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UITP Sustainability Charter – making a positive contribution to the global sustainable development agenda

Global leaders from all nations agreed on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for our planet at the UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015 in New York (25 September).

The 17 goals, with associated targets, aim to eradicate poverty and secure economic, social and environmentally sustainable development over the next 15 years. The SDGs were preceded by the Millennium Development Goals, which were mainly directed at governments, and focused on developing countries. The SDGs, differ in that they encourage active participation of both the private sector and civil society, including the public transport sector, alongside governments, and apply to all countries.







































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Importance of the public transport sector to the SDGs

For the world to achieve these ambitious goals, it is crucial to utilise the strength of the public transport sector. This is because sustainable transport solutions are necessary to achieve several of the UN's development goals, and there is a specific target on the need to enhance urban access notably through expanding public transport for the cities of the future (SGD 11.2). This will require urban transport systems that are accessible to everyone and that benefits trade and business in a sustainable inclusive manner. Progress will be made only if the Goals and targets are approached in a holistic, integrated manner—and advances in funding sustainable public transport, which links so many of the Goals, will be critical.

Sustainability reporting as a global development target

Under Goal 12, aiming for "sustainable consumption and production patterns", target 6 calls for advancing sustainability reporting worldwide and supporting responsible business practices.

Sustainability reporting, as an enabler, is a key tool that can advance sectoral contributions to global development. Secondly, we need to ensure that we track progress made on meeting the targets so that national governments can put in place the appropriate policies, reporting and investment for their realisation. It is for this reason that UITP has aligned its Sustainability Charter and its Reporting Framework with the goals.

By encouraging its members to adopt sustainable business practices and integrate SDG information into their reporting cycle, it allows for UITP members to make an active contribution to the post 2015 agenda. In addition, UITP itself can be seen to making a positive contribution to Goal 12.6, and can help enhance capacity building activities around sustainability data, monitoring and accountably as called for under target 17.

Aligning the UITP Charter with the SDGs

The following section of the report identifies how the key aspects and indicators of the Sustainability Charter Reporting Framework



align with the SDGs and related targets. What it shows is that public transport undertakings can play a significant role in make an active contribution to the global sustainable development agenda. By using this guide in conjunction with the UITP Sustainability Charter Reporting Framework, public transport undertakings can better understand and contribute to the SDGs by aligning their business strategies to the framework, notably goal 11.2.

Building trust based on the SDGs

Demonstrating engagement with stakeholders around big picture challenges like achieving the SDGs is an excellent opportunity for organizations to enhance integrity. The tools developed by UITP around the Charter can help organisations be more transparent, make better decisions and build trust with their stakeholders and the public. The UITP Sustainability Charter allows reporters to select relevant material indicators that can reflect their impacts and actions on the SDGs and directly across many of the targets.

Further information:

- On the Sustainable Development Goals can be found at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs.
- UITP's Sustainability Reporting Framework can be found in Mobi+

UITP Sustainability Reporting Framework Disclosure Overview – Links to the Sustainable Development Goals







