

THE BANGKOK DECLARATION ON INFORMAL AND SHARED MOBILITY 2026

A shared, global agenda for ISM

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THE 1ST GLOBAL CONVENING ON **INFORMAL & SHARED MOBILITY**



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BANGKOK
DECLARATION ON
INFORMAL AND SHARED MOBILITY 2026



Faculty of Education
Chulalongkorn University
Bangkok, Thailand ·
October 28th, 2026

THE 1ST GLOBAL
CONVENING ON **INFORMAL**
& SHARED MOBILITY

RECOGNIZE

ISM as an integral part of transport systems

FINANCE

ISM improvements and sector-wide reform

UPGRADE

ISM's safety, security, quality, and environmental performance

SAFEGUARD

the livelihoods, rights, gender equity, and participation of ISM workers and operators



The Purpose Behind this Document

Declaration Aims



Unify our Message: Articulate the critical role of ISM in sustainable mobility, climate action, and social justice.

Signal Direction: Shift the paradigm towards reform and integration, not replacement.

Set a Common Agenda: Establish the four strategic pathways (Recognize, Finance, Upgrade, Safeguard).

Build Momentum: Serve as a shared global reference for the sector, connecting to the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport and other national, regional and international processes.

Shaping the Declaration

Initiation:
VREF and GNPT initiate the process.

Declaration Task Force:
A multi-stakeholder Task Force is convened to review and provide feedback.

GloCon Day 1:
A revised draft is presented on GloCon Day 1.

GloCon Day 2:
Exchange with many conference participants including a conversation with ISM workers, operators, and unions as well as policy makers were held to gather feedback.

GloCon Day 3:
A penultimate draft is presented for adoption on GloCon Day 3.







A Multi-Stakeholder Effort

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Time to Act is NOW

Bangkok Declaration on ISM:

bit.ly/BangkokDeclaration2026

Summary of Opening Statements

The Reality

ISM is the backbone of transport in many LMICs, moving people and goods where formal systems fall short, and sustaining millions of livelihoods.

The Crisis

Chronic underinvestment, marginalization, and unsafe conditions persist, while the window to shape its future is closing as private motorization accelerates.

The Opportunity

ISM is an affordable, resilient, and low-carbon foundation for sustainable mobility, offering a massive opportunity to advance social justice and public health while cutting emissions.

The Common ISM Agenda

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Strategic Pathways

Recognize

- Embed ISM in law and policy; reform frameworks to legitimize operators without displacing workers.
- Collect open data and regulate digital platforms to protect workers and users.
- Meaningfully engage workers and local community in planning the transition.

Finance

- Integrate ISM into local and national public budgets.
- Mobilize DFIs, private investors, and philanthropy to fund infrastructure and research.
- Create bankable business models and protect operators from exploitative lending.

The Common ISM Agenda

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Strategic Pathways

Upgrade

- Promote zero-emission fleets and fleet renewal as part of broader sector reform.
- Support new technologies and prioritize ISM in infrastructure use.
- Strengthen safety and reliability standards in partnership with workers and local communities.

Safeguard

- Guarantee fair pay, social protection, and occupational safety (aligning with ILO Recommendation 204).
- Remove barriers to women's participation and address safety and security concerns.
- Build short-term skills, long-term leadership, and worker solidarity.

Summary of Calls to Action

Bangkok Declaration on ISM:

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National & Subnational Governments

- Integrate ISM into national strategies, NDCs, and SUMPs, and using Labor Impact Assessments.
- Recognize this Declaration as a signal of sector readiness and collaborate on policy.
- Commit to open data sharing and transparent evidence building.

Financial Institutions & Philanthropy

- Mobilize direct financing for physical infrastructure, vehicles, and service delivery.
- Fund research, pilot projects, and integration into national plans.
- Provide technical support for partnerships and track sector progress.

UN Organizations (DESA, ILO, Regional Commissions)

- Recognize this Declaration within the UN Decade of Sustainable Transport.
- Include ISM in future UN and other international events and processes.
- Convene discussions with governments to advance the sector globally.

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Key Sector Partners (Academia, NGOs, Workers, Operators)

- Lead the co-creation of a formal commitments framework for the next convening.
- Integrate ISM into academic curricula, increase research, and NGO missions.
- Provide skills training on planning, safety, and business management.

All Actors Within the Transport Ecosystem

- Support the Global Convening platform and reconvene every two years.
- Document progress and share the Declaration at national, regional and global fora.
- Disseminate the Declaration to your constituencies and actively use it to transform the sector.

From Paper to Action

Next Steps

- **Finalization & Publication:** The final text will be published and shared globally.
- **Actors in Action:** Get creative! Disseminate the Declaration to your local communities and refer it in:
  - Press releases, media campaigns, accompanied statements…
  - National government advocacy
  - Regional policy dialogues
  - COP 31, Transforming Transportation & beyond
- **Looking Ahead:** Explore the development of an Action Agenda/Framework, Action Hub and the possibility of formal signatures.



The future is ours to shape!

Join our journey and keep us posted

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PRESENTATION OF THE
BANGKOK DECLARATION
at the 1st Global Convening on Informal & Shared Mobility