

# Uganda Road Accident Reduction Network Organization (URRENO) Annual Report 2023



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# Introduction

## Background information about URRENO

URRENO is a legally registered Non-Governmental Organization at the vanguard of promoting road safety through awareness-raising, training, advocacy, and research and it is one of the leading and most comprehensive road safety organizations in Uganda. As an organization with 27 years of promoting Road Safety in Uganda.

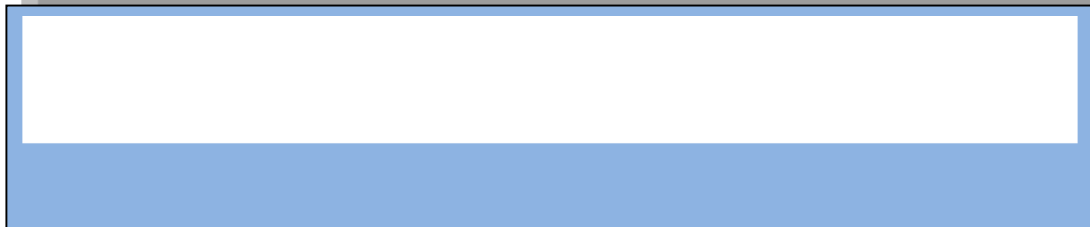
URRENO is dedicated to the promotion of the *“Safe System approach”* to road safety, providing guidance on each of the Safe System pillars (road safety management, safe roads, safe speeds, safe vehicles, safe road users, and post-crash care) while recognizing that evidence-based solutions must be drawn from across pillars to produce effective road safety outcomes.

URRENO also promotes Occupational, Health and Safety, inclusive Non-Motorized Transport (NMT), Gender, HIV/AIDS, and other social safeguards through the provision of expert advisory, consultancy, and training services on road, water, and workplaces.

## URRENO Governance and Management

The governance and management of URRENO is according to its Constitution and the Annual General Assembly which is the supreme governing body of the organization. There are four Board members composed of dependable and professionally cherished and experienced public figures. At the Management/Technical level, there is a professional team of well-trained and experienced practitioners in the areas of engineering, statistics, law, communication, sociology, research, policy & planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, education, finance, and health. This team is composed of permanent, part-time, and volunteer staff headed by the Executive Director (ED).

## Our Vision, Mission and Objectives.



### **URRENO's Objectives**

1. To increase awareness of road safety among school children, drivers, motorcycle users and the general public through training and sensitization;
2. To enhance safety and health compliance through research, inspection and road safety auditing;
3. To advocate for safer roads, Safer vehicles, and Safer people through engaging with policymakers, implementers, Civil Society Organisations, the Business community, and end users;
4. Promote Medicare, rescue services, and rehabilitation of accident victims to minimize the impact of serious injuries and death.

## **URRENO's Implemented Projects and Activities for 2023.**

- 1. Strengthening seatbelt and speed management regulations through legislation reviews, advocacy, and public awareness-raising interventions.**

### **Project Overview**

The overall purpose of this project is to reduce road traffic fatalities and injuries by strengthening seatbelt legislation and management of speed through advocating for legal reviews, effective enforcement, and public awareness for sustained compliance. The project has been ongoing from January 2023 to June 2024 and is funded by the Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP).

The scope of work includes:

- Rapid assessment to establish evidence-based data regarding current seatbelt and speed management regulations;
- Mapping of Seat-belt and speed management regulations decision and policymakers;
- Review of the existing legal frameworks on seat-belt and speed management regulations;
- One-on-one and Round-table meetings to discuss seat-belt regulation
- Building strong partnerships between MDAs, the business community, and CSOs to support the campaigns.

### **Achievements**

Some of the achievements include;

- i) The URRENO has so far developed IEC materials, printed, and run social media campaigns targeting the general public. This has been a continuous activity in the lifecycle of the project with several engagements on its social-media platforms of Twitter, in newspapers, radio, and TV adverts.
- ii) Review of the existing Acts and regulations on speed management, seat belt standards, reports, and studies focusing on recommendations on best practices in speed reduction. The reason for this undertaking was to identify the gaps in the current regulation for speed. For example, the current legal regime doesn't consider other factors like population, vulnerability, and the existence of schools, markets, and churches, among other factors. The biggest output of this activity is evidence-based information that has supported the reduction of 50km/h to 30km/h in specific areas. The new speed regulation has been validated by the Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT) now awaiting gazetting by the Attorney General of Uganda into a law.

