# The Intersection of Transparency, LTS, and Transportation in Asia

## Pre-Training: Low Emissions Pathways in Transportation

September 2020

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

T-LTS Transparency & Long-Term Strategies

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# Overview of Contents

The pre-training slides cover the following topics:

1. Long-Term Strategies (LTS)
2. Sustainable Transportation Strategies
3. Transparency
4. LTS and the Paris Agreement
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# Long-Term Strategies (LTS)

# What Is a Long-Term Strategy?

- A policy tool to help countries identify development priorities and pathways that help achieve mid-century greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets.
- LTS encompasses climate and development goals.
- LTS defines pathways for achieving those goals.
- LTS may also be known as “mid-century plans” or “Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategies (LT-LEDS).”

*LTS are not a new framework that needs to be created but rather builds on a country’s existing priorities and planning systems.*

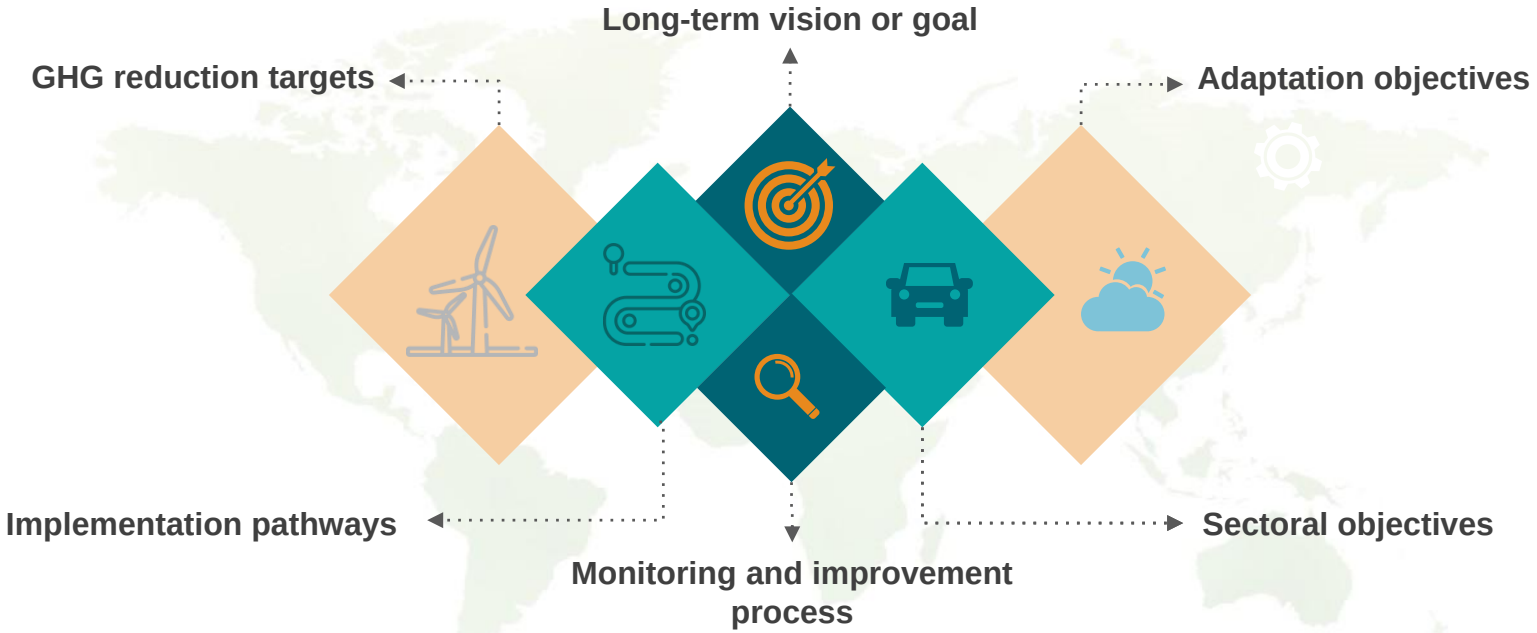
# Why Is a LTS Important?

