

## PRESS RELEASE

# THE ROLE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT INCREASES IN COP27 INITIATIVES



*BRUSSELS, BELGIUM/SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT  
17 NOVEMBER 2022*

**UITP is aiming to advance low carbon transport by co-leading streams in both LOTUS and the SURGe initiatives during [COP27](#).**

Public Transport and sustainable urban mobility are central in the initiatives launched by the Egyptian presidency during the COP27 Solutions Day on 17 November 2022.

At COP26, public transport was largely ignored in the transport initiatives that were launched, and UITP has pushed for public transport and active mobility to play a central role during the COP27 initiatives.

The Low Carbon Transport for Urban Sustainability (LOTUS) initiative aims to tackle five systemic challenges in the urban mobility landscape, specifically in the Global South.

They are the financing gap, weak policy-making and implementation capability, lack of policy coherence and targets, difficulty integrating and regulating informal transport, and siloed thinking around modes.

Divided into three streams, the initiative will take concrete actions to scale up investment in e-vehicles, empower and invest in informal transport to decarbonise, and build capacity in low- and middle-income countries.

UITP will co-lead the last track, where capacity building specifically focuses on developing integrated, multimodal policy frameworks.

*“Surprisingly few countries have made public transport a clear and central part of their climate commitments. They are not ambitious enough, not comprehensive enough, and not targeted enough. We need targets to decarbonise and increase the share of public transport. The LOTUS initiative can help to make this change happen by bringing together the leading players in this area – such as UITP – as it will help build our capabilities and ability to deliver better public transport.”*

**Mohamed Mezghani**  
**UITP Secretary General\***

Through five integrated tracks, the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative stimulates effective multi-level governance to transform cities to be healthy, sustainable, just, inclusive, low-emission and resilient. As the most climate and cost effective way to decarbonise urban mobility, public transport and active travel play a key role.

The urban mobility track of the SURGe initiative is co-led by UITP.

It will accelerate and support the uptake of public transport and active mobility in cities. It also aims to reduce car use, and achieve compact urban forms that enable public transport and active travel to thrive and trade to flourish.

The COP27 Presidency launched both initiatives on Solutions Day, 17 November 2022.

Over the next year, the initiatives will use important moments in the transport community, like events and conferences, to accelerate work and develop the proposed interventions under each thematic area further.

The initiatives are launched by the Egyptian COP presidency, with Egypt holding the COP presidency for the coming 12 months until COP28 - but the initiatives are expected to carry on after that and deliver the change needed to deliver more ambitious climate action with public transport at the fore.

## Sustainable Development at UITP

### **FOR EDITORS**

*\*Acting on behalf of Mohamed Mezghani SARL*

**(UITP) The International Association of Public Transport** works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than **1900 members** in **100 countries**, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. Visit the [newsroom](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

**Questions? Quotes? Interview requests? Contact Scott Shepherd**

**UITP Senior Press and Media Manager**

[scott.shepherd@uitp.org](mailto:scott.shepherd@uitp.org)

0032-2-663-66-73 / [@UITPpress](#)

