



# Remarkable Women in Transport 2021



Female Change-Makers  
Transforming Mobility

Edition 2021 (3rd Edition)  
Launched on International  
Women's Day March 8th 2021

# Female Change-Makers Transforming Mobility The series' third round

TUMI and Women Mobilize Women are delighted to publish the third annual edition of Remarkable Women in Transport! We are especially grateful to the Remarkable Women in our network and the TUMI Partners for supporting us in identifying women who've made extraordinary contributions to transport.

Historically, urban and transport planners have failed to take gender aspects into consideration. A diverse workforce including various perspectives is essential to develop and implement gender-responsive mobility systems. While this publication is by no means all-encompassing of the thousands of women in transport who make great contributions everyday, we hope that these selected few inspire you in 2021. Just browse and get inspired!

[www.transformative-mobility.org](http://www.transformative-mobility.org)

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Women make up less  
than 20% of the global  
transport workforce.  
(ILOSTAT, 2019)

The Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) supports women in the transport sector. With Women Mobilize Women, TUMI specifically addresses the need to involve and empower female change-makers in the transport sector to progress mobility systems and to cater to women's needs. Women Mobilize Women serves as a network and information hub which strongly influences the international debate on the role and potential of women in the mobility sector.

 [www.womenmobilize.org](http://www.womenmobilize.org)

 [@TUMInitiative](https://twitter.com/TUMInitiative)

 [Women Mobilize Women](#)

 [Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative](#)

# Remarkable Women in Transport 2021

The inclusion of women in the transportation sector is an economic imperative that's critical to the sector's growth and long-term sustainability. However, due to a systemic lack of awareness and exposure to career pathways, women continue to be underrepresented in transportation occupations. For decades, decision-making and transport-planning was done almost exclusively by men. Due to lack of data collection and personal experiences, the able-bodied male perspective struggled to take into account the challenges that women, children or vulnerable citizens face in their daily mobility. For example, women typically travel shorter distances during off-peak hours. Trip-chaining and mobility of care shape women's mobility, which is often restricted due to the risk of sexual harassment and other forms of violence both on the street and on public transport.

Yet, women make up more than half of the global population, and society simply wouldn't function without them. In 2020, as the world stood still and transportation came to a halt, women kept moving, acting as a driving force behind many of the structural changes cities are seeing in mobility today. Let's keep this momentum going so we can reach our goals of sustainable mobility systems, safe cities and equitable societies. These goals are not achievable without the essential women in the transport sector, whose perspectives will help make mobility equitable and inclusive. Only by including women in decision-making can the transport industry best utilize their invaluable experiences and perspectives.

We are honored to illuminate the work of these outstanding female experts who have contributed to sustainable mobility solutions – By women.

**For everyone!**



## Annabel Bradbury

*UK Director at Cardno Emerging Markets*

Annabel Bradbury has worked in a transport research capacity for the whole of her 22-year career. She provides advisory support on rural transport services, Sustainable Livelihood Approaches, social inclusion and stakeholder consultation. She completed a part-time PhD on the contribution of Sustainable Livelihood Approaches to the effectiveness of transport planning in developing countries. Her Thesis emphasized the use of transport in social trip making and the importance of accessibility and mobility for maintenance of social networks. Annabel is a Fellow of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT) in recognition of her contribution to the profession.

Annabel is a Company Director, responsible for UK operations at Cardno Emerging Markets and was the Deputy Team Leader (2017-2020) for the UK Aid programme - Research for Community Access Partnership (ReCAP).

She managed the Transport Services portfolio of the program in 12 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and five countries in South Asia, and designed and managed a portfolio of rural transport projects, including the flagship 'Rural Access Index' project and the ReCAP program. Annabel is a widely published and cited expert and has presented and chaired at international conferences in Africa and Asia, including the UNESCAP Expert Meeting on transport connectivity in Bangkok; and she represented the ReCAP programme on the Sustainable Mobility for all (SuM4All) Steering Committee. Annabel is co-author of a paper on Raising the Profile of the Rural Access Index as an SDG Indicator, which was awarded the World Road Association UK prize for Sustainable Development in 2019; and was lead author of the editorial prepared for the themed issue of the Institution of Civil Engineer's (ICE) Transport journal on Gender Mainstreaming in Rural Transport (2020).



## Bianca Macêdo

*Urban Mobility Independent Consultant*

Bianca Macêdo is a Transportation Engineer with several years of experience in sustainable mobility planning and implementation. While working at the Municipality of Fortaleza, she led relevant projects that raised the city's mobility policies into international recognition, such as the free bike share system's expansion to the suburbs, the program against sexual harassment in public transport, the Re-cycle project of electric tricycles for recyclable waste pickers, the cycling infrastructure expansion and the specific bike share systems for children and for integration with public transport. She also has experience in sustainable urban mobility plans, gender and transport studies in Brazil and Guyana and advocacy for women and bicycles. As an independent consultant, she has worked in sustainable mobility projects with a focus on air quality, health, gender and inclusion of vulnerable groups.

