Demand side climate change mitigation actions and SDGs: literature review with systematic evidence search

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Keywords: SDG, industry, transport, buildings, avoid-shift-improve, actor, mitigation actions

Abstract

To strengthen current discourse on acceleration and scale up of the emissions mitigation actions by sector-specific demand side actions, information on the intersection of three dimensions becomes useful. First, what kind of actions help in avoiding, shifting and improving demand for activities/services and resultant emissions to help in deciding choices for actions; second, how these three categories of actions are linked to the wider impact on human wellbeing represented by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework; and third, who are the actors associated with these mitigation actions. These three steps become important in the targeted scaling up of actions through policy interventions. This study undertakes a review of the literature between 2015 and 2020 with systematic evidence searching and screening. The literature search has been conducted in Scopus Database. From over 6887 literature in the initial search, 294 relevant literature were finally reviewed to link demand side interventions of avoid-shift-improve (ASI) categories to SDGs. It also maps these actions to actors who can lead the changes. Results show that a wide range of improvement actions are already helping in incremental steps to reduce demand and emissions in various services like mobility, shelter and industrial products. However, ASI categories provide more distinct mitigation actions. All actions need support of innovation, infrastructure development and industrialization. Actions that interact with several SDGs include active mode of transport, passive building design, cleaner cooking, and circular economy. Positive links of these actions to multiple SDGs are overall very strong; however, few trade-offs have been observed. These are mostly related to distributional impact across social groups which highlight the need for policy attention and hard infrastructure design changes. Mitigation and wider benefit outcomes cannot be achieved by individual or household level actions alone. They require the involvement of multiple actors, interconnected actions in sequence as well as in parallel, and support of hard infrastructure. Our results show that in mobility services, policy makers supported by spatial planners and service delivery providers are the major actors. In industry, major actors are policy makers followed by spatial planners and innovators. For buildings, key actors include spatial planners followed by policy makers. Besides these, strategic information sharing to enhance user awareness and education plays an important role in shaping behaviour. Digitalization, information and communication, and interactive technologies will play a significant role in understanding and modifying people’s choices; however, these would also require regulatory attention.

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1. Background

Acceleration in mitigation actions from now through the next two decades simultaneously by all countries and across all sectors is emerging as an imperative from all global assessments (IPBES 2016, UNDP 2016, UNEP 2017, IPCC 2018, 2019, EAT-Lancet Commission 2019, HIMAP 2019) to avoid catastrophic consequences and to avoid very high and many uncertain mitigation costs associated with uncertain technologies. One strong argument in favour of wide scale global participation in climate mitigation action comes from the scientific community who are highlighting clear wider developmental co-benefits from climate mitigation (Dubash et al 2013, Bajželj et al 2014, Behnassi et al 2014, Campbell et al 2014, Lipper et al 2014, Long et al 2016, Creutzig et al 2018, Ürge-Vorsatz et al 2018, Roy et al 2018a). Development and employment literature (Elasha 2010) see near term national developmental priorities including energy security concerns as urgent priorities and mitigation action as a long-term goal. Sustainable development goals (SDGs) provide a common overarching framing for development that addresses both long-term sustainability and wider human wellbeing oriented developmental goals in the near future for all countries. Climate action is the 13th goal under 17 politically negotiated globally accepted SDGs. Mitigation is one of the climate actions proposed under SDG 13. Synergy and trade-off between mitigation action and the SDGs are now well acknowledged in the literature (Roy et al 2018a, Hoegh-Guldberg et al 2019, Some 2020).

An IPCC special report on the ‘Global Warming’ of 1.5 °C assessed extensive literature to report the indicative linkages between climate action within the SDG framework (Roy et al 2018a) without going into an assessment of net positive and negative impacts. Users of the report expressed its usefulness and a desire for additional assessment of net wider impact. The caption to Table SPM 4 in the IPCC SR1.5 notes the need for further assessment. The IPCC SR1.5 also identifies the lack of adequate studies that address interlinkages between climate mitigation and adaptation and resilient socio-economic transformations.

Our goal in this article is to pick up from the more conclusive findings in the SR1.5, which highlights that demand side mitigation actions are more synergistic with SDGs compared to supply side actions and conduct a deeper investigation using systematic evidence search and screening of the existing literature for a better understanding of the evidence on SDG impacts of demand side mitigation actions grouped under avoid-shift-improve (ASI) categories, and further into actors who can lead the actions.

The ASI categories we borrow from applications in the 1990s in the transport sector. Recently Gota et al (2019) reviewed up to 1500 low-carbon measures in 81 countries, which are grouped under the ‘avoid’ category as those aiming to decrease the need for transport trips, ‘shift’ representing actions that enable a shift to substitute modes for service provision, and ‘improve’ represents actions aiming to look for more efficient appliances. Given the simplicity of the ASI categorisation, recently there is an increasing focus on applying the ASI category beyond the transport sector (Creutzig et al 2018). Given this background, this study undertakes to prepare a review by a systematic evidence search and screening to address the overarching research question, ‘what evidence exists on various mitigation actions implemented in various regions that can be categorized under avoid, shift and improve in demand for products and services, how do they interact with SDGs, and who are the main actors who drive mitigation actions?’ The study considers the interaction of mitigation actions with all 16 non-climatic SDGs. Three energy demand sectors (services) chosen are: transport (mobility), industry (variety of products) and building (shelter and commerce).

2. Method

We have followed a systematic evidence search and screening of literature and evidence. It is performed by using relevant keywords within the scope of the research question to find out all relevant literature within the Scopus database. Being systematic helps us in removing bias of selecting and omitting literature (Lamb et al 2018).

It is very basic, but due to its elegance we organize and segregate the research question in population-intervention-outcome (PIO) elements. The PIO elements of the research question are:

Population(s): energy end use sectors (industry, transport and building) mapped into goods and service typologies e.g. industrial manufactured goods such as clothing for thermal comfort, transport for mobility and buildings for shelter for commercial and institutional functions for homes, hospitals, schools and workspace. However, we use sectors and services interchangeably in the article.

Intervention(s): a range of mitigation actions relating to various sectors mentioned in the population above. These mitigation actions are categorized as changes at technical, behavioural and infrastructural and/or systemic level.

Outcome(s): synergies and trade-offs with all 16 SDGs with goal 13 (climate action) as climate mitigation actions in energy demand sectors are the entry point of this study.

2.1. Literature search

To identify demand side mitigation actions for end-use sectors such as transport, industry and building, search queries (annex A) are developed on the sector-specific key elements PIO (population (Query 1), intervention (Query 2) and outcome
(Query 3)) of the research question. We divide outcome-related search terms into two parts: Query 3a and Query 3b; the first one focuses on various demand side actions for mitigation and the second one is to constrain results to those relevant to SDG linkages. The search was performed in Scopus. We are aware that these same search strings would have fetched different results in other databases (Bramer et al 2017) but we have used only Scopus because it is more user-friendly in terms of downloading search results directly in .csv format than other databases like Web of Science (Core Collection). We have limited the study period between 2015 and 2020 to align with the SDGs and for the ongoing IPCC Sixth Assessment Cycle (AR6). Annex A provides a list of search terms used for the three sectors.

2.2. Screening
Articles from the above search were considered for inclusion in three successive levels following selected inclusion criteria (annex B). The first step was title screening followed by abstract screening and finally full text review. In case of uncertainty during the title or abstract screening, the article was included by default in the next step of screening. After the abstract screening, 12 articles randomly selected from each sector were checked by all the four authors for consistency and agreement between the authors and were recorded using the Kappa test. The Kappa values are ranged in between 0.63 and 0.71 ($k = 0.71$ for transport: SS vs JR; $k = 0.63$ for industry: ND vs JR; $k = 0.66$ for building: MP vs JR). The scores indicate moderate agreement.

The final step was a full text review of short-listed articles for inclusion in the final analysis. The articles were distributed by sector among two reviewers: transport-JR and SS, industry-JR and ND and building-JR and MP. General inclusion and exclusion criteria were set a priori for all the three sectors at the different stages of screening (annex B).

2.3. Data/information extraction
Articles included for final analysis are thoroughly reviewed. We used a detailed coding sheet (see the supplementary file which is available online at stacks.iop.org/ERL/16/043003/mmedia) to record the mitigation actions, the country context, the SDG linkages and the actors along with all other necessary information related to the articles like the title of the article, publication year, source and the DOI.

2.4. Synthesizing data/information
We grouped various demand side actions from the supplementary file into the ASI category following Creutzig et al (2018). The ASI category for all three end-use sectors in this paper is grouped as follows. The Avoid category includes actions aimed at avoiding the demand for high-emission intensive services (mobility, manufactured product, shelter and building services including cooking); actions in the shift category help in substituting demand for high-emission intensive services with low/no intensive ones; and improve category actions are aimed at improving the energy/emission intensity of a service type. Two reviewers from each sector categorized the interventions into the ASI category and in case of ambiguity, a third reviewer was consulted to solve the discrepancies. We then mapped the SDGs’ impacts of individual ASI interventions (see supplementary file). SDGs are interlinked, so trying to achieve one goal (here SDG 13) have wider impacts (synergies and trade-offs) on other goals (other 16 SDGs, except SDG 13). Therefore, it is important from a policy perspective to understand these wider impacts that the demand side mitigation actions imply. We have mapped the wider impacts from the implementation of demand side mitigation actions (SDG 13) against the other SDGs, for each of the three end-use sectors (see table 1, figures 3–5 and supplementary file). Then, we tried to see which actors can be associated with these mitigation actions. This becomes important in targeted scaling up of actions through policy interventions. These findings are presented in section 3.

While reviewing the articles, we found interesting inter-sectoral linkages that can aid in taking the mitigation actions. We report the findings of the inter-sectoral linkages and digitalization in section 4. Figure 1 presents the workflow chart.

