The Intersection of Transparency, LTS, and Transportation in Asia

Pre-Training: Low Emissions Pathways in Transportation

September 2020
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
5. Consider before the Workshop
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.
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:
  - Avoid/Reduce
  - Shift/Maintain
  - Improve
ASI in the Transportation Sector

Source: SLOCAT
Transportation Activities Under ASI

Transportation activities can fall under multiple pillars of the ASI Framework

No Travel Activity
- No desire or need to travel

Active Transport
- Walking, cycling

Public Motorized Transport
- Public transport

Individual Motorized Transport
- Car, taxi, motorcycle

Avoid
Shift
Improve

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 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:

- Free and competitive markets with favorable investment climates
- Good governance
- Proper utilization of development assistance
- Consistent standards across countries
- A shared vision for development and enhanced public trust
- Country pathways to self-sufficiency

Transparency Supports
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.
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

2020

2030

2040

2050

LTS

NDC to 2030

Potential LTS Revision

NDC to 2035

Potential LTS Revision

NDC to 2040

24
LTS and NDC Provisions

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

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