

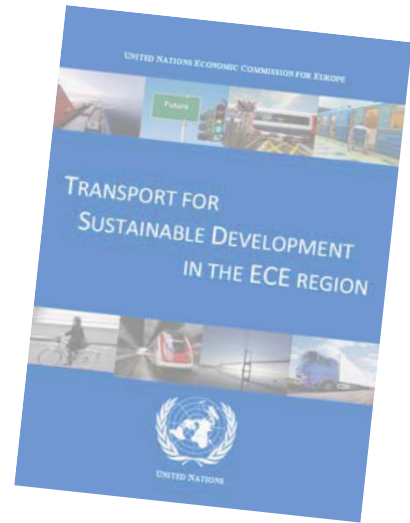
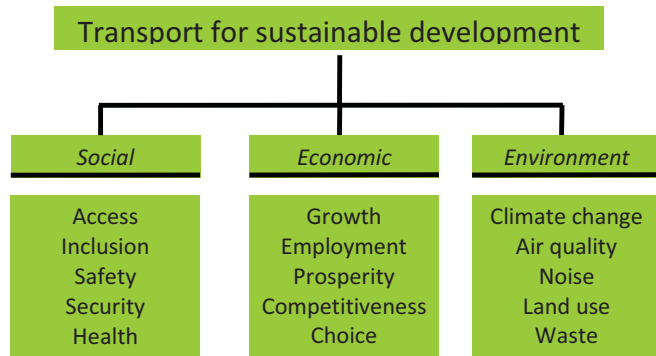
Snapshots from the new UNECE publication:

# Transport for Sustainable Development in the ECE region

- current situation, challenges and best practices

ENGLISH only

Highlights that transport for sustainable development is not only about the environment:

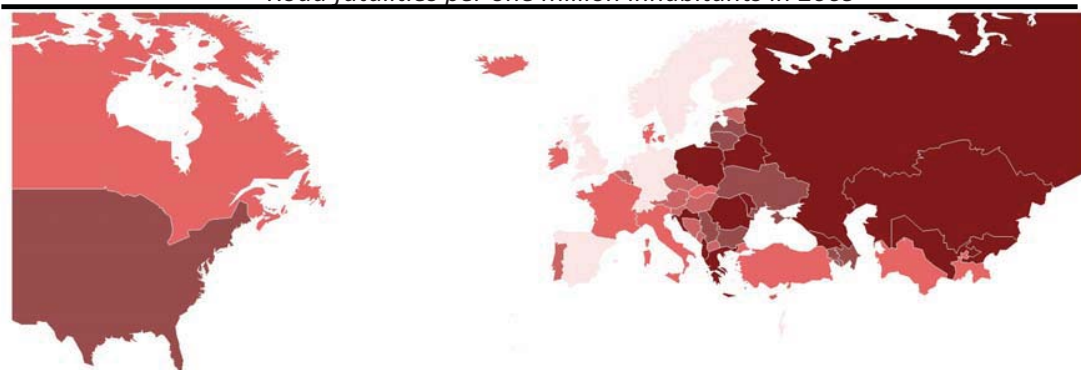


## Transport is important for social sustainability

Going to the doctor, shopping groceries, going to school and job, visiting friends and carrying out recreational activities are basic social services that are part of everyday life for most individuals. Without adequate transport systems we would not be able to attend these activities. There is empirical evidence that lack of transport is a main barrier for unemployed in getting a job and that some young people do not attend education because of missing transport options.

Transport can affect human health negatively. Everyday at least 60 million individuals in agglomerations in the ECE region are exposed to road noise above 55db. Vehicle technology is improving but still many urban areas have issues with air pollutants because the current fleet is not up to date with standards. Everyday more than 300 people are killed on roads in the ECE region and every year more than half a million people are injured in road crashes.

Road fatalities per one million inhabitants in 2009



Source: UNECE

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*Transport is crucial for social inclusion, but transport can also have a negative impact on human health!*

## Transport is important for economic sustainability

Economic theory attributes a crucial role to human capital for technological change and economic growth. Development of human capital requires that individuals can access education and employment.

### **UNECE specific challenge: Maintenance backlogs**

Years of neglected infrastructure maintenance has reduced efficiency and reliability of transport systems in many ECE countries. As a result: safety, environmental sustainability and national competitiveness are reduced!

International transport links and fluid border crossings are necessary for engaging in global supply chains. Nations must therefore ensure a high performance of transport services for attracting firms, investments and economic activity.

*Transport is important for accumulation of human capital, attracting investments and improving national competitiveness.*

## Transport affects environmental sustainability

Transport requires movement and infrastructure. Movement requires energy, and motorized movement is today very dependent on the consumption of non-renewable energy sources. The transport sector consumes more than 30 per cent of total energy consumption in the ECE region. Combustion of non-renewable energy sources leads to emission of local pollutants and greenhouse gases. Add to this the issues of waste, reduction of natural habitat and consequences of transport of dangerous goods.

### **Best practice: Eco-driver training**

The Austrian Postal services have reduced their annual energy consumption by 2 million liters of fuel through eco-driver training.

Environmental sustainability in the transport sector can be improved by behavior and technology. We have seen great improvements in the recent decades, but as transport demand is growing, more action is needed.

*Environmental sustainability of the transport sector is improving – but due to growing demand the negative environmental impact of transport is increasing. Action is urgently needed!*

## UNECE promotes sustainable development

	Legal Instruments and standards	Analytical work and Capacity building	Governance structure
<b>Access</b>	Infrastructure agreements, trade and border crossing facilitation.	Support to investment planning at regional level. Attention to land-locked countries.	Customs and Transport (WP.30) Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) Trade Committee (CT) and Transport is
<b>Affordability</b>		Socio-economic analysis, guidance in PPP and development of common criteria.	Transport Trends and Economics (WP. 5) Committee on Economic Competition and Innovation (CECI)
<b>Safety</b>	Vienna Conventions. International agreements concerning transport of dangerous goods. Vehicle regulations.	Sharing best practices. Statistical database. Support in target setting.	Road Safety Forum (WP. 1) WP on transport of dangerous goods Working Party on Railway Transport (SC.2) Inland Waterway transport (SC.3 and WP.3)
<b>Security</b>	To be developed.	Conferences, seminars and workshops.	Multidisciplinary group of experts on Transport Security
<b>Environment</b>	Vehicle regulations and technical regulations for inland vessels.	ForFITS THE PEP	World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP. 29) THE PEP

Visit [www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org) and read the full report on Transport for Sustainable Development in the ECE region. UNECE – The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. UNECE has 56 member states in North America, Europe and Central Asia.