 @BiancaMacdo6



## Carolyn Whitzman

*Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics at the University of Ottawa and Honorary Professor in Urban Planning at the University of Melbourne*

Carolyn has worked for over 30 years in government, the university sector and as a consultant focused on enabling the right to the city. Her research interests include: housing policy to support adequate homes for all; planning for liveable and equitable cities in a national and international context; interventions to increase independent mobility for children; and the development of participatory planning tools with women, children, and people with disabilities. Carolyn has an international reputation for her work on the prevention of violence.

Her books include *Building Inclusive Cities: Women's Safety and the Right to the City* (lead editor, Routledge, 2013) and *The Handbook of Gender, Violence Prevention and Community Safety* (Earthscan, 2007). She recently contributed two chapters to *Transit Crime and Sexual Violence in Cities: International Evidence and Prevention* (eds. Vania Ceccato and Anastasis Loukaitou-Sideris, Routledge, 2020).

 @CWhitzman

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### World Maritime University

WMU was established by the International Maritime Organization 38 years ago. The last five years has also seen a significant increase in the number of women graduates. There has also been a huge growth and diversity in its Faculty and Staff composition. The establishment in 2018 of the WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute within the university to address global ocean issues has been an important milestone. It is already a leading research institution. The Vision of WMU is to inspire leadership and innovation for a sustainable maritime and oceans future.

## Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry

*President of the World Maritime University*

Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry is the first female president of the World Maritime University (WMU) and has spearheaded its growth. Prior to joining WMU, she served in a number of capacities at the International Labour Organization (ILO), including Director of the International Labour Standards Department, Director of the Sectoral Activities Department and Senior Legal Officer in the Office of the Legal Adviser. During her 30-year-long period of service at the ILO, she led the drafting of over 60 ILO Conventions and Recommendations advocating for seafarers' rights. Moreover, she created the Maritime Labour Academy.

Cleopatra studied international law and worked among others with the Iran-US Claims Tribunal in The Hague.

She has assisted many countries around the world in developing and implementing national legislation in order to effectively give life to the Maritime Labour Convention and to ensure the safety of seafarers.

Dr. Doumbia-Henry has done remarkable work combatting HIV and AIDS within the Transport Sector, especially among seafarers who are particularly vulnerable to the effects of the pandemic, as well as other diseases.

Cleopatra has been and continues to be an ardent advocate of seafarers' rights.





## Engr. Abimbola Akinajo

*Managing Director, LAMATA*

Engr. Abimbola Akinajo, a chartered civil engineer, is the Managing Director at the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA). She has over 30 years' experience in the design and delivery of major transport and infrastructure projects in the United Kingdom and Nigeria. In the UK where Abimbola worked for over two decades, she gained extensive knowledge in the delivery of high-profile rail infrastructure projects. Among others, she was involved in projects such as major London Rail bridge replacement projects, the Connect Project (implementation of updated communications systems on the London Underground System) and the East London Line project handover.

In Lagos, Nigeria, she delivered the 14-kilometre Oshodi to Abule Egba Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, commenced the construction of the first phase of the 37-kilometre Lagos Rail Mass Transit Red Line project, completed the first TUMI-funded Lagos Sidewalk Pilot Project and is working to deliver the Red and Blue Rail line projects in the third and fourth quarter 2022 respectively.

Engr. Akinajo is a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers (MICE), Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) and Nigeria Society of Engineers (NSE).



## Dr. Jana Kühl

*Professor for Bicycle Traffic  
Management,  
Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences*

Since 1 November 2020, Dr. Jana Kühl is Germany's first professor of Bicycle Traffic Management.

She studied geography at the Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel and moved to the Institute for Regional and Urban Development Research Dortmund after earning her diploma. There she worked on a project that examined, among other things, how everyday mobility and the choice of place of residence interact. During her doctoral studies at the Technical University of Dortmund, she was a research assistant in the Department of Regional Planning and Planning Theory and taught empirical social research in cooperation with the department of transport planning. Her research focuses on sustainable mobility, urban green spaces and social ways of thinking and acting.

Her contributions in teaching and research motivate her to inspire future transport planners to really integrate cycling planning and find solutions for more sustainable mobility.

Most recently, Jana participated in an acceptance study in the Cultural Geography Working Group at the University of Kiel on the testing of demand-responsive, autonomous buses as public transport in rural areas. For her planned post-doctoral project, the scientist is looking at what effect infrastructural measures in cycling - such as cycle lanes - can have on the motivation to switch to cycling in everyday mobility.

In her private life, Jana has also geared her mobility toward cycling and owns five bicycles, one for each everyday situation, in order to always be mobile without using a car.



## Dr. Jaqueline M. Klopp

*Co-Director Center for Sustainable Urban Development, Earth Institute, Columbia University*

Dr. Jacqueline Klopp co-directs the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Earth Institute. She is an action-oriented research scholar who focuses on pathways to safe, low-emission and equitable transport, and land-use. Jacqueline has been spearheading efforts to leverage new mapping to strengthen advocacy for improved public transportation and reduced air pollution. She is a founding member of the award winning DigitalMatatus consortium which produced the first open transit data and public transit map for Nairobi's quasi-formal minibus transit system. She also helped found "Digital Cairo", a consortium led by Transport4Cairo to create open transport data. With the French Development Agency, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Resource Institute, she continues to support new collaborative platforms on open transit data for Africa: DigitalTransport4Africa DATUM.

