In this final session DMC officials will share their views on the key takeaways from the earlier three workshop sessions, inform participants on biodiversity friendly infrastructure initiatives and challenges and in their respective country, and how environmentally sustainable infrastructure planning can contribute to the post-2020 Global Diversity Framework.

Please visit the Green Road to Montreal knowledge event page to review recordings and resources of previous sessions on greening transport, energy and coastal development.

Moderator: Vinod Mathur, Former Chairperson, National Biodiversity, Authority of India

Opening Remarks
- Sujata Gupta, Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Division, East Asia Department, ADB

Green Infrastructure Development: An Overview
- Vinod Mathur, Former Chairperson, National Biodiversity, Authority of India

Key Message from Greening Transport, Energy, and Coastal Development
- Karma Yangzom, Principal Environment Specialist, ADB

Roundtable Discussion
- Kamal Gounder, Manager/Coordinator, Infrastructure Sector, Government of Fiji
- Biswajit Mukhopadhy, Joint Advisor & Former GM (Eng.), National Highway Authority of India, Government of India
- Sushil Babu Dhakal, Project Director, Project Directorate (ADB), Department of Roads, Government of Nepal
- Roderick M. Planta, Assistant Secretary, NEDA Investment Programming Group, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Government of the Philippines

Open Forum

Final Messages from Panelists

Closing remarks
- Vinod Mathur, Former Chairperson, National Biodiversity, Authority of India
VINOD MATHUR
Former Chairperson, National Biodiversity, Authority of India

Dr. V.B. Mathur is currently supporting ADB with green infrastructure knowledge events as an “International Green Infrastructure Expert”. Until recently, he was the Chairperson of National Biodiversity Authority, India. Prior to this, he served as the Director of the Wildlife Institute of India between 2014-19. He is currently the UN-IPBES Bureau Member (2019-2023) and Co-chair of the IPBES Task Force on Policy Support Tools and Methodologies and Member of the IPBES Task Force on Capacity Building. He has now spent nearly four decades in actively contributing to a wide range of training, research and academic programs in the field of biodiversity conservation including international biodiversity negotiations.

Green Infrastructure Development: An Overview

SPEAKER BIOS

SUJATA GUPTA
Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Division, East Asia Department, ADB

Ms. Sujata Gupta is the Director of the Sustainable Infrastructure Division, East Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). She joined ADB in 2003 and has worked on the public and private sectors of ADB as well as for resource mobilization from development partners.

Sujata has a PhD from the London Business School, University of London and Master’s and Bachelor’s from the University of Delhi.

Before joining ADB, Sujata was Senior Fellow and Director of the Policy Analysis Division, at TERI (then the Tata Energy Research Institute), New Delhi. She has also worked as a visiting researcher at the International Institute of Applied System Analysis in Austria.

She was a member of United Nations (UNFCCC) CDM Methodologies for Baselines and Monitoring Panel (2002–2005), and a co-coordinating lead author for the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Assessment Reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Opening Remarks

KARMA YANGZOM
Principal Environment Specialist, ADB

Karma is a Principal Environment Specialist in ADB responsible for environment safeguards review of projects under the transport, agriculture, and the private sector. She also works on air quality management and green infrastructure under the Environmental Thematic Group (ETG). Before taking on her current role, she worked for over 10 years in the South Asia Transport and Communications Division of ADB where she handled several ecologically sensitive projects.

Key Message from Greening Transport, Energy, and Coastal Development
KAMAL GOUNDER
Manager/Coordinator, Infrastructure Sector, Government of Fiji

Mr. Kamal Gounder has over 15 years of professional experience with the Ministry of Economy in public financial management as well as in the planning, development, implementation and management of policy initiatives in the infrastructure sector. Mr. Gounder is one of the key drafters of Fiji’s first ever Green Growth Framework; and the country’s 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plans. During his professional career, Mr. Gounder has assumed several senior leadership roles and responsibilities including, presently, as Board Director at the Fiji Roads Authority, Land Transport Authority and Water Authority of Fiji. He is also coordinating and managing the implementation of large infrastructure projects funded through the Asian Development Bank and World Bank at the Ministry of Economy. Currently, Mr. Gounder is leading the implementation of one of the largest flood management projects in Fiji, the Nadi Flood Alleviation Project.

