

ANGVA2U Info 10/2018. 23rd November 2018. (for ANGVA members only)

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1.0 Role of Road Transport in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as Global Goals, are a universal call to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. It is as result of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by UN in September 2015 aiming to end poverty in all its forms. Under the 2030 Agenda, UN Members States pledged to ensure “no one will be left behind” and to “endeavor to reach the furthest behind first”. There are 17 SDGs and the successes of these goals are interdependence on each other. Even though road transport is not specifically mentioned as one of the SDGs, a sustainable road transport is crucial to achieving most of the 17 SDGs. See Figure 1.

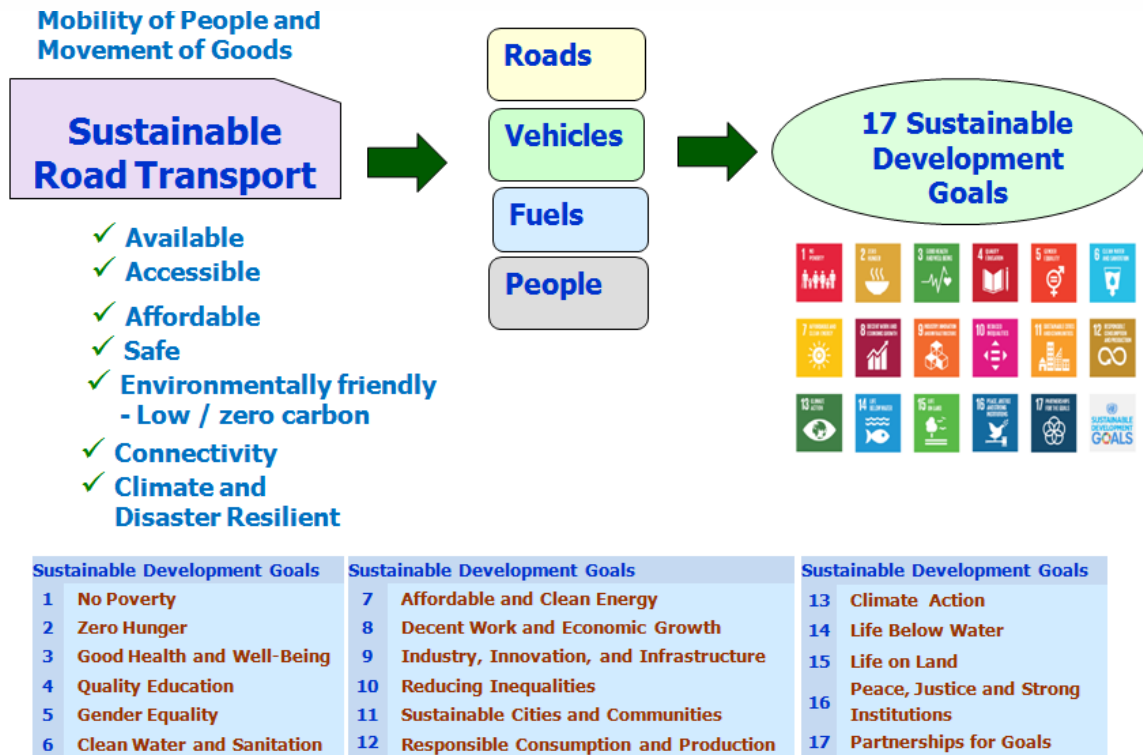


Figure 1: A Sustainable Road Transport is crucial to achieve the SDGs.

A sustainable road transport will require clear and consistent policies, plans and actions that cover all the four major components of the road transport i.e. Roads, Vehicles, Fuels, and People. See Figure 2. Under the Fuels component, clean fuels such as natural gas and renewable natural gas have important role to play especially in the near and medium term to meet the 17 SDGs by 2030. A clear and consistent policies on Transport Fuels need to be formulated by the government besides other transport policies.



Figure 2: Policies, Plans and Actions must address all four major components of Road Transport

The future fuel(s) for road transport will have to be low or zero carbon, low or zero emissions, renewable, widely available, easily accessible, affordable and safe. Currently there is no single fuel that can meet these criteria.

2.0 Selected News

2.1 USA

Report: Air Pollution Is Deadlier Than Smoking or War

Niall McCarthy. Contributor. November 20, 2018

U.S. researchers have said that air pollution, primarily caused by burning fossil fuels, is the world's top killer. The findings were published in the University of Chicago's [Air Quality Life Index](#) on Monday and they represent an attempt to find out the extent to which tiny particles ingested from polluted air shorten life. Across the globe, the average person is losing 1.8 years of life expectancy due to particulate pollution exceeding the WHO's guideline and that's worse than first-hand cigarette smoke, alcohol, HIV/AIDs and conflict.

