

On behalf of



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## Transport and Mobility Newsletter



### **GIZ TRANSPORT NEWS**

A service provided by the sector project Sustainable Mobility

### **Dear sustainable transport friends,**

Welcome to the GIZ Transport and Mobility Newsletter!

As we approach the third **Global Disability Summit** in 2025, co-hosted by the Government of Germany (BMZ), the Government of Jordan, and the International Disability Alliance, a focus on inclusive mobility is given renewed attention. This summit presents an opportunity to deepen our commitment to creating transport systems that work for all abilities, reinforcing the intersection of inclusive development and global transport.

Transport is more than just a means of getting from one place to another; it is a lifeline that connects

people to essential services, opportunities, and communities. For millions of people with disabilities, however, mobility remains a significant challenge. Inclusive transport systems are essential not only for fostering equitable development, but also for upholding the dignity and independence of all individuals. As the world moves toward more inclusive cities, transport planning must address the physical and systemic barriers created by past practices. It is essential for transport practitioners and decision makers to take the lead in rectifying these oversights by designing and implementing innovative, practical solutions that meet the mobility needs of *every* user, ensuring that accessibility is at the core of urban development.

In this edition, we explore innovative strategies and initiatives aimed at ensuring that mobility is truly inclusive. We hope this issue provides you valuable insights and inspiration. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcome — together, let's keep the conversation going and work toward a more inclusive future for transport!

Kind regards,

## Your Transport and Mobility Team



### **PROJECT DEVELOPMENTS**

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- » Global: Cities for Belonging
- » South Africa: Community-Led Solutions for Inclusive Mobility in Africa

### **KNOW HOW**

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## Project Developments

### Barrier Free Mobility

Unifying Efforts Towards Inclusive Transportation



© GIZ

Equitable access to transportation is a fundamental right, yet 26.8 million individuals with disabilities in India face daily challenges due to inadequate infrastructure and public transport. To address these issues, GIZ India hosted the "Barrier-Free Mobility: Unifying Efforts towards Inclusive Transportation" panel in May 2024.

The event focused on consolidating accessibility data and exploring the creation of a Universal Accessibility Alliance. Discussions emphasized the need for standardized data collection, leveraging technology, and fostering collaboration among government, private sector, and civil society to ensure inclusive urban mobility.

Key takeaways included the importance of universal design, digital literacy, and the active participation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in policy-making to drive sustainable, disability-inclusive urban development in India.

[Learn more about it »](#)

Contact: **Shirish Mahendru**

*Sustainable Urban Mobility – Air Quality, Climate Action and Accessibility (SUM-ACA) is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).*



## Cities for Belonging

Deep Dive Sessions on Inclusive and Accessible Mobility



© Sabrina Asche

TUMI and ITDP held online deep dive sessions connecting transport practitioners, academia, policymakers and the disability advocacy community to help understand the gaps on how we can create cities that are inclusive and accessible for all.

The first session, held on July, focused on Building a Community of Peers to discuss the challenges and gaps on universal access, while the second session – which took place on the 21st August – focused on building ideas to learn best practices and approaches from one another. Each session had two timeslots to accommodate for global time zones, totaling to more than 100 participants around the world coming from academia, the development sector, the private and public sector, as well as from organizations for persons with disabilities.

Insights from the sessions will be used as input in a visual policy brief and white paper on inclusive and accessible mobility to be released later this year.

Stay tuned!

**Contact: Keisha Mayuga**

*With the **Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)**, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is supporting climate-friendly, inclusive, safe and affordable mobility in cities. TUMI is the leading global implementation initiative on sustainable mobility, formed through the union of 11 prestigious partners. TUMI is funded by BMZ and implemented by GIZ in collaboration with all TUMI partners.*



## Community-Led Solutions for Inclusive Mobility in Africa

Innovative Approaches from the Rethinking Transport Lab on Just Mobility



© GIZ

From February 26 to March 1, 2024, GIZ hosted the second Rethinking Transport Lab on "Just Mobility in Urban and Rural Areas," bringing together 29 young professionals from 21 African countries. Collaboratively, they developed six forward-thinking solutions to advance equitable and sustainable transport.