BISWAJIT MUKHOPADHAY
Joint Advisor & Former GM (Eng.), National Highway Authority of India, Government of India

Dr. B. Mukhopadhyay is the Joint Advisor (Environment Division) at National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) after his superannuation as General Manager (Environment Division), New Delhi. He has also served as a Scientist Planning in West Bengal Pollution Control Board. He did his M. Tech. in Environmental Science & Engineering and in Chemistry from University of Calcutta. In 1993, he was awarded Ph.D. in Chemistry from University of Calcutta. He has more than 35 years of experience in the field of Environment, Forest, and Wildlife Assessments. He has prepared biodiversity conservation plan for various roads, highways and expressway projects. He also assisted in the preparation of various guidelines, policies and standard operating protocols (SOPs). He is a member of several committees particularly Environment Committee (G-3), Indian Road Congress (IRC), Ministry of Road Transports and Highways, Govt. of India. He has represented NHAI in the task of preparation of EIA Manual for Road Projects under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and has been a Guest Lecturer for Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) of MoRTH and University of Calcutta.

SUSHIL BABU DHAKAL
Project Director, Project Directorate (ADB), Department of Roads, Government of Nepal

Mr. Sushil Babu Dhakal is a Gazetted First Class Officer of the Government of Nepal and holds a Master of Science (MSC) in Transportation Engineering. Currently he is working in the position of Project Director of Project Directorate (ADB) Department of Roads (PDADB-DOR). All strategic road projects financed by ADB are being by PDADB-DOR. Mr. Dhakal has more than 20 years of experience in the Development of Transportation Infrastructure. He has over 6 years of experience working as a project director for various international agency-financed projects where mitigating the effects of infrastructure development on the environment and ecology was given top attention.

RODERICK M. PLANTA
Assistant Secretary, NEDA Investment Programming Group, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Government of the Philippines

Mr. Planta is currently designated as the Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Development of the NEDA Investment Programming Group.

Asec. Planta is a career official who started as a junior engineer at the Infrastructure Staff in December 1993. He rose from the ranks and became the Director of the Monitoring and Evaluation Staff in March 2007. He was designated as the Director of the Infrastructure Staff in August 2015 until his promotion as Assistant Secretary in 2018.

He holds a master’s degree in Development Economics from the University of the Philippines Diliman and a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from the same University.
Environmentally sustainable and “green” infrastructure, including those applying nature-based solutions (NbS), are designed to deliver and/or protect a range of ecosystem services—such as water purification, air quality, space for recreation, and climate mitigation and adaptation—while avoiding or minimizing their impact on wildlife. Such infrastructure serves to support a green economy, reduce costs, create job opportunities, and enhance biodiversity.

Sustainable infrastructure planning is a successfully tested tool that provides environmental, economic, and social benefits through natural solutions. In many cases, it can reduce dependence on “grey” infrastructure that can be damaging to the environment and biodiversity, and can be more expensive to build and maintain. Sustainable Infrastructure upholds the G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment endorsed at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019.

Workshops Series

This series will demonstrate the multiple benefits—financial, economic, social, climate-related—of integrating green measures in infrastructure projects in the sectors of transport, energy, urban development and coastal development. The workshops are non-technical in nature, and designed primarily for government representatives, decision-makers, and stakeholders, in particular those attending the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of Parties (COP15), which will reconvene in Kunming, People’s Republic of China, in the third quarter of 2022.

The main objective of the CBD COP 15 Conference is to finalize and adopt the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) which will guide urgent policy action at all levels to transform economic, social, and financial models, in order to stabilize biodiversity loss by 2030; and to allow the recovery of natural ecosystems, with net improvements, by 2050. Infrastructure development will play a fundamental role in achieving GBF targets, considering that Asia needs US$1.7 trillion in infrastructure investment to sustain growth and quality of life in the face of urbanization and climate change.
SESSION 1
Greening the Transport Sector
28 April 2022 (Thursday)
12:30 p.m., Philippines (GMT+8)

This session will highlight the multiple benefits of adopting nature-based measures in wildlife-friendly linear transport projects.

