

Leipzig Transport Summit [International Transport Forum 2023 Annual Summit]

The ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report emphasizes the requirement for a combination of policies to promote sustainable transportation choices. The report was released at the International Transport Forum's (ITF) annual summit of 2023 held in Leipzig, Germany. In this article, you can learn more about the ITF, its work and the landmark Leipzig Transport Summit & its outcomes, all from the IAS exam perspective.

International Transport Forum (ITF)

It is a global organization dedicated to promoting international cooperation and policy dialogue in the field of transportation.

- Established in 2006, it serves as a platform for governments, industry stakeholders, and experts to address the complex challenges facing the transport sector.
- It organizes the Annual Summit of transport ministers.
 - The 2023 annual summit that brought together policymakers, business leaders, civil society organisations and researchers from over 80 countries was held in Leipzig.
- It is administratively integrated with the <u>OECD</u> but at the same time maintains political autonomy.
- It published ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report and important points and findings from the report are discussed below.

Transport Decarbonisation:

• It is investing in public transport infrastructure and policies that support the move to transport modes with higher occupancy or load factors, and more compact cities.

ITF Transport Outlook 2023 Report Highlights

Importance of Decarbonization:

- Decarbonization of transportation contributes to achieving the goals of the 2015
 Paris Agreement.
- It can help limit the global temperature increase to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Need for a Mix of Policies:

- The ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report emphasizes the requirement for a combination of policies to promote sustainable transportation choices.
- Different contexts necessitate various policies to support the shift to transport modes with higher occupancy and more compact cities.
- Cost Savings and Infrastructure Investment:



- Implementing decarbonization measures can potentially save governments \$4 trillion globally on road maintenance and investment.
- According to ITF projections, achieving high-ambition decarbonization scenarios would require about 5% less investment in core infrastructure compared to current policies.

Reduction of CO2 Emissions:

- By intensifying and accelerating decarbonization efforts, the transport sector can potentially reduce its CO2 emissions by approximately 80% over the next 25 years (compared to 2019).
- This significant emission reduction aligns with the goal of limiting global temperature increase.

Complementary Policies for High-Ambition Scenario:

- Reaching the high-ambition scenario requires a combination of policies that reduce unnecessary transport activity, shift trips to no-carbon transport, and enhance transport efficiency.
- Scaling up cost-competitive technologies and fuels is crucial to achieving significant emission reductions.