Popular Transport Decarbonization: Opportunities for Impact

Jacqueline M. Klopp

COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL
Center for Sustainable Urban Development
Climate Crisis:
Transport Sector a growing part of the problem globally
Equity and Justice Issue:
Global South – less responsible for global transport emissions per capita but likely to suffer more from impacts including impacts on transport systems.

Figure 8.4 | Total passenger distance travelled by mode and region in 2000 and 2010 (IEA, 2012c)
Decarbonization an opportunity to improve popular transport as dominant motorized mode

Modal data is limited in most countries but is critical to analysis of transport sector trends and potentials.
Co-Benefits substantial: public health, livelihoods/income and equity (exposures greater for those using popular transport, older vehicles, poor safety)...

“Road injuries are now the biggest killer of children and young adults worldwide, according to the World Health Organization” (WHO)

“The effects on health of transport-related air pollution have become one of the leading concerns about transport.” (WHO)
Many decarbonization pathways— all involve working closely with key actors in the sector

- Improve fuels (UNEP)
- Electrification (infrastructure and retraining)
- Beyond Used-Vehicle Bans to vehicle upgrades (incentives and recapitalization programs)
- Improve operations & networks, less idling and VMT (better integration across modes & with non-motorized transport and mass transit)
- Encourage mode shift by providing high quality, convenient and affordable services
Requires Finance: move from big projects to systems approach (improvements in popular transport)
Requires data, monitoring for impacts and for carbon finance
Requires capacity building, collaboration & professionalization: growing efforts that need scaling