She is also a core member of the Clean Air Toolbox for Cities, an interdisciplinary network centered at Columbia University that aims to support cities primarily in Africa and Asia with emissions, source and health impact data to address air pollution and climate change.

Dr. Klopp received her B.A. from Harvard University in Physics and her Ph.D. in Political Science from McGill University. At Columbia University she serves on the Environmental Justice and Climate Just Cities network and on the Sustainable Columbia faculty advisory committee on transportation, which aims to radically reduce the university's transport emissions and support public and nonmotorized transport in Northern Manhattan. She also teaches in the Sustainable Development undergraduate program at Columbia University.

 @jmklopp1



## Isabel Granada-Garcés

*Senior Sector Specialist, Inter American Development Bank*

Isabel is a Senior Sector Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) where she leads the preparation of multisector programs promoting inclusive interventions in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Passionate about development and convinced of the power of collectivity and equality, Isabel has worked in the transport sector for more 10 years where she has designed, executed, and overseen transport infrastructure projects. She has led initiatives like the IDB Transport Gender LAB, a network of Latin American cities committed to mainstreaming gender equality. Isabel has promoted multiple case studies and analyses of mobility patterns in several cities in the LAC region. Isabel has also developed cutting edge technology solutions with a focus on improving access opportunities for the most vulnerable populations.

Throughout her career, Isabel has dedicated her passion for collective work and innovation to make gender equality in transport and infrastructure both a common denominator and a familiar narrative. Isabel has a track record as a civil servant, working at the National Department of Planning in Colombia and as an IDB transport consultant for Transmilenio. She also worked in private the companies ARUP and IBM. Isabel is a proud Civil Engineer from Los Andes University in Colombia, MSc. In Transport Economics and Business Management from Imperial College London.



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## Julia Nebrija

*Co-founder/Director, Agile City Partners*

As an advocate and professional, Julia helps advance public space and transportation policies and programs in cities. She is particularly passionate about transforming streetscapes to support more livable communities. Her dedication to inclusive mobility grew from her own experiences walking, cycling and using public transportation in cities where she's lived, including Washington DC, New York City and Manila.

Julia and her Agile City Partners co-founders are currently working with NewCities and CoMotion to build the newly launched Global Partnership for Informal Transportation. The initiative will bring visibility to the important role informal transportation plays in cities in the Global South.

Julia has more than 10 years of leadership experience creating urban development agendas in the Philippines where she worked as an urban specialist with the World Bank before serving as the Assistant General Manager of Operations for the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Program Manager in the Office of the Secretary for the Philippines Department of Budget and Management, and most recently, as Chief Operating Officer of the Philippine Japan Initiative for Clark.

Julia is an active participant in the citizen-led mobility movement in the Philippines, serving as a member of the Move as One Coalition Philippines. She previously served as a Board Member of the Inclusive Mobility Network Philippines. Julia also speaks regularly as a resource person on placemaking and inclusive mobility. Her articles have been featured in Design Anthology, CNN Style, Domus, Esquire, and BluPrint.

## Marta Serrano

*CEO of EMT València*

*Co-founder of Women in Motion España*

Marta Serrano is a Civil Engineer specializing in and deeply committed to transport and urban design. She has always been dedicated to incorporating a gendered perspective and female talent to the engineering and transport sector. In 2018, this led her to co-found Women in Motion, an organization aimed at promoting gender equity in the transport and mobility industry. In 2020, she also co-founded Women in Motion Spain, the local chapter of the global network. Nowadays she is the CEO of EMT València and has become the first woman in this role in the history of the Municipal Transport Company of València.

Marta studied Engineering at the University of Castilla-La Mancha (Spain) and RWTH Aachen (Germany). Since 2005 she has acquired extensive professional experience focused on the management of projects and studies related to the sustainable town and

transport planning. In 2015 she was the first woman hired as Director of Communication and Consulting at the Municipal Transport Company of Madrid. She was a member of the Equality Committee, promoting the new Equality Plan of the company. In addition, she led projects such as the implementation of a selection and promotion process without gender bias, the use of inclusive language, policies for work-life balance, and the prevention of gender-based harassment. In 2020 she was appointed Head of Operations at EMT Fuenlabrada.

Since December 2020, Marta has served as the CEO of EMT València, which provides public transport services to the city of València and some towns of the metropolitan area. She has become the first female CEO of the municipal company, which is leading the sustainable mobility in València and employs

1,700 people. As CEO, she works to strengthen the role of EMT València as a sustainable, accessible, and more energy-efficient public transport service to combat climate change and promote a safe and friendly city. She is also committed to promoting gender-sensitive policies and actions in the field of transport and mobility planning to address some of the remaining gender gaps and to move towards an inclusive transport system.

 @Marta\_Serrano



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Women in Green  
Hydrogen

Women in Green Hydrogen is a network that aims to increase the visibility of women in the green hydrogen sector. Our goal is to connect professionals from all around the world and to shape a more diverse and inclusive discourse in the green hydrogen world.