3. Results

3.1. Descriptive statistics
The search queries fetched a total of 6887 studies. Annex C provides details of the articles included after each screening stage. Below we describe the screening stages for each sector. A total of 294 articles are included for detailed analysis. Studies included in the review spanned a wide geographic scope representing over 67 countries with a large number of studies from Europe, Asia and North America (figure 2). Considering all the sectors, most studied countries are China ($n = 25$) followed by USA ($n = 21$), UK ($n = 17$) and India ($n = 15$). In total, 18 studies had a wider scope focusing either at the global level, on a specific region or on developing countries in general. For the transport sector, most studied countries are China ($n = 10$), followed by USA ($n = 9$) and India ($n = 8$). Out of 107 transport sector studies included in the review, 50 are developed country studies while 47 are developing country studies. For the industry sector, the most studied countries are China ($n = 6$), followed by India and Italy ($n = 2$). Out of 59 studies for industry included in the review, 7 are developed

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country studies while 11 are developing country studies. For building sector, most studied countries are USA (\(n=12\)), followed by China (\(n=9\)). Of the 128 studies included in the review or building sector, 95 are developed country studies while only 19 are developing country studies.

3.2. Transport
In this sector, we have grouped mitigation actions in service delivery into the ASI category (see annex D) following Creutzig et al (2018). The Avoid category includes actions aimed at avoiding the demand for mobility services: compact urban planning which helps in avoiding mobility and reducing vehicle ownership. Shift category actions help in substituting demand for mobility services with a low/no emission intensive one: increasing the use of active travel and more use of public transport. While, actions in the Improve category are aimed at improving the energy/emission intensity of a mobility service type: shared mobility, use of electric vehicles (EVs)/zero emission vehicles, hydrogen buses, etc.

3.2.1. ASI-SDG link
Mitigation actions in the mobility service sector deliver multiple benefits and therefore show synergies with several SDGs (table 1). Compact urban planning and reducing vehicle ownership cater to sustainable cities and reduce air pollution (SDG 11). Active mobility requires the development and strengthening of partnerships (SDG 17) for planning (Macmillan et al 2020) the infrastructure. Shifting to active modes such as walking, cycling, etc, reduces mortality and provides health benefits (SDG 3) but has a collision risk if not supported by separate lanes (Doorley et al 2015). Using active modes (cycling) generates income for the local communities (SDG 1 and 8) and for commuters, these are very low-cost methods for accessing basic services (Macmillan et al 2020) for developing countries. Active modes can reduce gender inequities in access to basic services, healthcare and education (SDG 5). Education and awareness programs aid in understanding the environmental benefits of shifting to public transport and e-vehicles (Bigerna et al 2019). Urban environments that enable active travel modes for trips have the potential to reduce physical and financial barriers to participating in education for women thereby catering to SDG 5 (Macmillan et al 2020). A study in Canada (Mitra and Nash 2019) has shown that providing a bike lane facility improves the chances of females (SDG 5 and 10) commuting by bike. The use of public transit and active modes demands proper infrastructure (SDG 9) and saves energy (SDG 7). Also, Sjöman et al (2020) mentioned that transit-oriented infrastructure (SDG 9) helps in avoiding ownership of private vehicles. However, in some developing countries weather conditions and unreliable connectivity affect the lack of incentives to improve existent infrastructure related to public transportation (Bonasif 2017) and active modes. Gilderbloom et al (2016) pointed out that shifting to active modes and reducing car demand preserves land (SDG 15) that would have been otherwise used to
construct and maintain parking garages and surface parking lots.

Improving service efficiency (e.g. car sharing) or fuel switch (e.g. hydrogen buses; EVs) (Creutzig et al 2018) helps improving mobility service demand with relatively less emission. Sharing mobility services has come a long way now but commuters with a private interest in driving their own car need to understand the importance of sustainable consumption (SDG 12) and act altruistically (Mehdizadeh et al 2019). Using low or no-carbon fuel and efficient car help in reducing air pollution which provides direct health benefits (SDG 3) (Yang et al 2018). Also, studies have shown that digitalization has helped women to use more carpooling due to the built-in safety features (SDG 5, 10 and 11). However, subsidizing EVs for greater adoption may lead to higher sales among active travelers (Rudolph 2016, Zhang et al 2018).

Out of 107 selected studies in the final analysis, almost all studies point toward benefits across the various dimensions of sustainable development from mitigation actions for transport. Overall, no direct linkage has been found with SDGs 2, 6 and 14. Most of the linkages are with SDGs 9 and 11, clearly showing the relevance of innovation and infrastructure for sustainable transportation, followed by SDGs 16 and 17, clearly depicting the crucial role of actors like government and planners in ASI. It is apparent from figure 3 that actions in the shift category and a few in the improve category (shared mobility and EVs) have more evidence for the SDGs link.

3.2.2. Actors and examples of mitigation actions
Spatial planners and policymakers are identified as the major actors for helping in avoiding the demand for mobility services. There are various examples where imposing high congestion charges for driving in the central parts of the city like in London (Ahmad and Puppim de Oliveira 2016), rewarding the (voluntary) forfeit of (a second) car in the household (Schoenau and Müller 2017), and imposing high parking fees and high taxes on cars (Ahmad and Puppim de Oliveira 2016) by local governing bodies may have helped reduce ownership of a vehicle. Imposing high parking fees is supported by both developed (Langlois et al 2015) and developing (Becker and Carmi 2019) countries. Spatial planners (e.g. urban planners and designers) (Stojanovski 2019) can adopt long-term strategies like increasing housing supply near the workplace (Schneider and Willman 2019) or transit stops (Langlois et al 2015) to avoid mobility demand. The Seoul Smart Work Center is an initiative for all government employees to work closer to their homes. In 2015, 30% of the employees were covered under this scheme (Shmelev and Shmeleva 2018).

Indian mega cities such as Mumbai and Kolkata have historical advantages of a well spread-out infrastructure of public transport. Kolkata, Pune and Delhi’s comprehensive mobility plans and master plans have set a target of achieving 90% modal share in the form of public transport (Roy et al 2018b). The involvement of actors at multiple levels
is necessary to shift mobility demand from private mode to public modes. For example, spatial planners (e.g. road planners) or policymakers can adopt various actions like reduced road space for cars; introduce programs like ‘car free Sundays’ in the city center as done in Bristol; and communicate the environmental benefits of using sustainable transport (Mir et al 2016), while service delivery agents can improve the quality and frequency of service (Trinh and Linh 2018). Developed country studies suggest innovative design for bus services considering user needs at the bus stop (Hilden et al 2016, Mozos-Blanco et al 2018) while developing country studies point out that public transport may not a preferable option due to poor schedule, dirty stations (Lelono et al 2018) and also poor-quality service like rude staff, low-quality buses, crowding (Trinh and Linh 2018), less safety and careless bus drivers. Therefore, innovation and service delivery through service delivery agents have different roles in developed (innovative service design, digitalized mobility (Sjöman et al 2020)) and developing countries (professional training to bus drivers and ticket collectors, providing bus route information, timetable (Trinh and Linh 2018)) to boost demand for public transport. Shifts toward the public transport system in India are backed by policy and practice, as well as an investment model through well-defined private sector participation along with the introduction of joint strategies for energy efficiency of equipment and a switch to electrification (Roy et al 2018b). However, in developing countries like Ghana and India, people with higher education use less active transport, as owning a car indicates higher social status (Acheampong and Siiba 2018); therefore, individuals’ own lifestyle choices are also important in making mobility service decisions.

The roles of universities, educational institutes and companies are important both in raising awareness and helping to changing the behavior of individuals. For example, companies can provide monthly prepaid public transport passes rather than private transport allowances (Ahmad and Puppim de Oliveira 2016) as done in Seoul and Tokyo which encourage staff to commute by public transport. To promote active travel, policymakers and local stakeholders should advocate the environmental benefits of walking and cycling/biking (Ho et al 2017, Schneider and Willman 2019). Policymakers and spatial planners like road planners should provide better infrastructure and provide a user-friendly environment to encourage people to walk and bike for their non-work travel needs (Ramezani et al 2018, Carroll et al 2019, Useche et al 2019). While actors like companies (corporate offices) can motivate their employees to use active travel like in Boston, USA, 14

![Figure 3](image_url)
companies are motivating employees to commute to work using bikes (Wunsch et al. 2016). There are several case-studies (Aittasalo et al. 2017, Fenton 2017) on promoting active modes available for developed countries. Already in many developed countries like Canada and the USA, actions from policymakers and public investment in infrastructure have helped in upscaling active modes (Ramezani et al. 2018, Mitra and Nash 2019). Interesting to note here that there are very limited studies (figure 3) that discuss promoting active travel in developing countries. These studies (Wethyavivorn and Sukwattanakorn 2019) suggest scaling up active modes for solving last mile problems.

