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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport

Twentieth session
Geneva, 22 and 23 April 2021
Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Climate change and transport assets data

Simple survey to assess needs of transport professionals in UNECE region with regard to understanding the future potential impacts from climate change on transport

Note by the secretariat

I. Background

1. The Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport decided at its nineteenth session to construct and disseminate a simple survey for consulting transport infrastructure managers on climate change impacts of most interest to them as well as on relevant thresholds of climate indices. This document presents the developed survey.

II. Survey

Survey introduction

2. The survey is short and hopefully straightforward, and should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. All data will be anonymized and released in aggregative form only.

3. The Economic Commission for Europe Group of Experts on assessment of climate change impacts and adaptation for inland transport is working to try and better understand how transport infrastructure and systems may be impacted by current and future climate-related events e.g. drought, flooding, high temperatures and so on.

4. There are many real-world examples of how extreme weather and climate-related events has led to disruption in transport systems and infrastructure, causing a wide range of different impacts.

5. The work of the Group of Experts is concerned to try and raise awareness of these impacts, and how inland transport infrastructure and systems can cope with, and better

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prepare for them through timely and well-informed adaptation planning and action. If this can be done, the risk posed by damaging climate-related events and associated impacts can hopefully be reduced.

6. Numerous scientific studies show that many of the climate-related events that have negative impacts on transport systems and infrastructure today, may increase in their magnitude and frequency in the future.

7. The Group took a significant first step in helping to raise awareness through the publication of a report in 2020 which analysed such climate-related events and impacts (available at http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53818).

Now, the Group would like to go further with its work, and for this we need your help.

8. We – the Group of Experts – would like to be able to analyse changes in climate variables and indices that are related to the kind of impacts that you observe or experience in your work. If we can do this, we can provide information on how these variables and indices may change in the future, which hopefully will help you in your work. So, with this short survey we are asking you, to help us, to help you.

Questions

Q.1. Which business area do you work in the transport sector? Please select

- Planning
- Design
- Construction
- Operation
- Other

Q.2. Which mode(s) of transportation do you focus on in your role? Please select all that apply

- Road
- Rail
- Waterway
- Marine
- Air

Q.3. Do you currently make use of climate projections i.e. information on how the climate may change over the next multiple number of decades throughout the 21st century, in your work?

- Yes
- No

Q.4. Does flooding, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.4.1. What are the associated impacts of flooding on your area of work?

Q.4.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of flooding on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.5. Does drought, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes

- No

If yes:

Q.5.1. What are the associated impacts of droughts on your area of work?

Q.5.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of droughts on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.6. Does extreme heat, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.6.1. What are the associated impacts of extreme heat on your area of work?

Q.6.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of extreme heat on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.7. Does windstorm, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.7.1. What are the associated impacts of windstorm on your area of work?

Q.7.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of windstorm on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.8. Does extreme snowfall, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.8.1. What are the associated impacts of extreme snowfall on your area of work?

Q.8.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of extreme snowfall on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.9. Does storm surge, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.9.1. What are the associated impacts of storm surge on your area of work?

Q.9.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of storm surge on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.10. Does sea level rise, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.10.1. What are the associated impacts of sea level rise on your area of work?

Q.10.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of sea level rise on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.11. Does ice thaw, as a climate-related event, cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.11.1. What are the associated impacts of ice thaw on your area of work?

Q.11.2. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of ice thaw on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.12. Are there any other climate-related events, which cause impact in your area of work?

- Yes
- No

If yes:

Q.12.1. What are these other climate-related events causing impact on your area of work?

Q.12.2. What are their associated impacts on your area of work?

Q.12.3. Are there any critical thresholds beyond which you know you will see impacts of these events on your area of work? Can you provide details on what the associated threshold(s) may be?

Q.13. Would you be interested in discussing this survey and your responses in more detail with someone from the Group of Experts?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide your name, affiliation and contact details:

Name:

Organization:

Contact details (email and/or phone number):