We created an international expert database featuring more than 300 green hydrogen experts and executives, including CEOs, co-founders, vice presidents, political decision makers and professors. We organize regular networking events, peer learning formats and use social networks to foster knowledge exchange and to create professional opportunities.

[www.wigh.network](http://www.wigh.network)

## Monica Saraiva Panik

*Director of Institutional Relations,  
Brazilian Hydrogen Association*

Monica Saraiva Panik is a Brazilian citizen who has spent many years living in Germany. She graduated in Social Communications at Fundação Armando Álvares Penteado, and earned a Master's Degree in Marketing Administration at Fundação Getúlio Vargas. For 18 years, she worked for the automotive industry in Brazil and 16 years as project manager of the UNDP/GEF, Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses for Urban Transport in Brazil. She is the winner of the DaimlerChrysler Umweltpreis 2001 with the "Clean Air Initiatives in Developing Countries". Monica has worked on several projects and programs, and among others contributed to: "World Bank Clean Air Initiative in Latin American Cities", "UNDP Introduction of Fuel Cell Technology in Emerging Megacities" and "EU Controlling Urban Mobility Europe/Latin America" programs.



© Andrea Park, Park Studio

In 2000, she contributed articles to the UN Sustainable Development "The Air is Global" and to the book "Ônibus Brasileiro a Hidrogênio" in 2009. In 2018, she co-organized the 22nd World Hydrogen Energy Conference (WHEC) in Rio de Janeiro. In 2020, she contributed to the AHK/GIZ Hydrogen Sector mapping Brazil study and is the Director of Institutional Relations of the Brazilian Hydrogen Association and Curator of the Energy Transformation Hydrogen Core at the BW Expo Summit Digital.



## Natalie Draisin

*Director, North American Office and United Nations Representative for the FIA Foundation*

Natalie Draisin manages FIA Foundation's grants in North America to achieve safe and sustainable mobility worldwide. Dedicated to ensuring safe and sustainable mobility as a policy priority, Natalie leads the FIA Foundation's activities across the Americas and advances evidence-based solutions focused on equity around the world. She ensured inclusion of road safety in UN Sustainable Development Goals, and lobbied US Congress to encourage the World Bank to implement minimum safety standards on roads.

Striving to place safe and healthy journeys for youth at the center of the political agenda, she founded Vision Zero for Youth with the National Center for Safe Routes to School and scaled it globally. Utilizing the pandemic as an opportunity to make streets safer for all, she authored UNICEF guidance

about preventing COVID-19 and road traffic injuries on the journey to school. She enabled the creation of the Johns Hopkins University New Mobility Initiative. Her publications include a UNICEF and Save the Children report about solutions to road traffic injuries among children in Latin America, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Traffic Conflict Technique Toolkit.

Natalie has a first-hand view of cyclist safety, having cycled across the US to fundraise for cancer prevention. She has an MPH, MBA and BA from the Johns Hopkins University, where the Bloomberg School of Public Health recognized her as an Outstanding Recent Graduate.



## Patricia Martínez Barba

*Chief of Staff for Territorial Strategic Management at Jalisco Government, Mexico*

Patricia Martínez Barba is Chief of Staff for Territorial Strategic Management at Jalisco Government, which includes the Ministry of Transport, Environment, Water and Infrastructure.

One of her biggest achievements is the implementation of a Social Transport Rate for Women. In the past she used to be Congresswoman. The former congresswoman is now a bicycle activist, founder of Women in Motion and a member of the Global Advisory Board.

Patricia is a graduate in Information Science and Technology from the University of the Atemajac Valley. In her professional career, she has been Coordinator of Integral City Management in the Guadalajara City Council and founding member of the GDL en BICI A.C. association, a citizen's collective that seeks to ensure that cities guarantee the right to the city to their inhabitants through safe, inclusive and efficient urban mobility.



## Patricia Nzolantima

*Founder and Chairwoman of Bizzoly Holdings and Founder of Ubizcabs*

Patricia Nzolantima is a pure Africa product with over 17 years of experience in entrepreneurship and women's empowerment. As a serial entrepreneur, Patricia is a leader in market disruption initiatives on the African continent. She founded the first women's economic empowerment hub in Kinshasa, an accelerator program for women entrepreneurs to scale up their business, and the Bizzoly Transportation and logistics that operates under Ubizcabs, the first female-driven taxi company in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Furthermore, she founded "Ubizdelivery", the first women-only logistics and delivery service.

In March 2020, Patricia launched the first female drivers academy to empower women in transport and logistics. In 2018, in partnership with UBA Group, she launched the first women visa prepaid card in the DRC, with the "Working Ladies brand" to finance women entrepreneurs' projects through her women economic empowerment hub. Patricia has attended numerous summits, programmes, and she has received various awards for her work and commitment. Patricia holds a master's degree in law from the protestant University of Congo (DRC) and a master's degree in Business English and Marketing Management from the Cape Studies Institute in Cape Town, South Africa. Furthermore, she completed an MBA at the Harvard University's Business School.



