TERMS OF REFERENCE

AFRICA NETWORK FOR WALKING & CYCLING

one billion reasons to act

2021
More than a billion people walk or cycle for more than 55 minutes every day in Africa - to reach work, home, school and other essential services. But Sub-Saharan Africa still has the highest per capita rate of road fatalities than any region in the world.

Much of that is linked to the neglect of the needs of pedestrian and cyclist safety. Most countries in Africa still lack policies and budgets for protecting vulnerable road users. Danger lies not just on the road, but in the air too. Vehicles emissions are responsible for significant proportions of urban air pollution which put vulnerable residents at risk of long-term health conditions with the carbon emissions contributing to the climate crisis.

The Africa Network for Walking and Cycling was launched in October 2020 and is a space for organisations and experts to convene and collaborate under the auspices of a common goal: **making the life of people who walk and cycle in Africa countries safer, healthier and more comfortable - through our combined action, expertise and influence.**
Why are we here?

Contribute to making the life of people that walk and cycle in Africa, safer, healthier and more comfortable through our combined actions, expertise and influence.

Our Goal

Serve as a platform to champion best practice and influence research, policy and practice as well as strengthen partnerships and share experiences and knowledge.

Our Approach

1. Strengthen cooperation between network members to influence walking and cycling decision making and approaches in Africa
2. Share knowledge, data and resources between network members
3. Joint advocacy and communication on key issues at global, regional and national levels.
4. Build capacity and strengthen the Africa response to the needs of pedestrians and cyclists

These terms of reference are provided in order to help the network develop. They are not intended to be prescriptive and it is expected that the network and supporting 'hubs' and 'working groups' will develop according to changing context and priorities.
Network added value

During the network consultation period and the launch event there was a clear desire expressed for forming this network in order to:

- Provide a convening space for collaboration and knowledge sharing on a focused topic.
- Work together to tackle big challenges; beyond the capacity and mandate of any one individual member organisation.
- Build a strong and consistent advocacy message for investing in walking and cycling in Africa.
- Enable a co-ordinated widespread reach of support in the region.
- Build greater credibility for our 'asks' through the power of a network.
- Provide a range of advice and perspectives to the lead agency and other partners.
- Provide a mechanism for different organisations to co-ordinate and share knowledge.
- Build trust and consensus between people and organisations under our common goal.
- Better coordinate the international response and support for the region.
- To provide a link between research and practice

Members also highlighted it was critical to minimize complications, maximize relevance, and encourage participation through:

- Providing a broad framework, to operate within but allow flexibility on activities through set up of focused time bound working groups.
- Work together on projects most suited to a network approach.
- Avoid duplication and compliment existing city networks and other networks.
Network set up

**Membership**
The Network will be made up of organizations and expert individuals actively working on walking and cycling in Africa including:
- International organizations and NGO’s
- Local organizations and NGO’s - including civil society
- Academia, research institutions and researchers
- National and city governments
- Financial institutions, foundations and donors
- Private sector and practitioners

Certain organizations will be actively recruited and encouraged, but no one is excluded. This more loosely formed coalition approach will minimize the need for formal decision making structures and admission, which can prove cumbersome and pose an early barrier to cooperation.

**Working Groups**
Members from across the various organizations are free to join one or more of the Working Groups which have been formed to focus on specific work areas as follows:
1. Nexus between Research and Practice
2. Financing for Walking and Cycling (multi-laterals and development partners)
3. Government Support and Financing for Walking and Cycling
4. Data for Walking and Cycling
5. Building Capacity for Local NGOs and Civil Society
6. Public Transport
7. Rural Mobility

**Member roles & responsibilities**

**Lead agency - UNEP Share the Road Programme:** Convenes the network and assumes significant responsibility for its operation and overall leadership and guidance.

**Chair - Walk21 Foundation:** Co-ordinate network activities and chair network meetings. Significant responsibility for co-ordinating set up of working groups.

**Members:** Organizations and Individuals who have agreed to join the network and are committed to its goals and objectives. Will actively contribute in at least one working group and participate in all network meetings thrice a year.

**Network meetings**

**All network meetings:** three times a year organized by the lead agency and chair.

**Working groups:** Set up for a specific period of time with volunteer working group chairs taking lead for focused network initiatives or projects. Each group will come up with its work plan and meeting schedule

**Working group chairs meeting:** Convening of the working group chairs to update and share on working group progress.

**Decision making**
Decisions can be made by consensus. However, this process can become unmanageable. To avoid this, we define consensus as an approach that the majority supports and others can live with!

**Network Communications:**
Will be through a mixture of meetings, email and online platforms as advised by the lead agency and the chair.
Lead Agency - UNEP

Carly Gilbert-Patrick
Global Programme Lead - Share the Road
UN Environment Programme
carly.koinange@un.org

Janene Tuniz
Project Manager - Share the Road
UN Environment Programme
janene.tuniz@un.org

Network Chair - Walk21 Foundation

Bronwen Thornton
Chief Executive Officer
Walk21 Foundation
bronwen.thornton@walk21.com

Jim Walker
Founder
Walk21 Foundation
jim.walker@walk21.com

Juliet Rita
Project Coordinator
Africa Network for Walking and Cycling
juliet.ritta@walk21.com

Please contact us to join the network or for enquiries