**Bridging the Gap with Land Transport**



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**Key Messages in the Build Up to COP18**

*Scientific evidence has clearly linked global warming with the increasing emission of greenhouse gases, with much of the increase coming from transport.*

**Did Durban Deliver?**

The Durban Platform for Enhanced Action agreed at COP17 is an empowering outcome that points to a future regime with legal force underpinned by global commitment.

At the same time, many key divides remain unresolved, and current pledges to reduce emissions are significantly below what is needed to limit global warming to 2°C, beyond which scientists say climate change becomes catastrophic and irreversible.

***What lies ahead…***

Emissions from transport are increasing whilst emissions from other sectors are at constant or reducing levels. But transport does not attract enough attention despite accounting for **23%** of energy related global emissions.

Global demand for mobility is growing rapidly, especially in developing countries, with the number of cars on the road expected to **triple by 2050** to over two billion. More miles driven by more vehicles will come at a huge cost, resulting in a significant increase in energy use, congestion and CO2 emissions.

If current mobility patterns prevail - marked by the dominance of private motorized vehicles – emissions from the transport sector will increase by **120% by 2050**, affecting not only climate change but also risking economic development and quality of life.

***Bridging the Gap – mitigating emissions***

To stand a chance of stabilizing global temperatures to the levels required and start bringing emissions down before 2020, we need to reassess the way that we travel and look at ways to move the growing number of people more efficiently.

If the share of sustainable transport doubled by 2025, emissions would be in line with the objectives of the international climate negotiations.

Mitigating emissions from transport and moving to more sustainable low carbon pathways also brings significant additional benefits for ALL, but especially the developing world.

Incentives and mechanisms for this to happen must be put in place and parties are encouraged to bring this to the negotiations and embed opportunities for reducing emissions from transport into the Durban Platform.

***What needs to be done***

Strong policies promoting a shift to sustainable low carbon land transport will mean transport can play its role and dramatically reduce CO2 emissions.

The Bridging the Gap partnership therefore calls on ALL parties and stakeholders in the build up to COP18 to:

* Increase awareness and build capacity on the potential scope and impact of transport Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (**NAMAS**), as credible mechanisms to reduce emissions from the sector.
* Ensure adequate and appropriate **financial resources** are channeled into helping low carbon transport become a reality.
* Encourage the active engagement and sharing of knowledge on the development and diffusion of **low carbon transport technology**.
* Include the need for **mitigation action in all key sectors**,including land transport.
* Encourage further **dialogue with the transport sector** in the build up to COP18.

*This paper was by produced by the Bridging the Gap initiative - GIZ, Veolia Transdev, ITDP, UITP and TRL – bridging the gap between the climate and transport sectors*

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