
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Committee on Transport

Fourth session

Bangkok, 15-17 October 2014

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

**Review of the implementation of the Regional Action
Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the
Pacific, phase II (2012-2016)**

**Activities implemented under the Regional Action
Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the
Pacific, phase II (2012-2016)**

Note by the secretariat**

The secretariat is pleased to submit a summary of the activities implemented under the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2012-2016), since the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific in March 2012. It is intended to provide participants with additional information relating to item 2 of the provisional agenda on Review of the implementation of the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2012-2016) and its associated document (E/ESCAP/CTR(4)/1), which also mentions non-ESCAP meetings in which the secretariat participated.

* E/ESCAP/CTR(4)/L.1.

** This document has been issued without formal editing.

Summary of activities implemented by the ESCAP secretariat under the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2012-2016), of the Ministerial Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (October 2013 to June 2014)¹

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|----------|--|---|
| 1 | Policy guidance at the ministerial level | Immediate objective: to promote regional cooperation and policy leadership at the ministerial level for the advancement of transport as a key to regional development |
| 1.1 | A meeting of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport at the midpoint of the implementation of the Regional Action Programme, phase II (2012-2016); | Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, second session (Bangkok, Thailand, 4-8 November 2013) |
| 1.2 | Ministerial consideration and direction to transport policies in the region. | <p>Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, second session (Bangkok, Thailand, 4-8 November 2013)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration on Transport as a Key to Sustainable Development and Regional Integration <p>70th session of the Commission (Bangkok, Thailand, 4-8 August 2014)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of resolution 70/12 of 8 August 2014 on Implementation of the Suva Declaration on Improving Maritime Transport and Related Services in the Pacific, and resolution 70/13 of 8 August 2014 on Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Transport as a Key to Sustainable Development and Regional Integration |
| 2 | Transport infrastructure development | Immediate objective: to promote regional and interregional connectivity and cooperation through the further development and upgrading of the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks as well as Euro-Asian transport linkages and dry ports |
| 2.1 | Meetings of the working groups on the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway; | <p>Working Group on the Asian Highway Network - fifth meeting (Bangkok, Thailand, 7-8 October 2013)</p> <p>Working Group on the Trans-Asian Railway Network - third meeting (Bangkok, Thailand, 5-6 November 2013)</p> |

¹ Activities implemented between 2012 and September 2013 are contained in document E/ESCAP/FAMT(2)/INF/4 and E/ESCAP/CTR(3)/INF/4.

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|-----|--|--|
| 2.2 | Intergovernmental agreement on dry ports; | <p>Signing ceremony of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports on 7 November 2014 during the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, second session (Bangkok, Thailand, 4-8 November 2013)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 countries² signed the agreement, including Thailand, which also ratified it <p>Republic of Korea becoming a Party to the Agreement through ratification on 22 April 2014</p> <p>Sri Lanka signing the Agreement on 16 May 2014</p> |
| 2.3 | Studies, meetings and capacity-building on integrated transport development, upgrading and maintenance (asset management) of the Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway, dry ports of international importance and seaports; | <p>Project on Promotion of investment in the Asian Highway Network: prefeasibility studies of priority sections funded by the Korea Expressway Corporation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the outcome of the prefeasibility studies conducted in Myanmar, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and Bangladesh at the Asian Highway Investment Forum (Bangkok, Thailand, 8-9 October 2013) <p>Project on Development and Operation of Dry Ports of International Importance (a follow-up to the project on Development of dry ports along the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks) funded by the Government of Russian Federation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies/best practices conducted and used to draft policy guidelines on planning the development of dry port • Capacity-building for the development and operation of dry ports of international importance (Bangkok, Thailand, 18-19 March 2014) <p>ESCAP participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Annual Roads and Highways Meeting (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 28-30 October 2013) |
| 2.4 | Studies on international intermodal transport corridors serving inter- and intraregional trade; | |
| 2.5 | Updated information and data measuring progress in the development of regionally important transport infrastructure and operations; | <p>Updates on Asian Highway regularly collected and aggregated in the Asian Highway database (http://old.escap.un.org/ttdw/common/tis/ah/database.asp)</p> <p>Updates on integrated map of the Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and dry ports database (www.unescap.org/resources/integrated-map-ah-tar-dry-ports-international-importance)</p> |

