Informal transport is a phenomenon that can hardly be ignored in the Global South. It is highly beneficial to the poorest segments of the population by acting as an important source of employment to low-skill workers and by providing them with affordable and accessible transport services, thus enabling their participation in economic, social and cultural life.

In addition to the importance of the modal shares of paratransit in many cities of the South, the crucial role of this sector in societies and economies is reflected in the number of jobs it generates, directly or indirectly.

However, people working in the sector have poor employment conditions, the sector is a major source of GHG emissions and air pollution, it suffers from a very low quality of services, and it represents a major safety hazard to all road users.

While the sector must be reformed to tackle all these issues, the question is to know how to ensure a just transition that does not hinder the most vulnerable segments of the population.

The objective of the session is to raise awareness about this ubiquitous, highly complex but extremely important problematic and shed light into its major contribution to sustainable development from an economic, social and environmental perspective.

This event will be jointly organized by the Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD), Codatu, and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). These three organizations are implementing partners of the MobiliseYourCity Partnership, funded by the European Commission, the French Ministry of Ecological Transition (MTE), the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). Together, they have experience working on sustainable urban mobility in more than 38 cities and 10 countries from the Global South, and have identified informal transport as a priority area of intervention for the MobiliseYourCity Partnership.