

2023 Annual Report



SAFER ROADS FOR AFRICA





About Us

- Safe Way Right Way is a Non-Governmental Organization which was founded in 2013 as a result of a collaboration between the World Bank's Global Road Safety Partnerships and TotalEnergies to improve road safety on Uganda's economic road corridors.

Vision

- To achieve a crash free road network in Uganda.

Mission

- To promote road safety through public and private sector partnerships on Uganda's road networks.

OUR 2023 PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE



A Year's Overview

This report covers the activities and achievements of Safe Way Right Way's (SWRW) programmatic activities for the period of January to December 2023. The projects covered in this report include the Professional Driver Training School, the Community Road Safety Project in the Albertine, the VIA school road safety program, and the Safe Helmets Uganda Project (SHUP). The year 2023 was productive in all spheres as the organization successfully advocated for the review and update of two critical road safety instruments, and recorded an increase in its activity presence and program outcomes especially in Kampala and the Albertine Region in a bid to fulfill its commitment to promoting road safety for all road users in Uganda. Together with partners, both public and private sector, SWRW worked towards ending road crashes on Uganda's road networks.

Notably, in Buliisa district as a result of the SWRW initiatives in collaboration with other key partners, a 38% reduction in road crashes has been recorded as per Uganda Police Traffic data.



SNAPSHOT OF 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS



**260 KMS ROADS
ASSESSED FOR SAFETY**



**189 ROAD SAFETY
CHAMPIONS TRAINED.**



**4,747 COMMUNITY
MEMBERS SENSITIZED
DIRECTLY (& 4M+
INDIRECTLY)**



**6,924 SCHOOL GOING
CHILDREN TRAINED**



516 PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS TRAINED



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

1. PROFESSIONAL DRIVER TRAINING SCHOOL

Focusing on Gender inclusivity in the transport and logistics sector.



With 516 (75F, 441M) drivers trained in the year 2023, it was evident from the 2023 enrolments that the Professional Driver Training program is attracting an increase in female participants compared to the project's first four years. The progressive increase in the number of women enrolling and training as -

professional drivers is encouraging and demonstrates positive growth in confidence and willingness of female drivers to break biases associated with women participation in the in the continued efforts SWRW has been making to attract more women to participate in HGV driver training.



SWRW changed my driving Philosophy.



The SWRW Professional Driver Training Uganda project has successfully trained over 1,400 HGV drivers. Among the many trainees is Bukenya Muhammed. My passion for driving is what led him to seek advanced skills in HGV operation and road safety, he says.

Bukenya's discovery of SWRW came as a pleasant surprise when he saw a news interview featuring a lady driver operating a pioneer bus and crediting the training center for her success. Inspired by her achievements, Bukenya realized that joining SWRW could help him fulfill his dream of becoming a skilled professional driver.

