Plugged In, Not Left Out: Building a Just E-Mobility Future for Bangkok

December 9, 2026, 14:00 – 15:30 (UTC +7)

Online (Zoom)

Registration Link:
https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SUGElM_iTN2noJzYLxG9Ng

Organizers

ESCAP Transport Division (TD), in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)

Background

In Bangkok, where road transport remains the largest source of air pollution, the transition to electric mobility is an important step towards reducing emissions and improving the efficiency of the transport system. Yet this shift will also reshape the city's workforce and communities, creating new types of work that require new skills while changing how people move, access services and experience the city. A just transition ensures these changes are fair by protecting workers, closing skills gaps and enabling all residents to share in the benefits.

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), together with the ILO and the BMA, with support from UK PACT (Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions), is hosting the hybrid webinar "Plugged In, Not Left Out: Building a Just E-Mobility Future for Bangkok". This webinar is hosted under the project titled *Strengthening Transport Policies and Workforce Development for a Just Transition to Electric Mobility in Bangkok*, which aims to realize a transition to electric mobility that delivers benefits for workers and communities.

The webinar will showcase ongoing work on electric mobility in Bangkok. It will present the key findings of the ILO's analysis of the impact of the electric mobility transition on Bangkok's workforce, followed by an overview of forthcoming knowledge products. A panel discussion will then explore what a just transition entails in this context and highlight the policy recommendations emerging from the project.

The session will also mark the official launch of the "EV Maintenance Technician Course," a vocational training programme developed by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, accompanied by the first screening of a video featuring course participants' reflections. The webinar will also include opportunities for audience questions.

Objective and Scope

Objectives

1. Share the key findings of the ILO's analysis of how the transition to electric mobility will affect Bangkok's workforce, including emerging job opportunities, skills gaps, and risks to existing livelihoods.
2. Present and discuss policy recommendations emerging from the project to support a transition that is fair and inclusive for workers and communities.
3. Launch the BMA's "EV Maintenance Technician Course" and showcase it as a practical example of workforce development for the electric mobility sector.
4. Introduce forthcoming knowledge products and encourage continued dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders.

Scope

The webinar will draw on evidence and outputs generated under the project *Strengthening Transport Policies and Workforce Development for a Just Transition to Electric Mobility in Bangkok*. While the focus is on Bangkok, the discussions are expected to offer lessons relevant to other cities in Thailand and the wider Asia-Pacific region pursuing similar transitions.

The webinar will be held in a hybrid format and is intended for policymakers, city officials, workers' and employers' organizations, training institutions, industry representatives, development partners, academia and civil society.

Event Format

The webinar will be open for online participation. In-person participation is by invitation only.

Event Focal Point

Boonyanin Pakvisal, Assistant Programme Management Officer, Transport Division, ESCAP, boonyanin.pakvisal@un.org

Jack Crawford, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, ESCAP, jack.crawford@un.org

Tentative Programme

Time	Item
Coffee Break **13:30 – 14:00 (in front of Meeting Room N)**	
14:00 – 14:10 (10 minutes)	**Opening Remarks** BMA Representative and ESCAP Representative
14:10 – 14:25 (15 minutes)	**Presentation from ILO on Impact Analysis** The presentation will share the final findings of the impact analysis, launch the publication, and formally present it to BMA.
14:25 – 14:35 (10 minutes)	**Presentation on Upcoming Knowledge Products** The presentation will outline the upcoming knowledge products from both ILO and ESCAP on a transition to electric mobility. **Group Photo and Token of Appreciation Handover**
14:35 – 15:00 (25 minutes)	**Panel Discussion | Plugged In, Not Left Out: Building a Just E-Mobility Future for Bangkok** Bangkok's streets are going electric fast, with more than 30,000 jobs related to electric mobility projected by 2035. But a transition is only as strong as the people who power it. This panel brings together voices from the street, the fleet, and the region to tackle one big question: *"What will it take to ensure every worker in Bangkok's transport sector can move safely and fairly into the jobs of the electric mobility future, and how can this become a model for the region?"* From drivers and mechanics to informal workers, panelists will share what's working on the ground, where the gaps are, and the one change they'd make to bring everyone on board. Panelists TBC
15:00 – 15:05 (5 minutes)	**Question and Answer Session**
15:05 – 15:20	**Launch of Vocational Training Course**

(15 minutes)	Talk turns to action. We officially launch the new vocational training course, which equips technicians with the safety and hands-on skills to service tomorrow's electric vehicles. The launch opens with a short video in which participants of the EV Maintenance Technician Course share their journey, in their own words.
15:20 – 15:30 (10 minutes)	**Closing Remarks** UK Representative and ILO Representative