

Institute for Transport Studies

FACULTY OF EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT



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# Transport and Innovation: Urban Transport and Mobility

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- Substantial growth in urban areas and populations
  - Particularly in developing countries
  - +30% to 50% by 2030
- Objectives for urban transport policy unlikely to change significantly, but priorities will
  - Greater emphasis on climate change, resource depletion, health, resilience
- Problems with urban transport likely to grow more rapidly than populations
  - Particularly congestion, pollution, safety, accessibility, disruption
  - But data and reliable estimates are scarce



- Technology will continue to contribute
  - Motive power sources and vehicle design
  - But also driverless public transport systems
- But technology will not provide all the answers
  - Particularly given skill and financial shortages in developing cities
- Behavioural change will be at least equally important
  - And requires a growing emphasis on demand management
- Innovations in transport policy will continue
  - Perhaps ten new instruments per decade
  - But need more emphasis on empirical evaluation



- Cities should not focus solely on technology and supply-side measures
  - Which have been shown to be inadequate
  - And will be unaffordable in the developing world
- Packages of policy instruments will be more effective than pursuit of individual policies
  - But packages need to be designed in terms of a given city's needs
  - More effort is needed on the design of such packages
  - And on their empirical evaluation



- The principal barriers
  - Governance, acceptability, finance, regulation
- Innovations needed to resolve all of these
  - Drawing on research at the interface of engineering, economics with political science, psychology, sociology
  - And on experience in other sectors
- But governments can already act to reduce these barriers
  - As illustrated by the ECMT 2006 recommendations



- Data availability and technical/policy skills are also serious barriers
  - Particularly, but not only, in the developing world
- Training and dissemination of good practice are needed
- As are innovations in decision-support tools
- Innovative cities offer the most important contribution
  - But more effort is needed to help “follower” cities learn from them, to achieve effective policy transfer within and between contexts
- This is also an area in which sectors can learn from one another