## Rana Kortam

*Head of Global Regulatory Policy and former Head of Women's Safety Policy for Uber*

Rana Kortam is the Head of Global Regulatory Policy for Uber. She leads the company's efforts to modernize transport regulations and shape the future of legislative frameworks for the gig economy by working with policy teams around the world, as well as various government bodies, think tanks and NGO's. She previously led global women's safety policy, most notably working on Uber's safety report released in 2019.

A born and raised Egyptian, she previously led public policy for Uber in Egypt, working with the government to enact one of the most forward-looking ridesharing regulations in the region. A techie at heart, Rana graduated Summa Cum Laude from the American University in Cairo with a Bachelor's degree in Electronics Engineering. Straddling the worlds of tech and policy, and harboring a serious passion for policy reform,

Rana leads the charge to push the boundaries on several policy issues including gender and transport, regulatory liberalization, transport equity, modern tax schemes and economic enablement.

As the world takes ambitious steps to tackle climate change and support a green recovery that embraces new forms of mobility, every player in transport must take notice and do more. As a company that powers movement, Rana's work is essential to Uber's global goal to ensure everyone can move freely and safely, whether physically, economically or socially. To do that, everyone must come together to fight the racism that persists across societies around the globe and be a champion for equity. Rana believes in a future where mobility is truly a catalyst and never a hindrance for all communities and individuals, and what they aspire to achieve.



## Rebecca Karbaumer

*Sustainable Mobility Project  
Coordinator for the City of Bremen*

Rebecca Karbaumer is an urbanite who's passionate about creating sustainable, liveable and socially equitable cities. As a sustainable mobility project coordinator for the City of Bremen's Ministry for Climate Protection, the Environment, Mobility, Urban and Housing Development (DE), she is responsible for implementing Bremen's Car-Sharing strategies and coordinating various European transport projects on shared mobility and mobility management.

She studied Environmental Science and Environmental Psychology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (2006) in the United States and earned her Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Development at the University of Bremen in 2012. She is a strong proponent of the approach that, in order to build a sustainable future, mobility planning strategies must focus on moving people and goods rather than vehicles.

Low-tech solutions such as walking, cycling and collective transport best help meet citizens' daily mobility needs while using resources – including space – effectively, efficiently and fairly.

Rebecca is always keen to share her expertise with other cities who are working on establishing shared mobility governance strategies. She is a co-author of *Shared Mobility Rocks: A Planner's Guide to the Shared Mobility Galaxy* (coming soon in 2021!).

## Seçil Öznur Yakan

*Co-Founder of Women on Bicycle Initiative Turkey*

Seçil Öznur Yakan co-founded the Women on Bicycle Initiative in Turkey. She is convinced of the positive effects of cycling for people's lives and cities' environments.

Secil has seen firsthand how unsafe road conditions and car-oriented thinking can create dangerous situations for cyclists. As someone who commutes and travels around Istanbul by bike, she refused to accept the poor cycling conditions and lack of care by other road users. Her aim is to make cyclists more visible and make people aware of the rights of cyclists in traffic. Her guiding principle is: If children, seniors and the disabled can walk/cycle safely in a city, then we can truly call it a city. She thinks cities should be designed for and with pedestrians and cyclists. People will be encouraged to cycle more only if these conditions are met.

Secil also founded the first bicycle shop in Turkey specializing in touring bicycles and equipment.

 @velespito





### Women in Transport

Women in Transport is a not-for-profit professional membership network that empowers women working in transport to maximise their potential. The industry wide network is open and inclusive, representing more than 160 different organisations and over 300 different roles across transport (8% men). It supports the professional development of women working in transport through networking, mentoring and raising awareness of the opportunities in the sector. Women in Transport also act as secretariat for the All Party Parliamentary Group for women in transport which aims to increase the representation of women in the transport workforce across the UK.

## Sonya Byers

*CEO of Women in Transport*



Sonya Byers is Chief Executive of Women in Transport. She has been a member of Women in Transport since 2008, and is currently a board member. Initially she acted as Events Chair then Vice President as a volunteer before being appointed to her current role in January 2019. As chief executive, she is responsible for the strategic direction of Women in Transport, overseeing operations and partnerships, finance and marketing and co-chairing the Women in Transport: Bus group. Moreover, representation is one of her key tasks. She co-designed and manages the Advance mentoring programme for Women in Transport.

Sonya has worked in the transport program for 20 years. She started her career as a transport survey enumerator before becoming a transport planner. She has since worked in management roles in a diversity and inclusion consultancy firm, a global

energy and facilities group, a multi-brand recruitment agency, a transport survey startup, a Top 20 accountancy firm and a global engineering group.

Besides this, Sonya is also the founder and director at Shadowcat Consulting providing marketing, management and business development consultancy.

 @veerasamy\_sonya

## Vidhya Mohankumar

*Founder & Principal at Urban Design  
Collective*

Vidhya Mohankumar is an architect and urban designer with over 15 years of work experience in India, Ireland and the United States. Her work is focused on creating cities that are people-oriented and centered around transit as part of a sustainable development agenda that she is passionate about. Her approach is driven by research that is grounded and intersectional as a way to understand the everyday urbanism of cities.

