The Challenges of sustainable transportation in KIRIBATI

Bareti Tong
Ministry of Information, Communication and Transport, Kiribati.
Outline

• Kiribati
• Government Initiatives to modernize Transport sector
• Implementation of Policies and acts
  - Climate Change Policy
  - Digital Government Policy
  - Traffic Act with regulations on vehicles
• Projects – Fiber-optic internet cable
• Challenges and issues
Kiribati

- One of the most remote and dispersed countries in the world.
- 33 atolls and reef islands, total land area of 726 km² scattered over an ocean area of 3.5 million km².
- Fragile state because of its geography and the effects of climate change (sea level rise, storm surge, coastal erosion)
- Population of 120,000 (45 % in South Tarawa)
Policies on Digital Transformation and sustainable transportation

• Climate Change Policy:
Promotes sustainable practices within the transportation sector. It emphasizes moving towards a greener environment and supports the decarbonization movement. This policy encourages the adoption of eco-friendly modes of transportation and alternative fuels.

• Digital Government (Government Wide Area Network)
Proposes measures to improve efficiency and accessibility in transportation services through digital platforms. It seeks to establish digital government services, infrastructure, skills, and purposes for better management of transport operations, and data safe-keeping.
Policies on Digital Transformation and sustainable transportation

• Traffic Act and road regulations
  It aims to control second-hand vehicle imports by implementing stricter regulations on their importation. It introduces penalties for vehicle owners who violate traffic regulations. To enhance traffic management, technological solutions are being introduced for effective data collection.

• Digital Transformation and improvement of Connectivity:
  East Micronesia Cable System (EMCS). This program will enhance communication and provide opportunities for technological advancements in various sectors, including smart transportation.
Challenges and issues

- Limited land space:
  a constraint on infrastructure development for transport systems: no parking space,
Challenges and issues

• Expensive transition to newer/modern vehicles (electronic vehicles):
  Financial difficulties for the government and individuals, people cannot afford it.

• Second-hand cars:
  Excessive number of vehicles on South Tarawa has led frequent traffic congestion on narrow roads,
Thank you all