## **2. Global Alliance Accountability Toolkit: accelerating implementation of 30 km/h zones and improving the Toolkit**

### **Project Overview**

This project aims to accelerate the implementation of 30km/h zones through the use of the Alliance Accountability Toolkit and collect feedback on the experience of NGOs using the Accountability Toolkit to help improve the Toolkit, thus future in-country advocacy. The Project commenced in October 2023 and will be running for two years. The expected impact of this project is the implementation of new 30 km/h zones in the countries of the participating NGOs and the improvement of the Toolkit.

The project activities include:

- ❖ Assessment of the status of government accountability and actions concerning implementation of 30 km/h zones in your country Peer-to-peer feedback session 1 between participating NGOs to learn from each other's experiences, what worked well using the Accountability Checklist through the My Kit Dashboard and helping each other overcome challenges
- ❖ Development of the Government To Do List advising specific actionable items for the implementation of 30 km/h zones
- ❖ Identification, selection, and engagement of potential champions to communicate the Government To Do List with the NGO
- ❖ Identification, selection and engagement of government officials to obtain their buy-in and implement the actions as per the Government To Do List
- ❖ Peer-to-peer feedback session 2 between participating NGOs to learn from each other's experiences, what worked well using the Government To Do List through the My Kit Dashboard and helping each other overcome challenges
- ❖ Peer-to-peer feedback session 3 between participating NGOs to learn from each other's experiences what were the enablers and barriers in governments' response to the Government To Do List and discuss their progress through the Alliance Accountability Cycle: Advocacy > Commitment > Implementation > Promotion Presentation of project learnings and outcomes

## **3. Strengthen Road Crash Database Management for Evidence-based Intervention Project:**

### **Project Overview**

URRENO in partnership with the Ministry of Works and Transport is implementing the "Strengthen Road Safety Management for evidence-based intervention through reliable road crash data, building capacity in research, monitoring and evaluation" project. This is an 18- Months project that has been running from July 2023 to December 2024 and is funded by the UN Road Safety Fund. The project activities include;

- Training of Ministry of Works and Transport, Uganda National Roads Authority, Uganda Police, Uganda Road Fund, KCCA, and URRENO staff in research methodologies;
- Development of research concepts/topics by all trainees, conducting research by trainees, and disseminating research findings

- Developing and testing a Monitoring and Evaluation framework
- Configure the server and install all the necessary accessories of the Road crash database system, assign user accounts for the system, and carry out User acceptance tests.
- System upgrading for interfaces and application of mobile app
- Training of Trainers for Traffic Police in data collection and entry
- Training of MoW&T, Police, URRENO, UNRA, and URF in data interpretation and analysis
- Developing training manuals for the Road Crash Database Management System.

#### 4. Promotion of Usage of Non-Motorized Transport Infrastructure in Kampala

##### **Project Overview**

This project was implemented by the URRENO Youth group funded by Youth for Road Safety (YOURS). The project ran from April 2023 to March 2024 and was aimed at increasing the usage of Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) facilities through strengthening the NMT policy implementation and availability of NMT facilities in the city, sensitization, and awareness campaigns. The project targeted children in schools and the youth in the 5 Divisions of Kampala.

##### ***Objectives of the project included:***

- i) Assessing the road safety NMT situation in the 5 divisions of Kampala by involving the community (youth and children) in the assessment which will ease raising awareness initiatives by December 2023
- ii) To increase awareness among over 1000 youth and children in the five divisions of Kampala about the advantages of using NMT facilities by December 2023
- iii) To advocate for better and more NMT facilities in Kampala by engaging 4 government entities that lead road safety policy development in Kampala by March 2024

##### **Project Activities Included:**

- i) Consultations with division leaders that would coordinate the project implementation in their areas.
- ii) Carry out a rapid assessment of the youths and children in each division, which will involve engaging them in an evaluation tool to identify the needs and challenges they face when using NMT in Kampala to promote a peer-to-peer strategy
- iii) Carrying out in-person engagement sessions with children in schools and youth to expand their knowledge about NMT usage and encourage them to transfer it to others.
- iv) Develop and launch a social media awareness campaign focusing on the advantages of NMT usage.

