Institute for Transportation Studies, Indonesia

Expert Group Meeting AIDE-MEMOIRE

Access to transport for the urban poor in Asia

Organized by

The Global Energy Network for Urban Settlements [GENUS]

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 27-29 May 2009
Introduction

The expert group meeting on access to clean urban transport for the poor in Asia will be held on the 27th-29th May 2009. It is organized jointly by the Global Energy Network for Urban Settlements [GENUS], a programme of the UN-Habitat’s Energy and Transportation Section together with the Institute for Transportation Studies, Indonesia.

The 27th and 28th are dedicated to workshop discussions, while the 29th is set aside for field visit to Solo a city that is implementing transport programmes for the urban poor.

GENUS is a new programme within UN-Habitat that is seeking to develop a dynamic network of public, private and civil society partnerships in the urban energy sector. The workshop in Yogyakarta will mark the unveiling of the GENUS programme in Asia. The objective of GENUS is:

“To encourage and support the design and implementation of energy-access programmes and projects for the urban poor worldwide through the exchange and dissemination of best practices and technologies, awareness creation, advocacy, tools development, knowledge management and capacity building”

The GENUS programme will be operating in 3 regions, namely Asia, Africa and Latin America. In Asia, GENUS will be focusing on the theme of access to clean transport for the urban poor, while in Africa and Latin America; it will respectively focus on Slum Electrification and Energy from Waste. Thematic workshops are also planned in Africa and Latin America culminating an inter-regional meeting to mark the formal launch of GENUS.

The Expert Group Meeting

The expert group meeting on “Access to Transport for the Urban Poor” takes place against the backdrop of projected motor vehicle growth in Asia that is poised to overtake combined motor vehicle levels in Europe and America.

While the dialogue in the workshop will broadly address the options for delivering low carbon urban transport solutions, there will be a specific focus on strengthening the mechanisms by which the poorer sections of urban population can gain improved access to affordable, efficient and low-carbon transport. Options include improved access to efficient of mass transit systems, safe and accessible non-motorised transport infrastructure networks and transport services, and improved coordination between land-use plans and transport plans.

It is recognized that this is a complex issue that requires a nuanced approach in the various countries and sub-regions of Asia. The consultations will provide a forum to frame ways in which access to clean urban transport can be a strategic tool for improving the mobility of the urban poor while contributing to the overall national and regional objectives of cleaner transport.

Outcomes

• Agreement on how to frame the issues of access to urban transport energy in various sub-regions of Asia
• Broad agreement on possible pilot projects/programmes that can be initiated or supported to deliver GENUS Objectives in Asia
• Broad agreement on the coordination of GENUS work in Asia
• Development of a robust networking and information sharing mechanism,
Participants are drawn from a wide range of countries in South and South-East Asia as well as Europe. They include representatives of municipalities and planning agencies, citizen groups, NGOs, researchers from academia.

**Venue**

The Expert Group Meeting will be held on 27, 28 and 29 of May 2009 at Hotel Santika Premiere, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

**Working Language**

English

**How to register**

Contact the Meeting Secretariat for additional information on genus@unhabitat.org

Registration is free.