

Invitation & Agenda Note

Roundtable on Financing Pathways for Electric Truck Deployment

Date & Time: 13 August from 9 AM

Venue: Viceroy Hall, Claridges Hotel

About C40 Cities

C40 Cities is a network of 96 major cities around the world working together to address climate change. These cities represent a significant portion of the global economy and population, and their mayors are committed to taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a more sustainable future. C40 provides these cities with resources and support, helping them share best practices and implement innovative solutions to environmental challenges.

The Laneshift program, launched by C40 Cities in partnership with The Climate Pledge, tackles climate change by transitioning freight transportation in developing cities to zero-emission electric vehicles. Focused on major cities in India and Latin America, Laneshift aims to overcome challenges like electric truck availability and charging infrastructure. By working with city governments and private partners, Laneshift hopes to accelerate the adoption of electric trucks, reduce air pollution, and create a more sustainable future for these regions.

Background

India's electric freight sector has immense potential, but traditional financing and business models aren't enough for increased adoption. New approaches are needed to overcome challenges like high upfront electric truck costs and range anxiety.

Financing models should also be revamped. New approaches such as battery financing, public private partnerships for charging stations, leasing, green and sustainability bonds and other new approaches can provide long-term financing for electric freight companies.

C40 Cities is driving the switch to electric freight vehicles (EFVs) in India through its Laneshift program. We're working closely with shipping companies to identify ideal opportunities for EFV use. This results-focused approach ensures that plans translate into real-world projects. To further this goal, C40 Cities is hosting a workshop on "Financing Freight Electrification in India" in Delhi this year (August 2024). This event will provide a platform for discussion with key decision-makers in India's freight industry.

Objective of the session

The session on "Financing Freight Electrification in India" aims to:

- Discuss new financing mechanisms and business models that can support the large-scale adoption of electric freight vehicles (EFVs).
- Discuss enabling conditions for driving these new models.
- Discuss financing frameworks for the transition to zero emission freight

The overarching objective is to enable stakeholders to take initial steps in implementing EFVs as part of their decarbonizing goals. Consignors can move to EFVs to reduce their scope 3 emissions while Logistics Service Providers can move to EFVs to reduce their operating costs. OEMs have a proactive role to play in developing EFVs and a reactive role in responding to market demand for EFVs. Financial institutions will have to develop new financing products given the unique challenges of the sector.

This discussion will bring together all the stakeholders in the ecosystem to discuss current challenges - in terms of policies, regulations, costs, technologies and financing. New financing models and new business models will be discussed and reflected upon to find the best way forward for the stakeholders in terms of EFV adoption. The discussion will provide input for further development of financing and business models in the sector.

Agenda

Financing Pathways for Electric Truck Deployment	
Day, Date	Tuesday, 13th August 2024
09:00-10:00	Registration
Inaugural Session	
10:00-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening remarks: Shruti Narayan, Managing Director RME, C40 Presentation for setting the context
10:30- 11:00	<p>Experience sharing session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consignor perspective: Sukanta Pandit, Head of Logistics- Road & Projects at Hindalco Industries OEM perspective: TBD from IPLT LSP perspective: Ajay Pratap Singh, CEO, Switch Labs
11:00-11:45	<p>Roundtable 1: Approaches and opportunities for scaling EFV deployment for commercial freight</p> <p>Moderator: Anantha Paladugula, Head Mobility, C40</p> <p><i>Topics for discussion</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Role that stakeholders can play via risk sharing mechanisms to facilitate wider adoption of EFVs 2) Consignors role in influencing LSPs to meet their decarbonizing imperatives 3) Possible measures by stakeholders to lower capex and opex of EFVs 4) Identifying use cases apt for aggregation of demand to benefit all ecosystem players
11:45-12:00	Tea break
12:00-12:20	<p>Experience sharing session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OEM perspective: Karthick Athmanathan, SVP Ashok Leyland (on sabbatical), Professor of Practice, IIT Madras Financier perspective: Nishant Idnani, MD, Vaultus Green Funding
12:20-13:00	<p>Roundtable 2: Role of financial institutions and ecosystem enablers in scaling EFV deployment</p> <p>Moderator: Arun Krishnan, Climate Policy Initiative</p> <p><i>Topics for discussion</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Requisites for financial institutions from ecosystem players to enable flow of finance to the industry 2) Creating project proposals for scaled deployment and accessing low-cost capital 3) Potential new business models and new financing mechanisms to scale deployment of EFVs
13:00-14:00	Networking Lunch