

Subject: INVITATION | Participate in the SAFETY 2026 National Action Group (NAG) Technical Working Group Co-development Process



SAFETY 2026
16th World Conference on Injury
Prevention and Safety Promotion
1 – 4 September 2026

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SAFETY 2026 NATIONAL ACTION GROUP (NAG) TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP CO-DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Dear Colleague,

The National Action Group (NAG) for **Safety 2026 - 16th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion**, to be held in Cape Town from **1–4 September 2026**, warmly invites you to contribute to the development of the **Safety 2026 National Action Group Consensus Plan** - one of the principal legacy initiatives of the conference.

Safety 2026 is co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO), hosted by the Foundation for Professional Development (FPD), and co-hosted by the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC).

To support the work of the National Action Group, chaired by **Dr Mercilene Machisa** and convened by **Mr Dean Peacock**, the **Inclusive Society Institute (ISI)** has been appointed to coordinate a national consultation process through a series of Technical Working Group (TWG) co-development workshops and written technical submissions.

The Safety 2026 National Action Group Consensus Plan seeks to strengthen South Africa's response to violence, injury and safety by identifying practical implementation priorities, strengthening collaboration across sectors and building national consensus around evidence-informed action. Rather than developing new policies, the process aims to strengthen implementation of existing commitments while identifying gaps, emerging priorities and opportunities for coordinated action across government, academia, civil society, communities and the private sector.

We invite researchers, policymakers, practitioners, civil society organisations, professional bodies, community organisations, people with lived experience and other stakeholders to contribute their expertise to this collaborative process.

How you can participate

There are two complementary ways to contribute. Participants are encouraged to participate in both.

1. Participate in a Technical Working Group Co-development Workshop

A series of 90-minute virtual Technical Working Group workshops will be convened around the eight thematic areas identified by the National Action Group.

These are collaborative working sessions rather than webinars. Each workshop will begin with a short framing presentation from the relevant Technical Working Group, followed by facilitated discussion focusing on:

- current implementation challenges;
- existing policies, strategies and commitments;
- examples of successful practice;
- emerging risks and opportunities;
- practical recommendations for implementation; and
- opportunities for improved collaboration across sectors.

The discussions will be synthesised into Technical Working Group discussion papers that will contribute directly to the development of the Safety 2026 National Action Group Consensus Plan.

Technical Working Group Programme

- **Theme:** Violence Prevention, Crime and Social Cohesion
Focus Areas: Gender-based violence; violence against children; youth violence; community violence; state and institutional violence; firearms; social cohesion; armed conflict; political violence.
Date: Monday, 27 July 2026
Time: 10:30 – 12:00 (South Africa time)
Zoom registration link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/GZU8uD7ASDuXc7txGSPCYA>
- **Theme:** Safe Work, Transport and Livelihoods
Focus Areas: Road safety; pedestrian safety; public transport; occupational health and safety; informal, precarious and gig-economy labour; cycling; school transport; migrant and undocumented workforces; inequality and poverty.
Date: Monday, 27 July 2026
Time: 12:30 – 14:00 (South Africa time)
Zoom registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/TLYACXIOS4aHgDMGv-wGMw>
- **Theme:** Safe Communities and Urban Design
Focus Areas: Built environment; informal settlements; lighting; public spaces; housing; Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED); municipal public safety.
Date: Tuesday, 28 July 2026
Time: 10:30 – 12:00 (South Africa time)
Zoom registration link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/l2xPMcYcRRWBFs4ilyzMQ>
- **Theme:** Mental Health, Substance Use and Wellbeing
Focus Areas: Mental health; suicide prevention; trauma recovery; disability; substance misuse.
Date: Tuesday, 28 July 2026
Time: 12:30 – 14:00 (South Africa time)

Zoom registration link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/xGDtycSoTgGYECpBvTqMag>

- **Theme:** Child, Youth and School Safety
Focus Areas: Early childhood development; school violence; bullying; online harms; youth development.
Date: Wednesday, 29 July 2026
Time: 10:30 – 12:00 (South African time)
Zoom registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/QBJGJ1ZKSCW5Z7-_jfWLkQ
 - **Theme:** Climate, Environmental and Disaster Safety
Focus Areas: Climate shocks; heat; floods; drought; disaster preparedness; resilience.
Date: Wednesday, 29 July 2026
Time: 12:30 – 14:00 (South African time)
Zoom registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/XevtR_x8Q4qp3qRnPMw6vg
 - **Theme:** Digital Safety and Emerging Harms
Focus Areas: Cyberbullying; online exploitation; misinformation; artificial intelligence risks; digital addiction; technology-enabled violence; commercial determinants; corporate determinants; transnational crime.
Date: Thursday, 30 July 2026
Time: 10:30 – 12:00 (South African time)
Zoom registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/BG6ziRYURfef4jBBawnAPg>
 - **Theme:** Injury Care, Rehabilitation and Data Systems
Focus Areas: Trauma systems; emergency medical services; rehabilitation; disability; surveillance; data integration; falls; burns; drowning.
Date: Thursday, 30 July 2026
Time: 12:30 – 14:00 (South African time)
Zoom registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/uMmvXLiVQ1i08p4aZaGcVg>
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2. Submit a Written Technical Contribution

Stakeholders who are unable to participate in a workshop, or who wish to provide more detailed evidence, research, or recommendations, are invited to submit a technical contribution via our online submission form.

To assist the Technical Working Groups in synthesising submissions into practical consensus recommendations, contributors are requested to structure their responses around the questions and themes provided in the online form.

Online Submission Form

Please submit your contribution using the following link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/fcLucDXSag>

The form has been designed to guide contributors through the required sections and allows supporting documents to be uploaded where appropriate.

Submission Deadline

To ensure that contributions can inform the Technical Working Group discussions, please submit your online contribution no later than the date of the relevant Technical Working Group workshop.

How your contribution will be used

All written submissions will be reviewed by the relevant Technical Working Group together with the outcomes of the virtual workshops and other evidence sources.

Individual submissions will not necessarily be reproduced verbatim. Instead, they will contribute to the development of consensus recommendations that will inform the Safety 2026 National Action Group Consensus Plan

Creating safer societies requires contributions from many disciplines, sectors and communities. We therefore encourage everyone with relevant knowledge, evidence or practical experience to participate in this important national consultation process.

Your contribution will help shape one of the principal legacy initiatives of Safety 2026 and support the development of a practical, evidence-informed framework for strengthening safety across South Africa.

We look forward to your participation.

We would appreciate it if you could kindly forward this invitation to colleagues and contacts within your professional network who are involved in violence and injury prevention. Your assistance in extending the reach of this invitation will help ensure broad participation from relevant stakeholders.

Kind regards,

Inclusive Society Institute (on behalf of SAFETY 2026)

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