

**Independent Evaluation of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund (UNRSF) Secretariat (August 2021)**

**Final progress report as of 31 December 2022**

#	Recommendation	Management response	Responsibility	Target date	Status of implementation
1	<p><b>UNRSF needs to actively promote synergistic collaboration across various participating UN agencies as the means to developing a distinctive competitive advantage, which would emphasize approaching road safety with an inter-sectoral lens critical to the achievement of the SDGs.</b></p> <p><b>1.1 Organize small strategy session/s with key stakeholders for discussing various strategic options that can help UNRSF develop distinctive competitive advantages over other road safety funds. Such an exercise should serve as the foundation for UNRSF's strategy.</b></p> <p><b>1.2 One possible option that UNRSF can consider is to promote synergistic collaboration among participating UN agencies. Thus, for example, these PUNOS should be encouraged and incentivized to develop joint project proposals. Such an approach will not only leverage unique expertise of participating UN agencies, but also</b></p>	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation</p> <p>a. Organize a strategy session with key stakeholders from the PUNOs to discuss various strategic options that can help UNRSF develop distinctive competitive advantages over other road safety funds, this will include a further emphasis on joint project proposals.</p> <p>b. Undertake quarterly group engagements with key stakeholders from the PUNOs to foster a spirit of collaboration and joint programming opportunities as well as to facilitate project monitoring, reporting and communications efforts. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, start deadline – 31 December 2021).</p> <p>c. Increase engagement with the WHO, Regional Commissions and Resident Coordinator-led UN Country Teams to encourage a whole-of-UN response to road safety. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, start deadline 31 December 2021).</p>	UNRSF Secretariat		<p><b>Implemented as of December 2021.</b></p> <p>a. On 16 December 2021, the UNRSF secretariat organized a strategy session with its 11 PUNOs for the Business Plan 2022-25, which will implement the independent evaluation's recommendations, including on developing a distinctive competitive advantage. Further consultations with PUNOs and other members of the UNRSF governing bodies are planned on 2 February 2022 and 7 March 2022.</p> <p>b. The first group engagement with PUNOs took place on 16 December 2021 to discuss joint programming as well as invigorated efforts for more regular monitoring, reporting and communications.</p> <p>The UNRSF secretariat also launched Platforms of Engagements on various SDG priorities which are all co-chaired by PUNOs and serve as an interactive multi-stakeholder platform for collaborating on joint programming opportunities. The Platforms of Engagement on Health and on Data took place in November and December 2021 respectively and reflected the participation of several PUNO representatives. Facilitated by UN agencies and others, and with a diverse membership, platform members discussed ideas that could result in the development of joint high-impact projects.</p> <p>c. The Head of the UNRSF secretariat participated in a side event "Saving lives on the Asia-Pacific roads" on 14 December 2021 at the fourth Ministerial Conference on Transport convened by ESCAP, that also included resident coordinators from the region.</p> <p>The UNRSF secretariat Head has also been actively working with the WHO, Office of the Special Envoy on Road Safety, UN</p>

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	<p>help foster innovative solutions to intractable road safety challenges facing many Member States. Further, it will incentivize donors to approach UNRSF rather than individual UN agencies. Donors have limited utility to fund a UNICEF implemented solution through UNRSF, if they can directly fund UNICEF. Thus, UNRSF needs to demonstrate its value addition by helping develop collaborative solutions.</p> <p>1.3 Building on the success of these joint proposals, UNRSF should incentivize PUNOS to harmonize their in-country programmes and plans. In such a scenario, UNRSF will play a bigger role in coordinating the work of PUNOS.</p> <p>1.4 In the medium to long run, UNRSF should consider developing a tight-knit PUNOS network on road safety to foster high collaboration and impactful work.</p>				<p>regional commissions and Office of the President of the UNGA to organize the preparatory meeting to the UN High Level Meeting on Improving Road Safety. The preparatory meeting took place on 3 December 2021 in New York, where the Head attended and served as rapporteur. The role of the Head included coordinating substantive messaging, developing a communications package and outreach to key stakeholders to speak at and moderate the event. The Head has also been working with these bodies on outreach to finance ministers across the globe to ascertain the level of budgetary spend on road safety. The Head also intervened at the UN Special Envoy's UN Partnership meeting on Road Safety.</p> <p>The UNRSF secretariat also briefed the UN Road Safety Collaboration on the work of the Fund on 18 October 2021. Convened by WHO, and attended by a diverse membership, including UN organizations and UN regional commissions, it provides a key opportunity to discuss road safety in an integrated manner.</p> <p>The UNRSF secretariat has also been coordinating with the WHO and regional commissions to organize regional launches of the Global Plan for the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-30.</p> <p>The UNRSF Business Plan 2022-2025, which has been drafted in 2021, expressly calls for expanding direct access to UNRSF financing to additional UN agencies. An October 2021 decision was taken by the UNRSF governing bodies to allow PUNO expansion on case-by-case basis.</p>
2	<p>UNRSF should consider "Fit-for-purpose" governance systems.</p> <p>2.1 UNRSF should consider merging steering committee and advisory board both for reducing governance-related workload on the secretariat and increased shared</p>	<p>UNECE partially accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>a. The recommendation to merge the Advisory Board and Steering Committee will be discussed at the next Advisory Board and Steering Committee meetings</p>	UNRSF Secretariat		<p><b>Implemented as of June 2022</b></p> <p>a. This recommendation was presented to the Steering Committee at its 30 April 2021 session and to the Advisory Board when it met on 10 June 2021. Subsequent informal consultations have been ongoing between the Secretariat and members of the governing bodies to ascertain a consensus position on how best to address this recommendation. Based on the outcome of these consultations, the secretariat will propose an action at the</p>

