**Decarbonising land transport in the Pacific Islands**

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The intersection of transport and climate challenges in the Pacific region underscores the imperative for resilient, low-carbon transport systems, necessitating a comprehensive approach to planning and investment. Reimagining our transport strategies, embracing decarbonization in both land and maritime transport, addressing infrastructure deficiencies, and leveraging climate finance efficiently are all pivotal steps towards forging a sustainable future for Pacific Island transportation networks.

In Pacific Island Countries, domestic transport accounts for over half of greenhouse gas emissions. While emissions from land transport are significantly greater than those from electricity, to date most donor-funded projects have traditionally focused on critical infrastructure and current needs, neglecting long-term climate goals. This approach creates a "lock-in" effect due to the long lifespan of transport assets.

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While many Pacific Island Countries recognise decarbonisation and improved resilience in transport as a priority, specific strategies and programs for these priorities have not yet been developed.

Effectively decarbonising land transport demands a shift away from the car-centric paradigm, prioritising instead walkable urban design, e-micromobility, public transport, and managing the life cycle of e-mobility vehicles. Electric vehicles should be used sparingly. A systems-based approach to sustainable transport offers numerous benefits, including reduced reliance on imported fuel, improved health, and enhanced social cohesion.