Blind Spot: Sustainable Resilient Low-carbon Transport (A Cross-cutting Issue)

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Current Trends

- 24% of Africa’s CO₂ emissions from transport sector (mostly from road transport)
- 70-80% of urban motorized transport demand met by public transport
- Rapid urbanization
- Climate change not primary focus of development
Transport CO\textsubscript{2} Emissions

• ABCs of Transport Emissions
  – Activity: vehicle kilometers traveled (VKT)
  – Brawn: energy consumption per unit VKT
  – Carbon: carbon content of each unit of energy

• Avoid, Shift, Improve framework

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<tr>
<th>Transport Measures</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Brawn</th>
<th>Carbon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avoid</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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Transport MRV

• Quantifying transport emissions is difficult
  – Many sources of pollution
  – Constantly moving around!
  – Open, networked systems
  – Disagreement about best methodology
  – Estimating reductions requires counterfactual
  – A lot of disaggregated data needed

• Despite challenges, transport has place in climate change mitigation discussion
Transport & Adaptation

• Transport & climate discussions usually focus on mitigation, not adaptation
• But, need to rethink short- and long-term risks in the transport sector:
  – relationship between capital and current expenditures
  – future patterns of travel demand and water flows
  – transport as an adaptation strategy for vulnerable populations
Urban Mitigation & Adaptation Strategies

- Transport and climate change urban focus
- Strong mitigation co-benefits in cities
- Adaptation and mitigation strategies intersect in cities
Climate Finance & Transport

• Small but important role of climate finance
  – Leverage changes in other financial flows
  – Early funding influences future investment

• Barriers to transport receiving climate funds
  – Lack of understanding of how to access funds
  – Lack of knowledge of benefits
  – Transport MRV difficulties
  – Poor fit between transport goals and climate finance paradigm
Overcoming Barriers

- Improve communication, capacity building
- Ensure that new climate finance mechanisms are aligned with transport’s needs, limitations
- Incorporate transport activities into NAMAs
- Cultivate grassroots advocacy
- Develop capacity building program
- Advance South-South technology transfer
Key Messages for Durban

• Transport has place in discussion
• Need new funding opportunities
• Initiate pilot NAMAs
• Develop plan to test new MRV approaches
• Define Technology Mechanism
• Develop and support existing knowledge networks in Africa
Thank you

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