SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY:
UIC role in making railways greener, quieter and more energy efficient

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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYS

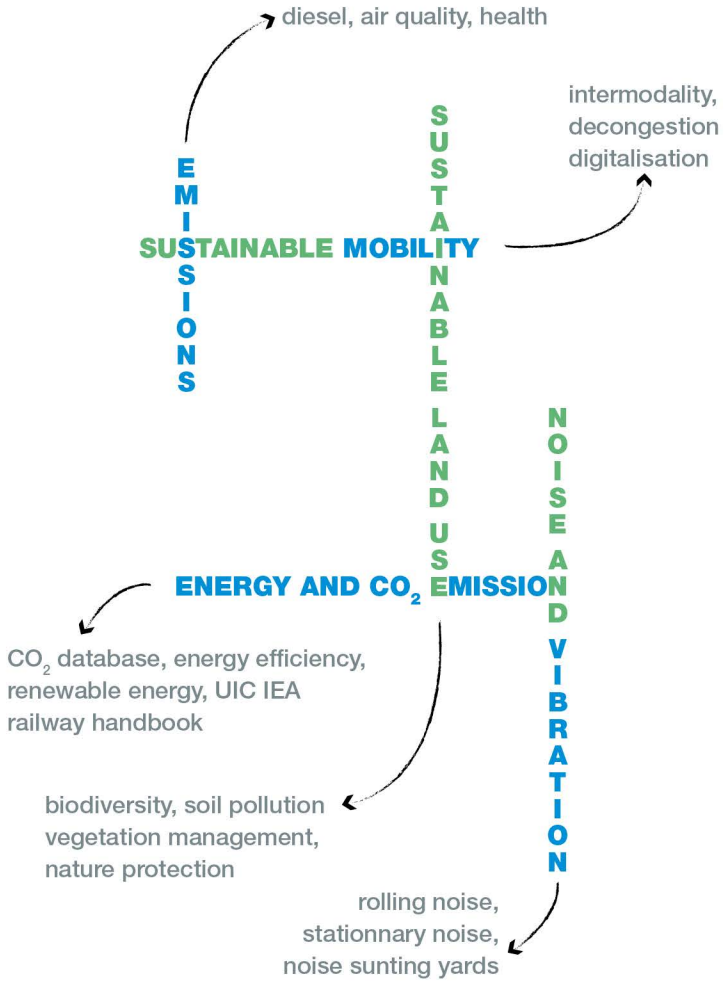
Sustainable development

Achieving **sustainable development** is one of the **main global challenges for society**. Transport, both of people and goods, has major environmental impacts such as air pollution, noise, and soil contamination. UIC and its members must demonstrate how **rail can be part of the solution** for many of the challenges the world is facing.

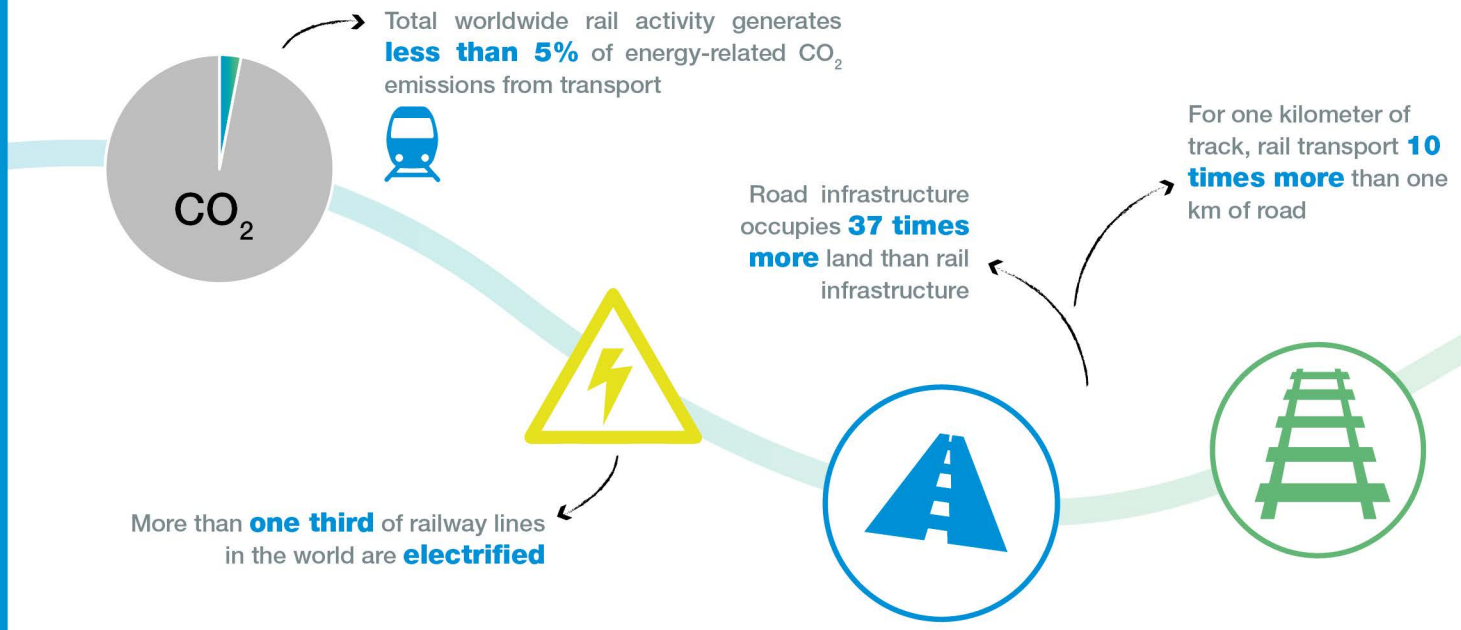
In recent years, civil society, citizens and decision makers have become much more aware of **rail transport's role as a key factor in achieving sustainable development and reducing the effects of climate change. UIC has built constructive links of cooperation** between the relevant actors worldwide and continues to advocate the benefits of a strong railway system for sustainable development.

