

9th Regional EST Forum in Asia, 17-20 November 2015, Kathmandu, Nepal

Intergovernmental Ninth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Asia

EST for Resiliency – Building Safe, Smart, Low-carbon and Resilient Cities in Asia

Country Report

(Draft)

<Afghanistan>

This country report was prepared by Afghanistan as an input for the Ninth Regional EST Forum in Asia. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations.

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Country EST Report (covering last 5 years / 2010-15)

a) Name of the Country: Afghanistan

b) Name, Designation and Line Ministry/Agency Respondent: National Environmental Protection Agency

c) List other Line Ministries/Agencies contributing to preparation of the Country Report: Ministry of Urban Development Affairs and Ministry of Transport

With the objective of demonstrating the renewed interest and commitment of Asian countries towards realizing a promising decade (2010-2020) of sustainable actions and measures for achieving safe, secure, affordable, efficient, and people and environment-friendly transport in rapidly urbanizing Asia, the participating countries of the Fifth Regional EST Forum in Asia discussed and agreed on a goodwill and voluntary declaration - “**Bangkok Declaration for 2020 – Sustainable Transport Goals for 2010-2020.**” Subsequently, at the Seventh Regional EST Forum held in Bali in 2013, the participating countries adopted the “**Bali Declaration on Vision Three Zeros- Zero Congestion, Zero Pollution and Zero Accidents towards Next Generation Transport Systems in Asia**” reinforcing the implementation of Bangkok 2020 Declaration (2010-2020) with emphasis to zero tolerance towards congestion, pollution and road accidents in the transport policy, planning and development. Bali Vision Three Zeros calls for a paradigm shift in thinking on the role of motorization and mobility in realizing sustainable development in Asia.

Each member country of the Forum is kindly requested to prepare a consolidated country report (by 15 October 2015) reflecting how EST trends and developments have taken place in the country over last 5 years (2010-2015) around the Goals of the Bangkok 2020 Declaration as an interim assessment following the below format. You are most welcome to add extra pages or sections to share any major on-going initiatives or future plans, including mega transport projects, transport master plans, special transport corridor development, expansion of railways and rail route developments, etc.

The objective of the Country Reporting is to share among international community the voluntary progress/achievements/initiatives include various challenges faced by countries in implementing each of the underlined goals of the Bangkok 2020 Declaration to realize the Bali Vision Three Zeros - Zero Congestion, Zero Pollution, and Zero Accidents towards Next Generation Transport Systems in Asia. This would help development agencies,

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donors, development banks in assessing the sustainable transport needs and challenges to better devise their existing as well as future capacity building programs and operations in sustainable transport areas.

Timeline for submission by 15 October 2015

by email to: est@uncrd.or.jp

Goal No.	Goal Description	Voluntary Progress/Achievements/Major Initiatives, including any transport master plans, development of special transport corridors, in Implementing the Bangkok 2020 Declaration over last 5 years (2010-2015)		
I. Strategies to <u>Avoid</u> unnecessary travel and reduce trip distances				
“Avoid” Strategy	1	Formally integrate land-use and transport planning processes and related institutional arrangements at the local, regional, and national levels	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation: Rapid Urbanization, population congestion due to movement of rural population for security, education and Employment
			Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant: construction of housing plots, and the draft policy of	
			Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020): Environment and Social Impact Assessment of housing schemes in major Cities	

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“Avoid” Strategy	<p>2</p> <p>Achieve mixed-use development and medium-to-high densities along key corridors within cities through appropriate land - use policies and provide people - oriented local access,</p> <p>and actively promote transit-oriented development (TOD) when introducing new public transport infrastructure</p>	<p>Any action had been taken so far?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not yet</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed</p> <p>(Please Check the box)</p>	<p>Challenges faced in implementation: Security and law enforcement</p>
		<p>Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant</p>	
		<p>Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020): Approve and implement national urban and transport policy and strategies.</p>	
“Avoid” Strategy	<p>3</p> <p>Institute policies, programmes, and projects supporting Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), such as internet access, teleconferencing, and telecommuting, as a means to reduce unneeded travel</p>	<p>Any action had been taken so far?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not yet</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed</p> <p>(Please Check the box)</p>	<p>Challenges faced in implementation: Use of communication technologies have reduced the travels but bureaucracy is still major barriers</p>

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		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant		
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)		
II. Strategies to <u>Shift</u> towards more sustainable modes				
“Shift” Strategy	4	Require Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) components in transport master plans in all major cities and prioritize transport infrastructure investments to NMT, including wide-scale improvements to pedestrian and bicycle facilities, development of facilities for intermodal connectivity, and adoption of complete street design standards, wherever feasible	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation: Low and old road network infrastructure, limited space around main road network and lack of urban land use policies.
			Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
			Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Shift” Strategy	5 Improve public transport services including high quality and affordable services on dedicated infrastructure along major arterial corridors in the city and connect with feeder services into residential communities	Any action had been taken so far?	Challenges faced in implementation: Lack of Financial Resources
		<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)			