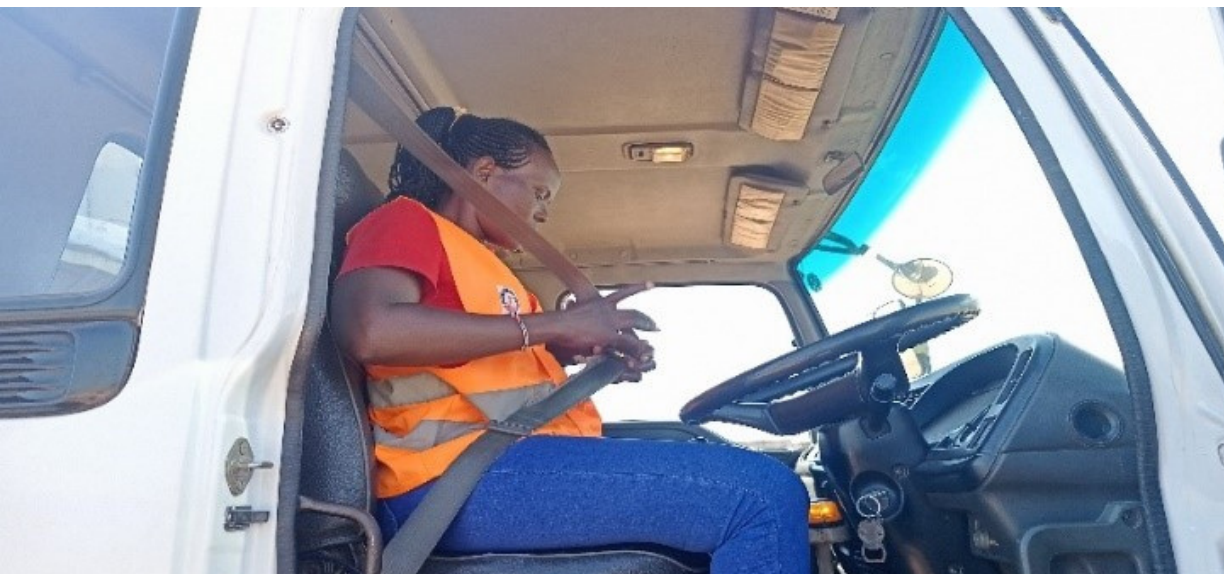
Understanding the importance of acquiring valuable skills, Bukenya emphasizes the significance of the training he received. He eagerly looks forward to applying the knowledge gained on the road, noting, *'There's a noticeable difference before and after the training. I can't wait to put the skills to use.'* Having completed the Class C training (Medium Truck Driving), Bukenya aspires to upgrade to Class CE (Heavy Goods Vehicle- Trailer).

Bukenya encourages other drivers to prioritize road safety and seek additional training to enhance their driving skills and expand their knowledge of road safety. *'Practice safety on the road and aspire to attain more knowledge from institutions like SWRW.'*

SWRW stands out as a specialized training facility for Heavy Goods Vehicles and Passenger Service Vehicles (Buses), welcoming individuals of all genders to enroll.

Professional Drivers Trained - 2023

DESCRIPTION	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
New License Acquisition for class C	156	43	199
New License Acquisition for class CE	228	30	258
New License Acquisition for class DE	8	1	9
Refresher for class CE	47	1	48
4x4 Defensive	2	0	2
TOTAL	441	75	516



A SWRW graduate & friend boosted my confidence to train as a professional driver

Sylvia Wasike, a loving mother of four from the suburb of Luzira in Kampala, has always had a profound passion for driving large vehicles. Her dream began to take shape in 2008 when she witnessed the remarkable feat of a female friend fearlessly transporting goods from Jinja to Mombasa. It was not just the women but also the men she encountered driving these heavy trucks that inspired her, reaffirming her belief that she too could achieve such feats.

Sylvia took the courageous step of approaching her employer expressing her desire to learn HGV driving. They wholeheartedly recommended Safe Way Right Way, a renowned driving school for heavy trucks and buses.

Recounting her experience, Sylvia beams with joy, "I underwent an assessment and felt a lot of joy upon successfully passing, I was very happy when I got to know that women train free. I knew I could now fulfill my dream."

Sylvia's decision to join Safe Way Right Way proved to be transformative. The comprehensive training, she received not only honed her driving skills but also instilled in her the importance of safety on the road.

Although Sylvia has completed her training for class C vehicles, her enthusiasm remains unyielding as she looks forward to enrolling in the class CE program. Reflecting on her training, she expresses sincere gratitude for the invaluable skills she has acquired, fully aware of how they will undoubtedly benefit her in her future pursuits in the driving industry.

Her advice to fellow women is clear and empowering: "join Safe Way Right Way driving school for heavy truck training and enhance your driving skills to become safe and proficient drivers". With unwavering hope and determination, she firmly believes that every obstacle can be overcome.

