

Transcript: live webchat on “Driving towards more sustainable transport”

[Dr Selda Gonsel] Hello. I am Dr Selda Gonsel and I am the Vice President of fuels technology at Shell.

[Jose Bravo] And I am Jose Bravo, one of Shell’s Chief Scientists.

[Jose Bravo] We would like to invite you to take part in a live webchat, which will look at the drive towards more sustainable transport and mobility.

[Jose Bravo] The webchat will take place on the 11th May and we hope that you will be able to join us and our wider team as we debate the issues with people from across the world.

[Dr Selda Gonsel] In recent years, debate around the future of mobility has taken a significant shift. Globally, sustainable transportation options are now seen as a necessity for both environmental and economic reasons.

[Dr Selda Gonsel] We have seen important and exciting developments in electric cars. The development of new, cleaner fuel sources such as hydrogen and biofuels are also driving the shift towards more sustainable transportation.

[Dr Selda Gonsel] Development is gradual, however, and the car as we know it will not change overnight. The majority of vehicles being built today run on conventional fuel, and these vehicles will still be on the road in 2020 and beyond.

[Dr Selda Gonsel] Therefore making these vehicles as efficient as possible is a very real and immediate challenge.

[Dr Selda Gonsel] This is particularly important in developing countries where car population is growing rapidly, as is demand for bigger, more feature-heavy and higher consumption vehicles.

[Dr Selda Gonsel] The growth in car manufacturing in developing nations means that countries such as India and China are particularly crucial in the drive towards lower carbon dioxide emissions.

[Jose Bravo] As we look longer-term, there are many more challenges we will have to face towards a more sustainable transport infrastructure.

[Jose Bravo] Diversity of technology options creates opportunities, but also more questions. For example, do electric cars really produce less carbon than traditional vehicles? What needs to be done in the electricity generation step to ensure electric vehicles are genuinely a low-carbon option?

[Jose Bravo] Of course, getting the technology right is just one part of the puzzle. Mobility and transport are complex issues with many social, regulatory and economic drivers attached to them. What do you believe is the right regulatory framework to drive forward sustainable mobility?

[Jose Bravo] We want to debate these questions – and others – with you. By logging onto the live webchat on Tuesday 11th May, you can have your say. We look forward to getting your views and answering your questions on this topical issue.