## Achievements

- i) A total of 157 (Youths & Children) were assessed i.e. 106 were children assessed within the 9 Schools & 51 were Youths within the 5 divisions of Kampala
- ii) Approximately 462 Young people i.e. (Youth and Children) benefited indirectly from the assessments carried out within the 5 divisions of Kampala
- iii) The team went ahead and developed IEC materials to guide in the awareness-raising stage together with 15 Key messages that were displayed on social media platforms for 15 weeks
- iv) Around 3,850 children were sensitized during assemblies and 824 children were sensitized during in-person/class-to-class engagements within the 9 schools.  
51 Youth participants within the 5 divisions of Kampala were also sensitized about NMT and Road Safety
- v) About 4,700 children and 112 youths were indirectly sensitized about NMT and Road Safety
- vi) Developed and launched a social media awareness campaign focusing on the advantages of NMT usage. Over 2,500 impressions and 400 engagements were made on X social media platform.



*Road Safety and NMT awareness raising for schools and the youth*

## 5. Provision of Workplace Safety and Health Training Services in the 5 National Teachers' Colleges (NTCs) of Uganda.

URRENO undertook the provision of Workplace Safety and Health Training Services in the 5 National Teachers' Colleges of Uganda which include; Kabale, Kaliro, Mubende, Muni, and Unyama. The project was funded by the Belgian Development Agency (Enabel) for a period of 20 Months from June 2021 to February 2023. The project scope included:

- Design and conduct Occupational Health and Safety hazard identification.
- Risk assessment and training needs assessment exercise.
- Development of OHS training and awareness-raising material which include; Training Agendas, Facilitators manuals, participants workbooks, OHS handbooks, OSH committee handbooks, presentation slides, OSH induction tools, OSH Reporting recording and investigation tools, OSH signage, OSH policy statements, construction environment OSH management tools, safety data sheets, Violence against women, girls and children management tools and Structure and facility management guide post construction.
- Testing and validation of training and awareness material.
- Roll out of training plan to a targeted audience using a competency-based training approach.
- Monitoring and Evaluation during and post-training.



Health and Safety Training in National Teacher's Colleges



## Other Activities to Promote Road Safety in Partnership with Nicole Foundation



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- The event was held at Kitante Primary School (A government school with an enrolment of 3640 pupils) aimed at mobilizing and seeking support from government agencies, CSOs, the Private sector, Academia, Leaders of Bus and Taxi drivers Associations, Insurance, and School children in signing the petition calling for speed reduction (30km/hr) in built-up areas.

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## Key Activities

- Street Exhibition along Kira Road in Kampala with Africa Care Kids band leading a group of cyclists and marching participants who enthusiastically walked to the Kitante Primary school starting from a point at Pupils enabling Zebra crossing located along Kira Road
- Presentations by pupils of Kitante Primary School i.e. songs, poems
- Speech from The school's head teacher highlighting the challenges the school is facing in keeping the children on the road including; the absence of a traffic guide, big and visible road signs e.g. warning for speed reduction, and children crossing continue to endanger lives at a point where pupils of 2 primary and one secondary schools use to and from school. She said 18 pupils have since been knocked by speeding motorists.
- Speeches from different Keynote speakers from Uganda Police, Representatives from the Kampala City Authority, Ministry of Works and Transport, CSOs in Road Safety, etc. highlighting their plans to promote road safety in Kampala.
- Other activities included a demonstration of EMS by the Uganda Red Cross and the signing of the petition by the participants to the parliament of Uganda to reduce the speed limit to 30kph in school zones and built-up areas.



The 7<sup>th</sup> UN Global Road Safety Week at Kitante Primary School