2. COMMUNITY ROAD SAFETY PROJECT (CRS)



In collaboration with TotalEnergies Exploration and Production Uganda's, Tilenga project, SWRW has been implementing the Community Road Safety project in 5 project districts in the Tilenga project area i.e Buliisa, Hoima (district and city), Kikuube, Pakwach and Nwoya. Following a comprehensive assessment of the regional crash data -

SWRW observed that for every two crashes, one was fatal in the baseline year (2021). In partnership with TotalEnergies, through the Community Road Safety project, SWRW set a target to reduce the number of crashes by 50% by the end of 2025. Below is a summary of activities and key highlights of the project.

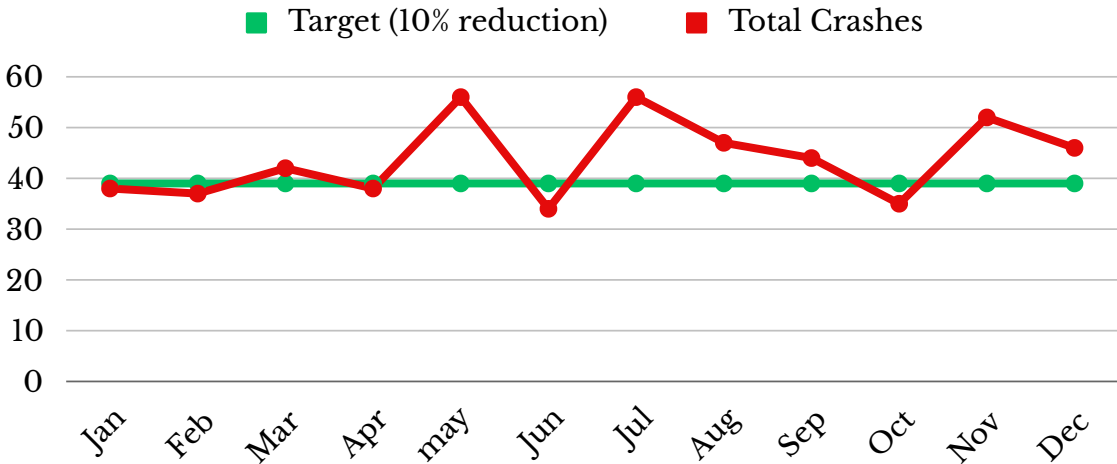
• **Community Sensitisation meetings.**

A total of 101 community sensitization meetings were conducted in 101 most at risk villages and a total of 4,747 community members were sensitized directly on road safety measures in collaboration with Traffic police officers from the respective districts. The villages were identified in collaboration with the Regional and District Traffic Officers - villages with the highest incidence of road crashes were prioritised, and as a result, a reduction in the number of crashes reported has been observed especially in Buliisa district.

Furthermore, observing the increasing number of crashes as a result of domestic animals roaming on the roads in Buliisa district, a workshop targeting animals to address issues relating to unattended animals. the workshop was attended by over 50 animal owners and district stakeholders.

