WORLD BANK GROUP
Transport & ICT

The Transport and ICT Global Practice

Smart Connections for All

Connecting people to markets and services for greater development impact

Virtual and physical connectivity plays a critical role in promoting economic and social development worldwide. Efficient transport systems are essential to moving goods and services, connecting people to economic opportunities and enabling access to healthcare or education. Likewise, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have emerged as a major driving force behind economic growth, citizen engagement and job creation.

Over the last 10 years, demand for modern and reliable connectivity solutions has grown exponentially under the combined effect of globalization, population growth, urbanization, economic development and technological progress—making transport and ICT a cornerstone of the global development agenda.

While crucial to reducing poverty, boosting prosperity and achieving sustainable development, **the world's Transport and ICT sectors face tremendous challenges:**

- **Accessibility:** at least one-third of the world's population is not served by an all-weather road, while 60 percent have no way of connecting to the Internet.
- **Affordability:** even when adequate transport or ICT services are available, they are often prohibitively expensive. In Djibouti, a mobile broadband package costs more than the income of the country's poorest 60 percent of the population.

- **Urban congestion:** as a result of rapid urbanization and motorization, most developing countries are witnessing unprecedented levels of traffic congestion, with severe consequences on economic productivity, health and the environment.
- **Air pollution and road safety:** road crashes claim 1.3 million lives every year and injure approximately 78 million people—90 percent of them in developing countries. Urban air pollution, largely linked to transport, leads to the death of an estimated 800,000 people each year.
- **Climate change:** the transport sector contributes approximately 14 percent of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Transitioning to cleaner, greener mobility solutions is paramount in combating climate change. ICT-enabled solutions can potentially reduce 16.5 percent of projected annual GHG emissions by 2020.
- **Infrastructure financing gap:** current investment in transport and ICT infrastructure is insufficient to

meet the needs of developing countries. Innovative financing mechanisms and higher private sector participation can go a long way in bridging the infrastructure funding gap and improving connectivity in our client countries.

- **Inadequate capacity:** the successful development of the transport and ICT sectors is also undermined by weak governance, insufficient institutional capacity, lack of training and lagging innovation.

As they continue to grow and urbanize, **our client countries have a unique opportunity to tackle those challenges as part of their development strategy and connect their citizens to the global economy in a sustainable, inclusive way.**

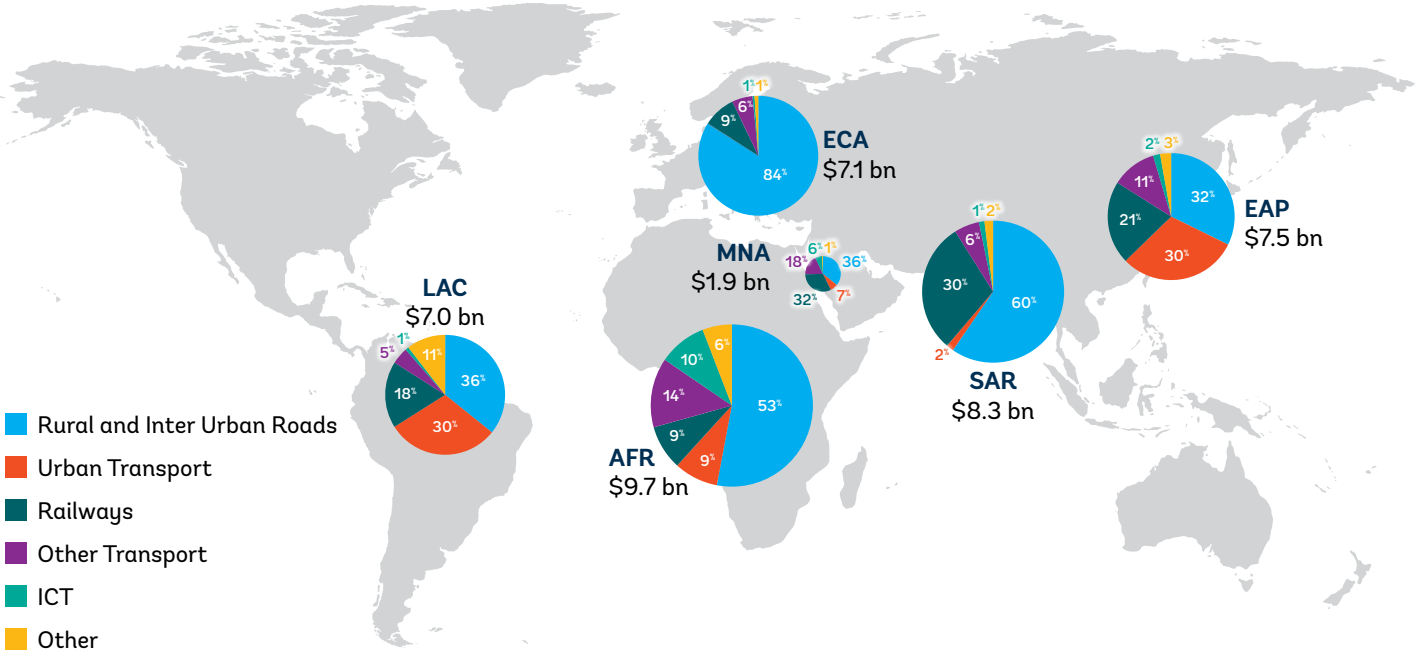
It is the mission of the World Bank's Transport and ICT Global Practice to help them turn that vision into reality.

