Day 3 Cape Coast, Ghana, October 2026

PAAPAM Policy Practice

Applying the PAAPAM to Policy Development in Africa

Context

During the first two days of the conference, participants will explore the regional vision for walking and cycling, implementation challenges, governance opportunities, research findings and pathways for action. Building on these discussions, this session gives participants the opportunity to apply that knowledge to policy, the instrument that sets out a government's intent and unlocks staff, budget and infrastructure.

Participants will examine how walking and cycling policies can better serve people who walk and cycle and whether standalone policies for walking and cycling add value. In addition, they will explore how PAAPAM could impact policy development and learn from Ethiopia's experience which showcases moving from a city strategy in Addis Ababa to a national strategy and design standards.

Objectives

This session aims to:

- Build a shared understanding of how walking and cycling policy is formed, from agenda-setting to adoption, implementation and monitoring.
- Encourage peer learning from good practice in Africa through learning from Ethiopia's experience of developing and implementing city and national non-motorised transport (NMT) strategies.
- Assess a policy against the PAAPAM action areas and goals.
- Translate findings into practical policy guidance that governments can use when developing or reviewing walking and cycling policies.

Expected Outcomes

By the end of the session, participants will have co-produced draft PAAPAM policy guidance and practiced assessing real policies against the PAAPAM Framework.

Session Programme

Time	Session	Notes
09:30	**Introduction to the session**	A short input on the policy cycle, standalone versus integrated walking and cycling policies, and PAAPAM's steps. Baseline, prioritise action areas, develop a tailored plan with stakeholders, and monitor progress.
09:35	**Inspiring Action from Ethiopia**	Ethiopian counterparts present the policy journey from the Addis Ababa NMT Strategy (2019–2028) to the national NMT Strategy (2020–2029), followed by the Ethiopia Urban Street Design Manual and endorsement of the Global Street Design Guide in 2021. The presentation should include before and after pictures and showcase how the administration has delivered infrastructure (implementation focus).
09:45	**Individual Assignment**	Each participant receives one of three sample policies. Participants score how well it addresses each of the five PAAPAM goals on a simple scorecard and note one strong provision and one gap. The strong provision and the gap can relate to any of the goals.
10:00	**Group Activity** *Are these policies PAAPAM'ed?*	Each table is assigned one PAAPAM goal and analyses its policy in detail against that goal. This session is divided into three phases. **Compare scores** (5 min). Members share their individual scores for the assigned goal and discuss where and why they differ. **Analyse** (10 min). The table examines what the policy says, and leaves out, on that goal: commitments, targets, responsibilities and resources. **Develop guidance** (10 min). The table drafts two policy guidance statements for the goal, drawing on the policy, the sessions from the regional dialogue in the previous two days and the Ethiopia example.
10:30	**Report Back**	Tables share their two policy statements through a gallery walk or short report back. Participants have stickers that they place next to the policy statements they most agree with. The facilitator consolidates them into draft PAAPAM policy guidance document and shares via email to the participants for review the following week.

Preparation

Seat participants by policy with the policy extract, scorecards and the table's assigned goal already on the table. The 15-minute group slot is tight, so a table facilitator or timekeeper should keep each group on time.

Materials:

- Speaker to play ambient music during the reading sessions and to support timing the group work.
- Individual four extracts of the three sample policies, numbered 1 to 3.
- An individual scorecard listing the five PAAPAM goals with a three-level rating. Space for notes at the back of the card.
- Pens and highlighters.
- A group template. One per goal, per group with its goal printed at the top.
- Dot/star stickers for voting for the guidance statements.

Policy Scoring

The following template is provided to participants to score the policies they have reviewed independently.

Goal	**0 Not addressed**	**1 Partially addressed**	**2 Clearly addressed**
Goal 1 – Guarantee safety	☐	☐	☐
Goal 2 – Enable accessibility	☐	☐	☐
Goal 3 – Enhance comfort	☐	☐	☐
Goal 4 – Boost satisfaction	☐	☐	☐
Goal 5 – Increase commitment and investment	☐	☐	☐

PAAPAM Policy alignment

The following details are provided to the groups to support them in analysing the policies on a slide..

PAAPAM Action Area	**PAAPAM Goal**	**What to look for in the policy**
1. Create safe, accessible and comfortable places to walk and cycle	**Goal 1: Guarantee safety**	Does the policy address road safety for people walking and cycling? Does it promote safe infrastructure, speed management, safer crossings, intersection design and protection of vulnerable road users?
	Goal 2: Enable accessibility	Does the policy ensure that walking and cycling are accessible to people of different ages and abilities? Does it address connectivity, universal accessibility and access to key destinations and public transport?
	Goal 3: Enhance comfort	Does the policy address the quality and attractiveness of walking and cycling environments, including shade, lighting, seating, crossings, surface quality and protection from weather where relevant? Does it include any reference to maintenance?

2. Advocate for people who walk and cycle in Africa	**Goal 4: Boost satisfaction**	Does the policy recognise the needs and experiences of people who walk and cycle? Does it provide mechanisms for participation, feedback and engagement? Does it aim to improve people's experience and satisfaction with walking and cycling? Consider whether there is specific engagement of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities and civil society throughout.
3. Embed walking and cycling into policy and investment processes	**Goal 5: Increase commitment and investment**	Does the policy establish clear institutional responsibilities, targets, financing/investment mechanisms, implementation arrangements and monitoring for walking and cycling? Are walking and cycling integrated into transport, land-use and investment decisions? Consider whether there are explicit links to transport, urban planning, road safety, health and climate commitments, including Nationally Determined Contributions.

PAAPAM Policy Guidance

The following section is intended to support the formulation of the policy guidance for the goal.

Element	**Prompt**	**Examples**
Who	Which institution leads?	Ministry of Transport, city council, road agency, road safety authority
Do what	What is the commitment? Start with a strong verb.	Adopt, require, allocate, establish, retrofit, publish
For whom or where	Who benefits, or which places are covered?	School zones, main corridors, transport hubs, persons with disabilities
Target or date	How will you know it is done?	A percentage, a number of kilometres, a year
Funding or staff	What resources make it happen?	Road budget line, climate finance, a dedicated officer
Indicator	How will progress be tracked?	The PAAPAM indicator, a national indicator or one that the group thinks will be more effective.