

ITF ANNUAL CONSULTATION ON GENDER AND TRANSPORT
“Transport Enabling Sustainable Economies: A gender perspective”

MONDAY, 23 JANUARY 2023, 14.30 – 17.30 CET

OECD CONFERENCE CENTRE CC10, 2 rue André Pascal, Paris, and virtually via Zoom

Background

Since 2016, the ITF Annual Consultation on Gender and Transport has been a platform for the ITF and its stakeholders to exchange on how questions related to gender equality in transport can be addressed in the ITF Annual Summit programme. The meeting also serves as a forum for sharing best practices and insights with regard to gender and transport issues more broadly.

The upcoming 2023 Summit on *Transport Enabling Sustainable Economies* will be held from 24 to 26 May 2023 in Leipzig, Germany. The Summit will focus on the role of transport as an enabler of economic growth that also drives environmental and social sustainability. It will explore how transport can open new markets and enable trade flows, increase access to employment, education, public services and leisure while minimising its environmental impact and remaining resilient to multiple global crises.

Persistent gender inequality hinders economic and social progress. Recent global crises, notably the Covid-19 pandemic, have exposed and exacerbated aspects of gender and other social inequality and threatened to undo progress made over decades in closing gender gaps globally. Gender inequalities, as all structural inequalities which exist in our societies, are reflected in transport systems.

The barriers to women’s mobility that reinforce these inequalities include lack or poor accessibility, gender-blind design of transport services and infrastructures, and lack of safety and security of our transport systems. The transport workforce - with only 17% of women’s participation - is highly gendered due to issues cutting across socio-economic factors, education and social policies. Improving gender equality both for women as transport users and in the transport workforce is key for the transport sector to enhance economic growth and prosperity. Both areas are interconnected, as an increase in gender equality in the workforce is one way to improve the inclusiveness of transport services.

Aim and outcome

The Gender Consultation will bring together key ITF stakeholders to share their current priorities of work on gender and transport and how these priorities relate to the 2023 Summit theme.

Participants will be invited to discuss the role of gender equality in transport for sustainable economic growth, and how these issues can be reflected in the Summit programme.

In terms of the outcomes, a summary of the discussion will be prepared to serve as a background to prepare respective Summit sessions. The outcomes of discussion will also help to plan ITF work on gender.

Thematic focus

Discussions will focus on the Summit programme, notably on selected sessions where gender equality is, or could be, more prominently highlighted.

These Summit sessions include:

1. Tackling poverty: What is the role of transport? (Plenary)
2. Boosting sustainable economies through greening transport (Open Ministerial)
3. Closing the gender gap in transport entrepreneurship (Panel session)
4. A just transition to net-zero: focus on the transport workforce (Panel session)

The outlines of these sessions are provided in Annex 1.

The Summit programme is available on the ITF website at: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/itf-2023-summit>

More information

More information on the ITF Work on Gender and Transport is available at: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/itf-work-gender-transport>.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Magdalena Olczak-Rancitelli, Manager, ITF Institutional Relations and Summit Unit (magdalena.olczak@itf-oecd.org; irs@itf-oecd.org).

AGENDA OF THE ITF ANNUAL CONSULTATION ON GENDER AND TRANSPORT
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Time	Item
14:00	<i>Arrival and networking coffee</i>
14.30-14.35	Welcome by Young Tae Kim, Secretary-General, ITF
14.35-15.00	Introduction by the ITF Secretariat, followed by Q&A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing projects and initiatives on gender and transport - 2023 ITF Summit on <i>Transport Enabling Sustainable Economies</i> - Opportunities for ITF Stakeholders at the 2023 Summit
15.00-17.20	Sharing and connecting: Transport Enabling Sustainable Economies: A Gender Perspective <p>This part of the meeting will be divided into three thematic discussion blocks. Under each block, participants will be invited to discuss the interfaces between gender equality in transport and sustainable economic growth, and how these issues can be reflected in the Summit programme, notably in some key sessions as listed in Annex 1. Each block will be moderated by the ITF Secretariat and opened by two discussants (short intervention of 5 minutes) to inspire exchange and discussion that will follow. A set of guiding questions is prepared to frame discussions.</p>
15.00-15.45	Discussion block 1: Promoting inclusive access to economic opportunities and tackling poverty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How are gender inequalities and mobility linked? How do they influence each other? 2) How can transport policies support women’s access to economic opportunities? Where should policy makers focus their attention? - Summit session in focus: “Tackling poverty: What is the role of transport?” <p>Discussants: <i>Ruth Lopian, Policy Officer - Equality Coordinator, European Commission, and Lake Sagaris, Professor, Institute for Sustainable Development, Centre for Sustainable Urban Development, Laboratory for Social Change, Pontificia Universidad Catolica, Chile</i></p>
15.45-16.30	Discussion block 2: Enhancing women’s participation in the transport workforce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What are the barriers to women's participation in the transport workforce that are not discussed enough? 2) What are the best ways to support women's participation in the transport sector, both in the workforce and as leaders? What’s your view about the role of women entrepreneurs in this regard? - Summit sessions in focus: “Closing the gender gap in transport entrepreneurship” and “A just transition to net-zero: focus on the transport workforce” <p>Discussants: <i>Isobel Duxfield, Communications, Membership Manager, POLIS, and Heather Allen, Independent Consultant on gender and urban transport (SUM4All Gender Working Group, International Survey on Barriers to Women Working in the Transport Sector, supported by FIA Foundation)</i></p>

