

Press release

## Third of countries overlook public transport in climate plans

Enhancing public transport can drastically increase climate ambition

**Dubai, UAE, 4 December 2023** – One in three nations have yet to integrate public transport strategies into their climate action plans, shows the latest [UITP analysis report on Public Transport & Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#). Of countries that do include public transport in their NDC, only half actually identify a specific budget to deliver on the actions.

At the same time, growing evidence shows that existing policies are over-reliant on expensive technological innovation. These are insufficient to achieve the systemic and rapid transformation needed to meet global climate and equity goals.

Improving public transport and active mobility is a cheaper and simpler way to avoid and shift away from carbon intensive modes of transport. The emissions reduction potential of public transport is undervalued.

Doubling the use of public transport and designing cities to reduce car dependency would cut urban transport emissions by more than half. It will yield a 5% cost saving, and drive industry by creating tens of millions of jobs. This is because every dollar invested in public transport, brings back five times more into the wider economy. As a result, the investments pay for themselves.

Ensuring reliable and affordable public transport, complemented with active mobility, is the fastest way to decarbonise people's daily mobility. This is key to make our cities, lives and planet better.

Countries are set to renew their NDCs in 2025. In NDCs, they commit to actions that fight global heating and adapt to a changing climate. If used right, they could be our way out of the world's current climate crisis and make public transport the backbone of urban mobility.

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FOR EDITORS

(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.

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