Join us in raising ambition, action and advocacy to decarbonise the transport sector before 2050
Why decarbonise transport?

The transport sector has the challenge of catering to ever-growing demands related to the movement of people and goods, while slashing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, increasing climate resilience, promoting healthier lifestyles and driving equitable prosperity.

Yet for the most part, most vehicles still run on fossil fuels, and the sector contributes 24% of global energy-related CO₂ emissions.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that to achieve the Paris Agreement’s below-2°C scenario, emissions from transport will need to drop by more than two-thirds. At the moment, however, transport is the fastest-growing fossil fuel-dependent sector. Emissions from transport are set to rise about 50% by 2050.

Shifting to cleaner transport is not only essential if we are to meet Paris Agreement targets, carbon-free transport is also key to building back better, creating an equitable, green and attractive recovery from our current health and economic crises.

The synergy of the TDA

Accelerating the transition to zero-emission transport requires countries, cities/regions, and companies to communicate and collaborate in an unprecedented fashion.

For instance, manufacturers of electric vehicles (EVs) need to know there will be both a market for their products, as well as the charging infrastructure required to make their vehicles attractive to consumers before putting major investment into EV production. Meanwhile, fleet owners and other buyers need to know that EVs and charging infrastructure will be available.

Governments can catalyse shifts in the market by lowering risks on both sides with policies that encourage charging infrastructure, financial incentives to produce and buy EVs, and other policies such as zero-emission zones for passenger vehicles and freight in urban centres.

Similarly, to reduce GHG emissions through active mobility - walking and cycling for example - cities need to work with local businesses to redesign downtown areas and implement policies that promote safety and convenience for pedestrians and cyclists.
What is the TDA’s unique contribution?

The changes needed to make a shift this large are systemic, involving public and private sectors with a myriad of stakeholders. They require unprecedented cooperation across sectors.

The TDA is facilitating this shift by supporting activities and platforms where representatives of frontrunner countries, cities/regions and companies can connect, understand each others’ challenges and opportunities and develop synergies to accelerate action and ambition.

TDA members are passionate about the urgent transition to clean transport and work with equally determined colleagues from different fields and countries on the policies, regulations, infrastructure planning, problem-solving and business models to make the transformation swift.

The TDA community

- Demonstrates that transport decarbonisation is technically feasible, economically sound and brings broad social and environmental benefits;
- Facilitates discussion, agenda-setting and action on decarbonisation in the context of global, regional, national, local, and corporate policy processes on transport and climate change;
- Advocates acceleration of decarbonisation and engages a growing number of stakeholders in ambitious action on this by leading by example, sharing experiences and documenting best practices.

How do members participate in the TDA?

In Communities of Interest (CoIs), members collaboratively develop policy recommendations, reports, online courses and other products or outcomes important to them. They contribute to and benefit from networking, thought leadership, peer-to-peer learning and shaping international ambition and action through initiatives and participation.

Communities of Interest include

Active Mobility

Shifts to active mobility have increased significantly during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Cities around the world are rediscovering that cycling and walking are serious means of transport. The newly established Active Mobility CoI focuses on how the TDA members can work together to support this trend worldwide.

Members from each of the constituencies currently share information, experience, and expertise in monthly workshops. The CoI is producing an ambitious action plan that identifies best practices and global challenges in the fields of Hardware, Software and Org-ware and setting concrete commitments for all members.

Along the way, the CoI plans to compile cases and white papers and convene forums where leaders in active mobility show how they are creating space even in dense cities, designing and building safe infrastructure and changing travel behaviour for good.
Executive Education on Transport Decarbonisation

In 2019, TDA members collaborated with universities in Europe, the United States and Asia to develop, test and share an intensive training program for students as well as executives in transport and sustainability fields. In 75 hours of modules, the training covers numerous aspects of the policy, planning, technology, innovation and management needed to achieve the transition. The program is now freely available to academic institutions.

