



# Reimagining Mobility for Megacities

## Knowledge and Innovation: India's Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System

Image from the event flyer



Consultations with local communities for Delhi-Meerut RRTS design (Images from webinar presentations)

### EVENT DETAILS

Knowledge and Innovation: **India's Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System**

#### "Reimagining Mobility for Megacities"

23 June 2021 | Zoom | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Manila time

#### Speakers

- **Shixin Chen**, Vice President – Operations 1, ADB
- **Kenichi Yokoyama**, Director-General, SARD, ADB

#### Panelists

- **Vinay Kumar Singh**, Managing Director, National Capital Region Transport Corporation, Government of India
- **Sharad Saxena**, Principal Transport Specialist, SARD, ADB
- **Sonal Shah**, Consultant (Gender Expert), The Urban Catalysts
- **James Leather**, Chief, Transport Sector Group, SDCC, ADB

#### Moderator

- **Susann Roth**, Advisor, SDCC and Chief of Knowledge Advisory Services Center, SDCC, ADB

### ROLE OF MASS TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN DEVELOPING LIVABLE MEGACITIES

VP Shixin Chen, ADB, on 23 June opened the [Reimagining Mobility for Megacities webinar](#), organized by SARD as part of its Knowledge Spotlight series and SDSC-TRA's Urban Transport Week.

The expert panel discussed the [ADB Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System \(RRTS\) Investment Project](#) in India and the wider implications for transport and urban planning for large urban agglomerations such as India's National Capital Region. They shared insights on leveraging technology, supporting transit-oriented development (TOD) and multimodal integration for creating livable and resilient cities.

Delhi-Meerut RRTS is a rail based high speed, high capacity, comfortable and safe commuter service connecting regional nodes of the National Capital Region. The project provides important lessons and innovations for developing and maintaining efficient urban transport systems that could address problems of severe congestion, deteriorating air quality, and commuting safety risks for the vulnerable population.

In his closing remarks, SARD DG Kenichi Yokoyama

highlighted ADB's commitment to create green, competitive, inclusive, and resilient cities. Over 250 participants from ADB and external partners and stakeholders attended the webinar.

Linked to an ADB financing of \$1,049 million, Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF) provides grant support of \$2.89 million to the project (through [TA 9829](#)) to strengthen its climate change resilience and financial sustainability through TOD and [land value capture financing](#); enhance inclusiveness through gender mainstreaming and integration of accessibility features; and integrate smart technologies especially Building Information Modelling (BIM) for efficient and sustainable project management. Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction also provides support to the project — click the [link](#) for more information.

**“ We are building a regional commuter network... we are using state of the art technologies whether in terms of providing services to passenger or running the system itself.”** — *Vinay Kumar Singh, Managing Director, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), Government of India*

### URBAN TRANSPORT AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE LESSONS

**“ Delhi-Meerut RRTS provides holistic solutions to both transport and urban development problems and is highly relevant for post-COVID recovery.”** — *Shixin Chen, VP for Operations 1, ADB*

- **Mass transit systems should contribute in the low-carbon transition and be resilient to current and future climate change impacts.** Mass transit systems and integrated transport network promote a shift from using higher emitting private vehicles to more efficient, accessible, and low-carbon transport mode. On the other hand, upfront cost of infrastructure climate-proofing can be recovered in the long-term.
- **Gender and social inclusion should be a key aspect of mass transit systems.** Effective solutions can only be

identified through enhancing the participation of women, differently-abled, and other vulnerable groups at the earliest stage of planning.

- **Smart technologies such as BIM, GIS, common-data environment, and real-time monitoring systems can be leveraged to ensure data-driven decision-making** for efficient and sustainable project design and management of urban transport systems.
- **Financial sustainability of large urban transportation projects can be enhanced** through exploring conventional and innovative sources of non-fare box revenues including implementation of land value capture financing. Resources generated can be rechanneled to other public urban and social services.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

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This Event Snapshot is published under [TA 9217](#) Knowledge Management and Resilience Measurement for Urban Climate Change Resilience (UCCRTF Subproject 2)

### UCCRTF FINANCING PARTNERS