Among the solutions from the Lab, the Safe Active Streets Program, aims to revitalize walking and cycling infrastructure in African cities—one street at a time—through community-led financing and shared ownership.

Another solution, the Langa Disability Movement, is a youth-driven organization advocating for robust frameworks that ensure disability inclusion in all sustainable mobility planning. This initiative addresses the lack of inclusive stakeholder engagement frameworks, aiming to strengthen disability-inclusive approaches in transport development.

All solutions aim to support the development of more inclusive transport systems. Following the Lab, the groups behind the ideas are looking for opportunities to further develop and implement their ideas.

[Learn more about the Just Mobility Lab »](#)

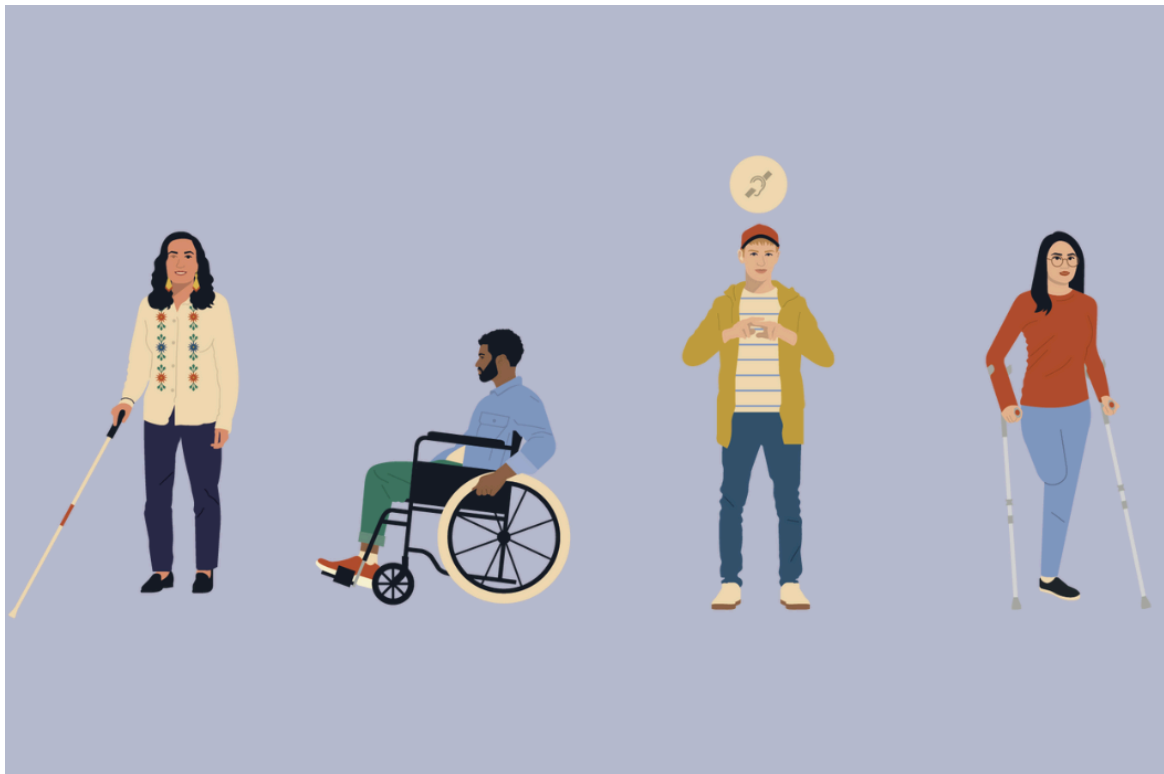
**Contact: Verena Knöll**

*Rethinking Transport is a GIZ self-financed initiative, implemented by GIZ and Agora Verkehrswende.*



# Inclusive Mobility Beyond Ramps

Redefining Accessibility



© Women Mobilize Women

Accessibility in public transport often brings to mind ramps for wheelchairs, but inclusive mobility goes far beyond that. True accessibility requires understanding the diverse needs of people with different disabilities — physical, hearing, cognitive, and mental impairments. From tactile paving for those with vision impairments to quiet zones for those with hearing challenges, inclusive design transforms how everyone navigates urban spaces.