Moderator: Karma Yangzom, Principal Environment Specialist, Safeguards Review and Environment Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank

• Introduction: Greening the Transport Sector
  - James Leather, Chief, Transport Sector Group
• Embedding Nature-based Solutions in Transport Corridors
  - Tony Wong, Professor of Sustainable Development, Monash Sustainable Development Institute
• Avoidance of Ecological Damage: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Road Projects
  - Kim Bonine, Training Director and Senior Analyst, Conservation Strategy Fund

• Mitigations to Minimize Transport Infrastructure Impacts on Biodiversity
  - Norris Dodd, Senior Natural Resource Specialist; AZTEC Engineering and International Wildlife Consultant, ADB
• Modelling Biodiversity Impacts of Development Infrastructures and Identification of Potential Project Alternatives and Offset Areas
  - Rebecca Pirzl, Group Leader, CSIRO Land and Water

• Open Discussion

SESSION 2
Greening the Energy Sector
19 May 2022 (Thursday)
12:30 p.m., Philippines (GMT+8)

This session will showcase the multiple benefits of adopting green solutions in energy project development.

Moderator: Francesco Ricciardi, Senior Environment Specialist, Safeguards Division and Environment Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank

• Introduction: Greening the Energy Sector
  - Priyantha Wijayatunga, Chief, Energy Sector Group, ADB
• The Energy Transition and Renewables: the 1.5°C Challenge
  - Ute Collier, Deputy Director of the Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre, International Renewable Agency (IRENA)
• Promoting Nature-sensitive Renewable Energy while Protecting Migratory Species
  - Ivan Ramirez, Energy Task Force, United Nations Convention on Migratory Species

• eSensitivity Mapping – Avoiding Conflict Between Birds and Renewable Energy
  - Duncan Lang, Senior Environment Specialist, ADB
• River Links – The Benefits of Functionality-based River Basin Assessments for Ensuring Sustainable Hydropower
  - Alison Joubert, Director and Senior Consultant, Southern Waters Environmental and Consulting
  – Cate Brown, Director and Senior Consultant, Southern Waters Environmental and Consulting

• Open Discussion

SESSION 3
Greening Coastal Developments
23 June 2022 (Thursday)
10:30 a.m., Philippines (GMT+8)

Moderator: Yueyu Zou, Environment Specialist, Environment Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank

• Opening Remarks
  - Noelle O’Brien, Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Thematic Group, concurrently Director, SDCD, ADB
• Taking the Blue Road: Resilience, Restoration and Regeneration in Coastal Development
  - Mat Vanderkliff, Director, IORA Indian Ocean Blue Carbon Hub and Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO
• Insurance Tools to Support Nature-Based Solutions
  - Josh Ling, Fund Manager, Asia-Pacific Climate Finance Fund (AClIFF), ADB

• Tools and Techniques to Detect Illegal Wildlife Trade in Seaports and Airports
  - Cecilia Fischer, Consultant – Illegal Wildlife Trade Coordinator, ADB
• Green Port Standards – A Regional Approach
  - Russell Stevens, Principal Marine Scientist – Ports, O2 Marine

• Open Discussion

SESSION 4
Roundtable of Champions
26 October 2022 (Wednesday)
1:00 p.m., Philippines (GMT+8)

Discussion will focus on principal takeaways from the three earlier workshop sessions, with speakers relating these to the situation in their respective countries, and how environmentally sustainable infrastructure planning could link to each country’s contribution to the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

• Introduction: Key Messages from Workshop Series and Introduction to Participants
• Roundtable Discussion with Government Representatives
• Message to CBD delegates on green infrastructure and suggestions for programs/activities contributing to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

CBD COP 15 Side Event
Kunming, People’s Republic of China

In collaboration with World Wildlife Fund and other partners

• Exhibit of key messages on environmentally sustainable infrastructure and key figures through works of infographic artist.
• Announcements by Senior Government Officials on green infrastructure-related commitments contributing to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.