² Armenia; Cambodia; China; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Lao People's Democratic Republic; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Tajikistan; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|----------|--|---|
| 2.6 | Activities within the joint UNESCAP-UNECE project on the development of Euro-Asian transport links. | 19 th session of the SPECA Project Working Group on Transport and Border Crossing (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 18-19 June 2014) |
| 3 | Transport facilitation | Immediate objective: to promote efficient and smooth movement of goods, passengers and vehicles by road and rail across the region, including at border crossings |
| 3.1 | Establishment of a regional network of legal and technical experts on transport facilitation and the development of an action plan for the implementation of the regional strategic framework for the facilitation of international road transport; | Project on Establishment of regional network of legal and technical experts on transport facilitation funded by the Russian Federation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation with 88 Applications of experts on transport facilitation from 28 countries as of June 2014 • First Meeting of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation (Phuket, Thailand, 10-11 February 2014) |
| 3.2 | Workshops/studies on regional and subregional cooperation under the regional strategic framework for facilitation of international road transport; | Seminar on Cross-border Transport among China, Mongolia and Russian Federation (Bangkok, Thailand, 23-24 April 2013) |
| 3.3 | A study to identify the issues surrounding regional cooperation for the facilitation of international railway transport; | Project on Enhancing the operationalization of the Trans-Asian Railway-Costing, marketing and facilitation of railway services funded by the Government of the Russian Federation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary study on the facilitation of international railway transport available under the Monograph Series on Transport Facilitation of the International Railway Transport (www.unescap.org/resources/monograph-series-transport-facilitation-international-railway-transport-asia-and-pacific) |
| 3.4 | Assistance in acceding to and implementing international transport facilitation conventions and agreements, including those recommended in ESCAP resolution 48/11 of 23 April 1992 on road and rail transport modes in relation to facilitation measures, and in formulating and implementing subregional agreements related to the facilitation of international transport by road and/or rail; | First Consultation Meeting among China, Mongolia and Russian Federation on the Legal Instrument on Transit Transport Along the Route with Overall Direction of Asian Highway Route No. 4. (Beijing, China, 22-23 April 2014) ESCAP participated in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCO Prime Ministers Meeting (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 28-29 November 2013) • Consultation on TIR Convention with IRU (Geneva, Switzerland, 14 May 2014) • Inaugural INCU Global Conference 2014 – “Trade Facilitation Post-Bali: Putting Policy into Practice” (Baku, Azerbaijan, 21-23 May 2014) to present a paper entitled “ESCAP transport facilitation models: A new paradigm for cooperative border management” |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|----------|--|---|
| 3.5 | Advisory services/workshops on the establishment or strengthening of national facilitation coordination mechanisms and on joint controls at borders to facilitate international road and/or rail transport; | National Training Workshop on Integrated and Sustainable Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM) (Phuentsholing, Bhutan, 10-15 March 2014; Dhulikhel, Nepal, 15-17 April 2014; Dhaka, Bangladesh, 28-29 April 2014) |
| 3.6 | Studies/workshops on the application of information and communications technology and other new technologies as well as the time/cost-distance toolkit to facilitate international road and/or rail transport. | <p>UNDA Project on Capacity Building for Control Authorities and Transport Operators to Improve Efficiency of Cross-border Transport and Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Meeting of Clusters at Corridor Level for Transport Corridor Almaty-Bishkek-Dushanbe (Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 21 February 2014) • Second Meeting of Clusters at Corridor Level for Transport Corridor Almaty-Bishkek-Dushanbe (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 29 May 2014) <p>ESCAP-ADB joint collaboration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESCAP-ADB Workshop on Secure and Efficient Cross-Border Transport for the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Programme (Bangkok, Thailand, 9-11 October 2013) • ESCAP-ADB National Workshop on Secure Cross-Border Transport Model (Thimphu, Bhutan, 21 January 2014; New Delhi, India, 7 March 2014) <p>UNESCAP Secure Cross-border Transport Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting on feasibility study for pilot application of UNESCAP Secure Cross-border Transport Model between Bhutan and India (Kolkata, India, 1-3 July 2014) • Organization of the test run along transit corridor and meetings with the stakeholders for pilot implementation (Phunetsholing and Thimphu, Bhutan, 4-9 July 2014) |
| 4 | Transport logistics | <u>Immediate objective:</u> to assist countries in developing transport logistics policies and in enhancing the professionalism and competence of logistics service providers |
| 4.1 | Guidelines for the development of transport logistics policies; | <p>Project on Regional Development of Efficient and Effective Logistics System funded by the Government of China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Expert Group Meeting on Development of Efficient and Effective Logistics Systems (Beijing, China, 20-21 March 2014) • Second Expert Group Meeting on Development of Efficient and Effective Logistics Systems (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 12-13 June 2014) |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|----------|---|--|
| 4.2 | Guidelines for the establishment of minimum standards and codes of conduct for logistics service providers; | Analytical mapping of the complex services and roles played by modern logistics service providers and Guide to Key Issues in Development of Logistics Policy |
