Objectives

To date, vehicle efficiency and emissions performance standards are the most successful policy measures to achieve deep cuts in on-road vehicle energy use and associated pollutant emissions. Set up by the G20 in 2015, the TTG has a three-prong mandate to:

- Build domestic support and enhance capability for action to reduce the energy and environmental impacts of motor transport, especially heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs).
- Identify best practices on implementing cost-effective energy efficiency and emissions control measures in transport, and exchange these among G20 countries.
- Conduct analysis and outreach to assess the opportunities, barriers, costs and benefits of HDV energy efficiency action; subsequently, recommend a course of action for participating G20 countries.

2018 · Increasing uptake of world-class heavy-duty vehicle standards

Vehicle efficiency and emissions performance standards set by G20 economies largely determine the evolution of the global on-road vehicle fleet, including for HDVs, the most energy- and emissions-intensive subsector. Yet these policies are not uniform across the G20. In 2018, the TTG continued its efforts to reduce this disparity by facilitating knowledge sharing about policy and technical issues and building capacity to support wider adoption of world-class standards. Three main activities marked the year:

- Carrying out a ‘deep dive’ (an in-depth, focused policy project) on the measurement and certification of HDVs and their components to help countries develop HDV efficiency standards and labelling programmes.
- Conducting policy exchanges, via webinars, on topics such as the European Commission proposal for HDV CO₂ standards, Argentina’s HDV efficiency programmes and the United States’ HDV Phase 2 GHG standards.
- Convening its first in-person meeting to take stock of important progress made in improving the energy efficiency and environmental performance of HDVs in G20 economies, and to engage in strategic discussions on vision and activities for the coming years.

2019 · Aligning action with desired outcomes

Going forward, TTG activities will be shaped around four work streams:

- Policy exchange: Organising regular policy exchanges on the development and implementation of HDV efficiency programmes and emissions standards, as well as other transport issues, to allow members to share and learn from one another. TTG has introduced a new platform to enhance communication on policy topics, including behaviour change.
- Deep dives: Providing direct knowledge transfer, via technical webinars and technical assistance, to G20 countries interested in developing relevant HDV policy frameworks and associated technical expertise.
- Research activities: Addressing knowledge gaps and research questions associated with desired developments in transport.
- G20 engagement: Reflecting G20 priorities in the TTG work plan and providing updates to delegates.

Membership

Lead Members: European Commission • United States

Participants: Argentina • Australia • Brazil • Canada • China • Germany • India • Italy • Japan • Mexico • Russia • United Kingdom
Impact: Diving deep into HDV efficiency standards

HDVs, such as trucks and buses, are a small fraction of the on-road vehicle fleet but account for 40% of its energy use and CO₂ emissions, as well as a large portion of particulate matter and ozone precursors from transportation. Developing new HDV efficiency and/or CO₂ standards is an intensive process, which requires a combination of technical tools, skills and institutional capacity.

In 2018, the TTG launched its landmark project – called the Deep Dive – to help interested countries accelerate the development of robust HDV efficiency standards. Through a series of technical webinars (seven to date) and in-person workshops, participating countries are learning how to acquire and adapt existing tools, skills and methods required to define and certify minimum HDV standards while also building institutional capacity to oversee their implementation. In addition, participants have been introduced to new techniques on how to apply established testing procedures and simulation tools for HDV efficiency measurement in different regions.

The G20’s continued support of this project is instrumental in accelerating the development of world-class HDV efficiency standards and delivering benefits to the group and beyond.

Retrospective

Boosting efficiency, putting the brakes on emissions

Since being established in 2015, the TTG has hosted workshops and policy exchanges with leading members of the international transport community. These interactions have led to achievement of important milestones:

• Definition of world-class efficiency and emissions standards for HDVs and light-duty vehicles (LDVs) as benchmarks for all G20 economies to work toward under the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme. For HDVs, world-class emissions standards include US 2010 and Euro VI standards.

• Securing continued high-level support from G20 members for activities to enhance the efficiency and environmental performance of HDVs, as noted in G20 Energy Communiqués.

• Publishing (in 2017) a report on the status of policies for clean vehicles and fuels in select G20 countries and an assessment of the impacts of expanded adoption of world-class standards.

• Setting up a ‘deep dive’ work stream to build technical capacity and inform policy development in participating G20 economies. From late 2017 through 2018, as part of this work, the TTG initiated a landmark project on the technical aspects of HDV fuel economy measurement and standards.

• Conducting the first in-person TTG meeting to take stock of progress in improving the energy efficiency and environmental performance of HDVs in G20 economies and to engage in strategic discussion of TTG activities for 2019 and beyond.

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