With clientele ranging from state governments, urban local bodies, county/town councils, private sector entities and NGOs, her urban design projects exhibit a wide variety with master plans for cities, towns, station areas, harbor areas and their environs as well as redevelopment plans for town centers, city public spaces and brownfield sites. She has also been involved in several strategic planning projects, regional plans, local area plans, campus master

plans and urban design studies for existing developments in various cities around the world.

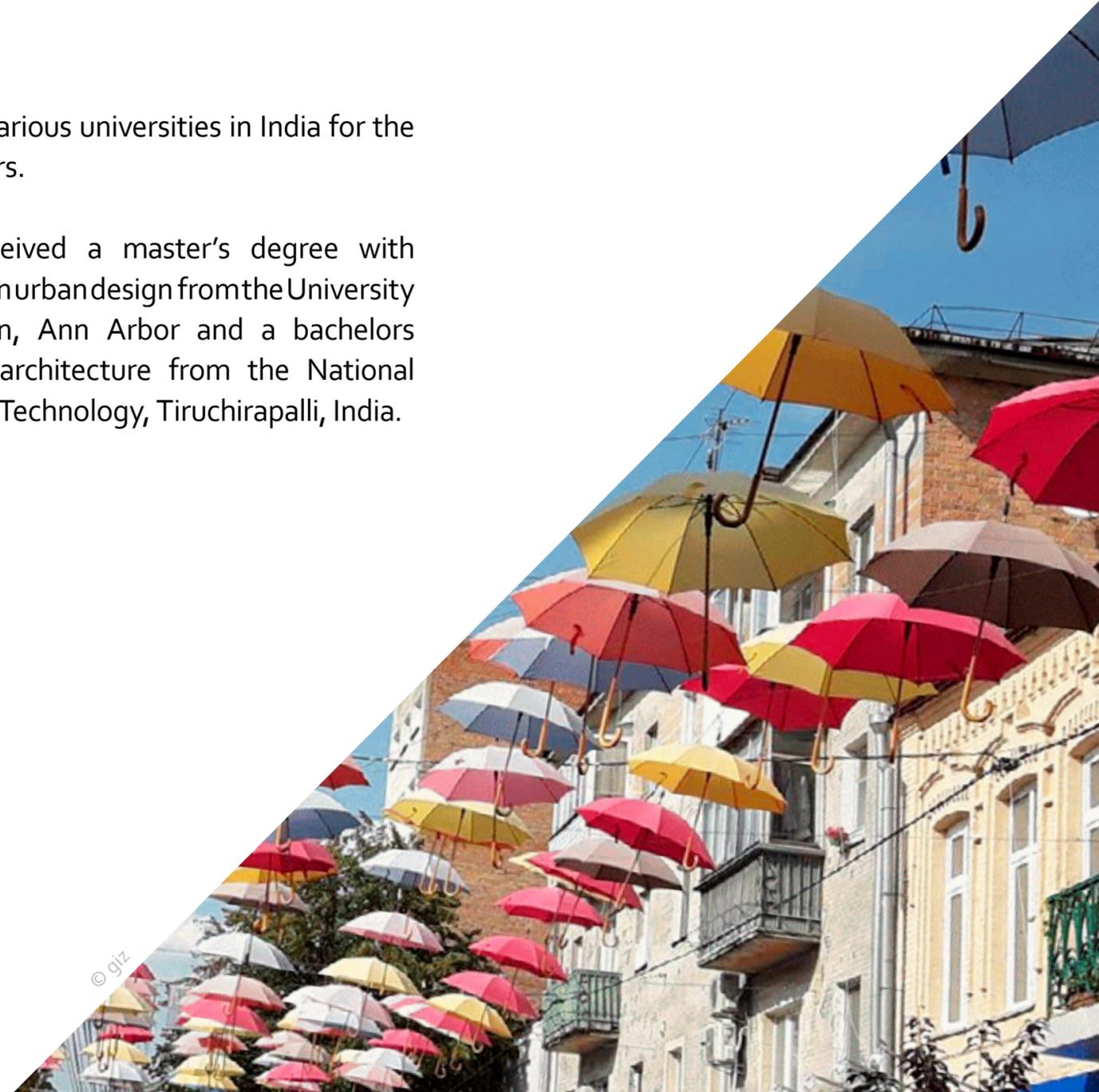
In 2011, Vidhya founded Urban Design Collective (UDC), a collaborative platform for architects, urban designers and planners to create livable cities through participatory planning. Various methods employed in this agenda include urban mapping and research, education and capacity building, participatory workshops, public and socially engaged art, publications and public events programming to name a few.

In 2019, she was appointed as a technical expert on 'Public Open Spaces' by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) to mentor Smart City Projects in Hubli-Dharwad and Agartala under the CITIIS Challenge.

In addition, Vidhya has been advocating sustainable development practices as a guest

faculty at various universities in India for the past 12 years.

Vidhya received a master's degree with distinction in urban design from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and a bachelors degree in architecture from the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli, India.





