ACT - Action towards Climate-friendly Transport

A strong and growing alliance of global actors for sustainable, low-carbon transport

Transport is responsible for 28% of energy related GHG emissions. If we continue with business as usual scenarios, emissions will double by 2050. The challenge therefore is daunting: catering to the fast-growing demand for mobility and transport while slashing GHG emissions, increasing climate resilience and promoting social and economic development. There is still time to act, but it will require an unprecedented effort from all. Climate stabilization requires a decarbonized transport sector.

The Action towards Climate friendly Transport (ACT) initiative will deliver towards this objective by following a holistic sustainable transport approach that reflects the Avoid-Shift-Improve (A-S-I) framework. This includes actions to a) foster integrated planning and compact city development to avoid the need to travel; b) shift from the most energy consuming and polluting urban transport mode (i.e. cars) to non-motorized and public transport, and c) improve existing modes of transport through zero-emission technologies.

ACT works through four components that bundle the efforts and actions of committed entities.

- Component 1 is led by the Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) and aims to connect innovative approaches at a global scale with integrated long-term planning and policy-making processes at the city level in developing and emerging countries.
- Component 2 is led by the German government and will provide policy guidance to governments and mayors to enable locally adjusted architectures for a mass rollout of electric buses.
- Component 3 is led by the Transport Decarbonisation Alliance (TDA) in coalition with EV100 and will support the creation of a mass-market for zero-emission freight vehicles by increasing their global demand through commitments made by governments, cities and private companies.
- Component 4 is led by MOVIN’ON’s and UITP’s member ecosystem by establishing global dialogue arenas with the private sector to connect key mobility stakeholders and to structure collaborative dialogue and help accelerate measurable action.
Expected Impact:
The successful global implementation of these components aims to lead the urban transport sector on the path to carbon neutrality in line with the Paris Agreement. After the UNSG Summit, the ecosystems created under ACT have the capacity to help foster innovations by connecting multiple stakeholders from the private sector, governments, cities, NGOs and academia in a systematic way. ACT will kick off a large-scale transition towards low-carbon urban mobility infrastructures, including the large-scale electrification of vehicles in concordance with civil society and the private sector.

National and subnational governments will benefit from ACT by signing the declaration of intent, publicly announcing their pledges at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit, and defining their specific zero emission pathways with the support of the ACT coalition. Committed governments will - according to their needs and priorities - receive tailored support in the form of institutional capacity building, the facilitation of integrated city and transport planning processes and associated public procurement processes and the provision of exchange platforms with the private sector and financiers. The results of these processes will be reported to the UNFCCC from November 2019 onwards.

Through the collective action of a strong and growing alliance of global actors of non-OECD countries and OECD countries joining the call, we are building a stronger future for sustainable, low-carbon transport.

How to commit: National and subnational governments can sign the ACT Declaration of Intent online (https://www.transformative-mobility.org/news/do-you-act-iact), publicly announce their pledges at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit, and define and implement their specific zero emission pathways with the support of the ACT coalition.

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