| 4.3 | Regional meetings of freight forwarders, multimodal transport operators and logistics service providers and their national associations; | Regional Conference/Forum and Meeting of Chief Executives of National Associations for Freight Forwarders, Multimodal Transport Operators and Logistics Service Providers (Beijing, China, 20 June 2014) ESCAP participated in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIATA World Congress 2013 (Singapore, 15-19 October 2013) |
| 4.4 | Technical assistance and support to the industry and to governments for a sustainable training programme. | Training Course on Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Air (Yangon, Myanmar, 28 October – 1 November 2013) Training of Trainers Workshop for freight forwarders on logistics and supply chain management (Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 18-20 December 2013) |
| 5 | Finance and private sector participation | Immediate objective: to promote regional cooperation between the public and private sectors for financing and maintaining infrastructure |
| 5.1 | Studies on investment in Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway sections and in intermodal linkages, including dry ports, river ports and seaports; | See Section 2.3: Transport Infrastructure Development |
| 5.2 | Investment forums to promote partnerships and the sharing of experiences in financing the Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway, internationally recognized dry ports, river ports and seaports; | Asian Highway Investment Forum (Bangkok, Thailand, 8-9 October 2013) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the outcome of the prefeasibility studies conducted under the project on promotion of investment in the Asian Highway Network in Myanmar, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and Bangladesh (See also Section 2.3: Transport Infrastructure Development) ESCAP participated in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Seminar on Innovations for Future Transportation, including International Forum on Innovative Railway and International Forum on Eco-friendly Vehicle System (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 11-13 March 2014) • Asia-Pacific Outreach Meeting on Sustainable Development Financing (Jakarta, Indonesia, 10-11 June 2014) |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|-----|--|---|
| 5.3 | Assessment and promotion of policy options and initiatives for the financing of road maintenance; | <p>ESCAP participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Annual City Maintenance - Infrastructure Asset Management Conference (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 23-24 October 2013) |
| 5.4 | Support for regional cooperation and networking among PPP units/programmes; | <p>ESCAP participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia PPP Practitioners Network (APN) - Heads of PPP Unit Forum (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 10-11 December 2013) • 1st UNCITRAL Asia-Pacific Conference on PPPs (Incheon, Republic of Korea, 9-10 June 2014) |
| 5.5 | Assistance to member countries and institutions through the sharing of good practices and the delivery of PPP capacity development programmes; | <p>Case studies on PPP projects in the Asia-Pacific region (www.unescap.org/resources/ppp-case-study)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case 1: Traffic Demand Risk/The case of Bangkok's skytrain (BTS) • Case 2: Efficiency Gains/The case of water services in Manila • Case 3: Mobilizing Private Funding/The case of the national highways of India • Case 4: Land Value Capture Mechanism/The case of the Hong Kong, China, mass transit railway <p>Updated resources on PPPs including information on PPP units and programme in Asia and the Pacific, a revised PPP readiness self-assessment tool, and new free online training materials on PPPs comprising e-learning videos (www.unescap.org/our-work/transport/financing-and-private-sector-participation)</p> |
| 5.6 | Technical assistance in assessing PPP readiness. | <p>UN Development Account project on building capacity and facilitating private sector involvement for infrastructure development for less developed countries in the Asia-Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory mission for the National Public-Private Forum (Thimphu, Bhutan, 25-26 February 2014; Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 13-14 March 2014; Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 26-28 March 2014; Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 28-30 April 2014) |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|----------|---|--|
| 6 | Sustainable transport development | Immediate objective: to increase awareness and understanding of alternative freight transport policy options that can reduce energy consumption and emissions |
| 6.1 | Proposals to encourage, through appropriate mechanisms, a modal shift from road to rail and water transport, and the use of the Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and dry ports for the intermodal distribution of goods and carriage of people; | <p>Study on policy options for sustainable transport development jointly with Korea Transport Institute and Korea Maritime Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on sustainable transport policies and data collection for the study on policy options for sustainable transport Development (Tbilisi, Georgia, 11-15 November 2013) <p>Series of Policy Position Briefs on sustainable transport, including integrated transport planning, public transport, and non-motorized transport</p> |
| 6.2 | Regional meetings to share experiences in the adoption of energy-efficient and more environmentally friendly freight transport logistics systems; | <p>Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Transport Development (Incheon, Republic of Korea, 27-29 November 2013)</p> <p>ESCAP participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Urbanism and Smart Transport Conference: Integrated Transport and Sustainable Urbanism in Asia (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1-3 December 2013) • Asia Pacific Drive Tourism Conference and Exhibition Olongapo City (Philippines, 29-31 January 2014) • Hong Kong Forum on Euro-Asia Transport (Hong Kong, China, 17-18 March 2014) |
