EVENT DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

From Solutions & Results: Scaling Up Implementation of Low-Carbon and Resilient Mobility

Date and time: 11 November, 17:45–18:45

Mediterranean Pavilion, COP31 – UNFCCC | Antalya, Türkiye

Organised by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in collaboration with the International Association of Public Transport (UITP), the International Union of Railways (UIC) and Alstom

1. Objectives: Rail and public transport in climate action

Achieving global climate goals requires rapid reductions in transport emissions, alongside greater resilience to climate impacts. Rail, public transport, walking and cycling are central to this transition. They can reduce dependence on private fossil-fuel vehicles, improve energy and resource efficiency, expand access to jobs and essential services, while delivering significant emission reductions and improve public health, social equity and economic benefits. Building on integrated sustainable urban mobility planning and effective governance, these modes should be more systematically integrated into national climate commitments, investment priorities, climate finance and implementation plans.

2. Why This Matters

- **Mode shift can accelerate emission reductions.** The Avoid–Shift–Improve approach combines reducing unnecessary or avoidable polluting journeys, shifting trips to rail, high-quality public transport and active mobility, and improving vehicle and system efficiency. The Plan to Accelerate Solutions (PAS) on urban mobility under the Global Climate Action Agenda focuses on scaling up public transport and sustainable transport in cities, which can translate this approach into concrete Mediterranean priorities, partnerships, measurable milestones and investment-ready projects.
- **Electrification can amplify climate benefits.** Electrifying rail, metro, tram and bus networks can contribute to COP31's ambition to increase electricity's share of global final energy demand to 35% by 2035. To maximise climate benefits, electrification should go hand in hand with renewable electricity, public transport expansion and a shift towards more sustainable modes.
- **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) need to translate ambition into action.** NDCs and NAPs provide complementary frameworks for integrating transport mitigation and adaptation into national climate strategies. Clear, measurable transport targets and stronger implementation mechanisms can help scale up investment in rail and public transport, accelerate the delivery of sustainable mobility policies and projects, and strengthen the resilience of transport systems to climate risks.
- **Climate finance and international carbon markets can help mobilise investment.** A key priority is to bridge the gap between policy commitments and bankable, implementation-ready projects in rail and public transport. Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement could provide an additional source of finance for eligible transport activities that demonstrate real, measurable and additional emission reductions. It can help reduce investment risks and improve the bankability of rail and public transport.
- **The second Global Stocktake (GST-2) can strengthen transport action.** The GST-2, which begins at COP31 and is expected to conclude at COP33, will assess collective progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and help inform future NDCs. The event can contribute practical, transport-specific recommendations ahead of the GST2 outcome.

3. Discussion Focus

- **Avoid–Shift–Improve and PAS Solutions.** How can Mediterranean cities scale up integrated, accessible, low-carbon sustainable mobility solutions? What role can international transport goals, policy commitments, PAS and international cooperation play in accelerating implementation?
- **NDCs and NAPs.** How can countries establish measurable transport targets, strengthen implementation and synergies between NAPs and NDC?
- **Climate finance and Article 6.4.** How could activities under Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement help mobilise additional, high-integrity climate finance for rail and public transport?
- **The GST-2.** What recommendations on transport should inform the GST-2 process and to support stronger ambition?

4. Event Format and Show Flow

- **Welcome and Opening Remarks (UfM).** Set the scene by outlining the Mediterranean region's priorities for low-carbon, climate-resilient and inclusive mobility, and highlighting the strategic role of rail, public transport and active mobility in achieving climate objectives.
- **Interactive Dialogue: From Solutions and Results to Scaled-Up Implementation.** Explore how to move from commitments to delivery, focusing on electrification, the Avoid–Shift–Improve approach, PAS, climate resilience, NDCs and NAPs, and innovative climate financing.
- **Interactive Exchange.** Invite perspectives and practical insights from Mediterranean country focal points, with a focus on implementation barriers, investment opportunities and regional cooperation.
- **Closing Remarks.** Summarise key messages and recommendations for the GST-2.

