6th UN partnership meeting - Strategic Partnerships

UNHCR operates in 135 countries running over 85 million km reacing over 80 million persons of concern. For several years now UNHCR has been facing traffic crash problems, and it has been actively working on the implementation of countermeasures to reduce the amount of serious traffic accidents. The rate of traffic crashes with casualties (injuries and fatalities) is growing (see Figure 1); fortunately, the rate of fatal crashes has started to decrease, proving that UNHCR is moving in the direction to success.

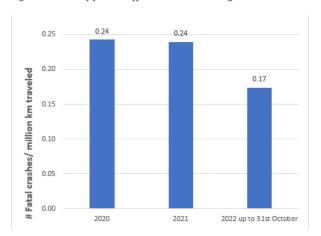
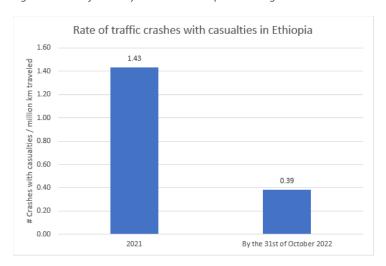


Figure 1. Rate of fatal traffic crashes involving UNHCR vehicles

The reduction in the rate of fatal traffic crashes is the result of several efforts implemented in country operations for reducing the risk of traffic crashes. An example of it is Ethiopia, a country that used to be among the countries with the highest amount of traffic crashes, but this year they have not had a single fatal traffic crash, and the rate has reduced to a quarter of previous years (see Figure 2). One of the reasons for this achievement is the implementation of road safety segment in fleet management led by an in-country dedicated fleet manager supported by an in-situ risk advisor. Having fleet managers in country operations is key for improving fleet efficiency and risk mitigation.

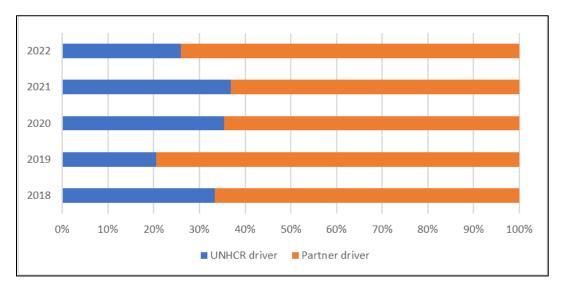
Figure 2. Rate of casualty crashes in Ethiopia involving UNHCR vehicles



Based on UNHCR data, knowing that most of the serious traffic crashes are related to implementing partner organization drivers (see Figure 3). To mitigate and prevent traffic crashes, UNHCR is working closer with partners to include them in road safety initiatives such as:

- 1. Training
- 2. Regulatory improvement
- 3. Implementation of systems for making drivers accountable for their behaviours
- 4. Road safety management guidance
- 5. Guidance for selecting drivers
- 6. Risk factor analysis and intervention design

Figure 3. Percentage distribution of traffic crashes with casualties involving UNHCR vehicles by custodian



UNHCR is committed to continue undertaking road safety improvements in order to reduce our rates of serious traffic crashes. Future plans include:

- 1. Testing a bonus system for partner drivers.
- 2. Implementing technologies for monitoring and controlling risk factors.
- 3. Design and implementation of a road safety management audit system (monitoring of total km travelled, excess speed events, rate of traffic crashes & number of traffic crashes with casualties)
- 4. Implementation of mobility solutions for controlling difficult behaviours and fatigue.
- 5. Deeper root cause analysis of traffic crashes.