EST Capacity-Building and Training Activities



Training Course on Non-Mortorised Transport in Urban Areas (pre-event of 4th Regional Forum) Seoul, Republic of Korea (Feburuary 2009) Co-organized by: UNCRD, MOEJ, MLTM-K Supported by: KOTI, GIZ, I-CE



National Training Workshop-cum-Policy Dialogue on Environmentally Sustainable Transport Dhaka, Bangladesh (April 2009)

Co-organized by: UNCRD, DoE/MoEF-Bangladesh Supported by: UNDP-Bangladesh, Sida, GIZ, MOEJ



National Environmentally Sustainable Transport Training Workshop-cum-Policy Dialogue

Jakarta, Indonesia (April 2009) Co-organized by: UNCRD, MOE-Indonesia, MOT-Indonesia Supported by: Sida, GIZ, ITDP, MOEJ, US-EPA



Sub-Regional EST Training Workshop-cum-Policy Dialogue in South Asia

Ahmedabad, India (August 2011)
Organized by: UNCRD, SACEP, MOEJ, AMC, CEPT
Supported by: WHO/SEARO, CAI-Asia, The WRI Center
for Sustainable Transport, EMBARQ, GIZ



United Nations Centre for Regional Development Nagoya, Japan

ABOUT UNCRD

The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) was founded in 1971 as part of the United Nations (UN) system of organizations promoting regional development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Asian-Pacific, African, and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. It was set up in pursuance of the terms of the UN Economic and Social Council (UN/ECOSOC) resolutions 1086 C (XXXIX) and 1141 (XLI) which called for global action to promote regional development, and resolution 1582 (L) which provided guidelines for its operations.

UNCRD was created by an agreement between the UN and the Government of Japan. Under Article III of the agreement, UNCRD has four distinct but interrelated responsibilities.

- (1) To serve as a training and research centre in regional development and planning and related fields for developing countries which may wish to avail themselves of its services;
- (2) To provide advisory services in regional development and planning and related fields at the request of developing countries;
- (3) To assist developing countries in promoting the exchange of data on research, practical experience, teaching, and other relevant subjects in regional development and planning and related fields; and
- (4) To assist and cooperate with other organizations, national or international, concerned with regional development and planning and related fields.

To meet these goals, the Centre targets its programmes towards socially and environmentally sustainable development. The three multidisciplinary themes of human security, environment, and disaster management serve as a guide for the Centre's training and research activities.

The Centre's operations have benefited greatly from its cooperative relationship with UN/DESA, which provides valuable and consistent support.

For more information see www.uncrd.or.jp.





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