

**PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY
2023 CALL FOR PROJECT CONCEPT NOTES
UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

I. Overall approach to UNRSF 2023 Call for Concept Notes

Road crashes are disproportionately high in Africa compared to other regions of the world. The continent loses over 300,000 people annually through road crashes, despite its countries having the lowest levels of motorization in the world. It has the world's highest estimated road traffic fatality rate of 26.6 road deaths per 100,000 population compared to 17.0 in South-east Asia, the world average of 17.5 and 9.3 per 100,000 population in Europe.

Despite efforts made by continental and regional institutions as well as African countries and other stakeholders, the continent did not perform well during the first UN Decade for Road Safety and it is far from achieving the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals on road safety.

ECA contributes to road safety in Africa through its three core functions - think-tank, convening, and operational functions. As a think-tank, the Commission has developed a methodology to measure the performance of African countries in road safety and used it to rank countries on the continent. ECA has also undertaken road safety performance reviews in African countries, including Uganda, Cameroon, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe in collaboration with the Secretariat of the United Nations Special Envoy for Road Safety and the governments of these countries. The reviews in Uganda, Cameroon, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe led to the adoption of evidence-based action plans by these countries. In addition, ECA led the development of the African Road Safety Action Plan (2011-2020) in the context of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety for the same period in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Transport Policy Programme (SSATP). Furthermore, ECA collaborated with AUC to formulate the African Road Safety Charter and to ensure its alignment with the African Road Safety Action Plan (2011-2020).

ECA also collaborated with AUC in formulating the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-African Highways (TAH) adopted by African Ministers of Transport and endorsed by Heads of State of the continent, ensuring that it had an annex on road safety. In 2019, ECA and AUC jointly articulated Africa's post-2020 Strategic Directions for Road Safety as well as the continent's Road Safety Action Plan for the period 2021-2030. The Strategic Directions for Road Safety in Africa highlighted challenges in the implementation of the 2011-2020 Action Plan including lack of close engagement of the public sector with the private sector and civil society. It underscored the need to optimise the contribution of all stakeholders to road safety on the continent.

ECA and AUC, in line with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 74/299 on "Improving global road safety" ensures that global road safety practices and policies are integrated in road safety initiatives and strategies in Africa, with the view to halving road traffic deaths and serious injuries on the continent by 2030. ECA is actively involved in the African Road Safety Observatory (ARSO) and plays a critical role of facilitating and coordinating various road safety projects and initiatives in Africa.

II. Application strategy

As a United Nations organisation dedicated to addressing continental, regional and national development needs, ECA will prioritize projects developed by national governments in the frame of the current UNRSF initiative. Applications will be accepted from all ECA member States in line with United Nations rules and regulations. Eligible countries are strongly encouraged to submit collaborative proposals. They are also encouraged to involve the civil society in their projects, to the extent possible.

However, in line with the provisions of the 2nd Global and Continental Road Safety Action plan on a collaborative approach in implementing the global and continental Road Safety agenda, ECA encourages NGOs to collaborate with governments to submit proposals.

Timeline: All completed proposals (Concept Notes) should be submitted via email to ECA by **23 March 2023**. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted and/or considered. The first selected proposals will be discussed among relevant stakeholders and refined in one week: **Between 23-30 March 2023**, ECA will select shortlisted concept notes and work with the applicants to ensure that the requirements of the UNRSF and UNECA are met, complete the internal review and then submit shortlisted proposals to the UN Road Safety Fund secretariat by **03 April 2023**.

As soon as the ECA is informed of the results of the Concept Note shortlisting, it will inform the applicants of the results and successful project holders will be provided further guidance on the next steps.

III. Contact information

Mr. Placide Badji
Economic Affairs Officer
UNECA

And CC:

Mr. Robert Lisinge,
Chief of the Energy, Infrastructure and Services Section
UNECA
