GOVERNMENTS ARE TAKING ACTION

The ambitious journey towards achieving our mandate of halving road deaths is as challenging as it is long. Nonetheless, the UN Road Safety Fund has been laying the groundwork for change, working alongside our implementing partners, beneficiary nations, and donors. And those efforts are coming to fruition - governments worldwide are taking meaningful action to improve road safety.

This section will delve into several of these important actions being taken by governments in 2023. In the following pages, we explore how our capacity-building is translating into practical measures for safer roads across the globe.

ARGENTINA

With the UNRSF support:

- The Government of Argentina has committed to implementing speed management measures, such as speed radars, upon resource availability.
- The Municipalities of Azul, Cañuelas and Pergamino have improved their road infrastructure with artistic crosswalks.
- Municipalities ran public awareness campaigns with videos about speeding.
- Municipalities supported road safety education programmes within schools.
- Surveys have confirmed that the population favours infrastructure for speed management, ensuring ownership and receptivity to such infrastructure.
• The Government of Bangladesh incorporated the piloting project into their Health Sector Operational Plan. The Government is planning the project every five years, working actively to scale up the piloted 10km post-crash care emergency support throughout the deadliest highways in Bangladesh. This action addresses a gap of near absence of managing crash victims with immediate care and transport.

• The Government established a Technical Committee led by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) for multisectoral coordination involving relevant ministries, departments, and organizations. Policymakers are aware of the results achieved through the project and continue the work to implementing policy guidance, protocols, and training manuals for strengthening post-crash response.

• Bangladesh’s emergency call number has been improved to operate 24/7, including location tracking for a more effective emergency response. The government also plan to link this emergency call number with the National Emergency Service (999) set-up with UNRSF support.

• The Government of Armenia established an interdepartmental commission on road safety to coordinate efforts to reduce road fatalities. This initiative involves various stakeholders, including the project, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure. Regular meetings led by the government are strengthening collaboration and ensuring effective and targeted road safety interventions.

• The Government has included a target for a unified platform for data collection and analysis, as well as for behaviour change among road users in the National Road Safety Strategy. The project has been referenced in the strategy and has developed, with UNRSF support, a centralized platform that provides real-time road crash visualization and a new information sharing protocol of all the road infrastructure changes among the highest blackspot on the Yerevan-Proshyan section of the M1 Highway. The platform also informed behavioural change interventions that have been implemented to help reduce risky behaviours on the roads, resulting in an 18% reduction on repeat speed violations among the control group of over 21,000 drivers.

• The Government will be launching a nationwide road safety campaign. Based on the results of the behavioural interventions implemented within the framework of the project, UNDP Armenia and the project team were asked to contribute to the development of the behavioural component of the campaign.

• The Government (Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure) has approved the road safety infrastructure construction proposed by the pilot conducted under the project. The pilot selected 2 areas where most crashes appear, as per the data dashboard, and made recommendations for improving road safety infrastructure.
The Government of Jamaica adopted the WHO Emergency Critical Care Assessment Toolkit and has begun to identify and close gaps in the current post-crash emergency care system with actions being undertaken across the Ministries of Transport, Interior and Health.

The city of Nairobi finalized an agreement of a City Master Plan, to ensure safer street for pedestrian and cyclist. This includes ensuring that new roads and road infrastructure will integrate road safety measures for all road users.

With the Government of Kenya, the project developed a guideline to develop the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan to scale-up sustainable urban mobility interventions in Kenya and the region.

- The Government of Colombia, with UNRSF support, finalized a strategy for implementing urban road safety infrastructure improvements in selected municipalities.
- Colombian municipalities secured the public’s opinion and engagement on future infrastructure changes to be implemented through workshops.
- Local governments, in combined efforts with the involved stakeholders and community members, are reviewing final designs for tactical urban interventions before implementation after having identified risks faced by vulnerable citizens in participatory workshops in collaboration with the project.

- The Government of Ethiopia developed an Urban Street Design Manual, which covers government directives on how to design or modify streets in the future, with a focus on road safety and non-motorized transportation.
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KENYA

• The Government of Mozambique is publishing a National Road Safety Master Plan thanks to the project’s capacity-building, workshops, and exchanges with experts.
• In Mozambique, a new National Road Safety Master Plan and the National Urbanisation Policy is being developed with assistance of the project, with increased focus on implementation of crosswalks, cycle lanes, and other public spaces to increase road safety and protect the environment.
• National and local strategies have integrated Road Safety and NMT components under the advisory of the project. The project has provided technical support for the National Street Design Manual, targeting safer roads and better walking and cycling conditions.
The Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries made a significant policy shift towards cleaner transportation: 14 member states (Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), in addition to representatives from Kenya endorsed roadmaps for harmonizing fuel and used vehicle standards across the region. This unprecedented move is expected to drastically improve air quality and public health by reducing vehicle emissions and regulating the import of older, polluting vehicles.

Governments are taking action

- Mayors from over 100 cities signed a Communiqué at the Road Safety Forum in Istanbul, committing to actions for Road Safety.
- In October 2023, major used vehicle exporters, including the EU, UK, USA, Japan and the Republic of Korea, gathered in Paris to discuss the importing countries’ new standards. At the meeting, the EU introduced their new end-of-life-vehicle regulation proposal. By working with both used vehicles importing and exporting countries, the project is helping developing and transitional countries meet their mobility needs while avoiding highly polluting used vehicles.
• The government, with the support of the project, launched the Tanzania Road Assessment Programme (TanRAP) to improve infrastructure and policy based on data.
• The government is scaling up the TanRAP project to eliminate high-risk roads and has expressed commitment to increasing participation in road safety.
• The Ministry of Works and TANROADS are working on achieving 3-Star rating or better.
• The Government is committed to prioritising road safety by endorsing recommendations on infrastructure safety, design standards, and training from the project and final workshop.
• The Government is prioritizing road infrastructure investment after receiving three reports on road safety strategy, design standards, and training.
• The Government has added ROMDAS, an iRAP-accredited system, to its Road Maintenance and Management System. This allows them to prioritize road maintenance based on star ratings alongside road asset data.
• The governmental agencies have completed the new National Road Infrastructure Safety Strategy for Tanzania, and the Government is moving towards its implementation.
• Government officials accredited and trained through the project are now using their skills to improve road safety and design, sharing knowledge.

• With the support of the UNRSF, and leveraging best practices and responding to multi-stakeholder advocacy, the Zambian government has passed legislation to implement 30 km speed limits around schools and high pedestrian presence areas. They are working closely with the police to enforce the legislation.
• The government, in partnership with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, is piloting standardized safety infrastructure, including signage and crosswalks, around schools in Lusaka, with the goal of establishing a national model for improving road safety around schools across Zambia. The government has pledged to include road safety measures in all its road project to ensure pedestrians and cyclists safety.