## Xianyuan Zhu

*Deputy Country Director, ITDP-China*

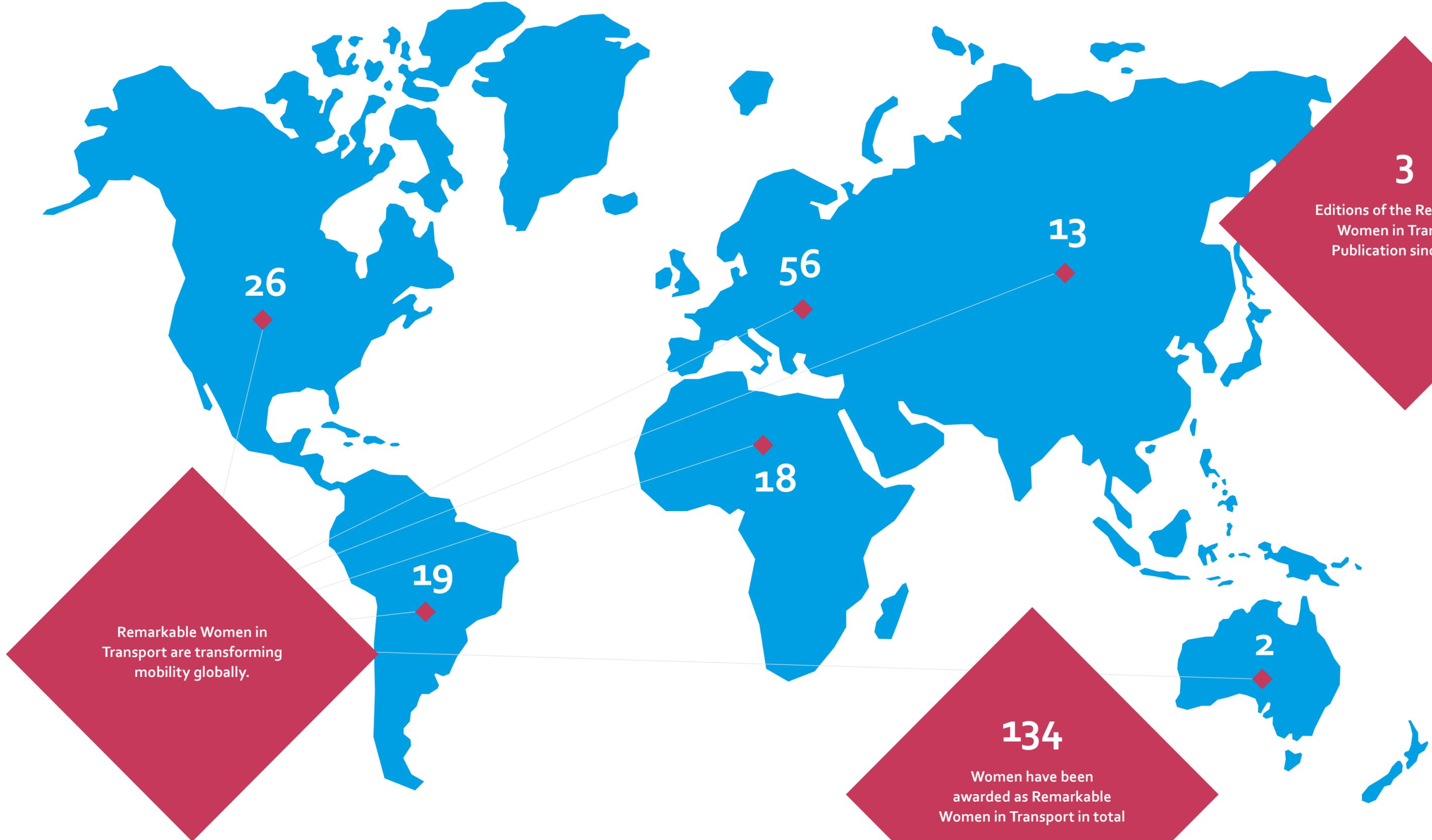
Xianyuan Zhu is a deputy director of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) China, a global non-profit organization that works worldwide to design and implement high quality transport systems and policy solutions that make cities more prosperous, sustainable and equitable. She regularly works as an independent expert and consultant for the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and UN-Habitat.

Since 2009, she has been managing sustainable and equitable transport projects in China, Philippines, Malaysia, Laos, Indonesia, Pakistan, Mongolia and Kenya, mainly promoting public transit, walking and cycling, traffic reduction and a child-friendly city. Xianyuan and ITDP team organized a regular site visit program for more than 500 delegations in China and around the world to promote the sustainable urban transport.

Prior to join in ITDP, Xianyuan worked at the Shandong University, where she and her team promoted bus rapid transit systems. Xianyuan is the lead consultant for the industry standard of Bus Rapid Transit System Planning & Design Guide and Evaluation Metrics for BRT System Operation which were released by the China Ministry of Transport. In 2019, Xianyuan was selected to attend the International Visitor Leadership Program to learn and share the sustainable urban planning and healthy communities in US.

Xianyuan has a master's degree in transportation engineering and a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Shandong, China.

Remarkable Women  
in Transport 2021



**3**  
Editions of the Remarkable  
Women in Transport  
Publication since 2019

Remarkable Women in  
Transport are transforming  
mobility globally.

**134**  
Women have been  
awarded as Remarkable  
Women in Transport in total



Asian Development Bank (ADB) is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while supporting its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. It assists its members and partners by providing loans, technical assistance, grants and equity investments to promote social and economic development. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members - 49 from the region. In 2017, ADB operations totaled \$32.2 billion, including \$11.9 billion in cofinancing.

