We are an activist philanthropy, investing in safe and healthy journeys for all. For people and planet.
The FIA Foundation is an international charity, working closely with grant partners to shape projects and advocate to secure change in policy and practice. Our Strategy 2030 firmly establishes our focus on contributing to achieve the ambitious targets of the United Nations' Global Goals, in the areas of road traffic injury, air quality, climate action and youth empowerment.

Our objective is safe and healthy journeys for all, whether it is the daily walk to school or the final lap of a Grand Prix. Through partners with global reach we work to deliver safer vehicles and highways, clean air and zero carbon mobility, safe motor sport and low speed streets.

Our mission:

**DESIGN FOR LIFE. FOR PEOPLE & PLANET.**
SAFE ROADS

THE ISSUES

The global road traffic injury epidemic kills 3,700 people every day. Many thousands more are seriously injured. Our societies have been persuaded to accept ‘death by car’. We challenge this. The FIA Foundation supports the ‘Vision Zero’ approach which seeks to redesign transportation to put people first; to engineer and manage highways, streets and vehicles within a ‘Safe System’ where no death or serious injury is accepted. Our funding programme and our advocacy supports this vision.

Road traffic injury remains a neglected global health issue, underfunded and lacking serious political commitment in too many countries and international institutions. There is a tendency to see road crashes as a consequence of human behaviour rather than a failure of systems management. This victim blaming lets our political leaders and the systems designers – car makers, road engineers – avoid their responsibilities. Our road system can and must be designed to be safe for all.

TAking ACTION

We led the campaign for a road safety SDG target and we urge governments to achieve the 50% casualty reduction target by 2030. We designed the UN’s Streets for Life campaign which is calling for low speed on urban streets.

We support international Safe System initiatives for safer cars (Global NCAP), safer roads (iRAP) and safer motorcyclists. We work with UN agencies, NGO partners and our FIA member clubs across the world to deliver policy and legislative change.

We are one of the leading global road safety donors. In addition to our own grantmaking we deployed catalytic funding to help establish the World Bank’s Global Road Safety Facility and the UN Road Safety Fund.
We are living in a time of planetary emergency. Global heating is altering weather systems, threatening habitats, and exacerbating social injustice. We must act now. At the FIA Foundation we work with leading global policy institutions to reduce the carbon impact of vehicles, designing ambitious policy instruments that aim for zero emissions, and supporting advocacy and research to shift from private car-based mobility to greener alternatives.

Coordinating the Global Fuel Economy Initiative since 2009, we have worked with leading global policy institutions to map, track and propose policies to improve fuel efficiency and accelerate electrification of the global car fleet.

With partners including the UN Environment Programme, ITDP and the World Resources Institute, we are investing in policy initiatives and demonstration projects to promote walking and cycling as a core mode for urban travel and an essential element of the Avoid, Shift, Improve approach. We are a co-founder of PATH, the Partnership for Active Travel and Health.

Since the 2015 Paris Climate Summit we have assisted more than 100 countries with fuel economy and electrification strategies, and regulatory and legislative action, helping to deliver more sustainable procurement and taxation policies.
Toxic air pollution contributes to more than 7 million deaths a year and causes serious and long-term ill-health to many millions of people. Vehicle emissions are a major cause. The FIA Foundation leads a data-driven campaign to spotlight gross-polluting vehicles causing environmental damage in cities across the world, and to enable change by policymakers, car companies and consumers. And we work with other philanthropies in the Clean Air Fund to pool resources and coordinate action.

Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) is a key contributor to outdoor air pollution. Long-term exposure to high levels of NOx is linked to a range of adverse health outcomes, including respiratory conditions, as well as stroke, ischemic heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and lung cancer.

Through our real urban emissions initiative (TRUE) the FIA Foundation and partners including ICCT and C40 Cities are using roadside sensors to measure real world emissions of cars, motorcycles, taxis and buses on city streets.

Through TRUE we are providing major data to cities including London, Paris, Brussels and New York. In London, for example, our research has highlighted the impact of black cabs on air pollution, enabling the Mayor to adjust policy to regulate vehicles and clean the air.

As a partner in the Clean Air Fund, we work alongside other philanthropies to improve data, raise public awareness, increase sector funding and deliver policy change. Clean air is a human right!
As the global charity of worldwide motor sport, we play a key role in financing cutting-edge safety research. The halo, HANS, high speed barriers, the F1 helmet, wheel tethers and racing car crash tests: we’ve helped to deliver them all. Through funding for medical specialists, race marshals, and grassroots safety training developing the next generation of young racers – boys and girls - the FIA Foundation supports the FIA’s ‘vision zero’ to eliminate death and serious injury in motor sport.

TAKING ACTION

The FIA’s safety research team is charged with finding technical solutions to keep the governing body’s motor sport championships safe at all levels. The FIA Foundation provides funding support for this objective. From circuit safety design to fire-retardant clothing, from racing car aerodynamics to rally car roll cages, we resource the safety solutions.

Motor sport is powered by volunteers, enthusiasts who provide race management, marshalling and rescue services at countless events across the world. Regular training and mentoring are vital. We support the information flow from global medical conferences to local training sessions, funding both FIA and national ASN (motor sport clubs) activities.
Young people bear the impact of decisions taken by adults. Road traffic crashes are the leading global cause of death for children and youth aged 5-18. More than 300 million children breathe dangerously toxic air every day. Today’s children are inheriting a world threatened by climate change and damaged by social inequity.

Through our Child Health Initiative, the FIA Foundation works with young people to enable their voice and ideas in the policy arena.

Through our Child Health Initiative advocacy hub we are investing millions of euros supporting action to improve walking and cycling access and reduce traffic speeds on streets used by schoolchildren to a maximum of 30km/h. Working with partners ranging from UN agencies like UNICEF and UN Environment, to global NGO networks and national and city NGOs, we aim to deliver the vision of our Manifesto 2030.

Since 2018, when our ‘Unfinished Journeys’ report called for greater awareness, action and funding for adolescents, and for a first global summit on connected youth issues, we have worked with colleagues in the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health to secure global policy frameworks, summits and national action commitments.
Cities are growing rapidly in the Global South. It is in these megacities that the fight for safe streets, climate, clean air and social justice must be won. The FIA Foundation is designing global campaigns; leading ground-breaking research on women’s needs, rights and safety in urban public transportation; funding policy change for children and youth and action on low-speed streets through our Advocacy Hub; targeting vehicle emissions and promoting zero carbon mobility through our environmental partnerships.

We helped to design the UN Streets for Life campaign, which is calling for default 30km/h speed in urban areas where children and other vulnerable people mix with traffic. This builds on our agenda-setting advocacy at HABITAT III, which saw safe streets for children included in the leading global policy agenda for cities.

Through the TRUE real urban emissions initiative we are working with cities across the world to build data on traffic pollution, and to fund research on effective policy measures. For example, together with the Mayor of London and Bloomberg Philanthropies we studied the impact on air quality of ‘school streets’, removing vehicles to enable safe and healthy journeys to school.

Safe and sustainable mobility is a vital part of empowering women and plays an important role in achieving wider social and economic development. Women represent around half the world’s adult population, yet the evidence base used to make most decisions about transport do not take their needs into account in a systematic way. Our ground-breaking gender research is building evidence of women’s experiences, perceptions and solutions for urban transportation.