



United Nations  
**Sustainable  
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## Fact Sheet

### The Future of transport

- Total transport activity is expected to more than double by 2050 compared to 2015.
- Global sales of electric vehicles grew from 1.3 million in 2015 to 5.1 million in 2018, achieving a 2-3% share of all new car sales.

### Climate

- The transport sector is responsible for approximately one quarter of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 95 per cent of the world's transport energy still comes from fossil fuels

### Inequalities

- Over 1 billion people worldwide still lack adequate access to an all-weather road, especially in developing countries, including countries in special situations. In Africa, 450 million people, more than 70% of the total rural population, remain unconnected to transport infrastructure and systems.

### Financing sustainable transport

- Since the start of the pandemic, G20 countries have committed over \$284 billion to the mobility industry.
- The transformation to sustainable transport can be realised through an annual investment of around US\$2 trillion at the global level. The investment needs for sustainable transport are similar to the current 'business as usual' spending of US\$1.4 to US\$2.1 trillion.

### COVID-19

- In many cities public transport—essential for sustainable and affordable mobility, including for essential workers—saw massive declines in ridership, with attendant financial stresses due to the pandemic.
- Greening the transport sector in the post COVID-19 recovery could create up to 15 million jobs worldwide.

### **Road Safety**

- Every 24 seconds, one person dies in a road accident. That's 1.35 million people per year.

### **Air pollution**

- Transport is one of the single largest contributors to air and carbon pollution emissions globally, also accounting for about 64% of total oil consumption and 27% of all energy use.

### **Urbanization**

- Close to 4 billion people live in cities and this number is expected to rise to over 6 billion by 2050. At these rates, by 2050, about 70% of the world's population will live in cities and 85% of the world's economic output will be generated by cities.

### **Countries in Special Situations**

- Countries in special situations face myriad challenges as they pursue sustainable development, with transport often being a key element. They are all especially dependent on transport networks and also highly vulnerable due to factors such as insufficient infrastructure investment and limited capacity, poor cross-border connectivity, and greater exposure to climate change and extreme weather events.

### **Multi-modal transport systems**

- Integrated multi-modal transport and transit systems that optimize the comparative advantages of each mode of transport are crucial in order to achieve sustainable transport of passengers and freight within and between countries.
- International shipping transports about 90% of global trade to people and communities all over the world. Approximately 1.6 million people are employed as seafarers.