Review of the implementation of the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2017–2021)

ESCAP/CTR/2020/1
ESCAP/CTR/2020/INF/1
RAP for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2017-2021)

- Adopted at the 3rd session of the Ministerial Conference on Transport (Moscow, 2016)
- 7 thematic areas of work:
  1. Regional transport infrastructure connectivity;
  2. Regional transport operational connectivity;
  3. Euro-Asian transport connectivity;
  4. Transport connectivity for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS;
  5. Sustainable urban transport;
  6. Rural transport connectivity to wider networks; and
  7. Improving road safety.
Highlights: Regional transport infrastructure connectivity

- Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian-Highway Network
  - 30 Parties
- Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network
  - Ratification - Turkey (11 June 2019) → 20 Parties
- Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports
  - Accessions - Lao PDR (5 Nov 2019) and Azerbaijan (24 April 2020)
  - Ratification - Myanmar (15 September 2020) → 16 Parties

- Working Groups: Adoption of a number of amendments to the routes of highway and railway networks, and the revised list of dry ports. (A policy segment was also held with the TAR WG)
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Highlights: Regional transport operational connectivity

- Continued to facilitate the implementation of the IGA on International Road Transport along the Asian Highway Network by China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation
- Launched a database of bilateral and multilateral agreements on road and railway transport
- Published the Review of Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific: Addressing the Challenges for Freight Transport
- Adoption of the ESCAP Commission’s resolution 76/1 (a request for continued regional dialogue on sustainable maritime connectivity)
- Organized 3 virtual meetings to review national policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic along the Trans-Asian Railway network
Highlights: Euro-Asian transport connectivity

• Implementation a project on connecting transport infrastructure networks in Asia and Europe in support of interregional sustainable transport connectivity

• Published a study on the comprehensive planning of the Eurasian Transport Corridors to strengthen intra- and interregional transport connectivity

• Organized an Interregional Expert Group Meeting on Transport Connectivity between Asia and Europe (January 2019) and a joint consultation between ECE and ESCAP member States on Sustainable Transport Connectivity between Europe and Asia (October 2019)

• Prepared an updated study report on progress in enhancing transport connectivity between Asia and Europe reflecting the latest trends including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
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Highlights: Transport connectivity for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS

• Prepared a draft study on developing a digital freight platform for the completion of regulatory requirements in international road transport for landlocked developing countries in Central Asia

• Organized a capacity-building workshop on the use of new technologies for transit transport facilitation in Central Asia

• Organized a regional workshop on mainstreaming the maritime sector in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (August 2019)

• Prepared of a chapter on transforming maritime shipping as part of the theme study “Changing Sails: Accelerating Regional Actions for Sustainable Oceans in Asia and the Pacific”
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**Highlights: Sustainable urban transport**

- Continued to **promote Sustainable Urban Transport Index (SUTI)** through advisory services, consultation and regional capacity building workshops
- Updated SUTI to include a component on the **impact of COVID-19 on mobility**
- Developing a study on the **development of sustainable urban transport in Asia-Pacific region** to be discussed at the regional meeting (a follow-up to the Khabarovsk Conference)
- Organized expert group meeting and regional meeting on **intelligent transport systems development** and operation for sustainable transport systems in Asia and the Pacific
- Published the Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 88, with the theme “**Intelligent Transport Systems**”
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Highlights:

Rural transport connectivity to wider networks

• Organized Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Rural Transport Connectivity to Regional and International Transport Networks (Bangkok, July 2019)

• Published monograph series on “Enhancing rural transport connectivity to regional and international transport networks in Asia and the Pacific”
Highlights: Improving road safety

- Published 2 study reports (implementation frameworks) on strategies to tackle the issues of impaired driving and speed for road safety in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Organized a regional seminar on tackling the main causes of road traffic crashes, fatalities and injuries in Asia-Pacific countries
- Published the Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 89, with the theme “Improving Road Safety”
- Led the implementation of UNRSF-funded project “Strengthening speed management in the Philippines” with GRSP
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Issues for consideration

The Committee may wish to:

• Review the activities described in the present document
• Provide further guidance to the secretariat on future activities in support of the implementation of the RAP, phase I (2017-2021)
• Inform the Committee of progress and relevant activities, at the national and regional levels