Policy recommendations

Prioritize transport emissions

It will not be possible to achieve the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recommended "2 Degrees Scenario" without tackling transport emissions. All Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) should give thorough detailed consideration to transport.

Internalization of external costs There is an urgent need for changes to transport policy, to introduce a consistent, fair policy framework that internalizes external costs.

Rebalance transport investments, to achieve a higher "carbon return" 1 US Dollar invested on 1 passenger-km in rail is 100 times more efficient than 1 US Dollar invested on 1 passenger-km in road in terms of CO, emissions.

Support electrification

The length of electrified railway lines has doubled in the period 1975-2011. Currently more than 21% of electricity comes from renewable sources, and this percentage increases every year.

Integrate rail stations into urban design and city logistics Cities and megacities produce more than 70% of CO₂ emissions. The city centre location of railway stations enable effective intermodality through transfers to urban public transport services in addition to cycling, walking, car sharing and city logistics.

Support modal shift for freight transport, with simplification of border crossing and standardization across rail corridors Simplification of border crossing and standardisation of the rail system for transport corridors is needed to promote a shift towards low carbon, efficient, multi-modal sustainable freight transport.