In our latest blog article, we explore how cities around the world are leading the way in creating transportation systems that empower all individuals to travel independently and with dignity. Dive into the full article to learn more about these critical interventions and their real-world impact.

[Read the full article »](#)

[Listen to TUMI's podcast episode on "Talking Inclusive Mobility" »](#)

**Contact: Keisha Mayuga**

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# Designing Infrastructure to Empower People with Disabilities

A Powerful Speech from Crystal Asige



© GIZ TUMI

At the TUMI2023 Conference, Kenyan Senator Crystal Asige delivered a powerful speech on the importance of designing inclusive infrastructure. A passionate advocate for disability rights and a trailblazing politician, Asige shared her journey with glaucoma and the challenges she faces as a visually impaired person.

She emphasized that true disability stems from barriers, not impairments, and called for infrastructure that empowers individuals rather than limits them.

Asige also highlighted the need for Universal Design, particularly in Africa, to ensure that infrastructure meets the needs of all people, including women with disabilities. She urged designers and policymakers to prioritize accessibility and climate resilience, fostering a future where everyone can live with dignity, freedom, and independence.

[Read the full article »](#)

[Watch or listen to the recording of the speech »](#)

**Contact: Julia Remmers**

*Women Mobilize Women (WMW) was founded in 2018 as part of the “**Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative**” (TUMI). On behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Women Mobilize Women stands up for a gender-transformative mobility and addresses women and marginalized groups as transport users, decision makers and transport workers. Women Mobilize Women also strives to raise awareness on the application of a Feminist Development*

Cooperation in the transport sector. To do this, Women Mobilize Women works to build local and global capacities on gender-equitable transport through leadership and mentoring programs, study tours, and digital knowledge products.



## The Intersection of Gender, Disability, and Access

Webinar Series: Intersectionality of Gender and Mobility

### Gender, Mobility and Disability: The intersection of varied experiences



**Dr. Kay Inckle**  
Campaigns & Policy  
Manager Wheels for  
Wellbeing



**Anna Zivarts**  
Low-vision mother, nondriver,  
and author of the forthcoming  
book *When Driving Is Not an  
Option: Steering Away from  
Car-Dependency*

Join us  
online on  
March 7,  
4:30 PM  
CET!



Mobility systems often overlook the experiences of disabled and neurodiverse individuals. Women Mobilize Women held a webinar, hosted by Melissa Bruntlett, featuring a thought-provoking discussion with Dr. Kay Inckle and Anna Zivarts, on how mobility can be more inclusive.

The speakers shared personal and professional insights, highlighting the unique challenges faced by disabled people in accessing walking, cycling, and public transport. Dr. Inckle, a leader in mobility justice for disabled cyclists, and Zivarts, an advocate for disability rights and a non-driver, emphasized the importance of designing mobility systems that consider all users.

This conversation shed light on the critical need for equitable access to mobility as a cornerstone of participation in society.

[Watch the recording of the webinar »](#)

Contact: **Julia Remmers**

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## EVENTS

### Juntas nos Movemos

TranSIT Gathers Experts to Tackle Mobility Challenges in Oaxaca



© SEMOVI Oaxaca

GIZ México, through the bilateral project, TranSIT, in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Mobility of Oaxaca, hosted the "Juntas nos Movemos" conference at the Cultural and Convention Center in Oaxaca.

This event aimed to enhance public transport inclusivity for women, vulnerable groups, and people with disabilities. With over 100 participants, including national authorities, state and municipal representatives, civil society organizations, and international delegates from Colombia and Peru, the conference sparked discussions on inclusive mobility actions.

Topics such as the role of women in public transport, sexual harassment protocols, gender and inclusion measures, road safety, and public transport formalisation were thoroughly explored. The workshops highlighted the importance of these issues and reinforced the commitment to safe and, inclusive mobility policies that could serve as a model for other regions.

[Read the full article \(ESP\) »](#)

**Contact: Neimy Girón**

*The project "Transition towards an Integrated, Accessible and Smart Public Transport System in Mexico (TranSIT)" is implemented by GIZ Mexico and the Ministry of Agrarian, Territorial, and Urban*

Development in Mexico. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



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