The Fast Track to Transport Decarbonisation

This early CoI produced the TDA Manifesto — a call to action for the TDA members to kickstart transport decarbonisation. The Manifesto also outlines 12 pillars of transformation to complete the transition. It has served as a foundational document for the TDA.

Urban Freight

This CoI aims to make zero-emission freight vehicles commercially viable by 2025 and the norm by 2040. The TDA members are working to develop the policies, infrastructure, incentives and markets that will get zero-emission freight vehicles on the road.

Col members promote a phased approach, starting with lighter commercial vehicles in cities before working up to heavy-duty regional trucks and then electric long-haul tractor-trailers.

With partners, the Urban Freight CoI has organised a series of webinars to showcase the experiences of cities in Europe and Asia as they plan and implement zero-emission zones. It also produced a guide for city officials and others to advance the use of zero-emission freight vehicles: Zero-Emission Zones in the City: Don’t Wait to Start with Freight!

Capping recent CoI work, the TDA and the Netherlands have launched an initiative to have a large group of countries sign a memorandum of understanding committing to ambitious targets for zero-emission freight for 2030 and 2050.

How does the TDA contribute to global events and action?

In addition to working together on CoI events, research and best practices, TDA members play an active role in international forums on climate change, transport and sustainable development. During the One Planet Summit of 2017, for instance, TDA founding members were instrumental in getting transport decarbonisation declared as one of the 12 global priorities.

In December, the TDA initiated, together with the SLOCAT Partnership, the three-day, digital En Route to COP26 event. It featured 150 speakers and an audience of over 1000 participants, including decision-makers and experts from throughout the public and private sectors, civil society and academia, spanning many generations and nationalities. En Route to COP26 presented cutting-edge thinking on key challenges, including phasing out the internal combustion engine, transforming urban mobility and fostering sustainable maritime transport for Small Island Developing States. The co-organisers of En Route to COP26 were: EUROCLIMA+ Programme, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), FIA Foundation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Institute for Transportation Development and Policy (ITDP), International Association of Public Transport (UITP), Movin’ On, Rocky Mountain Institute, Sustainable Mobility for All (SuM4All), Transport Scotland and World Resources Institute (WRI), in partnership with Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and Smart Freight Centre.

At the 2020 Annual Polis Conference, the TDA presented a new how-to guide for policymakers: Zero-Emission Zones in the City: Don’t Wait to Start with Freight! Prepared by TDA, POLIS and C40, the guide presents lessons learned from cities in Europe, Asia and North America that are encouraging zero-emission freight vehicles as well as achieving other urban goals by devising zero-emission zones for freight.
Also in 2020, TDA commissioned the World Resources Institute (WRI) to synthesise ideas on global recovery from the pandemic and economic crises. The initial findings of this report, *Build Back Better: Steering Transport Toward Green Recovery*, were presented at Transforming Transportation in February 2021. The researchers confirmed that prioritising green transport will enable countries, cities and companies to reach economic, health and equity goals as well as climate targets. It spotlights key opportunities within public transport, walking and cycling and decarbonising passenger and freight vehicles, rail and aviation.

### Why should you join?

Membership in the TDA enables you to connect and work with leading colleagues in other countries, cities/regions and companies on one of the most exciting frontiers of our time.

As a TDA member, you will have the opportunity to demonstrate leadership at international events as well as at gatherings of the private sector and local and regional governments.

You will be encouraged to share your organisation's ideas and progress through our network and you will easily develop working relationships with colleagues in policy as well as technical areas.

**TDA members help build and enjoy access to:**

- A community of TDA members representatives, many of them frontrunners in transport-related climate action;
- A vibrant and diverse international network for peer-to-peer learning, mentoring and partnering;
- A platform to exchange and showcase solutions;
- Methods to scale up transport and mobility solutions in varying socio-economic contexts.

### What does TDA membership entail?

The membership process is straightforward. The TDA expects members to:

- Sign the TDA charter to document your support for TDA goals;
- Share with the TDA your entity’s goals and actions demonstrating commitment and leadership in the field;
- Participate in TDA activities; and
- Support the TDA’s work with an annual contribution.

For more information or to join today:

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