| 6.3 | Inclusion of sustainable transport-related issues in the <i>Review of Developments in Transport in Asia and the Pacific</i> , the <i>Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific</i> and ad hoc regional transport policy studies; | <p>Launch of the <i>Review of Developments in Transport in Asia and the Pacific 2013</i> at the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, second session (http://www.unescap.org/resources/review-developments-transport-asia-and-pacific-2013)</p> <p>Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 82: <i>Combatting Congestion</i> (www.unescap.org/resources/transport-and-communications-bulletin-asia-and-pacific-no-82-combatting-congestion)</p> |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|-----|--|--|
| 6.4 | Capacity-building to increase awareness and promote environmentally sustainable transport development. | <p>Project on Development and implementation of a monitoring and assessment tool for CO₂ emissions in inland transport to facilitate climate change mitigation in collaboration with all Regional Commissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the model to APEC member countries during the 2nd Carbon Footprint Workshop held in Kunming, China, 20 May 2014 organized within the 47th APEC Energy Working Group and Associated Meetings <p>Programme of regional and national capacity building workshops that included the examples of sustainable national and urban transport policies with participation of senior policy makers from member countries and mayors/senior officials from cities, secondary cities and local government during the second half of 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Capacity Building Workshop on Sustainable and Inclusive Transport Development (Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 3-4 July 2014; Dhaka, Bangladesh, 13-14 August 2014; Kathmandu, Nepal, 27-28 October 2014; and Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 4-5 November 2014) • Regional Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable and Inclusive Transport Development (Ahmedabad, India, 29 September - 1 October 2014) |
| 7 | Road safety | Immediate objective: to assist countries in the region in meeting their commitments under the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020) |
| 7.1 | Meetings and technical assistance to aid countries in building road safety management capacity in line with the Decade of Action for Road Safety, including data collection and monitoring progress; | <p>Europe-Asia Road Safety Forum (New Delhi, India; 4-6 December 2013)</p> <p>Training course on road safety and traffic management for officials of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Bangkok, Chiangmai, Thailand, 10 February-6 March 2014)</p> |
| 7.2 | Meetings to advocate high-level commitment to road safety interventions and to exchange best practices in improving road safety; | <p>ESCAP participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Donor Forum 2014 in support of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety (Melbourne, Australia, 5-7 May 2014) • Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) Asia Seminar (Manila, Philippines, 23-24 June 2014) |
| 7.3 | Advisory services and technical support to national road safety campaigns and related awareness creation activities; | <p>Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 83: <i>Designing Safer Roads</i> (www.unescap.org/resources/transport-and-communications-bulletin-asia-and-pacific-no-83-designing-safer-roads)</p> <p>A Road Safety exhibitions and showcases at the Marketplace for Sustainable Transport Solutions (Bangkok, Thailand, 6-8 November 2013) - Side event during the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport (Bangkok, Thailand, 4-8 November 2013)</p> |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|----------|--|---|
| 7.4 | A web-based road safety network. | Launch of the “Asia Pacific Road Safety Network” which is a web-based regional network for road safety stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region (https://one.unteamworks.org/node/129902 (require user name and password to access)) |
| 8 | Transport and the Millennium Development Goals | Immediate objective: to encourage the inclusion of Millennium Development Goals considerations in the planning and implementation of regional transport interventions. |
| 8.1 | Studies and workshops on mainstreaming Millennium Development Goals considerations into transport planning and policies as appropriate, in particular, in infrastructure development, farm-to-market logistics, food security and road safety; | UN Development Account project on Strengthening capacities in countries with special needs on designing and implementing economic and social development policies to accelerate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Series of sectoral and country case studies on cross-sectoral collaboration to achieve MDGs in selected LDCs being prepared |
| 8.2 | The exchange of experiences between member countries regarding the development of transport infrastructure and services to provide rural communities with physical access and connect them to national and regional trunk road systems; | ESCAP-UNDP Guidelines for Participatory Planning of Rural Infrastructure (www.unescap.org/resources/escap-undp-guidelines-participatory-planning-rural-infrastructure) |
| 8.3 | Preparatory activities in support of the 10-year review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2013. | Report of the Secretary General on the “Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action” for the landlocked developing countries |
| 9 | Inter-island shipping | Immediate objective: to assist in identifying possible approaches to enhancing the regularity, reliability and affordability of the shipping services of archipelagic and island developing countries |
| 9.1 | Studies, capacity-building activities and policy recommendations on effective strategies for securing regular, reliable and affordable inter-island shipping services for the consideration of archipelagic and island developing countries; | Desk review of studies on the topic of inter-island shipping 70 th session of the Commission (Bangkok, Thailand; 4-8 August 2014) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of resolution 70/12 of 8 August 2014 on Implementation of the Suva Declaration on Improving Maritime Transport and Related Services in the Pacific |
| 9.2 | Advisory services and technical support to member countries, upon request, regarding the implementation of policy measures to support inter-island shipping. | ESCAP participated in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Ocean Leaders Round Table (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 17 April 2014) |

