

Possible regional activities

The application of good transport planning, travel demand management and transport systems management must be based on fundamental principles, but locally adapted to prevailing conditions. Appropriate training and tools must be provided to in-country professionals entrusted with the task of planning transport systems. At the same time, while there are differences between countries there are also many similarities. Several areas of activity offer promise and would be best pursued on a regional basis:

- **Research into urban traffic capacity.** Local research programs are needed. These should be designed to provide relevant data on urban traffic and public transport flow characteristics, and the means to analyze capacity and planned improvements, including the effects on emissions. Such programs would effectively create local versions of international manuals such as the USA Highway and Transit Capacity Manual. Given that several countries in the region have similar levels of economic development and vehicle fleet composition, these manuals may be best developed on a sub-regional basis.
- **Research into the impacts and evaluation of transport planning measures on air quality.** The impacts of transport planning measures on induced traffic, emissions and overall metropolitan air quality should be investigated. Methodologies to assess the costs and benefits of these interventions should be formulated for use by transport and air quality professionals.
- **Development of new planning approaches.** Appropriate forms of comprehensive land use planning and transport planning in Asia should be formulated and evaluated

for use in Asia. New planning methodologies, for example, the alignment of transport plans with air quality objectives, should be tested in several cities and necessary implementing mechanisms should be identified.

- **Development of prototype public transport regulatory and franchising methods.** Appropriate approaches to public transport regulation should be formulated to improve service and quality levels and reduce emissions. This assistance should develop prototypical documents for franchise contracts and manuals for public transport operators and relevant regulatory agencies.
- **Formulation of regional training for new approaches and methods.** The outputs of the above activities should form the basis of new, regionally-based training for transport, air quality and health professionals.
- **Wider dissemination of good practice examples.** To supplement the above, innovative examples of policies, projects, and outcomes should be compiled and disseminated.