

UITP SUMMIT 2026 | DUBAI, 21-23 APRIL 2026

Call for Speakers: Congress Sessions

8th OCTOBER – 10th NOVEMBER 2025 (12:00 PM CET)

Guidelines

1. About the Call for Speakers

The Call for Speakers is UITP's public process inviting public transport professionals worldwide to apply as a speaker for the Congress and the Expo sessions of the UITP Summit 2026.

While the Call for the Congress Sessions is open to all, participation in the Expo Sessions is strictly reserved for representatives of companies exhibiting at the UITP Summit 2026. If you are a company exhibiting at the Summit, in the online application form you can specify if your submission is to be considered for the Congress Sessions, for the Expo Sessions or for both.

Please note that only a limited number of applications will be accepted, and the selection process is competitive due to the typically high volume of submissions.

This document provides guidelines for the Call for Congress Sessions.

More information on: uitpsummit.org



2. Summit Tracks

All applications must align with (at least) one of the official Summit Tracks, which define the programme's key themes and priorities. Applicants are encouraged to select one or two tracks that best reflect the focus of their proposal.

The 6 Tracks of the UITP Summit 2026:

1. Innovation in Bus System

Network design and planning; Decarbonization and Net Zero; New Energy Industry; Battery and Circular Economy, Infrastructure Modernization; Procurement and Business Models.

2. The Future of Rail

Connecting Communities; Delivering Ambitious Rail Projects; Adaptive Operations; Innovations in Rail Vehicles and Operations; Optimising Lifecycle Costs; Planning Tenders.

3. Shared Mobility

On-demand Mobility; Shared Bikes, Scooters and Cars; Partnerships, Governance and Operations; Multimodal Integration and Mobility Hubs; First & Last mile; Active Mobility.

4. The Human Factor

Accessibility, Customer Centricity; Passenger Experience; Employment; Changes in Lifestyle and Mobility Behaviors; Security and Safety

5. Funding and Financing

Affordability; New Financing Models; Access to Green Capitals Markets; Funding Adaptation; PPP and Alliances; Asset Revenue Generation.

6. Smart Technologies and Data

Automation, Cybersecurity and Digital Resilience, Artificial Intelligence, Ticketing and Payment, Real Time Monitoring and Control Systems; Data Governance.



3. Rules for Submissions

Applications must comply with the following rules:

1. Applicants are requested to submit their applications online via the dedicated platform. Submissions through other channels will not be considered.
2. All submissions must be made in English. The official language of the Summit is English.
3. Only one submission per person is allowed.
4. A selected speaker may not appoint a substitute if unavailable. When needed, replacement decisions will be made by UITP Secretariat.
5. If an application is accepted, the applicant will be asked to provide a short biography and a portrait photograph (ID card format) via the official platform. All information is to be provided **in English only**.
6. If applications have more than one author, only one person can benefit from the speaker discount offered for participation.
7. UITP does **not cover travel and accommodation costs**. However, speakers benefit from a special discount:
 - Free registration for the day of their presentation
 - Discounted "Exchange Pass" rate if attending additional days
8. Selected speakers are expected to promote the Summit using communication tools provided by UITP.

9. UITP reserves the right to cancel participation of a selected speaker if the speaker does not comply with the guidelines provided.

4. Timeline

- **Opening of the Call:** 8 October 2025
- **Closing of the Call:** 10 November 2025
- **Notification of Results:** by end of January 2026.

5. Evaluation

In the evaluation of the applications, particular attention will be paid to the following aspects:

1. **Maturity/Impact:** Priority will be given to applications that present projects, solutions or policies with measurable outcomes of value for public transport professionals and decision-makers.
2. **Non-commercial focus:** Applications promoting commercial products can only be considered for Expo Sessions.
3. **Diversity:** UITP is committed to promote diversity in the Summit programme, by ensuring geographical and gender balance as well as stakeholders variety.
4. **Encouraging young professionals:** Applications from professionals aged 35 or under are particularly welcome.

6. Contact

Speakers' management: speakers_summit@uitp.org