While the shift to more sustainable transport modes is important, railway companies must also strive to **improve their own sustainability performance** (in terms of environmental, social and economic impacts).

UIC offers its members its expertise on sustainability issues and its experience working in close cooperation with high-level stakeholders, as for example in the UN framework or with other important and worldwide organisations.



Together with its members, UIC continues its efforts to daily promote the benefits of rail in order to meet the global challenges of mobility and sustainable development and to communicate the sustainable development advantages of the railway sector.



Progress since 1990

Rail sector energy efficiency has improved by more than 36%

Rail sector CO2 emissions has improved by 32%

CO2

1146 railway modal shifts projects identified

+ 70 rail CEOs signed the Railway Climate Responsibility Pledge at COP21 representing the majority of railway activity

Global targets, by 2050

50% reduction in energy consumption from train operations

Rail freight activity equal to that of road

=

50% increase of rail's share of passenger transportation

LOW CARBON RAIL TRANSPORT CHALLENGE

- 50% specific final NRJ consumption from train operations by 2030 (1990), - 60% by 2050.
- 50% Specific average CO2 emissions from train operations by 2030 (1990), - 75% by 2050.
- + 50% Railway share of passenger transport (pkm) by 2030 (2010), +100% by 2050.
- Railway share of freight land transport (tkm) equals with road by 2030, 50% greater than road by 2050.

Cooperation

Adressing climate change – UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN Environment, UN Department of Economics and Social Affairs, etc.

- UIC is the only railway organisation fully accredited by ECOSOC with the key United Nations organisations dealing with sustainable development and climate change.
- UIC was an active Member of the UN High Level Advisory Group on Transport until its termination in 2017, providing recommendations on sustainable transport actionable at global, national, local and sector levels
- At the Conference of Parties (COPs), UIC organised several successful events :
  - Train to Copenhagen (COP15 in Copenhagen, 2009): representatives of UNFCCC and UNEP rode the train to COP15 in 2009
  - Train to Paris (COP21 in Paris, 2015): UIC signed Memoranda of Understanding with UNFCCC and UNEP

UIC ECOTOOLS

For freight transport, have a look at Ecotransit, a sophisticated carbon footprint calculating tool, developed by a consortium of shippers and transport companies and technical consultants.

http://www.ecotransit.org

EcoTransIT World

the EcoPassenger calculator is aimed at spreading knowledge about the consequences of our travel choices and to give support to decision makers on how to facilitate sustainable choices. It demonstrates the feasibility to generate exact information and data through international and technical cooperation. With the energy consumption information provided by this tool, everyone can make decisions in order to mitigate GHG emissions, and it highlights rail's environmental advantages agains those of the key competing transport modes.

UIC invites you to check emissions at http://ecopassenger.org

eco passenger

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