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“Shift” Strategy	6 Reduce the urban transport mode share of private motorized vehicles through Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures, including pricing measures that integrate congestion, safety, and pollution costs, aimed at gradually reducing price distortions that directly or indirectly encourage driving, motorization, and sprawl	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	
“Shift” Strategy	7 Achieve significant shifts to more sustainable modes of inter-city passenger and goods transport , including priority for high-quality long distance bus, inland water transport, high-speed rail over car and air passenger travel, and priority for	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:

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	train and barge freight over truck and air freight by building supporting infrastructure such as dry inland ports	Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant		
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)		
III. Strategies to <u>Improve</u> transport practices and technologies				
“Improve” Strategy	8	Diversify towards more sustainable transport fuels and technologies , including greater market penetration of options such as vehicles operating on electricity generated from renewable sources, hybrid technology, and natural gas	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation: lack of policies and strategies on Public Private Partnerships
			Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
			Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Improve” Strategy	9 Set progressive, appropriate, and affordable standards for fuel quality, fuel efficiency, and tailpipe emissions for all vehicle types, including new and in-use vehicles	Any action had been taken so far?	Challenges faced in implementation: lack of vehicle emission test technologies
		<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)			

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“Improve” Strategy	10 Establish effective vehicle testing and compliance regimes, including formal vehicle registration systems and appropriate periodic vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) requirements, with particular emphasis on commercial vehicles, to enforce progressive emission and safety standards, resulting in older polluting commercial vehicles being gradually phased-out from the vehicle fleet, as well as testing and compliance regimes for vessels	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation: lack of financial resources and technologies
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant Air Quality regulation instrument	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020): Contract private sector within the Public Private Partnership strategies	

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“Improve” Strategy	11 Adopt Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), such as electronic fare and road user charging systems, transport control centres, and real-time user information, when applicable	Any action had been taken so far? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in 2014~2015	
“Improve” Strategy	12 Achieve improved freight transport efficiency, including road, rail, air, and water, through policies, programmes, and projects that modernize the freight vehicle technology, implement fleet control and management systems, and	Any action had been taken so far? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:

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Goal No.	Goal Description	Voluntary Progress/Achievements/Major Initiatives, including any transport master plans, development of special transport corridors, in Implementing the Bangkok 2020 Declaration over last 5 years (2010-2015)		
	support better logistics and supply chain management	Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant		
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)		
IV. <u>Cross-cutting</u> strategies				
“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	13	Adopt a zero-fatality policy with respect to road, rail, and waterway safety and implement appropriate speed control, traffic calming strategies, strict driver licensing, motor vehicle registration, insurance requirements, and better post-accident care oriented to significant reductions in accidents and injuries	Any action had been taken so far? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:
			Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
			Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	14 Promote monitoring of the health impacts from transport emissions and noise, especially with regard to incidences of asthma, other pulmonary diseases, and heart disease in major cities, assess the economic impacts of air pollution and noise, and devise mitigation strategies, especially aiding sensitive populations near high traffic concentrations	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Cross-Cutting”	15 Establish country-specific, progressive, health-based, cost-effective, and enforceable air quality and noise standards, also taking into account the WHO guidelines, and mandate monitoring and reporting in order to reduce the occurrence of days in which pollutant levels of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, carbon monoxide, and ground-level ozone exceed the national standards or zones where noise levels exceed the national standards, especially with regard to environments near high traffic concentrations	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation: lack of law enforcement
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	16 Implement sustainable low-carbon transport initiatives to mitigate the causes of global climate change and to fortify national energy security , and to report the inventory of all greenhouse gases emitted from the transport sector in the National Communication to the UNFCCC	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation: lack of resources
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	
“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	17 Adopt social equity as a planning and design criteria in the development and implementation of transport initiatives, leading to improved quality, safety and security for all and especially for women, universal accessibility of streets and public	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:

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	transport systems for persons with disabilities and elderly, affordability of transport systems for low-income groups, and up-gradation, modernization and integration of intermediate public transport	Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	
“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	18 Encourage innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable transport infrastructure and operations through measures, such as parking levies, fuel pricing, time-of-day automated road user charging, and public-private partnerships such as land value capture, including consideration of carbon markets, wherever feasible	Any action had been taken so far?	Challenges faced in implementation:
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	19 Encourage widespread distribution of information and awareness on sustainable transport to all levels of government and to the public through outreach, promotional campaigns, timely reporting of monitored indicators, and participatory processes	Any action had been taken so far? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	

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“Cross-Cutting” Strategy	20 Develop dedicated and funded institutions that address sustainable transport-land use policies and implementation, including research and development on environmentally-sustainable transport, and promote good governance through implementation of environmental impact assessments for major transport projects	Any action had been taken so far? <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some (design – piloting) <input type="checkbox"/> Largely in Place <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Completed (Please Check the box)	Challenges faced in implementation:
		Examples of pilot projects and/or policies developed or under development – include URLs where relevant	
		Important actions you will carry out in next 5 years (2015~2020)	