- LTS helps countries set a vision and prioritize short- and mid-term actions.
- LTS informs development of sector plans and/or subnational activities.
- LTS can evolve over time to become more comprehensive and more ambitious in terms of GHG reductions and other sustainability goals.


Source: Pixabay

# Elements of an LTS

LTS include different elements depending on the goals and/or needs of a country.

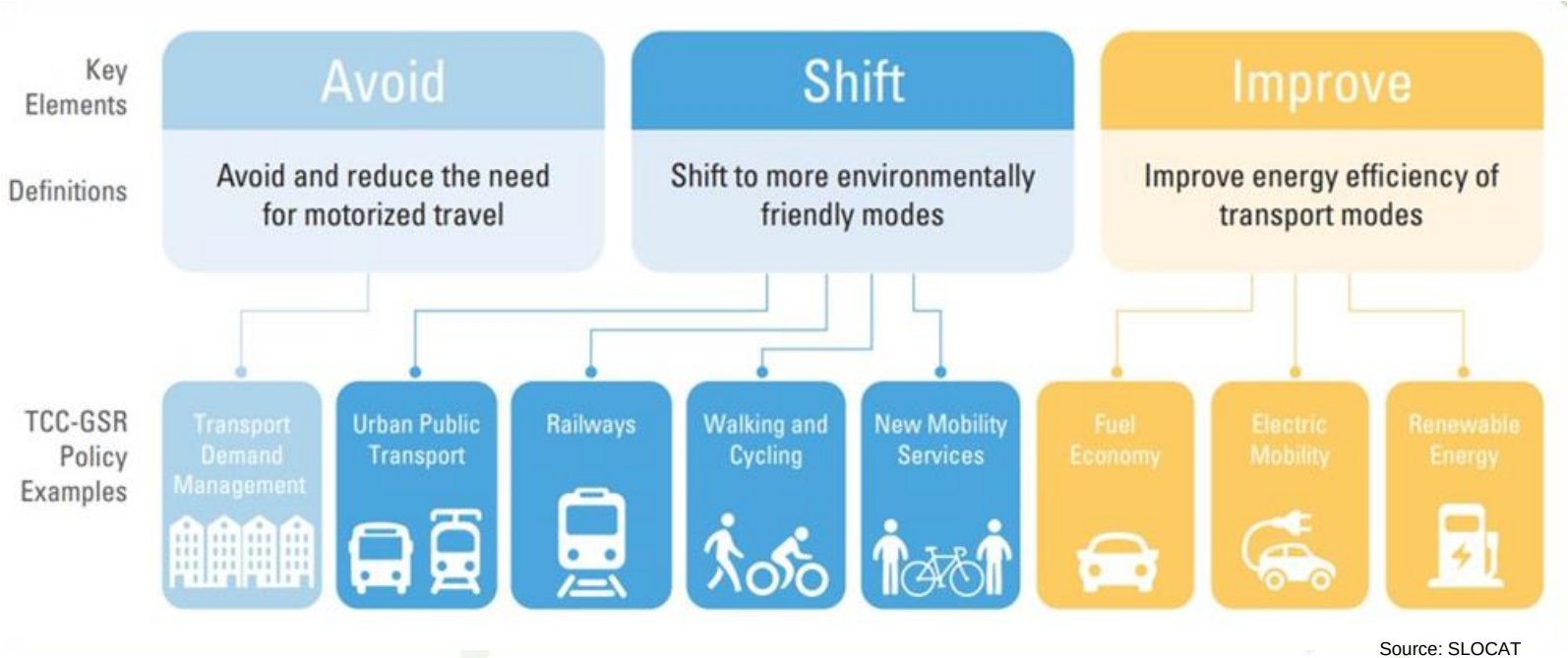


# Sustainable Transportation Strategies

# What is the Avoid-Shift-Improve Framework?

- The Avoid-Shift-Improve (ASI) Framework is a comprehensive approach to advance sustainable mobility outcomes, such as GHG emission reductions, reduced energy consumption, and reduced congestion.
- It was developed by the German Government and has been adopted by international sustainable transportation stakeholders.
- Consists of three pillars:
  - **A**void/Reduce
  - **S**hift/Maintain
  - **I**mprove

