Integration and Application of Digital Technologies in Urban Public Transport Systems in Asia-Pacific Cities

Integration and the utilization of digital technologies can help enhance the operational efficiency of urban public transport systems.

This project was initiated to help build the capacity of selected cities in the region to enhance overall sustainability of urban public transport systems. The objective is to evaluate the existing state of urban mobility in pilot cities and countries, and make recommendations for innovative solutions in the planning, development and operation of integrated public transport systems that leverages the application of digital technologies.

OUTCOME:

- To strengthen the capacity of stakeholders in cities to enhance the integration of public transport systems which incorporate the use of digital technologies for the achievement of SDG 11.

- To enhance the overall sustainability of urban transport systems and contribute to the achievement of the SDG target 11.2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in target cities.

TIMELINE:
January 2022 – June 2024

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), Japan, UN Country Teams, University of South Pacific, Suva, Intelligent Transport System (Russia), Centre for Digitalization of the Transport Sector, Dushanbe, Young Power in Social Action, Bangladesh, Fund of Assistance for Professional Media, Almaty, Department of Transport, Bukhara, CEPT University, Almaty City, Almaty Development Centre, Bukhara City, Lautoka City, Chattogram City Corporation, Dushanbe City, and ITS Asia-Pacific.

PROJECT FUNDER:
Russian Federation Global Fund

PUBLICATIONS:
- City mobility assessment reports
- Integration of Public Transport Systems: A Guidebook for Policymakers

Regional Meeting on Integration of Urban Public Transport Systems and Application of Digital Technologies
29-30 May 2024 at Almaty, Kazakhstan

The key objectives of this regional meeting is to highlight the importance of integration and application of digital technologies to enhance overall sustainability of urban public transport systems.

Also to share experiences amongst pilot cities and countries on the integration and use of digital technologies, and present a methodological guideline and compendium of best practices on integration of urban public transport systems.

For more information, contact us at: escap-td@un.org
**PILOT CITIES**

Under this project, urban mobility in the cities have been analyzed using the Sustainable Urban Transport Index (SUTI) tool and on the use of digital technologies.

Follow-up activities and national capacity-building workshops are planned for each pilot city to explore how integration and use of digital technologies can help to improve the public transport system in five different cities.

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**CHATTOGRAM, BANGLADESH**

Chatogram is the second-largest city in Bangladesh and a major economic hub. The transport system in Chatogram is heavily congested. SUTI score is 38. City need to develop a comprehensive and inclusive urban transport plan, increase investment for the public transport system, aim to improve air quality and address issues of gender and social inclusion in public transport.

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**LAUTOKA, FIJI**

Lautoka, one of the two cities in Fiji, is known as the ‘Sugar City’ due to its status as the home to the country’s largest sugar mill. SUTI score is 48. With a growing urban population, Lautoka can further enhance convenient access to public transport services, safety and quality and reliability of services. The government is also focused on transitioning to electric mobility.

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**ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN**

Public transport is a popular choice for commuters in Almaty, Kazakhstan’s largest city. SUTI score is 57. However, Almaty needs an updated public transport system that effectively connects all urban areas. In addition, there is an opportunity for digital technologies to step in and help enhance the public transport system’s operational efficiency. The city need to update data of mode share and quality and reliability and use these to improve public transport.

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**DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN**

Dushanbe is the capital and largest city of Tajikistan have recently had large investments in their public transport fleet. SUTI score is 56. Still, there are concerns with the public transport system’s profitability and the related emissions. Overall public transport planning and quality and reliability of services need to be improved. The government is implementing new programs aimed at promoting the use of new energy vehicles, particularly electric vehicles.

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**BUKHARA, UZBEKISTAN**

Bukhara is one of the oldest and historical cities in Central Asia. SUTI score is 36. The mobility assessment revealed that the city need to develop a comprehensive transport plan, improve accessibility and increase investment for development of public transport services. The city also work on improving pedestrian infrastructure and efficiency of bus routes.