Supporting clients across a wide range of countries, regions and sectors

Some **300 staff located in more than 50 countries support the work of the Global Practice.** Together, we are uniquely positioned to provide cutting-edge expertise on transport and ICT issues, with a special focus on **nine priority areas:**

- **Urban Mobility:** while cities have become the engine of growth and economic development, their transport systems face considerable pressure. Traffic congestion and inadequate public transport services result in productivity loss, rising air pollution and an aggravation of inequalities. The Transport and ICT Global Practice seeks to tackle the urban mobility challenge, with a particular emphasis on how ICT can be used to address these issues and improve the productivity of transport infrastructure. We are focusing on how sustainable "smart mobility" systems can help address urban poverty while also helping to mitigate climate change.
- **Green Transport and ICT:** transport is at the heart of climate change challenges and solutions. While transport activities are essential for economic and social development, we must mitigate their impact through better land use planning, logistics and use of ICT, as well as a shift from private to more efficient public transportation modes. As part of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the World Bank is taking a lead role in integrating GHG considerations into projects, in support of the Rio+20 Conference.
- **Development Corridors and Regional Integration:** the Transport and ICT Global Practice seeks to foster the development of high-potential transport and trade corridors through a multi-sectorial approach designed to promote investment-led growth, optimize the use of infrastructure, encourage value-added processing, and enhance competitiveness.
- **Road Asset Management and Rural Accessibility:** a modern, well-maintained network of rural and inter-urban roads can bring major development benefits to communities through better access to jobs, markets and services; greater comfort, speed and safety; and lower vehicle operating costs. The World Bank is playing a lead role in helping clients bring about the institutional, policy and regulatory reforms—as well as providing the financial resources and technical assistance—required to achieve accessibility and sustained transport outcomes.
- **Road Safety:** developing countries bear the brunt of the 1.3 million fatalities that occur on the world's roads every year. The Transport and ICT team, along with the World Bank-managed Global Road Safety Facility, has worked closely with clients to mainstream road safety into all relevant transport projects. We also provide an extensive range of technical assistance and advisory services to help countries make their roads safer.
- **Broadband Access for All:** the Internet is a key global infrastructure that underpins the world's economic and social interactions, and enables any user to access information, financial services, markets, employment opportunities, and public services. Increasing global internet penetration from the current level (approximately 44 percent) to 75 percent would add a further US$2 trillion to the global GDP and create 140 million new jobs. The World Bank is committed to supporting its client countries in the creation of appropriate strategic and policy frameworks that would enable private investment, preferably in a competitive setting, to address the need for broadband.