Multiple actors have roles to play in improving mobility service demand. In most of the metropolitan cities in both developed and developing countries, Uber/Ola/Lyft/similar service providers are extremely common. These actors have introduced a vehicle pool service facility where commuters traveling in the same direction can share rides and save money. Policymakers can also promote shared rides through policies (Ceccato and Diana 2018). Sharing mobility services for children’s school travel is the responsibility of the parents as household actors (Mehdizadeh et al. 2019). In Indian cities like Kolkata, school-bus and carpools are the most common means for transportation of school children but the parents of school children have shown concern about poor service quality, safety, staff behavior, journey time and waiting time (Prasad and Maitra 2019). Most schools prefer a school bus to car pools due to safety issues (South Point School 2019). Actors like employers are providing car sharing platforms for their staff. Therefore, service delivery agents need to look into safety issues to scale up shared ride among school students. Policymakers (e.g. national or local government) support in terms of financial aid (subsidies), infrastructure (charging stations, proper roads) and training facilities for the drivers are very crucial in upscaling EVs (Zhang et al. 2018, Ahmed and Karmaker 2019, Tu and Yang 2019) in both developed and developing countries. In countries like South Korea and Chile, the government provides subsidies for the adoption of electric taxi (Aymeric and François 2017, Kim et al. 2017). However, to date low penetration of EVs has been a problem, but the reality is changing very fast. The reasons for low penetration are high battery cost and low availability of charging points. In Chile, as of 2014, only 136 vehicles (0.003% of the total fleet) are electricity-fuelled (Aymeric and François 2017). It is also important for innovation and service delivery providers to provide adequate charging points to support the penetration of EVs. In Brazil, the Itaipu hydroelectric power plant has established an electric-car sharing platform for its employees (Vanzella et al. 2018). Households/individuals can play their role by paying a higher price for low polluting travel. A study (Bigerna and Polinori 2015) designed to find the willingness to pay for hydrogen buses in Perugia, Italy reveals that commuters are willing to pay 30%–60% more than the single-trip bus fare.

3.3. Industry

Demand reduction for industrial products can happen at two stages, intermediate demand for the products used as input in other manufacturing processes and final demand from the end-user. However, it is identified to happen mostly outside the industry sector (Fischedick et al. 2014). We identified 14 mitigation actions following a full-text screening of 39 articles. These actions for the industry sector are presented in annex E. These actions are broadly grouped into three categories, avoid demand/consumption of virgin materials and inputs by using more recycled and by-products, reduced emission intensity by shifting to the low-carbon or renewable energy sources and modern manufacturing process and improved material efficiency and energy efficiency. The most commonly studied intervention is clustering of the industries through an eco-industrial park (EIP) and industrial symbiosis (IS) (Jin et al. 2017, Guo et al. 2018, Fraccascia 2019, Huang et al. 2019). In IS when a group of firms located in the same area and interconnected to share water, energy and by-products, the operating efficiency of individual firms improves (Bellantuono et al. 2017). The symbiotic relationship among firms in EIP and IS avoids material use and facilitates the use of by-products and waste recycling (ElMassab 2018), thereby reducing the consumption of materials and energy and consequent reduction of GHG emissions. Two important demand side mitigation actions in industry are reducing emission intensity and improving energy efficiency at the production process level. From the final analysis of the selected literature, nine actions refer to improvement of technological efficiency with deployment of clean and green technology (Ashraf et al. 2018, Guo et al. 2018, Hens et al. 2018, Bertarelli and Lodi 2019, Safarzadeh and Rasti-Barzoki 2019) smart energy system, recovery of waste heat (Zhang et al. 2016), energy management system (Javied et al. 2015).

3.3.1. ASI-SDG link

Based on the literature review the demand side mitigation actions for the industry sector are mapped against eight SDGs. From the selected literature goal numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 14, 15, 16 could not be linked directly. Out of 59 selected studies for final analysis only 12 studies have established direct linkages between SDGs and demand side mitigation actions for the industry. The remaining studies, while do not mention SDGs specifically, point toward benefits across the various dimensions of sustainable development. Goal number 9 directly addresses sustainable industrialization by fostering innovation. In
our selected studies almost all the 14 actions are contributing to achieving this goal (Bertarelli and Lodi 2019) mainly through technological innovation (Pigosso et al 2018) and improved energy and emission efficiency (Wang et al 2018b). Sustainable production (SDG 12) with efficient resource management, an important impact of demand side actions with material efficiency (Abreu et al 2017, Bai et al 2018), use of by-products in a symbiotic production system (Bellantuono et al 2017) and circular economy (Yang et al 2019). We have been able to link a total of 8 actions with SDG 12. Cooperation and communication among firms and financial stability with a suitable business model seem to be the most important aspects of clustering of the industries (Menato et al 2017). This also helps attain SDG 17 which addresses partnership to achieve sustainable development through domestic cooperation (see table 1, figure 4 and supplementary file).

It is apparent from figure 4 that avoid category actions have the strongest connection with the SDGs. If we analyze these interventions in the context of developed and developing countries, we can see that avoid category actions like IS and EIP are important demand side mitigation actions for both developed and developing countries. However, the importance of avoid (circular economy), shift (use of low carbon energy sources) and improve (technological efficiency) has a larger importance in developing countries. Smart energy management and smart energy systems have less relevance in developing countries (figure 4).

3.3.2. Actors and examples of mitigation actions

Industrial symbiosis and EIP has emerged as one of the important action from the demand side both in developed and developing countries. However, the driving force of IS is cooperation among industries operating in IS/EIP, information sharing (ElMassah 2018) and shared support services (Fraccascia 2019) which are influenced by various technical, economic, and legal factors (Huang et al 2019). The heterogeneity of the existing firms in a cluster is key for a successful aggregation (Bellantuono et al 2017). At the organizational level the roles of spatial planners such as operators of the firms, IS facilitators, and policymakers become crucial to facilitate a convenient sharing platform for the implementation of a stable IS (Bellantuono et al 2017, Fraccascia 2019). In order to extend the possible use of by-products and for better energy management, linkages with research organizations are important (Guo et al 2018). Among these studies, two studies have argued that tax deduction instead of subsidy can be a more effective instrument to encourage the use of energy-efficient and clean technology (Pillay and Buys 2016, Bertarelli and Lodi 2019), which has also been supported by theoretical models for a long time (Pearce and Turner 1990). In this case the role of a regulatory mechanism to strengthen the market instruments and optimum policy defining the role of policymakers such as government is crucial.

At the user end, actors involved in innovation and service delivery facilitate through digitalization to create an alternative form of provisioning system, say e.g. for clothes swapping through various on-line applications (apps) and also creating pop-up marketplaces (Holmes 2018). Dedicated websites for clothes swapping like ‘swishing.co.uk’, ‘swopped.co.uk’ or apps like ‘This for That’ have provided new marketplaces for used items of clothing (Holmes 2018) and also contribute to avoiding the demand for new clothing and hence textile industry products. The use of digital media in daily activities like switching to an electronic newspaper is reducing demand for paper newspapers (Permatasari et al 2018).

3.4. Buildings

While the ASI category has been extensively applied to the transport sector, very few studies have discussed this for the building sector (Creutzig et al 2018). Demand reduction from the building sector includes actions that avoid the need for floor area/building footprint or those which reduce the energy consumption for space heating/cooling, illumination from lighting, cooking and use of various energy using appliances. Actions that reduce the need for energy intensive materials for building construction such as cement could include substitution or use of alternate materials such as fly ash, wood, bamboo or other local materials. For the purpose of this study, these actions are excluded. We focus only on the emissions from building operations or services. The avoid category refers to actions that reduce the need for heating or cooling such as passive construction including the use of daylighting, shading, building form and orientation and use of natural ventilation (annex F). Given that many of the green building mitigation actions such as passive design, cool roofs, and green roofs avoid the demand for artificial lighting, heating or cooling services, we include green buildings in the avoid category.

The shift category includes actions such as switching to more alternative substitutes, cleaner cooking fuels and technologies and district heating or cooling. Shift to cleaner cooking fuels is a significant shift action contributing to substantial energy efficiency improvements and SDG benefits discussed in the subsequent section. Purchase or replacement of efficient appliances that fall into the improve category (annex F) are shown to deliver substantial energy savings; however, some studies in Japan, China and Taiwan reported rebound effects undermining total potential energy savings (Mizobuchi and Takeuchi 2016, Su 2019). Environmentally sustainable design including the use of daylight, management of circulation area could significantly reduce the need for heating/cooling and artificial lighting (Loureço et al
Several studies reported the use of information and communication technology (ICT), Internet of things (IoT) devices that provide real-time consumption data provided useful information to households stimulating energy saving behavior. Such automated systems achieve significantly higher results when matched with conscious and sustainable consumers (Fabi et al. 2017). Behavioral aspects could have significant impacts on energy consumption and need to be accounted for (Walzberg et al. 2019), which makes it necessary for decarbonizing strategies to go beyond a technology centric approach and include social dimensions (Sodagar and Starkey 2016).

Studies on passive building design, energy saving behaviour and efficient appliances were found for both developed and developing countries however, not surprisingly, there were more studies for developed countries compared to developing countries. Studies on heat pumps, ICT and renewable energy/distributed generation were found mostly for developed countries indicating a higher level of technology penetration.

### 3.4.1. ASI-SDG links

Demand side actions for buildings deliver multiple benefits and therefore show synergies with several SDGs (table 1). However, there are stronger synergies with SDGs 3, 7, 9, 11 and 12. The highest synergies are observed with SDGs 7 and 9 (figure 5). Sustainable buildings through their numerous mitigation actions such as passive design measures, green and cool roofs, greening systems, water efficiency and other actions enhancing thermal comfort, and financial benefits have the opportunity to deliver multiple positive impacts especially enhancing the health and wellbeing of occupants and therefore we see positive interaction with SDG 3 (Balaban and de Oliveira 2017, Alawneh et al. 2018). Sustainably built infrastructure is central to sustainable communities and cities (SDG 11) and buildings, especially large institutional buildings contribute to resilient communities and cities. Studies highlight the need to interpret these benefits with caution as in some cases, certified green buildings or green products could lead to more adverse indoor air quality and health hazards (Steinemann et al. 2017). Some studies also show that the performance of green buildings could decline over time undermining the initial benefits (Zaid et al. 2017) highlighting the need to undertake long term green building performance evaluations.