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	<p>understanding among various stakeholder groups. The current governance system is more suited for a large UN agency than a small trust fund. Since private donors and innovative funding mechanism are expected to provide a significant portion of funding, it is also better from a governance perspective to give these stakeholders a bigger role in steering the direction of the fund.</p> <p><b>2.2 UNRSF should consider involving the member of such a combined board in joint fundraising efforts. Organizing joint events, participating in their governance and large public events and encouraging them to spread the word about UNRSF and its road safety work are some of the steps that can be undertaken to raise the profile and visibility of the Fund.</b></p> <p><b>2.3 UNRSF should clearly discuss expectations and evaluate board members on pre-defined and agreed metrics to evaluate their contributions to the Fund.</b></p>	<p>taking place in 2021. The implementation of the recommendation will be implemented in accordance with the respective decisions taken therein.</p> <p>b. A roadmap of advocacy opportunities and target donors will be presented to the governance body with a view that governance body members accept to undertake responsibility contribute to the strategic development of the UNRSF and to pursue advocacy opportunities and fundraising targets.</p>			<p>formal meetings of the governing bodies in 2022 for a formal decision. In accordance with discussions with the governing bodies, there was no approval for a merger of the Steering Committee and the Advisory Board. Instead, the Secretariat has been providing a set of criteria to guide the nomination of new members for both the Advisory Board and Steering Committee, noting that by the end of 2022, approximately 58% of the member seats were up for re-election and benefited from the revised criteria. This recommendation should be considered closed given the (on-going) actions taken by the secretariat to ensure a fit-for-purpose membership through new nominations.</p> <p>b. The UNRSF secretariat presented a communications roadmap as well as resource mobilization plans to its Advisory Board and Steering Committee during their fifth and ninth sessions respectively on 20 and 21 October. Both bodies endorsed and agreed to support the communications roadmap and resource mobilization plans. With respect to the latter, the Board committed support to ongoing efforts to step up fund-raising ahead of the planned UNRSF Pledging Conference during the UN High Level Meeting on Road Safety in New York, July 2022, through direct pledges or advocacy. The Steering Committee agreed to bilaterally discuss and actively facilitate engagements at the global, regional and/or national levels with the UNRSF secretariat.</p>
3	<p><b>UNRSF should setup mechanisms for monitoring outcomes and impacts from the projects.</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Systematic RBM mechanisms:</b></p>	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>a. In consultation with MPTFO and internationally accepted</p>	UNRSF Secretariat		<p><b>Implemented as of December 2022.</b></p> <p>Although this recommendation will always be “on-going” the secretariat has complied with the recommendation, as described below:</p> <p>a. The secretariat has implemented a new logical framework which</p>

