

Achieving SDGs in times of global crises



Side Event 32

Is the world ready to prioritise people over cars? How public transport, walking and cycling can rescue the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Agreement.

 THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 2023, 13:15 – 14:15

 Conference Room 7

SUMMARY

Sustainable, low carbon urban mobility is a high priority for all governments and central to delivering on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11. As the world hits 8 billion people, with most in urban areas, the most equitable, meaningful, and sustainable interventions in the transport sector must focus on scaling up public transport, walking and cycling. Yet only half of the world's urban population can claim to have a sustainable transport system fit for the future. To get us back on track, we need a transformation of transport in cities through the scaling up of policy measures and shifting finance towards public transport, walking and cycling.

COP27 saw the launch of two related initiatives by the Egyptian Presidency - **LOTUS** (Low Carbon Transport for Urban Sustainability) & **SURGe** (Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation) that present an opportunity to activate systemic change to urban mobility that will help to provide universal access, enhanced safety, reduced environmental and climate impact, improved resilience, and greater prosperity for all. They aim to put public transport, walking and cycling at the heart of our urban transport systems and support joint, inclusive and multilateral efforts that will improve access and limit emissions.

Unlocking the potential is dependent on communities and governments (both local and national) collaborating on a sustainable mobility vision based on public transport, walking and cycling and up-skilling to translate the relevant international evidence into effective local actions. By supporting and enabling cities, we will bring about stepped-up efforts in national implementation and ambition supported by local government action.

The co-leads of the LOTUS initiative's capacity building programme for urban mobility will share the latest best practices alongside innovative actions and solutions that should be adopted by countries as a matter of priority to enhance local level action and engagement. The session will provide a better understanding of the relationship between policy, action, impact and what to report on in order to improve urban mobility with more and better public transport and active mobility. In doing so, it will show what we need to do in the short term, and maintain in the long term, in order to bring about a paradigm shift in how we move in order to achieve the SDGs in times of global crisis and address the climate emergency.



Achieving SDGs in times of global crises



Organiser(s)

International Association of Public Transport (UITP) / International Union of Railways (UIC) / SLOCAT Partnership
/ Walk 21 Foundation / UN-Habitat

Moderator

- Christopher Dekki, Director of Global Advocacy and Engagement, SLOCAT Partnership

Opening

- Mr. Philip Turner, UITP & Ms. Lucie Anderton, UIC

Roundtable (invited)

- Mr. Martin Eshiwani, Head, Road Transport Services unit at Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Kenya
- Asif Nawaz Shah, Specialist, International Partnerships, COP28 – UAE
- Mr Phillip Mainga, Managing Director, Kenyan Railway Company
- Cecilia Andersson, Lead, Urban Mobility, UN-Habitat
- HE Dr Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy and ICT, African Union