Building services are essential for wellbeing and therefore these have a strong impact on equity. Elements include thermal comfort, adequate lighting, heating and cooling and other services. The use of informal biomass for cooking remains a persistent issue globally despite advances in the energy sector and therefore enhanced access to clean cooking fuels and stoves can contribute significantly to overall wellbeing (Poblete-Cazenave and Pachauri 2018). Such a transition could contribute to achieving SDG 7 on universal clean energy access, but also improve gender equality (SDG 6), and health outcomes (SDG 3) (Rosenthal et al. 2018, Batchelor et al. 2019). Improved illumination and indoor air quality in schools can improve student’s learning outcomes and provide opportunities for energy

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**Figure 4.** Literature reviewed on mitigation actions in ASI categories for the industry sector. Literature distribution by SDGs, actors and countries in each ASI category. The shades in color vary with a number of pieces of evidence. White represents 0 articles.
savings (Hu 2017, Lourenço et al 2019), for low income housing, this could also improve women and child health (Rosenthal et al 2018). Similarly, meeting the demand with renewable energy resources caters to SDG 7 on energy security. Technology-led or behavior-led mitigation actions that promote production and use of efficient devices further targets SDG 12 (Withanage et al 2016). Research in energy systems, smart-grids, smart-meters and other technology combinations spur green innovations contributing positively to SDG 9. While efficient appliances have been discussed in most studies, few papers discuss the adequate levels of appliance ownership to ensure decent living standards for societies. A large share of the population in developing countries lacks access to air conditioning and cooling devices. This could further exacerbate energy poverty adversely impacting SDGs 3 and 7 (Mastrucci et al 2019).

3.4.2. Actors and examples of mitigation actions

A number of actors influence the building sector ranging from policymakers (government and quasi-government agencies) to a number of spatial planners (private stakeholders like real estate developers, builders, architects, designers), local stakeholders (like regulatory agencies) and households. Figure 5 shows the various building related mitigation actions and the actors that can influence change. Policymakers at all levels can influence and support the adoption and upscaling of building interventions. At the national and state level, these include building codes and policies, appliance standards and efficiency targets. National building codes have been successful in most implementing countries. At the local level, planning authorities, independent architects and building professionals exert significant influence on local regulations and targets including building design guidelines and overall urban built form. Accelerated adoption of green building standards also depends on an enabling market environment (Teng et al 2019). Rating agencies or government departments could facilitate green buildings or related sustainable mitigation actions by setting effective standards (Darko et al 2017), through supportive policies technical support and financial assistance (Balaban and de Oliveira 2017), by working with service delivery actors like industry stakeholders to remove regulatory bottlenecks. The private sector also exerts significant influence as a supplier of building services. This includes spatial planners and innovation and service delivery actors who are diverse, ranging from large design and construction companies, architects, designers, building professionals, appliance companies and the emerging players in the IoT and smart metering market.

Figure 5. Literature reviewed on mitigation actions in ASI categories for the building sector. Literature distribution by SDGs, actors and countries in each ASI category. The shades in color vary with the number of pieces of evidence. White represents 0 articles.
As the final segment in the chain, households are key agents of change in the energy service demand space (figure 5 and annex F). Actions taken by households could include reduced wastage (switching off lights and appliances when not in use), shift to more alternative modes of service provision through feedback from installing smart devices and adopting renewable energy. Behaviour is influenced by diverse factors including conformity to others (Walzberg et al. 2019), organizational culture (Lourenço et al. 2019), education and other social and cultural factors. For instance, transforming organizational culture including incorporating sustainability in school curricula was found to have significant impacts on students’ mindsets (Franquesa-Soler and Sandoval-Rivera 2019, Goldman et al 2018). A study on light metering in Portuguese schools revealed opportunities to reduce lighting energy use with more use of daylight (Lourenço et al. 2019). School authorities could carry out such monitoring exercises to identify areas for potential actions. Architectural and energy efficiency improvements, in addition to reduced energy consumption and associated cost savings, also improve indoor air quality and health benefits, and provide a range of other positive social benefits including enhanced user awareness (Matic et al. 2016). The role of universities and research organizations is important both to assess the impact of existing mitigation actions, the potential of future actions and also to fill the gaps in understanding of ASI category and their impacts. A review on green buildings between 2000 and 2016 identified green and cool roofs, vertical greening systems, life cycle assessment and rating systems and ICTs among the prominent mitigation action areas in research (Zhao et al. 2019). Studies show participants lack awareness or have inadequate or incorrect information regarding appliance use leading to wasteful behavior (Withanage et al. 2016). Cheah et al. (2018) propose a framework based on three criteria: (a) reframing sustainability as a future of others’ to ‘present for us’, (b) responsible consumption and (c) consumption feedback to encourage responsible electricity consumption. Providing online and active feedback on energy consumption can drive behavior change (Ahvenniemi and Häkkinen 2019). These can be overcome by actions that can direct change through ‘product or system led innovations’ or ‘behavior-led’ to direct users toward more sustainable behavior. The diverse stakeholders in the building sector often make upscaling challenging as many of these solutions require cooperation among multiple actors. Often a single organization/actor can make a powerful change as evidenced through the example of successful actions in educational institutions. Sustainable decarbonization of the building sector hinges on a combination of technology and social measure and would require ambitious and simultaneous effort from policymakers, spatial planners and households to facilitate an equitable transition (figure 5).

4. Discussion

We could successfully bin the mitigation actions in ASI categories. How each one is linked to SDGs is also done. We could link each of these to SDGs and identify actors for each mitigation action for each study. Binning of the literature by country was also carried out. Table 1 provides concrete examples in each ASI category. However, in many policy dialogues, knowledge dissemination workshops we came across two most frequently asked questions (FAQs): which action is connected with the maximum number of SDGs and how to compare that across actions? And the second question is that the larger the spread of the actor network, the harder it is to coordinate, so how can we know the size of the actor pool that drives various actions? So, in this section, we present three graphical views to answer these FAQs for three sectors (section 4.1). Also, we discuss inter-sectoral linkages (section 4.2) and the impact of digitalization (section 4.3).

4.1. Sector-specific discussion: relative SDG link and spread of actor network

Figure 6 shows that all of the shift category actions are positively linked with more than 50% of the SDGs; shared mobility and EVs in improve categories are positively linked to 50% of SDGs but are also not devoid of negative linkages. All actions in avoid categories are linked to less than 50% of SDGs, but are devoid of any negative linkage and also need a lower spread of actor network and so are easier to implement with relatively less coordination need. Public transport requires the involvement of 100% of the actors and therefore needs more effort in coordination.

In figure 7 we notice the least trade-offs with SDGs of various actions except for the two in the improve category, materials efficiency and smart energy management. Avoid and shift categories of actions have all positive SDG links and no trade-offs but with a maximum of 50% of SDGs. Except for technological efficiency improvements, actor network needs are also relatively smaller and less than 50%.

In figure 8 it is interesting to note that in the building sector interventions, the avoid category have the maximum of positive SDG links with some minor trade-offs, but the actor network is also relatively larger compared to others. However, in the improve...
Table 1. Wider impact of different sectoral interventions. SDG icons reproduced with permission from https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/. The content of this publication has not been approved by the United Nations and does not reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials or Member States.

| SDGs | Sector | ASI categories | Synergies (+), trade-offs (−) and uncertain impacts (±) | Evidence (also refer to supplementary file) |
|------|--------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|       | Transport | Shift | + Using active modes (cycling) generates income for the local communities + Active transport modes are low-cost methods for accessing basic services | (Gilderbloom et al 2016, Skayannis et al 2019, Macmillan et al 2020) |
|       | Building  | Shift | + Switch to clean energy can help reduce poverty | (Poblete-Cazenave and Pachauri 2018, Rosenthal et al 2018) |
|       | Transport | Shift | + Shift to active travel (walking and cycling) increases physical activity leading to reduced mortality + Replacing car trips with active modes can contribute to targets relating to non-communicable disease; road traffic injury − Traffic crashes discourage the use of cycling | (Doorley et al 2015, Lin et al 2018, Schneider and Willman 2019, Useche et al 2019, Macmillan et al 2020) |
|       | Improve | Shift | + Using low or no-carbon fuel and efficient car help in reduced air pollution which delivers direct health benefits. | (Yang et al 2018) |
|       | Industry | Improve | + Optimization of building energy system with waste heat from industry for better thermal comfort | (Safaie et al 2015, Fraccascia 2019) |
|       | Avoid | Shift | + Choice in favour of improved lighting, ventilation, architectural design to avoid artificial air conditioning need to enhance thermal comfort, improve indoor air quality and therefore have consequent benefits for health and well-being | (Romero-Pérez et al 2017) |
|       | Building | Shift | + Clean cooking improves indoor air quality and overall well being | (Poblete-Cazenave and Pachauri 2018, Rosenthal et al 2018, Batchelor et al 2019) |
|       | Avoid | Shift | ± While green buildings by design are expected to improve indoor air quality, in some cases, green building certifications and green products may not necessarily promote indoor air quality and in some cases result in adverse outcomes through exposure to hazardous substances | (Steinemann et al 2017) |
|       | Transport | Shift | + Urban environments that enable active travel modes for trips have the potential to reduce physical and financial barriers to participating in education for women | (Bigerna et al 2019, Macmillan et al 2020) |
|       | Buildings | Avoid | + Better indoor air quality and thermal comfort in school buildings could improve the students’ performance and help make sustainable lifestyle choices | (Hu 2017, Franquesa-Soler and Sandoval-Rivera 2019, Goldman et al 2018) |
Table 1. (Continued.)

