

## **6th UN Partnership Meeting for Road Safety**

### **UN-Habitat updates or summary of agency/department efforts**

UN-Habitat's overall vision is to promote transformative change in cities and human settlements through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action to leave no one and no place behind. To achieve its objective to advance sustainable urbanization, UN-Habitat is making progress in its four interlinked Domains of Change (DoC) as per its Strategic Plan:

1. Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban-rural continuum,
2. Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions,
3. Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment,
4. Effective urban crisis prevention and response.

Road Safety is closely linked to all Domains of Change – having a potential impact on access to mobility (DoC1) and economic opportunities (DoC2), on social integration and inclusion to enhance urban resilience (DoC4) as well as environmental benefits if linked to low-carbon mobility (DoC3).

Together with in-country partners, UN-Habitat supports the development of mechanisms and common frameworks at the national, subnational and local levels to evaluate the wider benefits of urban and metropolitan transport schemes, including impacts on the environment, the economy, social cohesion, quality of life, accessibility, road safety, public health and action on climate change, among other things.

UN-Habitat's mandate on road safety is encapsulated in the New Urban Agenda, guiding documents within the agency and Sustainable Development Goal 11.2. Specifically, the organisation takes measures to improve road safety and integrate it into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design. Together with awareness-raising initiatives and street design initiatives, UN-Habitat promotes the safe-system approach called for in the first and second Decade of Action for Road Safety, with special attention to the needs of all women and girls, as well as children and youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and those in vulnerable situations.

Through project activities, predominantly in the Global South, UN-Habitat works to adopt, implement and enforce policies and measures to actively protect and promote pedestrian safety and cycling mobility, with a view to broader health outcomes, particularly the prevention of injuries and noncommunicable diseases. Recently, UN-Habitat has also begun the development and implementation of comprehensive legislation and policies on motorcycle safety, given the disproportionately high and increasing numbers of motorcycle deaths and injuries globally. The organisation promotes safe and healthy journey to school for every child as a priority.

UN-Habitat and its partners, encourage national, subnational and local governments to develop and expand financing instruments, enabling them to improve their transport and mobility infrastructure and systems, such as mass rapid-transit systems, integrated transport systems, air and rail systems, and safe, sufficient and adequate pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and technology-based innovations in transport and transit systems to reduce congestion and pollution while improving efficiency, connectivity, accessibility, health and quality of life. The organisational focus on multimodal transport systems and connected networks ensures that transport equity and resilience are at the core.

UN-Habitat's recent road safety initiatives are captured in the following pages.

## **Scaling Up Safer Streets in Ethiopia**

*Project Dates: 2019 - 2021*

Funded by the United Nations Road Safety Fund (UNRSF), the project provided technical support to local and national government officials in their ongoing efforts to design, install and upgrade footpaths and bicycle lanes and corridors, supported by the harmonization of street design guidelines.

UN-Habitat and partners provided technical review assistance to the design of ongoing infrastructure projects, and promoted and co-organized street-level activities to raise awareness around the importance of walking and cycling for all, and road safety issues. The project resulted in the adoption of a Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) Strategy for Ethiopia and Addis Ababa, and a five-year implementation plan for 69 cities and towns with harmonised street design guidelines guiding investments in safer facilities for walking and cycling.

## **Reclaiming Streets**

*Project Dates 2021 - 2024*

Building on the success of the “Scaling up” project in Ethiopia and funded by the UNRSF, Reclaiming Streets takes a comprehensive view and proposes a four-pronged approach to deliver concrete outcomes to enhance road safety and lower traffic injuries and fatalities in African cities. The project aims to enhance road safety in African cities through the improvement of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, contributing to the drop of road traffic-related deaths in selected countries to below the African annual average of 26.6 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. This will be achieved through accelerated efforts of governments and financiers in the areas of policy development, local implementation action and investments to design safer streets and create livable public spaces.

Currently being implemented in Mozambique, Guinea, Rwanda, Kenya and Ethiopia, at all times, the project assumes that urban environments suitable for children are a truly inclusive environment for all.