| | Thematic area/outputs | Activities |
|-----------|---|---|
| 10 | Connecting subregional transport networks | Immediate objective: to identify physical and non-physical constraints to inter-subregional connectivity and to provide a platform for building closer collaboration among subregional entities in the development of transport |
| 10.1 | Draft documents outlining potential issues that need to be addressed in order to improve physical and institutional connectivity between subregions; | Seminar on Legal Aspects of Inter-subregional Connectivity (Phuket, Thailand, 12 February 2014) |
| 10.2 | Meetings of ESCAP member countries, subregional organizations and subregional programmes (back-to-back with relevant legislative meetings) to consider collaborative actions that support inter-subregional connectivity; | <p>Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation, Connectivity and Inclusive Development in South and South-West Asia (New Delhi, India, 28-29 November 2013)</p> <p>Policy Dialogue on Economic and Transport Development in Border Areas in Eastern South Asia (Shillong, India, 4-5 December 2013)</p> <p>Regional Conference on Strengthening Transport Connectivity and Trade Facilitation in South and South-West Asia (Lahore, Pakistan, 9-10 December 2013)</p> <p>ESCAP participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symposium on “Long-Term Transport Action Plan for ASEAN (Tokyo, Japan, 20 February 2014) • The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Transport and Trade Facilitation Development Partners’ Meeting (Manila, Philippines, 22-23 April 2014) • High Level Regional Roundtable on Telecommunications connectivity in Central Asia (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2-3 June 2014) • Seminar on Promoting Regional Economic Integration through efficient Transport Infrastructure and Services (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 18 June 2014) |
| 10.3 | Technical assistance and support in the implementation of inter-subregional connectivity initiatives for the development of transport. | Planning to implement the UN Development Account project on Strengthening connectivity of countries in South and Central Asia, particularly Land-Locked and Least Developed Countries, to link with subregional and regional transport and trade network |