| SDGs | Sector | ASI categories | Synergies (+) and trade-offs (−) | Evidence (also refer to supplementary file) |
|------|--------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|      | Transport | Shift | + Digitalization has helped women use more carpooling due to the built-in safety features  
+ Urban environments that enable active travel modes for trips have the potential to reduce physical and financial barriers to participating in education for women  
+ Scaling up active modes (through careful local urban design and transport planning) can reduce gender inequities in access to basic services, healthcare and education  
Improve | − Females in the age group of 35–45 is reluctant to join vehicle sharing as they have to drop their children at school | (Arora et al 2016, Mitra and Nash 2019, Macmillan et al 2020) |
|      | Buildings | Shift | + Incentives to shift to cleaner cooking fuels has a significant benefit to women from reduced indoor air pollution and overall well-being | (Poblete-Cazenave and Pachauri 2018, Rosenthal et al 2018) |
|      | Industry | Avoid | + As water is used to convert energy into useful forms, the reduction in industrial energy demand can lead to reduced water consumption and waste water, resulting in more clean water for other sectors  
+ Efficient water management under industrial symbiosis help in improved utilization of water resources | (Menato et al 2017, Fraccascia 2019) |
|      | Buildings | Shift | + Building design can help reduce energy and water demand, and waste water generation through building design | (Poblete-Cazenave and Pachauri 2018) |
|      | Transport | Shift | + Commuting through public transport and using active modes save energy  
Improve | − EVs still consume a considerable amount of energy and contribute to other external effects such as congestion | (Trinh and Linh 2018, Sovacool et al 2019, Langbroek et al 2017) |
|      | Industry | Shift | − In some cases, technologies like additive manufacturing may lead to higher consumption of electricity if not operated efficiently  
Improve | + Various energy efficiency measures and technological innovation contributes in avoid some energy use in industry and thereby contribute in total supply pull of energy and improved energy supply | (Javied et al 2015, Matinaro et al 2019) |
|      | Buildings | Shift | + Access to modern energy fuels especially for cooking is among the most significant aspects of a transition to clean energy  
Improve | − Building Integrated Photovoltaic (PV), distributed renewable generation and solar water heaters help achieve targets under SDG 7 | (Poblete-Cazenave and Pachauri 2018, Rosenthal et al 2018, Mbakwe 2016, Salpakari and Lund 2016) |
Table 1. (Continued.)

| SDGs | Sector   | ASI categories | Synergies (+) and trade-offs (−) | Evidence (also refer to supplementary file) |
|------|----------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|      | Transport| Shift          | + Shifting toward active modes esp. bike/cycles increase demand for bike repair shops, bike parking which enhances employment opportunities | (Gilderbloom et al 2016) |
|      | Industry | Avoid          | + Industrial symbiosis promote industrial innovation through technology, hence creates new decent job opportunity | (Safarzadeh and Rasti-Barzoki 2019) |
|      | Buildings| Shift          | + Enhanced efficiency and reduced consumption reduce costs for households. + Better indoor environment enhances productivity | (Ahvenniemi and Häkkinen 2019) |
|      | Transport| Avoid          | + Proper infrastructure encourages transit-oriented development and avoid ownership of private vehicles | (Khan et al 2016, Sjöman et al 2020) |
|      |          | Shift          | + Shift to active travel mode and acceptance of public transport needs adequate infrastructure — In developing countries weather conditions and unreliable connectivity affect the lack of incentives to improve existent public transportation. Also lack of proper service delivery like dirty station, rude staff, low-quality buses, less safety, careless bus drivers and ticket controllers inhibit shift to public transport | (Bonasif 2017, Lelono et al 2018, Trinh and Linh 2018, Carroll et al 2019, Wethyavivorn and Sukwattanakorn 2019, Whittle et al 2019) |
|      | Improve  |                | + Shared mobility offers potential for technological innovation (app-enabled ride sharing) + Larger penetration of electric vehicles requires innovative business models | (Ma et al 2018a, 2018b) |
|      | Industry | Improve        | + Promotion of industrial innovation through technological upgradation, energy efficiency, industrial networking system and clustering act as a demand-side mitigation actions to reduce energy demand in industrial process | (Ashraf et al 2018, Guo et al 2018, Hens et al 2018, Safarzadeh and Rasti-Barzoki 2019) |
|      | Buildings| Improve        | + Research in energy systems, monitoring devices including smart-grids, smart-meters, flexible technology combinations spur green innovations | (Boßmann et al 2015, Salpakari and Lund 2016) |
|      | Transport| Shift          | + Access to bicycle lanes or cycle tracks increase the odds of female commuters using bicycles + Digitalization has helped women use more carpooling due to the built-in safety features | (Arora et al 2016, Mitra and Nash 2019). |
|      | Buildings| Improve        | Inequitable access to cooling, especially with reference to air conditioning will result in energy poverty and undermine SDG7 | (Mastrucci et al 2019) |
Table 1. (Continued.)

| SDGs | Sector | ASI categories | Synergies (+) and trade-offs (−) | Evidence (also refer to supplementary file) |
|------|--------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Transport | Avoid | + Proper infrastructure encourages transit-oriented development and avoid ownership of private vehicles | (Khan et al. 2016, Sjöman et al. 2020) |
| | Shift | + Expanding public transport and decreasing private vehicle ownership reduces congestion fostering sustainable cities | (Fenton 2017) |
| Industry | Avoid | + Use of by-products through circular resource management system helps in avoid demand of virgin raw materials in industrial process | (ElMassah 2018) |
| Buildings | Avoid, Shift, Improve | + Sustainable design and construction of buildings including the use of renewable energy technologies such as solar lead to sustainable cities and communities − Non-committal policy for green roofs is not an effective way to prepare cities sufficiently for future climate changes | (Ascione 2017, Balaban and de Oliveira 2017, Alawneh et al. 2018, van der Meulen 2019) |
| Transport | Avoid, Shift, Improve | + Sharing mobility/reducing car ownership/using EV help to move toward sustainable consumption | (Chardon 2019) |
| Industry | Avoid | + Material efficiency in industry can be achieved through sustainable consumption of raw materials and other inputs of production like water and energy − High price of renewable virgin material leads to more consumption of non-renewable materials − Mitigation actions in transport sector like EV and light weight vehicle may increase demand for some virgin material in automobile sector | (Menato et al. 2017, ElMassah 2018, Shahbazi et al. 2018, Soo et al. 2018, Meskers et al. 2019) |
| Buildings | Avoid | + Green buildings including elements of passive construction, water and energy efficiency help achieve SDG 12 goals | (Alawneh et al. 2018) |
| | Shift | + Innovation in IoT and smart metering raises awareness and can reduce consumption − Higher efficiency could potentially lead to rebound effect | (Cetin and Kallus 2016, Casado-Mansilla et al. 2018) |
| | Shift, Improve | + Responsible consumption from appliance, purchase, solar PV for self-consumption and use of energy efficient appliances | (Abdessalem and Labidi 2016, Mizobuchi and Takeuchi 2016) |
| Buildings | Shift | + Clean cooking fuels reduce environmental burdens associated with biomass use + The benefits of shift to Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) need to be evaluated against the impacts of LPG extraction and processing. Also, LPG could entail additional costs for poorer households | (Rosenthal et al. 2018) |

(Continued)
Table 1. (Continued.)

| SDGs | Sector | ASI categories | Synergies (+) and trade-offs (−) | Evidence (also refer to supplementary file) |
|------|--------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|      | Transport | Avoid/Shift     | + Shifting to active modes and reducing car demand preserve land that would have been otherwise used to construct and maintain parking garages and surface parking lots | (Gilderbloom et al 2016) |
|      | Transport | Avoid          | + Policies (including vehicle registration tax, parking costs) focusing on sustainable transportation can reduce vehicle ownership | (Khan et al 2016, Wethyavivorn and Sukwattanakorn 2019) |
|      | Shift    |                | + Policy makers should jointly promote public transport and the benefits of using active mode | (Ceccato and Diana 2018) |
|      | Improve  |                | + Policies like subsidizing electric vehicles for greater adoption, odd–even car rule help in promoting sustainable transport habits | (Rudolph 2016, Zhang et al 2018) |
|      |          |                | − Subsidies may lead to higher sales among the active travellers | |
|      | Industry | Improve        | + Emergence of stronger financial institutional mechanisms to provide support in form of tax deduction and subsidy to encourage the use of energy efficient and clean technology | (Pillay and Buys 2016, Bertarelli and Lodi 2019) |
|      | Transport | Avoid          | + Multiple stakeholder partnerships are important for reducing vehicle ownership | (Wethyavivorn and Sukwattanakorn 2019) |
|      | Shift    |                | + Multiple stakeholder partnerships are important for widespread adoption of the public transport system | (Rarasati and Iskandar 2017, Macmillan et al 2020) |
|      | Improve  |                | + Scaling up active modes requires the development and strengthening of transdisciplinary partnerships for planning | (Rudolph 2016, Zhang et al 2018) |
|      |          |                | − Subsidies may lead to higher sales among the active travellers | |
|      | Industry | Avoid          | + Symbiotic relationship among stakeholders is a key factor to run a successful industrial cluster | (ElMassah 2018, Huang et al 2019) |
|      | Buildings| Avoid          | + Co-design and development of energy solutions and mentorship using local and indigenous knowledge can enable higher adoption | (Franquesa-Soler and Sandoval-Rivera 2019) |
category, the actor network needed for efficient appliances is more compared to others in the category, but SDG links are also more. Some actions such as clean cooking, heat pumps and district heating have all positive SDG links.

This analysis provides very useful insights which are novel in this study and provides a useful guide for policymakers, and for that matter for any of the decision makers.

4.2. Interaction across sectors
For actions toward sustainable urban mobility, adequate and well-designed road infrastructure and compact urban planning are essential, especially public transport and non-motorized transport. This helps in attracting new residents because of reduced transportation costs, and increases their willingness to pay for the property. This increases housing property prices and governments can earn additional tax
Figure 8. Of 16 SDGs what percentages of SDGs are positively (synergies) and negatively (trade-offs) linked to various actions. Of the total number of actors/stakeholders what percentage needs to be involved in making an action successful.