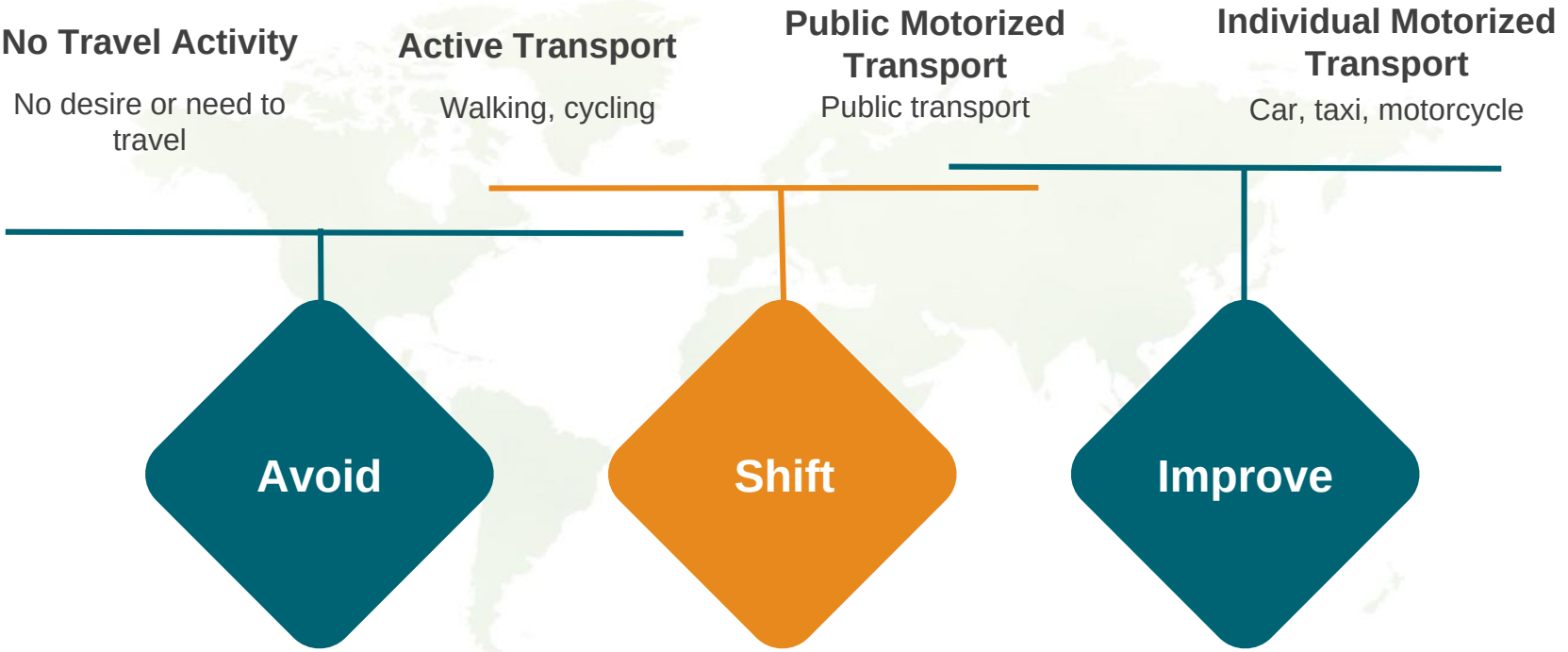
# ASI in the Transportation Sector




Source: SLOCAT

# Transportation Activities Under ASI

Transportation activities can fall under multiple pillars of the ASI Framework




Adapted from GIZ

# Avoid

**Avoid and reduce the need for travel.**

Examples of interventions that avoid travel include:

