

Smile and care (YOUR NEWSLETTER FROM CGAS)

April 2021
Edition 2, Volume 4

ACTIVE TRAVEL: MORE IMPORTANT THAN EV FOR REACHING NET-ZERO CITIES

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Cities cover 3% of the earth's land surface yet they create more than 70% of all carbon emissions. To keep global temperature increases to 1.5°C or below, cities have to achieve net-zero. Transport is one of the most challenging sectors to decarbonize due to its heavy fossil fuel use.

Globally, only one in 50 new cars were fully electric in 2020, but even if all new cars were electric now, it would still take 15-20 years to replace the world's fossil fuel car fleet.

Tackling the climate and air pollution crises requires curbing all motorized transport, particularly private cars, as quickly as possible. Focusing solely on electric vehicles is slowing down the race to zero emissions. This is partly because electric cars aren't truly zero-carbon – mining the raw materials for their batteries, manufacturing them and generating the electricity they run on produces emissions.

One way to reduce transport emissions relatively quickly, and potentially globally, is to swap cars for cycling, e-biking and walking – Active Travel, as it's called. Active travel is cheaper, healthier, better for the environment, and no slower on congested urban



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streets.

A study done by Prof. Christian Brand (University of Oxford) which involved around 4,000 people, over a two-year period, participants completed 10,000 travel diary entries which served as records of all the trips, for each trip, the carbon footprint was calculated.

Strikingly, people who cycled on a daily basis had 84% lower carbon emissions from all their daily travel than those who didn't.

It was also found that the average person who shifted from car to bike for just one day a week cut their carbon footprint by 3.2kg of CO₂ – equivalent to the emissions from driving a car for 10km, eating a serving of lamb or chocolate, or sending 800 emails.

When the life cycle of each travel mode was compared, taking into account the carbon generated by making the vehicle, fuelling it and disposing of it, it was found that emissions from cycling can be more than 30 times lower for each trip than driving a fossil fuel car, and about ten times lower than driving an electric one.

Active travel has offered an alternative to cars that keeps social distancing intact. It has helped people to stay safe during the pandemic and it could help reduce emissions as confinement is eased, particularly as the high prices of some electric vehicles are likely to put many potential buyers off for now.

So, Active travel can contribute to tackling the climate emergency earlier than electric vehicles while also providing affordable, reliable, clean, healthy and congestion-busting transportation.

Views expressed here are of the Executive Director of Corporate Governance Advisory Services. He can be reached for any clarifications at vinitkmsri@gmail.com

"The Earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations." —John Paul II

RECENT UPDATES

CGAS is carrying out a pan-India Environmental Due Diligence for some of the environmental infrastructure.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION A STRONG TOOL FOR EFFECTIVE EMS IN ORGANIZATION

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Environmental communication is the process of sharing information to build trust, credibility and partnerships, to raise awareness, and to use in decision making in building their environmental sustainability strategies.

Organizations all over the world are increasingly confronted with the need to express their views, and present and explain the environmental implications of their activities, products and services. Organizations have a need to obtain and provide information about and respond to environmental issues, challenges, concerns and programmes. This is influenced by factors such as the organization's geographic location and distribution, size and types of activities. Organizations need to establish a two-way effective communication to achieve their environmental strategic goals. An effective environmental communication (EC) builds a strong engagement with interested parties to understand their issues and concerns; it can lead to knowledge being gained by both sides and can influence opinions & perceptions.

The most effective EC process involves ongoing contact by the organization with internal and external interested parties, as part of the organization's overall communications policy and strategy.

Environmental communication often results in many benefits, such as; i)Assisting interested parties in understanding an organization's environmental commitments, policies and performance, providing inputs/suggestions for improving the environmental performance of an organization's activities, products and services, and progress toward sustainability, ii)Improving understanding of interested parties' needs and expectations to foster trust and dialogue, promoting an organization's environmental credentials, achievements and performance, enhancing interested parties' perceptions of the organization and building a brand.

Environmental communication is more than a question of organization and management, it relates to organization values as well. Environmental reporting, Business responsibility reporting, Sustainability reporting on its website and can also be made available to interested parties as their environmental communication.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has published ISO-14063-2020 Environmental management — Environmental communication — Guidelines and examples.

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ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TECHNICAL DUE DILIGENCE

We are looking for professionals who want to pursue their career in a growing field of Technical Due Diligence both in Operations and Environment, Health & Safety areas. They will be trained under our team of six professionals, each one of whom have experience of more than 25 years in multiple countries.

Smile News

India's largest and free kidney dialysis centre, with a capacity of conducting dialysis of 500 patients daily started at Gurdwara Bala Sahib, Delhi.

👉 [Free Dialysis in Delhi](#)

Care News

GENWORKS (India's first Health care start-up) is dedicated to improving healthcare access in India.

👉 [India First Healthcare Startup](#)

EHS News

The US's special presidential envoy for climate John Kerry on 6 April 2021 praised India for "getting the job done on climate"

👉 [John Kerry praises India](#)

EDITORIAL DESK



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MESSAGE

World Health Day 2021 is being observed on 7 April 2021 by WHO with the theme, "Building a fairer, healthier world for everyone". The theme focuses to eliminate health inequities among global community



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Taking Responsibility with Smile

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ADVISORY SERVICES

To Make "Smile and Care" a Key Enabler in the global arena of Corporate Governance

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