

Focus on cleaner mobility in Transport Month

The South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI) is supporting October Transport month by encouraging South Africans to embrace cleaner mobility by encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport.

“Our role is to investigate and demonstrate alternative ways of mobility that will lead to the improvement of the environmental, social and economic conditions. We inform and communicate the world’s success stories and our findings to our stakeholders and the public, to motivate a change in policy and a change in behaviour,” explains Barry Bredenkamp, General Manager for Energy Efficiency at The South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI).

“Together with the transportation of goods, mobility of people is fundamental to the economy of South Africa. Over the years, the transportation systems have grown and the exhaust emissions produced by these vehicles are polluting the air in our cities and the environment. People’s health is at risk and our climate is compromised. The instability of the oil price and depletion of the world’s petroleum supplies are also risks to consider. Congestion in cities is due to increasing vehicle usage, which only aggravates the problem.

“SANEDI’s Cleaner Mobility Programme is partnered with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) Low Carbon Transport Project, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to promote energy efficient, low-carbon transport and urban systems. The project supports government in demonstrating new sustainable transport technologies and conducting the required research to inform the development and improvement of regulatory frameworks for inclusive cleaner mobility solutions. The project is also heavily invested in creating platforms for institutional capacity building and awareness creation amongst all stakeholders.”

International activities

“Solutions that are clean in terms of exhaust emissions, efficient in terms of energy consumption and fit for purpose in terms of mobility objective are being designed and developed across the world,” continues Bredenkamp.

“SANEDI participates in the International Energy Association’s (IEA) Implementing Agreement on ‘Hybrid and Electric Vehicles’, as well as the Clean Energy Ministerial ‘Electric Vehicle Initiative’ on a regular basis. We also support the European Commission, Conference of the parties (COP) and UNIDO.

“The South African Green Transport Strategy is targeted to make a tangible impact by 2030 by relating to international commitments, such as the Paris Agreement and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).”

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About SANEDI

The South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI), established by the Government, directs, monitors and conducts applied energy research to develop innovative, integrated solutions to catalyse growth and prosperity in the green economy. It drives scientific evidence-driven ventures that contribute to youth empowerment, gender equity, environmental sustainability and the 4th Industrial Revolution, within the National Spatial Development Plan, through consultative, energy efficient projects. For more information, go to www.sanedi.org.za.