[www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)



The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is committed to freedom and security for all and a life without poverty, fear or environmental destruction. The guiding principles of Germany's development cooperation is to protect human rights and foster the developing countries' sense of

## Introduction of TUMI Partners

ownership and ability to help themselves. When Germany provides a developing country with a low-interest loan, when German experts advise the government of a partner country on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) or when private German organizations carry out projects in developing countries, these are all approaches involving direct development cooperation between Germany and its partners. Besides engaging in such bilateral development cooperation activities, Germany is also involved in activities for the benefit of the developing countries at the international level – for example, through the EU's development policy and by supporting international organizations such as the United Nations.

[www.bmz.de/en](http://www.bmz.de/en)



C40 is a network of the world's megacities committed to addressing climate change. C40 supports cities to collaborate effectively,

share knowledge and drive meaningful, measurable and sustainable action on climate change. The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group connects 94 of the world's greatest cities, representing over 700 million people and one quarter of the global economy. Created and led by cities, C40 is focused on tackling climate change and driving urban action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks, while increasing the health, wellbeing and economic opportunities of urban citizens.

[www.c40.org](http://www.c40.org)



Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) is a development bank created in 1970, owned by 19 countries - 17 of Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal - as well as 13 private banks in the region. It promotes a sustainable development model through credit operations, non-reimbursable resources, and support in the technical and financial structuring of projects in the public and private sectors of Latin America. With headquarters in Caracas, Venezuela, CAF has

offices in Buenos Aires, La Paz, Brasília, Bogotá, Quito, Madrid, Mexico D.F, Panama City, Asunción, Lima, Montevideo and Port of Spain.

[www.caf.com/en](http://www.caf.com/en)



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit provides services worldwide in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. GIZ has over 50 years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment, energy and the environment, and peace and security. The diverse expertise of the federal enterprise is in demand around the globe, with the German Government, European Union institutions, the United Nations and governments of other countries all benefiting from these services. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is the main commissioning party, but GIZ also works with the private sector, fostering successful interaction between development policy and foreign trade.

[www.giz.de/en](http://www.giz.de/en)



Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, they influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. Their members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

[www.iclei.org](http://www.iclei.org)



The Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) works around the world to design and implement high quality transport systems and policy solutions that make cities more livable, equitable and sustainable. ITDP is a global nonprofit at the forefront of innovation, providing technical expertise to accelerate the growth of sustainable transport and urban

## Introduction of TUMI Partners

development around the world. Through their transport projects, policy advocacy and research publications, they work to reduce carbon emissions, enhance social inclusion, and improve the quality of life for people in cities.

[www.itdp.org](http://www.itdp.org)



As a promotional bank, KfW Group supports change and encourages forward-looking ideas – in Germany, Europe and throughout the world. On behalf of the Federal Government, KfW Development Bank administers Germany's official Financial Cooperation in more than 100 developing and transition countries in Africa, Asia, South and Central America, the Middle East and the Caucasus. Its priority areas of activity include poverty reduction and economic development, good governance, education and health care and protection of the climate and the environment. In this way the bank helps the Federal Government achieve its developmental goals.

[www.kfw.de](http://www.kfw.de)



The SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport enables collaborative knowledge and action for sustainable, low carbon transport and brings the voice of the movement into international climate change and sustainability processes. It engages a vibrant international, multi-stakeholder ecosystem of over 50 entities as well as a large community of world-class experts and change-makers. By going there where others do not or cannot go individually, our inclusive, multi-stakeholder Partnership is leveraged to set ambitious global agendas and catalyse new thinking and solutions for the urgent transformation of transport and mobility systems.

[www.slocat.net](http://www.slocat.net)



UN-Habitat is the United Nations program working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements, development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. UN-Habitat envisions well-planned, well-governed, and efficient cities

and other human settlements, with adequate housing, infrastructure, and universal access to employment and basic services such as water, energy and sanitation. To achieve these goals, derived from the Habitat Agenda of 1996, UN-Habitat has set itself a medium-term strategy approach for each successive six-year period.

[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)



WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities helps create accessible, equitable, healthy and resilient urban areas for people, businesses and the environment to thrive. Together with partners, it enables more connected, compact and coordinated cities. The Center expands the transport and urban development expertise of the EMBARQ network to catalyze innovative solutions in other sectors, including water, buildings, land use and energy. It combines the research excellence of WRI with 15 years of on-the-ground impact through a network of more than 250 experts working from Brazil, China, Ethiopia, India, Mexico and Turkey to make cities around the world better places to live.

[www.wrirosscities.org](http://www.wrirosscities.org)

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E [info@giz.de](mailto:info@giz.de)  
I [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36  
53113 Bonn  
T +49 228 44 60-1047

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 - 5  
65760 Eschborn  
T +49 6196 79-2650

### Editors

Friederike Dietsch,  
Verena Flues,  
Lilian Lehmann

### Team

Lena Fischer,  
Leonie Guskowski,  
Daniel Moser,  
Armin Wagner,  
Insa Illgen

### Design

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