Transport & ICT Projects



- **Railways:** nearly two-thirds of all rail freight in the world is carried in developing countries. The Transport and ICT Global Practice seeks to enhance the outcomes of freight and passenger rail in client countries. To that end, we have identified railways as an effective means to deliver high-capacity transport and lower costs.
- **Leveraging the Private Sector:** private participation is a game changer in infrastructure financing, particularly in areas such as telecommunications and transport. Such investment drives projects including roads, ports, and airports. The World Bank seeks to help client countries increase private-sector participation by improving policy, regulatory frameworks and institutional arrangements through technical and other assistance.
- **Mainstreaming ICT:** ICT has transformative potential for every sector of development, from intelligent transportation systems to precision agriculture. The rise of ICT activities has also given citizens access to more accountable, responsive and transparent governments through Open Data and other initiatives. Today, more than 74 percent of World Bank projects have ICT components. The Transport and ICT Global Practice works across sectors to harness and promote new and innovative technologies.

The Transport and ICT Global Practice supports these critical development areas through infrastructure lending, technical assistance and advisory services. We help our clients fight poverty and boost prosperity in a sustainable way by improving connectivity and competitiveness, linking people to markets and social services, stimulating economic growth, increasing climate resilience and reducing their carbon footprint.

The World Bank Group is the largest provider of development finance for transport globally, with an active transport portfolio of US$41 billion (as of December 31, 2014). More than **three-quarters of World Bank projects include an ICT-related component** and ICT-specific projects account for US$1.5 billion of the Bank's portfolio.

The Transport and ICT team **collaborates actively with other Global Practices and sectors across the World Bank.** It also relies on, hosts and serves as Secretariat for four **trust funds and global partnerships:** the Global Road Safety Facility, the Africa Transport Policy Program, the ICT4D Multi-Donor Trust Program, and the Multi-Donor Trust Fund on Sustainable Logistics.

Our impact

Through Transport and ICT projects, the World Bank has a long track record of positively improving the lives of people in the developing world. Whether connecting people to markets, driving job creation, increasing efficiency and reducing the cost of transport, providing improved government services through technology, or through a host of other channels, such engagement has led to real and lasting impacts on poverty reduction and sustainable growth.

For example:

We are making a difference in **Urban Mobility**. Over the last 20 years, the World Bank has spearheaded several major suburban rail and metro projects in **Brazil** in an effort to improve accessibility to formal jobs, especially for the bottom 40 percent. In the Sao Paulo Metropolitan Region, **150,000 low-income families now have access to an additional 2.5 million jobs** as a direct effect of the project. In Rio de Janeiro, **the share of household income devoted to transport decreased from 30 percent** to 13.1 percent for the lowest income bracket as the result of an integrated fare system.

We are making a difference in **Green Transport.** In the city of **Wuhan, China,** more than one million privately owned vehicles have claimed the streets in recent years, bringing increased pollution and greater demand for land to facilitate parking and roadways. The World Bank's **Wuhan Urban Transport Project** has helped the city build **10 new bus depots and terminals** to attract mass transit users and stem the rising tide of cars. As a result of the project, **the public transport network has expanded and bus ridership has risen by 40 percent.** The project also helped build or revitalize **cycling and walking paths,** as well as training local officials on how to plan and develop sustainable urban transport options.

We are making a difference in **Road Safety.** In **India,** where road accidents kill almost 400 people each day, we're supporting the country's Road Transport and Safety Bill through a holistic focus that goes beyond infrastructure. The World Bank, in coordination with the Global Road Safety Facility, has two goals for this project: first, **to support the improvement of the road network** through the rehabilitation and widening of key corridors and, second, **to foster collaboration among key agencies in supporting the implementation of road safety policy.** We have also connected police in India's Uttar Pradesh state with highway traffic police from New Zealand, which will **empower local police to help lead proactive road safety efforts at the national level.**

We are making a difference to ensure **Broadband for All.** In **Mozambique,** we supported a project to open up the telecommunications market through an international tender for a new mobile operator. After two years, the new entrant built 2,800 2G/3G base stations and 25,000 kilometers of fiber optical cables, covering 100 percent of districts and highways, and serving nearly 80 percent of the Mozambican population. **By the end of 2013, the company increased its coverage in rural areas from 60 percent to 85 percent and doubled the number of covered people from 35 percent to 75 percent.** Nearly 600,000 people in five rural districts have telecommunications services for the first time.

For more information, please visit www.worldbank.org/transport and www.worldbank.org/ict

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