- Improved land use planning for more compact cities
- Integrated public transport in spatial planning
- Optimized logistics planning
- Travel demand management planning

Source: ICF

# Shift

**Shift to more environmentally friendly modes.**

Examples of shifting modes include:

- Utilization of energy efficient rail instead of air, sea, or road transport
- Increased public transportation, walking, or cycling instead of cars or motorcycles

Source: ICF

# Improve

**Improve energy efficiency of transport modes.**

Examples of interventions that improve energy efficiency include:

- Improved fuel economy standards
- Low carbon fuel and vehicle technologies
- End-of-pipe control devices

Source: ICF

# ASI Benefits and Drawbacks

- Transportation-related mitigation options have multiple co-benefits related to
  - Energy Security
  - Economic Development
  - Environmental Protection
  - Improved Quality of Life
- In some cases, however, there may be unintended impacts of implementing ASI measures.
  - For example, vehicle efficiency standards may encourage increased driving, reducing some of the benefits of the policy.

*Countries will need to consider the balance of these factors when selecting and prioritizing mitigation pathways for their country.*

# Potential Benefits of ASI Interventions

## Energy Security

- Diversification of energy supply
- Lower energy costs
- Less imported fuel

## Economic Development

- Increased private investment
- Local job and value creation
- Better income opportunities

## Environmental Protection

- Better air quality
- Less soil degradation
- Climate protection
- Noise reduction

## Improved Quality of Life

- Better road safety
- Fewer health risks
- Time savings

Adapted from GIZ

# Transparency

# What Is Transparency?

- The clear and consistent documentation and reporting of information (i.e., data, models, assumptions) that underpins target setting, scenario planning, and monitoring.
- For example when developing an LTS, projections should clearly document the technology and policy assumptions used for emissions estimates.

Source: Freepik

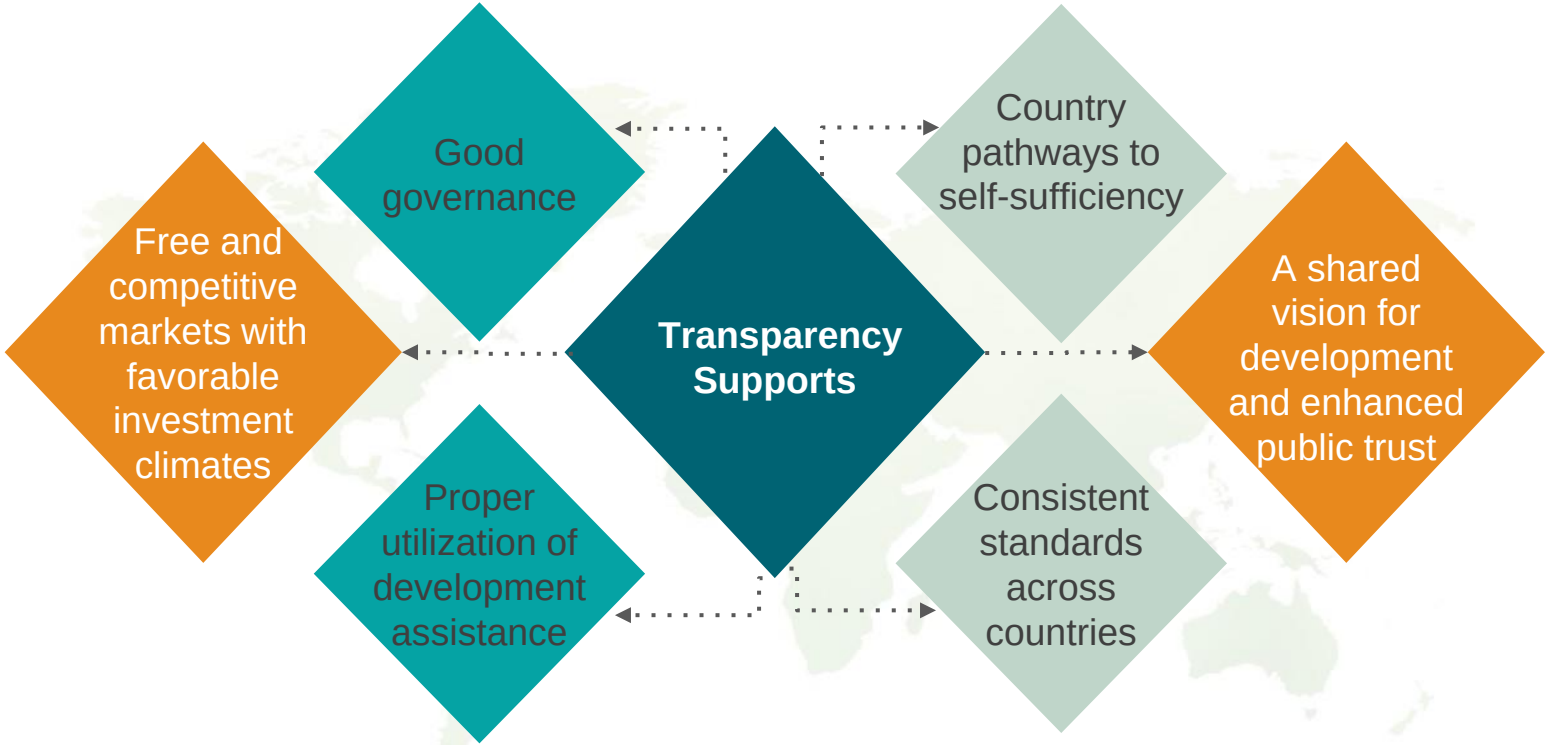
# Why Is Transparency Important?

