Rail

Source Metadata

Field	Value
source	cpi
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sector	Transport
subsector	Rail
mitigation	Y
adaptation	Y
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CPI Definition & Scope

Rail in CPI's GLCF framework tracks finance directed at low-carbon rail infrastructure for both passenger and freight transport. CPI captures investment in metro/subway systems, light rail, intercity electrified rail, and modal shift programs that move freight from road to rail. Rail is inherently lower-carbon per passenger-kilometer and per ton-kilometer than road or air transport, and investments that expand or electrify rail networks count as climate finance in CPI's methodology.

Subsectors & Examples

- **Urban Metro/Subway** — new metro lines, station expansion, system modernization
- **Light Rail & Tram** — urban and suburban light rail networks
- **Intercity Rail** — electrified intercity passenger rail, high-speed rail
- **Freight Rail** — rail freight infrastructure, intermodal terminals, electrification
- **Rail Electrification** — conversion from diesel to electric traction

Mitigation & Adaptation Classification

Rail is classified as **dual-benefit** in CPI's framework. Mitigation comes from modal shift away from road and air transport, along with electrification of rail traction. Adaptation benefits arise from climate-resilient infrastructure

design — elevated tracks, flood-resistant stations, and heat-tolerant rail systems that maintain transport connectivity during climate events.

LATAM Relevance

Rail investment in Latin America is experiencing renewed momentum. Colombia's Bogota Metro (Line 1, under construction) represents the largest single urban infrastructure investment in the country's history with significant multilateral climate finance. Peru's Lima Metro Line 2 expansion is another major project tracked in climate finance flows. Costa Rica has explored light rail for the Greater Metropolitan Area. Regional freight rail development offers significant modal shift opportunities to reduce road transport emissions.

Cleantech Taxonomy Crosswalk

Maps to Cleantech Taxonomy sector **TR** (Transport) for rail systems. Cross-references with **BU** (Buildings) for transit-oriented development and **ES** (Energy Systems) for rail electrification power supply.

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