Paratransit Day: A TT23 Side Event

Data, Digitalization and Public Transport: Insights from Africa

Thursday, March 16, 2023 | 8:45am–10:45am EST
World Bank HQ, Room MC7-100

SESSION OVERVIEW

This session aims to explore how mapping and collecting transit data can serve as a vital first step towards broader public transport improvement and reform. Specifically, the objectives of this session are to:

- Highlight the insights and learnings gained from DT4A initiative.
- Share knowledge and exchange perspectives on what is possible for successful implementation of digital transport projects.
- Explore possible scalable models that can be easily adapted by cities across Africa.
- Discuss possible strategies to support popular transport mapping projects and share opportunities for involvement and interest in funding.

VIDEO RECORDING

AGENDA WITH LINKS TO PRESENTATIONS

Moderator: **Dr. Jacqueline Klopp,** Director of the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Earth Institute, Columbia University

9:00-9:05am	Welcome Remarks	**Stéphane Carcas** | Deputy Head of the Transport and Mobility Division, Agence Française de Développement (AFD) **Benjamin Welle** | Director of Integrated Transport and Innovation, World Resources Institute
9:05-9:25am	DT4A Highlights of Current Activities and Plans for 2023	**Esthelyne Dusabe** | Urban Mobility Project Specialist, World Resources Institute
9:25-9:35am	Capturing Current Commuters in Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt: • Putting Alexandria's Public Transit on the Map • Using New Urban Mobility Data in Accessibility Analysis	**Abdelrahman Melegy** | GIS Project Manager, Transport for Cairo **Adham Kalila** | Co-founder, Transport for Cairo

9:35-9:45am	A DT4A Innovation Challenge Winner: KhartouMap	**Dr. Awad Abdelhalim** | Co-Director, KhartouMap
9:45-9:55am	Q&As	All
9:55-10:05am	DT4A Reflections: What Worked and didn't Work	**Iman Abubaker** | Urban Mobility Project Manager, World Resources Institute Africa
10:05-10:45am	Group Discussion: Strategy, Partnership and Sustaining Momentum	**Dr. Jacqueline Klopp** | Director of the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Earth Institute, Columbia University
10:45-11:00am	Coffee Break	All

SPEAKER BIOS

Stéphane Carcas | Deputy Head, Transport and Mobility Division, French Development Agency (AFD) Headquarters, Paris

In 2022, AFD Board approved EUR 1.8bn of financings in transport sector. Stephane CARCAS graduated from Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (ENPC), Paris. He worked for French ministry of Transport from 1996-2004 and in AFD since 2005. In AFD he has been Transport Task Team Leader for urban mobility, road, rail and port projects, in Africa, Asia and Latin America from 2005-2020 and Deputy Head since then. He provides training courses within AFD and at ENPC, inter alia.

Benjamin Welle | Director Integrated Transport and Innovation, WRI Global

Ben's work includes leading global research and projects, particularly in the areas of public transport, minibus services, mobility planning, access to opportunities, new mobility and innovation, traffic safety, walking & cycling, and public space. Prior to this role, Ben was Senior Associate for Urban Mobility at WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, working on many of the same issues. Prior to working at WRI, he was assistant director of the Center for City Park Excellence at the Trust for Public Land in Washington, D.C., researching and consulting on city parks, public space, green infrastructure, transport planning, and related economic impact.

Dr. Jacqueline Klopp | Director of the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Earth Institute, Columbia University

Dr. Jacqueline Klopp directs the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Earth institute which is a Volvo Research and Educational Foundations center of excellence on Future Urban Transport. She is an action-oriented research scholar who focusses on pathways to safe, low emission, equitable transport and land-use, access and city governance. Jacqueline has been spearheading efforts to leverage new technologies and mapping to strengthen advocacy for improved public transportation and reduced air pollution and carbon emissions with a focus on popular transport.

Dr. Klopp is a founding member of the award-winning DigitalMatatus consortium which produced the first open transit data and public transit map for Nairobi's minibus (matatu) transit system. She also helped found "Digital Cairo" a consortium led by Transport4Cairo to create open transport data for Cairo. With the French Development Agency, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Resource Institute among other partners, she helped found and continues to support new collaborative platforms on open transit data for Africa: DigitalTransport4Africa and Latin America DATUM to foster better research, planning and accountability.

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 (transport is a major source) and health impact data to address air pollution and climate change. She was honored to be selected by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development as one of the "Remarkable Women in Transport" in 2021.

Iman Abubaker | Urban Mobility Project Manager, WRI Africa

Iman Abubaker is the Urban Mobility Project Manager for WRI Africa, specifically working on improving livability of cities through integrated and equitable planning and safer street design. She works in coordination with city governments, local and international partners to research and implement sustainable and low carbon transport solutions particularly for African cities.

Prior to joining WRI, Iman worked as a consultant for SYSTRA, an international engineering and consulting company. She held internships at the Institute for Sustainable Development in Addis Ababa and Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority.

Esthelyne Dusabe | Urban Mobility Project Specialist, WRI Africa

Esthelyne is the Urban Mobility Project Specialist for WRI Africa. She works primarily on project coordinations, research and administrative support for the WRI African Cities Program, including support in the scaling of transit mapping in African cities and integrated transport planning. Prior to joining WRI, Esthelyne worked as a Junior Project Manager at Vias Institute, a major Belgian knowledge centre that aims to improve road safety, along with mobility and safety in general.

She also had an internship at Rwanda Transport Development Agency (RTDA) in Kigali, Rwanda. Esthelyne holds an MSc in Transpotation Sciences, specialized in traffic safety from the University of Hasselt, Belgium. Her thesis focused on the Factors Influencing Motorcycle Taxi Crashes in the City of Kigali, Rwanda.

Abdelrahman Melegy | GIS Project Manager, Transport for Cairo

Abdelrahman Melegy is a GIS project manager at Transport for Cairo (TfC). He combines software development, spatial data management and automation knowledge to empower project management in an information systems context. He also Designs processes for data collection and integration in projects where data is usually scarce. He is an avid free and open-source software and open data promoter.

Adham Kalila | Co-founder of Transport for Cairo

Adham is a co-founder of Transport for Cairo as well as an Engineer at StreetLight Data. He holds a B.Eng in Civil Engineering from McGill University and Masters of Science in Transportation Engineering and Urban Planning from MIT. He is an avid cyclist, transit enthusiast, reader, traveler and more recently an adventure-seeking athlete.

Dr. Awad Abdelhalim | Co-Director, KhartouMap

Awad Abdelhalim, Ph.D., is a post-doctoral researcher at the MIT Urban Mobility Lab. He earned a B.Sc. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Khartoum, Sudan, before joining Virginia Tech where he received his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering, alongside a graduate certification in Urban Computing.

Dr. Abdelhalim's research interests span multiple aspects of urban mobility and intelligent transportation systems, including traffic simulation and driver behavior modeling, transit planning and performance, transportation analytics, and applied machine learning. His doctoral dissertation focused on the development of computationally efficient algorithms and frameworks at the nexus of computer vision, traffic flow theory, and micro-simulation modeling that enable real-time trajectory-based traffic safety and performance assessments at urban intersections, allowing practitioners to proactively evaluate and address concerns.

He has taught multiple courses at Virginia Tech's College of Engineering, was a member of the university's self-driving car team working on machine perception systems and has industry experience working in the transportation consulting private sector and with the Washington D.C Department of Transportation (DDOT).