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	<p><b>UNRSF Secretariat needs to establish systematic mechanisms and tools for operationalizing a results-based monitoring and reporting systems. These mechanisms should also collect data specific to gender and vulnerable populations dimensions.</b></p> <p><b>3.2 UNRSF secretariat should play a bigger role in coordination on substantive functions across various UN agencies, while simultaneously involving partner agencies in data collection and reporting.</b></p> <p><b>3.3 When a PUNOS network is operational, UNRSF should consider using the network for promoting knowledge management/ organizational learning role of the secretariat, including for documenting best practices and lessons learned in road safety. This should also include tools for wider dissemination of these learning tools and results achieved.</b></p>	<p>standards on results measurement, the UNRSF Secretariat will develop and roll-out a system and related tools for operationalizing results-based monitoring and reporting, taking into account gender and vulnerable populations.</p> <p>b. A system will be designed and implemented to ensure PUNOs benefit from good practices and lessons learnt in road safety, including based on increased engagement with WHO, UN Regional Economic Commissions and regional road safety data observatories.</p>			<p>is to be implemented in the RBM framework of UNRSF projects. Following consultations with RBM experts and UNRSF project teams, the new logframe was adopted on 30 August 2022 by the UNRSF Steering Committee. A first step to the “on-going” work of implementing systematic RBM mechanisms, the UNRSF held information sessions with project teams to provide support regarding project baselines and RBM. Information on gender and vulnerable groups is collected through the project portal system and related project documents and reports.</p> <p>b. The secretariat has set up six Platforms of Engagement that mirror SDGs with the goal of coordinating substantive functions across the various participating UN organizations, facilitating knowledge exchange, sharing best practices and lessons learned. Members of these platforms represent UN organizations but also regional road safety observatories, data experts and representatives from the private sector, donors, civil society and others. Two Platform meetings took place in 2021 – Health (November) and Data and Partnerships (December). In 2022, discussions and consultations were conducted with the members of the platforms. Based on the feedback received, the focus of the platforms was adapted to demonstrate successful projects interventions and generate discussions on good practices and lessons learnt.</p> <p>The Fund has also produced a knowledge repository entitled “countries capture” that consists in a data base compiling all country needs and related potential solutions into projects beneficiaries needs, as well as to support fundraising efforts.</p>

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4	<p><b>UNRSF should pay greater attention to fundraising and scaling up its operations.</b></p> <p><b>Scaling up should be the topmost priority of UNRSF. As soon as UNRSF has put in place the right strategy, systems to develop collaborative solutions and demonstrate results, UNRSF secretariat should ramp up its fundraising efforts. It's ability to undertake steps outlined above and make a meaningful impact as a "UN" Fund, which creates high expectations, depends on its success in fundraising. To this end, UNRSF may need to invest upfront in hiring expert fundraisers with experience in raising funds from innovative sources.</b></p>	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>a. The UNRSF Secretariat will develop a Case for Support to be used as the main engagement with funders. Other supporting materials and messaging will be developed and implemented, including a Strategic Plan, Annual Report, Impact Stories Brochure and Communications and Outreach Strategy. A fundraising contractor may also be hired. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, deadline – 31 December 2021).</p> <p>b. A roadmap of advocacy opportunities and target donors will be presented to the governance body with a view that governance body members accept to undertake responsibility contribute to the strategic development of the UNRSF and to pursue advocacy opportunities and fundraising targets. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, deadline – 31 December 2021).</p>	UNRSF Secretariat		<p><b>Implemented as of December 2021.</b></p> <p>a. The UNRSF secretariat has drafted individualized cases for support targeting specific donors. In addition, a Replenishment Document has been drafted for donors in advance of the planned Replenishment Conference on 30 June 2022. The Call for Replenishment was launched in December 2021 in New York at the margins of the Preparatory Meeting for the High-Level Meeting.</p> <p>Other supporting materials drafted in 2021 include: Results Brochure; Annual Report; Project Sheets; and Communications Roadmap.</p> <p>Fundraising and communications contractors were recruited to support these efforts.</p> <p>b. The UNRSF secretariat presented resource mobilization plans to its Advisory Board and Steering Committee during their respective fifth and ninth sessions on 20 and 21 October 2021. The Board committed support to ongoing efforts to step up fundraising ahead of the planned UNRSF Pledging Conference during the UN High Level Meeting on Road Safety in New York, July 2022, through direct pledges or advocacy. The Steering Committee agreed to bilaterally discuss and actively facilitate engagements at the global, regional and/or national levels with the UNRSF secretariat.</p> <p>Following this meeting, the UNRSF secretariat has organized bilateral meetings with its governing body members to identify opportunities. The secretariat has also drafted a survey to be shared in January for members to identify where they can support resource mobilization efforts.</p>