Supporting bus-based public transport systems

Journey so far
ABOUT BUS KARO

WRI India’s ‘Bus Karo’ program is designed to engage with the State Transport Undertakings (STUs) and other stakeholders to deliberate technical issues that hinder the development of bus systems, build capacity and foster peer to peer learning.

Bus Karo has 3 components:

1. TALKING TRANSIT
   a workshop series that convenes public transport agencies to discuss various aspects of bus services and provides capacity building training

2. MENTORING TRANSIT
   involves assisting public transport agencies in implementing pilot projects that aim to improve bus services through performance monitoring and service optimization

3. LEARNING TRANSIT
   develops and disseminates material documenting Indian and International best practices in bus operations

In 2014, WRI India launched *Bus Karo 2.0 Case Studies from India*.
BUS KARO WORKSHOPS
BEST (4500 buses) and DTC (6500 buses) – bus companies in Mumbai and Delhi have not been able to increase their fleet due to lack of land for depots and terminals. Meanwhile BMTC had doubled its ridership from 2.5 million to 5 million and buses from 3500 to 6500 in the last 10 years.

BMTC has 38 depots and 50 bus terminals that were developed through a long-term land banking strategy.
Driver turned trainer Mohammed Hanif of Andhra Pradesh Road Transport Corporation (APSTRC) demonstrates the simulator they built to help drivers to visualize the link between stepping on the gas pedal and fuel injection.

APSRTC reports one of the highest fuel efficiency standards in the country >5 kmpl. Industry standard is 3 kmpl.

August 2012
18 Cities - 60 Participants
Feeder bus services are designed to pick up passengers in a certain locality and take them to a transfer point where they make an onward journey on a trunk service either by another bus, or a rail-based service such as a tram, rapid transit or train.

BEST has been providing feeder services in Mumbai for past several decades.

April 2013 – Mumbai
20 Cities - 65 Participants
Telematics or Intelligent Transport System (ITS) is an important aspect of the modern city bus service. ITS can not only help public transport user make informed decision but also helps operator to make plan, operate and monitor the services in an optimal manner.

KSRTC has developed a State of the Art ITS.

September 2013 – Mysore
25 Cities - 80 Participants
Public transport has to be sold like a commodity and therefore Branding, Marketing and Communication (BMC) and integral to it. BMC can effectively be used to retain the riders on the system, it also be used to attract the new ones. BMC is also important reaching to the larger audience.

AICTSL has done some interesting innovations around use of social media in marketing the system.
Transport systems in cities typically have little or no integration but it is documented globally that integrated high quality transport system can only be a viable alternative to private transport in cities.

BCLL has done some remarkable innovation by bring bus, BRT, city bus and taxi operations under single authority and is not contemplating of bringing in minibus and Tata magic under its ambit.
Gurgaon has over 1 million population and presence of 50% of the Fortune 500 companies. It has also emerged as the city with third highest per capita income in the country. Yet it does not have a bus service forcing people to use private modes.

The two day workshop got experts from various cities that have developed high quality bus service to help develop a framework for a modern bus service.
Use of information technology is growing in every field including public transportation. Apart from improving the efficiency of the system, IT is being used to develop new service delivery models for bus operations.

The two day workshop which was part of the CONNECT Karo event got experts from various cities to discuss and debate on the use of IT in improving city bus service.
The 2-day workshop was organised in partnership with BMTC, KSRTC and Shakti Foundation to facilitate faster, more frequent and upgraded bus services in our cities.

Successful models and initiatives in taxation policies, subsidies and innovative financing was discussed during this workshop with a focus on improving the overall operational efficiency and safety of bus systems.

November 2016 – Bengaluru
16 Cities - 65 Participants
The 2-day workshop supported by MOUD and organised in partnership with Shakti Foundation and FedEx was organized to facilitate reforming city bus operations.

This session focused on five broad reforms around taxation, financing, technological improvements, energy efficiency, and bus priority.

April 2017 – Delhi
45 cities – 120 participants
The workshop organized in partnership with Government of UP focused on augmenting public transport in cities of Uttar Pradesh.

Dec 2017 – Lucknow
7 cities – 60 participants
BUS KARO XII
STRATEGIZING ELECTRIC BUS OPERATIONS IN INDIAN CITIES

The 2-day workshop supported by Shakti Foundation, FedEx and in partnership with C40 Cities Finance Facilities focused on four broad themes related to e-buses: Battery Technology, Support Infrastructure, financing & operations and innovation in public transport.

April 2018 – Delhi
18 cities - 150 participants
This workshop held in partnership with BMTC, focused on understanding the increasing emphasis on using data from different sources to understand commuter movement and behaviour that can inform better planning of public transport services. The discussions also highlighted the influence of mobility data on the city at large.

October 2018 – Bangalore
14 cities – 100 participants
This edition of Bus Karo focused the discussions on reforming bus systems at the state-level, bringing innovation in public transport and inducting electric bus fleet.

March 2019 – Delhi
13 cities - 80 participants
Held at Urban Mobility India Conference, this edition of Bus Karo brought together experts, government officials and other stakeholders to highlight the need for renewed investments from the National Government for scaling and improving bus-based public transport systems.

November 2019 – Lucknow
60 participants
The first ever virtual session of Bus Karo, brought together experts working on bus based public transport systems and representative from transit agencies to discuss key considerations of a national level investment program for bus based public transport based on the learnings from previous national level schemes around bus funding and international case examples.

May 2020 – Virtual session
650 participants
This Bus Karo workshop brought together experts working on bus based public transport systems and representative from transit agencies to discuss the needs and methods to secure financial support for bus agencies and how to plan towards developing resilient bus systems in the long term. Day 2 of the event focusses on intelligent technologies and data analytics to plan and monitor bus systems.
JOURNEY CONTINUES...