4.3. Digitalization

Information and communication technologies have emerged as one of the biggest enablers of various demand side changes in all the three sectors through improved interconnectedness, information sharing and use of artificial intelligence.

Shared mobility is used by commuters is gaining wider acceptance and it is made possible due to digitalization. Various ‘apps’ are available for sharing cabs (e.g. Uber, Ola, Grab, Lyft), owned cars (e.g. sRide in India, Bahon, Pathao in Bangladesh, BlaBlaCar in Europe) and bikes (e.g. Mobike in China, Gojek in Indonesia, Thailand). The biggest carpool and bike pool app in India, sRide has made office commutes convenient and led to 80% of the transportation cost revenue (Shen et al 2018). A case-study from Seattle based on four completed bus transit-oriented development projects reveals that the value of the houses within 0.5 miles radius of the projects has increased significantly (Shen et al 2018). Also, increasing travelers’ willingness to adopt active modes largely depends upon the built-in facilities (walking and biking lanes, the distance between buildings and transit shops). Both transit-oriented development and acceptance of active modes demand joint action from the construction industry and the planners (road and urban). Also, the construction industry is innovating ways to build infrastructure that can facilitate the needs of sustainable mobility like the use of rubberized asphalt concrete to improve the performance of pavers (Wang et al 2018) and the use of recycled concrete aggregate as the base course of new pavements (Reza et al 2018).
savings for commuters (sRide 2019). This app offers various features like a safety toolkit, real time tracking and 24 × 7 customer support. They help coordinate transport for commuters on the same route. Commuters from densely populated Indian cities like Mumbai commented that they find their service on sRide (2019) hassle-free, timely, economical and safe. Liu (2018) reported that commuters in China used Mobike to travel a total distance of 5.6 billion km in 2016 nearly equivalent to 1.26 million tons of carbon emissions. Smart transportation with the help of IoT is not only making daily commute economical, easy and safe but also reducing carbon footprint (Piramuthu and Zhou 2016).

For industrial demand, digitalization itself is not a mitigation action, but it enables optimization of energy use in industrial processes through enhanced energy efficiency with improved information sharing (ElMassah 2018), help in the development of additive manufacturing (Nascimento et al 2019) and industrial communication networking system (Liu et al 2015). At the consumer end, digitalization has enabled the creation of an alternative form of provisioning for clothes swapping through various apps, and also creating pop-up marketplaces (Holmes 2018). Dedicated websites for clothes swapping, like ‘swishing.co.uk’, ‘swopped.co.uk’ or apps like ‘This for That’, have provided a new marketplace for used clothes (Holmes 2018) and also contributed to avoiding the demand for new clothes and hence the textile industry. The use of digital media in daily activities like switching to electronic newspapers is reducing demand for paper newspapers (Permatasari et al 2018).

The building sector has seen an increasing focus on ‘smart buildings’, ‘intelligent buildings’ that include a significant level of automation at the end-user level, device-level or system level. This includes the use of ICTs that can measure, record, and influence operations (Fabi et al 2017). A number of studies show smart meters and sensors that provide real-time information on energy consumption or enable digital building–occupant interactions to enhance awareness of users and can assist the shift toward sustainable consumption (Jensen et al 2018). A recent study also showed that state-of-the-art equipment that provides specific feedback on user behavior can enable sustained behavior change.

**5. Conclusions**

For a long time, the discourse on climate change mitigation action has focused on the supply side mostly around technological advancement and/or fuel change. With rising urgency in accelerated mitigation action in a short period of time, literature is also focusing on the role of demand side solutions in climate change mitigation. Specifically, in the transition phase how demand can be avoided, shifted or improved to scale up and accelerate the momentum of mitigation actions. In the forthcoming IPCC Sixth Assessment report, an entirely new chapter is dedicated to demand and services besides usual end use demand sectors. The report also frames climate change mitigation in the context of sustainable development. The systematic search for evidence in the present study is based on systematic screening of literature relevant to the demand side of the mitigation actions for transport, industry and building and makes a unique contribution by synthesizing the existing studies from 2015 by three layered analytical framing. This study generates information that can help the new assessment report.

A compilation of demand side actions across sectors needs a common and comparable approach. The ASI category is one such framing that offers the advantage of comparability. While it has so far been applied extensively to the transport sector, the paper attempts to use this framing to collate actions in all three major demand side sectors—transport, buildings and industry. Secondly, the aim was to understand how various actors need to play their roles in various categories and how such actions are linked to wider goals under SDGs.

Findings clearly show that upscaling actions for mitigation would require combined efforts among policymakers, and various stakeholders like households, individuals, city planners, and educators. There is a clear scope for exploring new ways of organizing businesses/services taking advantage of options that create small local supply chains and also with a role for digitalization megatrends in certain fields of actions. Also, cross-sectoral collaboration, resource sharing and information exchange accelerate mitigation outcomes. The study identifies the key enabling factors and actors that can facilitate such a change. The role of governments in incentivizing these solutions through targets, performance standards, and regulatory instruments like tax exemption, subsidy, new pricing policies, monitoring compliance is obvious. A survey of 43 professionals on green buildings (Darko et al 2017) indicated that implementation of standards for design and construction was the most significant factor driving the adoption of green building technologies, followed by factors such as benefits of energy efficiency, health and well-being, resource conservation and reduced lifecycle costs. For avoiding mobility demand and shifting to active modes and public transport, government and spatial (city) planners are the key actors and help in avoiding service demand and emissions. For the industry sector to create a symbiotic relationship among the firms, facilitating the role of the IS and EIP operators and policy support from the government is crucial. Strengthening of the financial
institution with innovative financial support mechanism is also needed. The role of research organizations is also important to develop a knowledge base for the possible use of by-products and technological development.

Behavioral change is often constrained by non-behavioral factors like policy, education, and infrastructure. Especially high upfront costs of low carbon options, inadequate infrastructure, incorrect understanding or low awareness regarding sustainable options and socio-cultural factors define behavioral choices. A better understanding of the costs and benefits of these solutions could facilitate higher adoption.

Implementation of mitigation actions that can help stabilize global warming at 1.5 °C has multiple synergies across a range of sustainable development dimensions. Not surprisingly, we find a number of actions across all three sectors that offer opportunities to deliver simultaneous benefits for climate change and SDGs. Clean cooking fuels, investments in public transport and sustainable and green buildings are examples of such solutions. All avoid actions and most of the shift actions entail reduced consumption while most of the improve actions result in responsible consumption therefore aligning with SDG 12.

Most of these demand side mitigation actions showed positive linkages with SDGs 7, 9 and 11. The recent upscaling of digitalization offers sizeable opportunities for industrial innovation. Initiatives such as active transport, passive design, cleaner cooking fuels could offer the same level of service with additional synergies (co-benefits) across several SDGs.

The review brings out several studies that point to the need for looking at the longer term in a sustainability context. A case in point is green buildings where performance could possibly decline over time and this can only be reviewed through long-term monitoring studies (Zaid et al 2017, Ge et al 2018). Similarly, the rebound effect of energy efficiency occurs over time and should be an important consideration in designing energy policies. Similarly, switching to cleaner cooking fuels is a special case where the transformation needs to be viewed beyond its energy benefits as it delivers significantly wider benefits for gender equity and development in low- and middle-income countries.

Although the review was limited to only one database, Scopus, findings present evidence of the diversity of actions including emerging innovations that reduce energy consumption, generate cost savings and offer sizeable opportunities to achieve targeted benefits. Digitalization through ICT and IoT has emerged as a significant enabler of various demand side mitigation actions. There are case studies to show that technologies such as ride-sharing in transportation, enhanced efficiency to smart buildings, appliances and smart meters have enhanced service delivery, while reducing material consumption and CO₂ emissions in the app sector are some examples.

Several actions including public transit, industry clusters or district heating are enabled by integrating into existing planning regulations. Spatial planners (e.g. urban planners and architects) through planning interventions including zoning, land use changes, passive design strategies have a significant influence to shape urban form to a more sustainable and climate responsive one. Emerging developments in ICT provide for a significant opportunity for industrial innovation in devices and services.

One important finding of this study is that demand side actions cannot be effective enough in isolation. For optimizing the mitigation actions, the interconnectedness across sectors is important. Demand side mitigation actions in the transport sector are highly dependent on city planning and infrastructure and the construction sector is an integral part of the building sector. However, for the industry, it is found that some demand side actions of other sectors have some trade-off in industrial production. In order to achieve an overall emission abatement, it is important to develop a cross-sectoral framework. Similarly, technological solutions can be more effective if complemented with sustainable behavioral responses of end users.

The success of many of the demand side actions depends on the willingness of people to modify their behavior, which is rooted in complex economic, social and cultural circumstances besides the design of built structures. Studies have also highlighted the challenges and complexities involved in switching to a sustainable lifestyle (Konrad 2015). In many cases, it is a lack of awareness or incorrect understanding and these can be corrected by enhancing awareness, through better reporting and feedback on consumption. Organizations could play a significant role in shaping behavior by monitoring and understanding consumption habits to set a sustainability culture, through regulations and targets such as switching off appliances when not in use, reducing personal electricity consumption, bike to work, etc. Educational institutions such as schools and universities have a significant role to play by incorporating sustainability into curricula, empowering students to make sustainable lifestyle choices, and through research and living labs, offer a testbed for potential solutions that can co-deliver mitigation and well-being within the premises but also at a wider spatial scale to neighborhood and the city and temporally
by shaping mindsets of occupants toward responsible consumption.