## **People-friendly Streets in Afghan Cities**

*Project Dates: 2022 - 2024*

The objective of this project funded by UNRSF is to improve the safety of urban roads and streets in Afghan cities by influencing the agenda for reform of the policy and regulatory environment for road safety, strengthening technical capacity and awareness building for safe street design with a focus on the needs of pedestrians and cyclists and increasing awareness on safe road use. The project activities are intended to take place in three Afghan cities (envisaged to be Kabul, Jalalabad and Mazar). The three expected outcomes are:

1. Greater emphasis on improving road safety and reducing injuries amongst non-state actors and joint formulation of recommendations to improve the policy and regulatory environment for road safety and reducing injuries

2. Exemplar safer urban street designs implemented that better integrate pedestrian and cyclist safety measures, combined with strengthened capacity of government authorities to undertake urban street safety assessments and implement the designs
3. Increased awareness of safe road use with a focus on increased awareness of the safety measures for pedestrians and cyclists and drivers' behaviour

## **Improving Motorised Two-wheeler Safety in Thailand**

*Projected start date in 2023*

The project's main objective is to reduce motorised two-wheeler crashes, injuries, and fatalities in Thailand. In Thailand, motorised two-wheelers account for 74% of all road fatalities. Furthermore, motorcycles account for 51.6% of all registered vehicles and were involved in around 84% of traffic crashes in Thailand in 2021. As described in the Thailand Road Safety Master Plan 2022-2027, the Thai government's goal is to reduce traffic-related deaths by 50%, or 12 per 100,000 people, by 2027, and to attain the vision zero target by 2050.

Funded by UNRSF, the project's objective is to develop a master plan to improve two-wheeler road safety and prevent crashes from occurring by focusing on:

- Education programs
- Motorcycle rider licensing
- Activities to raise awareness about the importance of riding safely
- Reducing the use of alcohol and drugs while riding a motorcycle
- Including motorcycle-friendly highway design, such as providing guidelines for road design engineering and maintenance, with a particular emphasis on two-wheeler safety
- Legislation and enforcement with a focus on two-wheeler safety

## **ACROS**

*Projected start date in 2023*

Funded by the UNRSF and building on the experiences of previous road safety initiatives; this project proposes to establish the Global Alliance of Cities for Road Safety (ACRoS) that aims to become a one-stop shop for cities to engage in capacity building, receive technical advice, implement catalytic action and benefit from city-to-city exchange.

The main objective of ACRoS is to provide an open platform for cities to be inspired, learn and exchange in order to find the most appropriate local solutions to solve their road safety challenges while contributing to the climate goals. The expected outcomes are:

1. Cities are inspired and capacitated to improve their road safety management in alignment with the Safe Systems Approach, and complementary to the national policy framework (Capacity)
2. Selected pilot initiatives contribute to improved road safety and reduced fatalities at city and neighborhood level with strong participation of vulnerable groups (Catalytic Action)
3. Additional investment in sustainable mobility and road safety projects is secured to scale-up interventions in selected cities (Investments for scale-up)

## **Safer Road Users in Nigeria**

*Projected start date in 2023*

This project aims to support the delivery of the Nigeria Road Safety Strategy II (NRSS II) through strengthening safety programmes on a city scale and supporting a prioritization of low carbon, inclusive mobility systems nationally that place vulnerable road users, particularly cyclists, at the center of strategy and infrastructure planning. Focused on Abuja, the project will also create synergies and draw inspiration from its sister project, “Reclaiming Streets for Pedestrians and Cyclists in Africa” to enhance road safety through the improvement of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, contributing to the drop of road traffic-related deaths.

## **TRANSFAE:**

*Project Dates: 2022 -2026*

UN-Habitat is a consortium partner and lead capacity development partner in this Africa based initiative. The overall objective of the project, which is funded by the European Union, is to promote radical transformation towards road safety improvement in Africa, through tested and validated road safety solutions, with a high level of scalability and replicability. This will be achieved by delivering on the following specific objectives organized by TRANS-SAFE pillars:

- *Inform:* Enhance knowledge on the causes and risk factors of road crash among relevant stakeholders and improve their capabilities to practically use tools to plan, assess, implement and operate road safety solutions.
- *Inspire:* Promote the integration of the Safe System approach into local, regional and national road safety strategies by providing the needed guidance on data, methodologies and best practice and build corresponding capacities to adopt such.
- *Initiate:* Strengthen road safety assessment and management systems by guiding relevant stakeholders in partner cities and countries to adopt internationally established system standards and building the needed local capacities to develop such systems.
- *Implement:* Create reference models for road safety innovations with high level of replicability by implementing demonstration actions to test innovative safe system technologies and services, foster their replication and ensure their long-term sustainability.
- *Impact:* Contribute to regional and global sustainable road safety goals by evaluating the project’s demonstration actions and deriving implementable recommendations that can be integrated into policy, funding, operation, research and business practice.