Researchers add that if the current state of particulate pollution persists, the global population will lose a total of 12.8 billion years of life. Some areas of the world are impacted more than others and in parts of India, the world's second largest country by population, people could live up to 11 years less due to air pollution. China and Indonesia are also badly affected by particulate pollution with their life expectancy cut by seven years and five and a half years respectively.

The average loss in life expectancy increased from 1.0 in 1998 to 1.8 in 2016 with developing countries (primarily in Asia and Africa), experiencing the greatest rise in particulate pollution. The problem is being exacerbated by a lack of action to reduce pollution levels. For example, only a handful of India's 100 most-polluted cities have formulated strategies to combat pollution, despite being asked three years ago to do so. The news is better in Europe and North America where particulate pollution levels have fallen thanks to well-implemented policies to attain clean air. On average, someone in the United States or United Kingdom loses around a month of life due to air pollution.



Source: www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2018/11/20/report-air-pollution-is-deadlier-than-smoking-or-war-infographic/#1409c91e28dd

2.2 India

PM Modi to Launch City Gas Projects, to Cover Half of India's Population

[All India](#) | [Indo-Asian News Service](#) | Updated: November 21, 2018 18:10 IST [by Taboola](#)

City Gas Distribution (CGD) projects across 129 districts were won under the ninth CGD bidding round held recently.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone in New Delhi tomorrow.

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone in New Delhi tomorrow for City Gas Distribution (CGD) projects across 129 districts which won under the ninth CGD bidding round held recently, the Petroleum Ministry said.

At each of the Geographical Areas (GA) across 19 states in India, the authorised entities would also hold their event locally, a Ministry release said.

It said the projects, recently awarded by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), would cover 65 GAs to bring gas to around half of the country's population in 26 states and Union Territories.

"During the event, the Prime Minister would also launch the tenth CGD bidding round in 50 GAs spread over 124 districts in 14 states," the statement said.

As part of a larger plan to shift towards an environment friendlier gas-based economy, the development of CGD networks will increase the availability of clean cooking fuel or Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and transportation fuel Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for consumers, it said.

The project has covered 96 cities and districts covering 46.5 lakh households and 32 lakh CNG vehicles so far.

PNGRB launched the ninth CGD bidding round in April for 86 GAs covering 174 districts in 22 states and Union Territories. The government has authorised bidders to develop projects in 84 of these GAs.

"Based on the commitment made by various entities in this bidding round, around 2 crore domestic PNG connections and 4,600 CNG stations are expected to be installed in the next eight years. This has expanded the potential coverage of CGDs to about 50 per cent of the country's population spread over 35 per cent of India's area," the statement said.

Moreover, PNGRB has initiated the process of tenth CGD bidding round for another 50 GAs covering 124 districts in 14 states to increase the potential coverage to about 53 per cent of the country's area covering 70 per cent of the population, the authority said.

The e-bidding process was initiated on November 8, a pre-bid conference is scheduled on December 6 and bids can be submitted by February 5, 2019. Thereafter, the technical bids would be opened during February 7-9 and the Letters of Intent are expected to be issued by end-February, it added.

Source: www.ndtv.com/india-news/pm-modi-to-launch-city-gas-projects-to-cover-half-of-india-population-1951157

2.3 Thailand

BMTA set to welcome new NGV bus fleet

9 Nov 2018 at 07:28. NEWSPAPER SECTION: NEWS | WRITER: POST REPORTERS

Second batch to include 202 vehicles



Commuters board one of the new buses, powered by natural gas (NGV) and featuring conveniences such as low boarding doors. (Post Today photo)

Bangkok: The Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) will receive the second batch of 202 natural gas vehicle (NGV) buses from a supplier next month after a legal hurdle was cleared by a Central Administrative Court on Tuesday.

The city bus regulator received the first batch of 100 NGV buses from SCN-CHO – a joint venture between Scan Inter Plc (SCN) and Cho Thavee Plc (CHO) – in March.

The delivery of the remaining buses was suspended after the Siam Standard Energy Co, one of the bid contenders, sought a court injunction against the deal, saying the bidding was not transparent. The injunction was granted in the court in April.

BMTA chairman Nattachat Charuchinda said Thursday the BMTA will now be able to receive all the remaining buses, adding the delivery could be made in the near future. Acting BMTA director Prayoon Choygeo said the court threw away Siam Standard Energy's petition against the deal on Tuesday. In the earlier plan, the remaining buses could have been delivered between April and June this year, but this did not happen due to the legal dispute, he said. SCN-CHO has already brought the second batch of 202 buses into Thailand, he said.