We have adopted a semi-systematic but comprehensive review method where we have systematically searched and screened the existing huge body of literature using the Scopus database and only literature in the English language. This is because performing a full systematic review is time-consuming, resource-intensive, focuses on a narrow range of questions and also prevents in-depth analysis (Sovacool et al 2018). However, studies also suggest that the use of a few more databases ensures adequate coverage (Bramer et al 2017). We are aware of this limitation in our study but we feel that this study has attempted to deliver a comprehensive in-depth analysis of demand side mitigation actions and SDGs, and actors’ role. Most studies identify benefits that could indirectly contribute to SDGs, while few studies directly establish linkages with SDGs, especially at the target level covering the study period. The findings from several case studies are context specific. The study recognizes that SDG relationships are complex and often not easily quantifiable, non-linear and vary across time. Few studies look at impacts of mitigation pathways, policies and actions on reducing poverty, affordability of technologies and equity impacts. Future studies could take a deeper look into understanding these complex interlinkages, especially spatial and temporal trade-offs between mitigation and SDGs, and maybe also in many other country contexts.

Data availability statement

All data that support the findings of this study are included within the article (and any supplementary files).

Acknowledgments

Shreya Some acknowledges the financial assistance received under Senior Research Fellowship from University Grants Commission (UGC) of India. Nandini Das duly acknowledges Global Change Programme-Jadavpur University for infrastructural support to carry out her research work. Shreya extends her gratitude to Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC), Berlin where she attended a training workshop on systematic review in October, 2018. Minal Pathak gratefully acknowledges the support of the Opportunities for Climate Mitigation and Sustainable Development (OPTIMISM) project NE/S012834/1 and the support of Mr Shaurya Patel and Mr Shannay Rawat, Research Assistant, Global Centre for Environment and Energy, Ahmedabad University for their support with library search. Authors acknowledge with thanks the very valuable comments from the anonymous referees. For completion of part of this article the authors acknowledge the financial support under EDIT-AIT project at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, sponsored by Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE), Japan.

Annexures

Industry: The demand for manufactured goods can be divided into two categories: intermediate demand and final demand. The intermediate demand comes from within the industrial system as raw material and is categorized under shift and improve categories. Avoiding demand for industrial products and services is driven by the final consumer, and is therefore considered as an additional search term.
At this level the selection criteria is narrowed down to articles that aligned with the research question. These would include ASI mitigation actions for transport, industry and buildings, evidence of implementation and including mention of sustainable development or sustainable development goals or sustainability. Experimental, modeling and lab-based studies were excluded from the final analysis.

**Annex A.** List of search terms used.

| Category    | Query 1 (Population): | Query 2 (Intervention): | Technical and Infrastructural change: |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Transport   | transport* OR vehicle OR travel OR "mobil" | | 'active travel' OR ('intermodal' AND ('train' OR 'transport')) OR 'EV' OR ('electric' W/1 'car' OR 'vehicle' OR 'taxi' OR 'rickshaw') OR 'eco-driv' OR 'small' vehicle* OR 'lightweight' vehicle* OR 'rickshaw' OR 'bio-based diesel fuel' OR 'bio fuel' OR 'hydrogen fuel' OR ('public' W/3 'trans' OR 'bus') OR 'bus' OR 'metro' OR 'subway' OR 'train' OR 'light rail' OR 'heavy rail' OR 'tram' OR 'railway') OR ('bicycle lane' OR 'bi-cycle lane' OR 'bicycle track' OR 'bi-cycle track' OR) OR 'rapid transit' OR ('bicycle' OR 'pedestrian' OR 'walking' OR 'cycling' OR 'rickshaw') W/2 ('infrastructure' OR 'path' OR 'paths' OR 'trail' OR 'network' OR 'route' OR 'corridor' OR 'lane')) |
| Industry    | | | (("car" OR 'vehicle' OR 'automobile') AND ('use' OR 'usage' OR 'using' OR 'purchases' OR 'buy' OR 'choice' OR 'share' OR 'preference') AND ('behavioral' OR 'response')) OR 'modal shift' OR 'park and ride' OR 'bicycle share' OR 'bikeshare' OR 'car pool' OR 'pedestrian' OR 'walk' OR 'bicycle' OR 'cycling' OR 'respond' W/3 'congestion charge') |
| Building    | | | (("car" OR 'vehicle' OR 'automobile') AND ('use' OR 'usage' OR 'using' OR 'purchases' OR 'buy' OR 'choice' OR 'share' OR 'preference') AND ('behavioral' OR 'response')) OR 'modal shift' OR 'park and ride' OR 'bicycle share' OR 'bikeshare' OR 'car pool' OR 'pedestrian' OR 'walk' OR 'bicycle' OR 'cycling' OR 'respond' W/3 'congestion charge') |

**Annex B**

- **Title:** Presence of specific sector names or their synonyms. Mention of mitigation actions that the authors later identified as ASI category
- **Abstract:** In addition to the criteria for title selection, mention of implementation of the actions, hint of cross-sectoral linkages or deep decarbonization or zero emission
- **Full text:** At this level the selection criteria is narrowed down to articles that aligned with the research question. These would include ASI mitigation actions for transport, industry and buildings, evidence of implementation and including mention of sustainable development or sustainable development goals or sustainability. Experimental, modeling and lab-based studies were excluded from the final analysis.

We used * for wildcards.
Given the diversity in the demand among these three sectors, apart from these general criteria for selection, we have also followed some sector-specific criteria.

Transport: While screening through the titles, specific mention of supply chain, manufacturing or related words, vehicle design, microgrids integration of electric vehicles, distribution grids in presence of EVs charging stations are excluded. During screening through abstracts along with all those mentioned in title screening and power flow analysis, studies regarding life-cycle of batteries assessment, implementing dual fuel, EV batteries recycling, rail-line or pavement or road construction materials or maintenance, choice between sustainable mobility plans by policy makers are excluded. At the third stage of screening we excluded studies which did not include sustainability/sustainable development/SDGs.

Industry: Title screening included articles which mention any of the eight major CO2-emitting industries mentioned in IPCC AR5, namely, iron and steel, cement, chemical, pulp and paper, non-ferrous metal, food processing, textile and leather and mining or manufacturing industry as a whole. Articles on all other industries are excluded. At the abstract screening stage, studies relating to business models for mitigation actions, life cycle analysis (LCA) are excluded. While screening full text studies, we excluded studies that did not specify any specific demand side actions. Studies regarding SME other than manufacturing industry are excluded. Industrial park design and business sustainability are also excluded. We have excluded experimental studies particularly those which do not have any implementation in real world settings.

Additional literature has been selected from the results of a separate search in Google Scholar for the industrial linkage of some specific demand-side actions such as the change in demand for pulp and paper industry with increase in electronic newspapers, reduced textile demands from increase in clothing longevity, reuse and recycling of textiles, and altered cement demands from the use of wood ash. These additional literatures are included based on the authors’ knowledge from grey literature, news items of emerging actions on demand reduction at the end-user level and as we were looking for very specific actions, in Google Scholar we were getting more explicit targeted results.

Building: Title screening involved screening of papers which included studies specific to buildings sector and mitigation actions on the demand side. This would automatically exclude studies on other sectors such as transport and industry, as well as supply side actions. At the abstract screening stage, a number of studies were found to focus on construction materials. These were screened out since these would involve substitution with other materials and therefore are addressed in the industry sector. Studies involving economic dimensions including costs and benefits of mitigation actions and those relating to the wider context such as modeled future urban scenarios were not considered. Similarly, papers that included theoretical studies except for literature reviews, such as desk research, lab experiments, simulations or modeling exercises and did not offer evidence of implementation were excluded. For example, new and innovative experiments involving alternate materials, thermal properties, new designs and approaches for construction and simulations of energy consumption were not considered. An additional search was conducted to include articles specifically on clean cooking, since this is an important dimension and was not captured in the original Scopus search.
Annex C. Articles included after each screening stage.

| Screening stage | Count | Included | Excluded |
|-----------------|-------|----------|----------|
| Stage 1: Identification | | 6887 | |
| Identified from Scopus using queries listed in annex A | Transport = 2284, Industry = 2951, Building = 2012 | | |
| Stage 2: Eligibility for inclusion | | 6330 | 590 |
| After duplicates removed | Transport = 1710, Industry = 2639, Building = 1981 | | |
| After title screening | Transport = 590, Industry = 536, Building = 954 | 2080 | 2513 |
| After abstract screening | Transport = 176, Industry = 248, Building = 556 | 980 | 885 |
| Full-text articles assessed for eligibility | Transport = 217, Industry = 248, Building = 361 | 826 | |
| Stage 3: Finally Included | | 24 | |
| Additional records included | Transport = 6, Industry = 8, Building = 10 | | |
| Total articles included | Transport = 107, Industry = 59, Building = 128 | 294 | |

* Sector-wise break-up for articles included are provided only.

Please see supplementary file for a detailed list of the articles included for this study.