- Transparency is key to making LTS targets credible for outside observers.
- It enables the tracking of progress towards reaching mid-century greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets.
- It supports decision making for sustainable development activities, promoting the efficient use of resources.

Source: ICF

# Benefits of Transparency

Transparency has many benefits and supports multiple objectives:



# LTS and the Paris Agreement

# Paris Agreement

The **Paris Agreement** is a U.N. agreement signed by 195 countries in Paris at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in 2015. The agreement aims to:

- Limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels;
- Support countries in adapting to climate change; and
- Align financial resources with low GHG emissions and climate-resilient pathways.


Source: COP Paris, Flickr

# Nationally Determined Contribution

Every signatory country, known as a **Party**, must submit a **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)**.

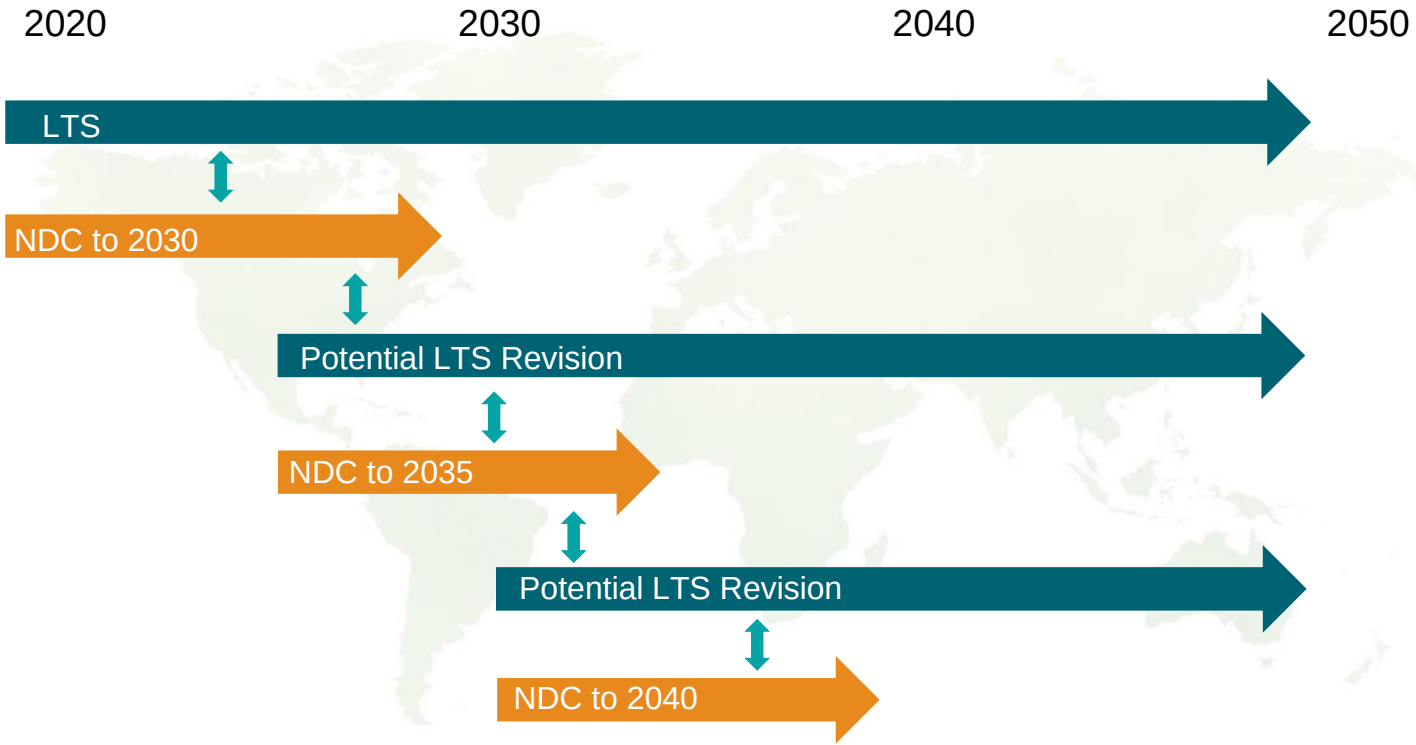
- NDCs are country-specific efforts to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- NDCs account for the different capabilities and socio-economic realities of each country and provide the foundation for climate action.

# LTS and NDC Provisions

- These two planning elements are closely related and can inform each other and/or be developed in tandem. For example:
  - Coordination on data collection, modeling capacity, and stakeholder engagement activities.
  - Informing Parties' efforts to increase their overall ambition.
  - Making a LTS goal a reality by facilitating the implementation of short- and long-term actions.
- LTS can provide countries with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the actions needed to achieve long-term goals and how to link initial policy and program decisions to long-term outcomes.
