



LECB MONTHLY ROUND UP – JULY 2015

PROGRAMME AND PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Development of a Comprehensive ITS Intelligent Transport System Action Plan for Thimpu City, Bhutan (by Sonam Rabgye)



Norzin Lam traffic during peak hours
Picture: Bhutan Observer

The LECB team has been working closely with the Ministry of Information and Communications to carry out a feasibility study for an Intelligent Transport System (ITS) for Thimphu. Two stakeholder meetings were held over the past four months with working group members including the Ministry of Information and Communications, Thimphu Municipality, Traffic Police, Bhutan Telecom, Ministry of Works and Human Settlement, and the representatives from the private sector.

The ITS report includes short, medium and long term actions covering institutional and policy initiatives, private public partnerships (PPPs) for urban bus transport in Thimphu, traffic engineering measures against congestion, as well as improved fare collection in public transport. A high level meeting was held on 2nd July to present the ITS report to representatives from various agencies that play an important role in its implementation. The meeting sought feedback and approval to implement the recommendations.

The ITS study describes a short-, medium-, and long-term Action Plan to address the transport needs of Thimphu in a sustainable way. In short, the ITS Action Plan is designed to:

- address the city's traffic congestion
- address the urban public transport deficiencies
- improve the traffic flow and road safety.

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The ITS measures cover a broad range of actions including real time bus passenger information, eTicketing, security and traffic surveillance, automated vehicle identification systems, supporting mobile APPs and a possible traffic control centre.

[More information](#)

LECB Lebanon Hosts INDC Inception Workshop with the Climate Change Coordination Unit



With support from the German government and the LECB project, Lebanon's formulation of its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) crossed yet another development milestone with a multi-sectoral high level meeting with all relevant ministries on July 28th, 2015 for stakeholders to discuss and agree on an ambitious, yet realistic and achievable INDC. More than 50 participants were in attendance. Among the discussions were: whether to select sectoral or economy-wide targets, validation of sectoral factsheets that described the mitigation potential and possible actions to include in the INDC, and linkages between the INDC and sustainable development. Under the LECB Project, the team will now work to quantify Lebanon's contribution, which is expected to be submitted on 30 September 2015.

For more information and to access the summary report, click [here](#).

Experts meet in Latin America to share experiences on climate change finance and mapping financial flows



Latin American experts sharing experiences in Panama

Experts from seven countries in Latin America met July 7-8 2015 in Panama City to discuss analytic approaches to assess climate finance. While the focus was on learning from the experiences in Africa and Asia in undertaking Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Reviews (CPEIRs), the meeting also as an opportunity to present a suite of UNDP financial support tools, including the Investment and Financial Flows methodology (I&FF), the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), and a new private sector finance mapping methodology. The workshop also presented experiences in Africa and Asia. The meeting was especially timely for LECB project teams from Ecuador and Chile who under are embarking on new work programmes to map public and private climate finance flows.

The CPEIR methodology allows policymakers to assess the current state of the national response to climate change and thus strengthen the capacity of national systems to access and manage public spending on climate change. Following the successful implementation of this

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methodology,

UNDP is launching support for the implementation of the CPEIR methodology in six countries in Latin America: Colombia, El Salvador, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras and Nicaragua. The event was organized by UNDP's Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean, with support from the Government of Spain, and attended by government officials from the Ministries of Finance, Planning and the Environment, as well as specialists and technicians from UNDP and the Inter-American Development Bank.

[See workshop report](#) [More information](#)

RESOURCES

NAMAs Developed with UNDP Support – Results from MDG Carbon (by Alexandra Soezer)



Philippines: The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and UNDP have developed a publication on [Adaptation and Mitigation Initiatives in the Philippines Rice Cultivation](#), providing incentives for rice farmers to switch from continuous flooding to Alternate Wetting and Drying practices and thus promotes climate change resilient rice production. This is expected to provide the necessary framework to overhaul an entire sector within the context of sustainable development. [More](#).

The Gambia: The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water Resources and Parks and Wildlife and UNDP have developed the NAMA for [Rural Electrification with Renewable Energy in The Gambia](#) to accelerate access to electricity through small-scale, off-grid and stand-alone projects. The NAMA is expected to increase the proportion of renewable energy, help strengthen public-private partnerships, improve access to electricity and fuel sustainable growth in rural areas. [More](#)

Namibia: The Ministry of Environment and Tourism and UNDP have developed the NAMA [Rural Development in Namibia through electrification with renewable energies](#) to provide access to energy to everyone in off-grid areas, as well as to improve the share of renewable energies. The NAMA is expected to reduce GHG emissions through the replacement of fossil fuels with renewable energies and to provide conditions for new business opportunities. [More](#)

Cambodia: The Ministry of Industry and Handicraft and UNDP have developed the NAMA on [Energy Efficiency in the Garment Industry in](#)

[Cambodia](#) to support Cambodia's energy efficiency policy, to improve efficiency in industrial sectors and to build capacity on energy efficiency. The introduction of efficient sewing, washing, drying machines and compressors is expected to improve energy efficiency and to decrease GHG emissions by reducing the electricity use. [More](#)

Report Identifies Policies Misaligned with a Low-Carbon Economy



A new report jointly produced by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Nuclear Energy Agency and the International Transport Forum entitled 'Aligning Policies for a Low-Carbon Economy' identifies current policy and regulatory frameworks that are not in line with creating a low-carbon economy. The report focuses on contradictory public policies, such as those that encourage investment in fossil fuels and work against global goals on climate change. It examines the policy domains of investment, taxation, innovation and skills, trade and adaptation, as well as sectors greatly impacting the climate such as electricity, urban mobility and rural land use.

The report finds:

- two-thirds of energy supply investment goes to fossil fuels, partly because regulation still tends to favor short-term investments over long-term investments for sustainable growth;
- the share of public funding allocated to research and development (R&D) has dropped from 11% to 4% since 1980 in IEA countries;
- 49% of agricultural subsidies in OEC) countries are potentially harmful to the climate;
- many tax provisions, such as those related to car companies and property taxes, encourage carbon-intensive choices.

For more information visit [HERE](#)

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