Annex D. Mitigation actions for mobility service.

| Service | Avoid | Shift | Improve |
|---------|-------|-------|---------|
| Mobility | Reduction in vehicle ownership: government can | Active modes: road planners/government (local) can | Hydrogen buses: government (local) need to |
| | • recompense people for (voluntary) forfeit of a (second) car in the household | • promote awareness regarding using active modes | • provide proper fueling infrastructure |
| | • impose congestion charge for driving in the central of the city | • enhance road safety education for all users. | Commuters must be |
| | • impose high parking fees and high taxes on cars | • adopt measures like | • willing to pay extra: In Perugia, Italy commuters are Willing to Pay (WTP) 30% to 60% over the current single-trip bus fare to support introduction of these buses |
| | Compact urban planning: planners can | • congestion charges, | Electric taxi: government (local) can |
| | • adopt long term strategies like increasing housing supply near workplace to avoid mobility demand | • lowered speed limits, | • provide subsidies to convert private taxis to electric taxis (suggested for Seoul, South Korea; China). |
| | • orientation of buildings toward transit stops to reduce mobility demand | • reduced road space for cars; | • provide battery replacement scheme |
| | | • 'car-free Sundays' in the city centre and some residential areas (already in Bristol). | • created provision for charging facilities |
| | | | Electric vehicle-EV/zero emission vehicles-ZEV/connected. Autonomous vehicles-CAV: road planners/government (local) can |
| | | | • advertise EV’s environmental benefits & reduced perceived risks to attract adopters. |
| | | | • increase subsidies for ZEV (as in Germany) |
| | | | • provide free parking, |
| | | | • e-road infrastructure |
| | | | • introduce a separate CO₂ tax, |
| | | | • increase fuel costs by tax elevation, |
### Annex D. (Continued.)

| Service                         | Avoid                  | Shift                                                          | Improve                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • bike racks on buses          | • promote this for medium & long trips (as done in China)       | • provide secure monitored parking space for bikes in transit stations and shopping districts      | • increase available charging infrastructure                                                 |
| Supply-chain partners can      | • offer bike and transit packages with reasonable price         | • smart phone applications for pedestrians                                                            | • construct new infrastructures like smart highways                                       |
| • provide secure monitored     | • promote the culture of cycling by targeting travel related    | universities can                                                                                        | • provide informational interventions to ensure individuals try to become familiar with these new technologies and modes |
| parking space for bikes in     | attitudes and gendered-norms of mobility                        | • promote the culture of cycling by targeting travel related                                          | Supply-chain partners can                                                                 |
| transit stations and shopping  | • provide bike safety courses, bike shop vouchers, secure bike  | • offer free trials of CAVs or new forms of shared mobility to help address misperceptions about the viability or quality of alternatives compared to current choices |
| districts                       | parking and bike repair shops                                   | • put advertising; creative posters                                                                   | Electric boats: government (local) need to                                                        |
| Workplaces/companies can       | • motivate workers (informational emails; handing out flyers)   | • put advertising; creative posters                                                                   | • provide subsidy for deployment                                                                |
| • parental encouragement can   | to commute to work by bike (practiced in Boston, USA)           | • pay price premiums                                                                                   | Tourists can                                                                                     |
| help young users adopt cycling  | • put advertising; creative posters                           | Multi-modal integration: planners are                                                                    | • pay price premiums                                                                            |
| practices                      | • peer encouragement can help adopt cycling practices           | • integrating metro-rail with park-and-ride facilities: this has increased metro rail ridership in Delhi, India |
| • Users to encourage their     | • Users to encourage their relatives and friends                | Ecodriving:                                                                                          | • Heavy electric vehicles drivers are motivated by the goals of environmental protection and cost reduction, and gamification aspects |
| relatives and friends          | Public transit (rail; metro; bus): Government (Local) can       | • Heavy electric vehicles drivers are motivated by the goals of environmental protection and cost reduction, and gamification aspects |
| • disseminate knowledge and    | • disseminate knowledge and promote the values for sustainable  | Shared mobility: government can                                                                     | • shared mobility: government (local) need to                                                     |
| promote the values for         | transportation use                                              | • impose parking fee on privately owned cars.                                                         | • willing to use shared mobility as it is cost savings compared to public and private transport |
| • make transit use more        | • provide attractive travel cost (e.g. discounted ticket in     | • subside shared modes                                                                                | Bike-sharing: government (local) need to                                                          |
| affordable than driving        | China);                                                          | Supply-chain partners (car rental service providers) are                                               | • designing free-floating bike-sharing system                                                   |
| • increase efficiency of public| • provide proper road infrastructure                            | • using ICT to create app-enabled smart ride-sharing system                                            | • bay area bike sharing scheme                                                                    |
| transit.                       | • provide public transport infrastructures in small and medium- | • asking for extra verification for safety                                                             | • improve the quality of the road surfaces and bikes, and traffic safety                         |
|                                | sized cities (suggested by a study in India)                    | Commuters are                                                                                        |                                                                                                |
|                                |                                                                     | • willing to use shared mobility as it is cost savings compared to public and private transport       | (Continued)                                                                                        |
Annex D. (Continued.)

| Service | Avoid | Shift | Improve |
|---------|-------|-------|---------|
| Supply-chain partners can | • provide professional training for bus drivers and ticket controllers, | • increase the availability of the related equipment | Supply-chain partners need to |
| | • provide air-conditioners (China; India) and wastebaskets on board (China), | • increase the number of stations and bike tracks | |
| | • provide digital traveling services like bus route information, and schedule timetable. | • provide optimal distribution of docking stations across the city along with convenient and secure storage provisions | |
| | • provide Informative and entertaining bus stops | • design quality of the bicycles and the stations; and | |
| | • upgrade transportation infrastructure and quality (suggested by studies in China, Indonesia and Vietnam) | • ease the subscribing to and using the programme. | |
| Employers can | • provide provision of monthly-prepaid public transport passes (already used in Seoul and Tokyo) rather than private transport allowances | • properly manage the stations such that it is never empty (full), causing out-of-stock events for customers that want to rent (return) bikes at such stations | |
| Individuals can | • encourage their relatives and friends | • use this to solve the first/last mile problem | |
| | • parents must agree to use public transit for children’s school travels | | |
| Supply-chain partners need to | • increase the availability of the related equipment | | |
| | • increase the number of stations and bike tracks | | |
| | • provide optimal distribution of docking stations across the city along with convenient and secure storage provisions | | |
| | • design quality of the bicycles and the stations; and | | |
| | • ease the subscribing to and using the programme. | | |
| | • properly manage the stations such that it is never empty (full), causing out-of-stock events for customers that want to rent (return) bikes at such stations | | |
| Individuals/commuters can | • use this to solve the first/last mile problem | | |

Annex E. Mitigation actions for industry (manufactured goods).

| Service | Avoid | Shift | Improve |
|---------|-------|-------|---------|
| Manufactured goods Intermediate demand for energy and material demand Final demand of manufactured goods | Clustering of industries through industrial symbiosis (IS) and eco-industrial park (EIP): government • formulate policy to enhance symbiotic relation • cooperation among various government agencies Industrial practitioners/IS facilitator • facilitate information sharing and cooperation • shared support service • maintain heterogeneity of the firms in a cluster Research institute • R & D for better/wider use of by-products Emerging market places through digitalization Digital content creator • influence people to adopt sustainable lifestyle | Clean/green technology government • encouraging tax/subsidy policy Research institute • R & D and innovation Circular economy government • facilitation for better cooperation and sharing Research institute • R & D and innovation | Additive manufacturing use of renewable/low-carbon energy/electrification industrial practitioners Clean/green technology government • encouraging tax/subsidy policy Research institute • R & D and innovation Smart energy management Industrial practitioners • facilitation in technology adoption Smart multi-energy system Industrial practitioners • facilitation in technology adoption Waste heat recovery government • formulate policy to enhance symbiotic relation and clustering Research institute • R & D for recovery of waste heat quantifiably Environmental management systems (EMs) government • proper labelling system and it is monitoring Industrial practitioners • through CSR activity |
### Mitigation actions for building (shelter/heating/cooling/lighting) demand.

| Service | Avoid | Shift | Improve |
|---------|-------|-------|---------|
| Shelter heating/cooling/cooking/lighting demand | Building design and construction utilizing passive strategies such as shading, form and orientation of the building, natural lighting, ventilation or retrofit (avoiding demand for heating/cooling), refurbishment of old buildings/housing, green roofs construction companies/builders/architects can | Heat pumps, district heating and cooling Local governments can | Solar water heaters city governments can |
| | work with industry stakeholders and government to improve the understanding of costs and benefits of green buildings | introduce technologies as part of strategic planning | mandate this in existing building codes/urban guidelines |
| | optimise building design to maximise natural lighting, ventilation and measures for resource saving | enable secure financing | incentivise solar water heaters through subsidies |
| | Governments can | engage with the private sector | Companies |
| | promote passive architecture through building codes | establish a dynamic policy framework that can be adapted to local conditions while reducing investor risk | can increase awareness and transparency regarding the benefits of solar water heaters |
| | set standards for building design and construction | Switch from informal cooking fuels to cleaner fuels (NG) | Distributed renewable generation governments/private sector |
| | introduce voluntary building rating schemes | governments can | set local renewable energy targets |
| | facilitate a legal environment, technical assistance, financial support and policy reforms | implement concrete, implementable domestic policies and plans | can incentivize infrastructure to enhance uptake of distributed energy technologies |
| | incentivise and enable initiatives such as green roofs, rainwater harvesting | set targets and effective monitoring mechanisms | low interest financing to consumers |
| Organizations can | Governments can | Development agencies | commit to power purchase agreements |
| | show leadership by internal targets and promoting green office buildings | can invest in the sector and channelize significant private investments | feed-in tariffs |
| Energy saving behavior/use of ICT/smart sensors/smart metering Organizations can | | | Shift to low impact options (more efficient appliances, etc) |
| | build a culture that encourages energy saving behaviour of participants | | Product developers/designers |
| | conduct regular energy audits and enhance transparent reporting | | design from a user-centric perspective by understanding user needs more effectively |
| | enforce regulations to set criteria for energy services such as lighting, space heating/cooling | | Manufacturers can |
| Consumers can | | | provide information on product design strategies that enhance awareness about the product |
| | install smart-meters or devices that provide consumption information | | Consumers can |
| | invest in efficient/long lasting appliances | | make responsible purchase decisions regarding appliances |
| | | | Governments can |
| | | | set minimum energy performance standards and labels |
| | | | raise awareness regarding energy efficiency and conservation |
| | | | incentives to promote energy saving appliances |
| | | | Researchers can |
| | | | identify opportunities or synergies between implementation of clean energy policies and other goals such as climate change mitigation or development |
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