The BMTA is discussing the steps in which the vehicles will be checked and received, Mr. Prayoon said. He added that the 202 buses are planned to be commissioned next month as a New Year's gift to the public.

BMTA deputy director Panida Thongsuk said her agency will pay 386.8 million baht for the first batch of 100 buses to SCN-CHO next month. The BMTA is also in the process of disbursing 16.68 million baht for the maintenance of the vehicles between March and September, she said. Another 2.8 million baht in October maintenance costs will be paid next month, she added.

According to Ms. Panida, the first 100 buses have already been used in the capital and more than 90% of passengers gave favourable feedback on the vehicles. She said the second batch of 202 buses will be used starting next month and the final lot of 187 buses will be delivered in February of next year.

Meanwhile, passengers on the Blue Line electric train could face a fare hike from the beginning of next month. The route runs between Bang Sue and Hua Lamphong.

According to an announcement by Bangkok Expressway and Metro Plc (BEM), the operator, passengers will pay a minimum of 16 baht and a maximum of 42 baht, while one baht will be added to the fares for those travelling five, eight and 11 stations. Under the train operation contract, BEM could have raised the fares from July, but it decided to defer it to support the government's policy of easing living costs for the public, according to the firm.

Source: www.bangkokpost.com/news/general/1572546/bmta-set-to-welcome-new-ngv-bus-fleet

2.4 Vietnam

VWS gifts waste treatment trucks to HCM City, Long An, Kiên Giang

Update: November, 10/2018 - 09:0. Viet Nam News



VWS presents six waste treatment trucks to HCM City, Long An and Kiên Giang on Thursday. VNS File Photo.

HCM CITY — Việt Nam Waste Solutions (VWS) on Thursday gifted two eco-friendly garbage trucks each to HCM City and Long An and Kiên Giang provinces.

The trucks, the first special-use units of their kind in Việt Nam and with advantages over other vehicles currently in use, were designed on the company's orders.

Each can carry 10 tonnes of garbage and is equipped with a waste compression compartment. They also have a sewage leachate container to prevent effluents from running onto the street.

They have an automatic atomizer to deodorise unpleasant smells and give off a fragrant smell whenever they stop, thus not causing discomfort to people in other vehicles.

The eco-friendly trucks are powered by compressed natural gas that helps reduce harmful emissions, and have a system of cameras that allow their drivers to monitor their surroundings.

Each of the special-use truck costs some US\$500,000 (equivalent to VNĐ12 billion), according to VWS.

David Duong, president of California Waste Solutions and CEO of Việt Nam Waste Solutions' Đa Phước integrated waste-treatment facility in HCM City's Bình Chánh District, said his company imported just six trucks for trialling due to the high price.

It hopes to import a larger number in the years to come, especially when the demand for the vehicle increases, bringing down the price.

Or else it could tie up with local partners to set up a plant and obtain the technology from the US to manufacture the vehicles in the country so that the price would be more reasonable, he said.

The US consul in HCM City, Mary Tarnowka, in her congratulatory remarks at the event, said Việt Nam Waste Solutions' investment not only provides an important municipal service but also incorporates tens of millions of dollars in US equipment exports and US technologies for treating contaminated liquids, recycling waste and converting waste to energy.

She quoted US ambassador to Việt Nam, Danie Kritenbrink, as saying "the US is invested in Việt Nam's success."

Since the U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement took effect in 2001, their trade had grown by over 3,000 per cent, she said.

"There are great reasons for Việt Nam to put its trust in American businesses. US companies offer some of the best, most-cutting edge technologies and are responsible and reliable investors... And partnering with US investors supports growth that is sustainable and responsible." —VNS.

Source: <https://vietnamnews.vn/society/469535/vws-gifts-waste-treatment-trucks-to-hcm-city-long-an-kien-giang.html#hceSD440oK3l3qPW.97>

3.0 Events

3.1 The date of the 36th ANGVA Board Meeting has been shifted to 5th December 2018 (Wednesday) at PGN office in Jakarta, Indonesia, 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs. Members interested to attend as observers to this board meeting are requested to contact ANGVA Secretariat.

3.2 There are no other ANGVA supported, endorsed or organized events from now till end of December 2018.

4.0 End

Any comments and suggestions on the topics and information covered and to be covered in future are most welcome. Please send your comments and suggestions to Lee Giok Seng at email: leegs@angva.org