16.30-16.50 *Coffee break*

16.50 -17.20 Discussion block 3: Making a shift towards net-zero transport systems

- **Key questions:**

- 1) How can transition to net-zero be achieved while addressing gender inequalities? What are the catalysts of change?
- 2) What steps can be taken to ensure low-carbon transport policies are designed with gender inclusiveness in mind?

- **Summit session in focus:** “Boosting sustainable economies through greening transport”

Discussants: *Bronwen Thornton, CEO, Walk21, and Wei-Shieun Ng, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific*

17.20-17.30 Conclusions and next steps

17.30 End of the meeting

ANNEX 1

Annex 1 presents a list of selected sessions of the 2023 Summit programme which highlight questions related to gender equality or provide an opportunity to explore further gender related issues. These are:

Day 2 Plenary: Tackling poverty: What is the role of transport?

This session will explore how policies for equitable access to transport can improve access to jobs, education and other opportunities for disadvantaged citizens. A lack of transport options makes it difficult for underserved communities or lower-income households to take advantage of economic opportunities. Limited availability of transport can play a role, as can lack of affordability, safety, performance or digitalisation.

- In what ways are transport and socio-economic inequality linked?
- How can transport help reduce poverty in developed and developing countries?
- How can knowledge-sharing and innovation help address the mobility needs of those in poverty?

Session: Closing the gender gap in transport entrepreneurship

Women are still only about half as likely as men to launch a business, but this gender gap has narrowed over the past two decades. Women entrepreneurs can be powerful enablers for more inclusive employment in the transport sector where, today, only 17% of the workforce are women. Besides creating new jobs and helping economies to grow, women entrepreneurs can inspire the next generation of women leaders in the transport sector. This session will explore ways to encourage more women to start their own businesses in transport.

- What measures are in place to support women entrepreneurs in the transport sector?
- Which tools should be introduced to support women entrepreneurs more effectively?
- How can innovation and new business models create new opportunities specifically for women entrepreneurs in transport?

Session: A just transition to net-zero: focus on the transport workforce

A just transition to net-zero requires greening economies while promoting social justice. It presents an opportunity to stimulate sustainable economic growth, while creating new work opportunities and leaving no one behind. Minimising job losses is not enough, workers should be fully engaged in social dialogue on the transformation of the transport workforce. A well-trained, diverse workforce that is comfortable with new technologies is critical for the success of the just transition. This session will highlight effective policies that promote low-carbon solutions and drive a shift towards a more resilient transport workforce.

- What are examples of good practices for active engagement with transport workers to develop new and innovative ways of working that safeguard the environment for present and future generations, eradicate poverty and promote social justice?
- What opportunities does the just transition offer to promote the participation of underrepresented groups in the transport workforce? What role can innovation play in supporting this?
- How can governments ensure that the transition to net-zero will not negatively affect workers in informal transport and other particularly vulnerable segments of the transport workforce?

Open Ministerial: Boosting sustainable economies through greening transport

Aligning prosperity with sustainable mobility is essential to contain climate change and maintain a strong economy. This is reflected in many Covid-19 national recovery plans that aim to ensure that economic growth is combined with shifting mobility behaviour and the scaling up of low-carbon technologies. The session will address the need for transformational change of the transport sector, including the urgency of significant behavioural change. It will explore how economic growth can be rendered more sustainable by decarbonising transport and reducing other environmental externalities of transport, such as its effects on biodiversity, air and maritime quality, and health.

- What is the current state of low carbon transport across different countries and regions of the world?
- What measures, including transformative policies, are required to support the green transition of transport?
- What are effective policies to maximise the value of clean energy technology, while maintaining accessibility for users, and reducing carbon emissions?
- How can the transition to net-zero transport address adaptation needs and broader social and well-being goals?
- What is required to incentivise private sector capital to support the green transition (*e.g.* carbon pricing, regulatory certainty, public financing)?