- Countries can also use short- and medium-term accomplishments to build confidence as they pursue sustainable development pathways.

# Alignment of LTS and NDC Process

LTS should inform NDC revisions and vice versa



# LTS and NDC Provisions

The following table delineates the scope, timeframe, and frequency of update for LTS and NDCs.

| | Long-Term Strategies (LTS) | Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) |
|---|---|---|
| **Scope** | Defines the national vision and development priorities for a country, and links this vision and priorities to emissions pathway | Defines specific GHG emission reduction targets and more detailed implementation plans |
| **Timeframe** | 2050 | 2030 |
| **Frequency of Update** | Parties are invited to submit a LTS in 2020 with no requirement for revisions | Parties are required to communicate and update NDCs every five years |

# What is the Enhanced Transparency Framework?

- The Paris Agreement calls for an **Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)** which will create a uniform system for countries to report progress on mitigation and adaptation measures.
- The ETF supports more robust, clear, consistent, and effective data collection and reporting to inform future climate action.

# ETF and Transportation

- Transportation is a key sector to manage emissions reductions and meet mid-century goals.
- Transportation planners involved in mitigation activities can report emissions reductions to support national-level transparency. These metrics can help track progress towards reaching NDCs and LTS.

# Considerations Before the Workshop

# Questions for Session 1

1. Has your country submitted a LTS to the UNFCCC?
   You can check here

1. Does your country have a commitment under the Paris Agreement?
   You can check here

1. Are there existing activities that you support that are related to mid-century transportation planning and/or increased transparency?

# Thank you

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