

The ITF Transport Outlook 2021

Reshaping mobility in the
wake of Covid-19

Summary of key findings
and recommendations



Four facts about the future of transport

1 Transport demand will more than double

Global transport of people and goods will strongly increase to 2050 due to population growth and economic development.

2 Transport's CO₂ emissions will grow almost 20% to 2050

Any advances in decarbonising transport will be more than offset by increased demand for mobility.

3 Ambitious policies could cut transport CO₂ emissions by nearly 70%

Such a reduction would bring the goal to limit global warming to 1.5°C into reach.

4 The largest economies are also the highest emitting

Developed countries also have the largest capital and greatest technological means to reduce CO₂ emissions.

Six top tasks for policy makers

1 Increase ambition

...to reverse the trend and reduce transport emissions by 70%. Today's policies are not sufficient.

2 Align policies

...to revive the economy, combat climate change and strengthen equity.

3 Focus on accessibility

...to make trips easier and increase opportunities. More mobility is not better well-being.

4 Target sectors

...with strategies geared to their emissions-reduction potential. Urban mobility has the highest potential, road freight and aviation are hardest to decarbonise.

5 Support innovation

...to accelerate technological breakthroughs needed to decarbonise transport.

6 Break down silos

...and boost collaboration between interdependent sectors like transport, energy, tourism and trade. Transport cannot succeed alone.

Urban Passenger Transport

Key facts

Urbanisation will increase demand for sustainable transport around the world

 **2.6x**

The right policies can **cut 80% of urban mobility's carbon footprint** by 2050

 **80%**

Private vehicles emit three quarters of CO₂ from urban passenger transport



Increased **sustainability** can mean greater **resilience**



Main takeaways

Two main strategies can help manage demand and deliver sustainable transport services across the world

Integrate transport policy and land-use planning to **improve accessibility for citizens**

Reducing reliance on cars is critical to decarbonise cities

Developing **public transport as the backbone** of a **multimodal** transport system is key

Regional & Intercity Passenger Transport (non-urban)

Key facts

Demand for regional and intercity travel is set **to grow by up to 114%**, with strong growth in emerging economies in particular

CO₂ emissions from non-urban passenger could **rise by nearly one third** or **fall by more than half** to 2050, depending on policies

Aviation will recover from the impact of the pandemic and grow strongly by up to **3.1 times 2015 levels by 2050**

 **2.1x**

 **+25%**

 **-57%**

 **3.1x**

Main takeaways

Technological improvements offer the most promising path to decarbonising non-urban passenger transport

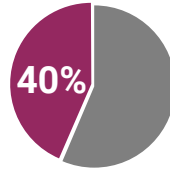
To ensure a sustainable transition to low-emission vehicles, **increase consumer confidence** and **pursue a clean energy grid**

Put a price on carbon that discourages high-emission transport and makes clean alternatives more attractive

Freight Transport

Key facts

Freight accounts for **more than 40%** of transport emissions



Road transport is responsible for 65% of freight emissions



Freight CO₂ emissions will **rise 22%** from 2015 to 2050 with current policies



Main takeaways

Scale up ready-to-adopt freight decarbonisation measures quickly. Many measures rely on existing technology and can be implemented soon.

Align price incentives with freight decarbonisation ambitions. Few carriers will invest in low-carbon vehicles if they have to pay more than for conventional fleets or fuels

To reach climate targets, **freight transport must achieve the transition to low- or zero-carbon energy sources.** Covid-19 stimulus packages could play a critical role