5. Outline Agenda

Time	Session / Discussion Focus
5 min	Welcome & Opening Remarks – UfM Secretariat
35 min	Interactive Dialogue with UITP, Alstom and UIC (**UITP President, Gautier Brodeo (UITP)**) – COP Action Agenda and electrification; Avoid Shift Improve and Plans to Accelerate Solutions; resilience and urban mobility; NDCs and NAPs, climate finance.
15 min	Interactive exchange and Q&A – including Mediterranean country focal points. - reaction and perspectives from Turkish Railways (TCDD)
5 min	Closing remarks – key messages and recommendations for the GST-2

6. Short Bios of the Speakers

Francesc CARBONELL, UfM Head of Sector for Transport, UfM Secretariat.



Francesc is Head of Sector for Transport at the Union for the Mediterranean, where he manages policy dialogue between its 43 member states, and is responsible for assisting and advising the appraisal, preparation, financing and implementation of regional projects and initiatives in the field of transport.

Previously, he was Senior Consultant and Director of Research & Innovation at the Indra Group, in charge of international transport projects. His client references include intergovernmental organizations (European Commission and UNECE), international financial institutions (EIB, WB and IADB), as well as local authorities, national ministries, private investors and academia.

An international expert with professional experience in Europe, the Mediterranean region and East Asia, Francesc holds an MSc. in Civil Engineering, including Majors in Transport and Urban Planning, from Barcelona TECH. linkedin.com/in/francesc-carbonell

Philip TURNER, Head of Sustainable Development, UITP.



Philip is Head of Sustainable Development at the International Association of Public Transport (UITP), where he is leading the organization's efforts to address climate change and sustainable development policy. UITP is committed to making public transport a central part of the solution to climate change. Increasing the modal share of public transport is seen as the most cost-efficient way to decarbonize daily mobility. UITP aims to decarbonize the sector through collaborative knowledge sharing and advocacy, and engages local stakeholders by bringing members together to exchange ideas, share best practices, and forge partnerships. Philip is also Director of Advocacy at the SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport.

Prior to joining UITP, he was a core member of Transport for London's (TfL) Sustainable Development Unit, where he managed board-level corporate sustainability performance and disclosure. He also spent eight years within the UK Civil Service as a policy advisor, negotiating EU Environment Council frameworks and working on domestic policy inside the UK Prime Minister's Delivery Office.

Philip holds an MSc in Business Strategy & Organisational Psychology (with a focus on Sustainability Studies) from Birkbeck, University of London. linkedin.com/in/philip-turner

Lucie ANDERTON, Director of Sustainability and North America Coordinator, UIC.



Lucie ANDERTON is the Director of Sustainability and North America Coordinator at the International Union of Railways (UIC) since November 2024, having previously served as the Head of the Sustainable Development Unit beginning in September 2020. Based in Paris, France, she oversees global environmental technical topics, decarbonization strategies, and climate advocacy to position rail as a core solution for sustainable mobility. Lucie joined the UIC on secondment from Network Rail, the UK's rail infrastructure manager, where she accumulated extensive industry experience. Her past positions there include Sustainability Strategy Manager and Head of Social Sustainability Policy.

Over her 20-year career in the UK and France, she has managed environmental compliance, design, and construction impacts for major rail infrastructure projects, including roles with the East West Rail Alliance and the Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB).

Lucie holds a BSc in Environmental Management from The Manchester Metropolitan University and is certified as a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) through the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA). linkedin.com/in/lucieanderton

Warwick TOWNSEND, Sustainability & CSR Director, Alstom.



Warwick TOWNSEND is an experienced sustainability professional who currently serves as the Sustainability & CSR Director at Alstom. Based in Berlin, Germany, he focuses on developing corporate strategies, managing carbon reporting, and building internal and external partnerships.

Warwick has built a diverse international career spanning over two decades in engineering, market analysis, and sustainability. Prior to joining Alstom he served as a Global Partnership Analyst at Bombardier Transportation, where he managed global partnership governance before the company was acquired by Alstom. He also worked as a Business Development Analyst at Mabanaft specializing in M&A targets due diligence and market entry strategies.

Warwick holds a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Queensland, Australia.
linkedin.com/in/warwicknormantownsend