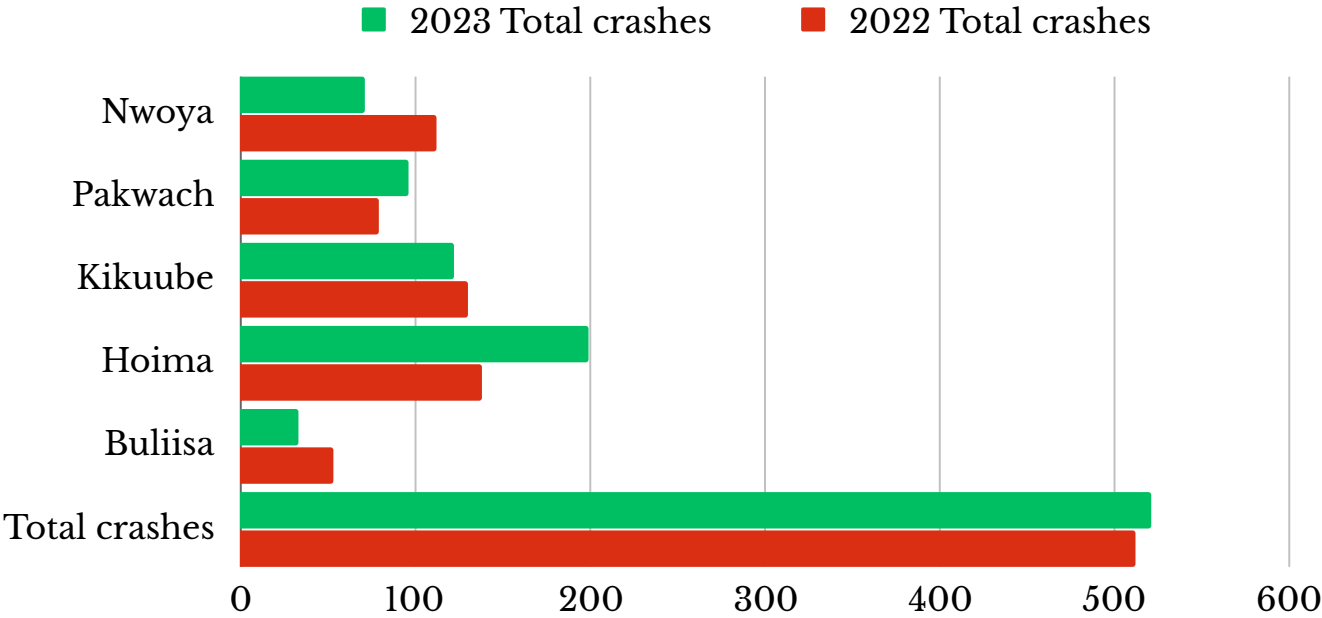
In addition to the workshop and community sensitisations, road safety messages and information has been disseminated through radio broadcasting reaching an estimated 4 million people during this period.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETED 10% REDUCTION IN ROAD CRASHES IN THE ALBERTINE.



- The average number of crashes reported per month for the year 2022 were 43, our targeted 10% reduction is approximated at 39 crashes per month for the year 2023.
- The graph above shows the trend in the months against the target. The incidents featured were all avoidable and our interventions are using some of these incidents as key stories for community awareness.

COMPARISON OF CRASHES BETWEEN 2022 AND 2023 BY DISTRICT



- The target was to reduce crashes by 10% in all the districts in 2023. Buliisa reduced crashes by 38% followed by Nwoya at 36% and Kikuube by 6%.
- In Hoima, the number of recorded crashes increased by 44% and 21% in Pakwach districts.



Boda Boda champions/Trainer of Trainers (ToTs) training

189 Boda Boda riders have been trained as road safety ToTs/Champions to train their peers on Road Safety issues and appropriate safety measures across the 5 districts in the Albertine region, with 34 ToTs in Buliisa, 49 in Hoima City, 48 in Hoima District, a9 in Kikuube District, 20 in Pakwach and 19 in Nwoya district.

Awareness sessions of Boda Boda riders by the TOTS

The trained rider champions have conducted 376 training sessions on their respective stages. A total of 1,689 Boda Boda riders have received training from the champions since January 2023. Over 70% of (mapped) riders in Buliisa, Kikuube, and Pakwach have been sensitized directly resulting in a direct reduction in the number of crashes involving boda bodas compared to 2022 police reports.



Commuter taxi Drivers' Road safety sensitization.

In Hoima City, the busiest town centre in the Albertine region, 70 commuter taxi drivers were trained and sensitized on road safety issues and defensive driver training focusing on speeding, drink driving, and respecting traffic road signs to avoid crashes. The training was conducted in collaboration with the regional Traffic Police , Albertine.



Mass Community Sensitisation through Radio talk shows.

Approximately 6 Million people were sensitized through radio talk shows. 06 radio talk shows were conducted covering and targeting all 5 project districts on four different stations across the region. The talk shows focused on the causes of road crashes and measures to reduce the crashes. Additionally, focus was on Boda Boda riders' behaviour and issues of unsupervised domestic animals on the roads.





Bilateral stakeholder engagement meetings at the district and sub-county level.

Sub county leaders and district leaders were engaged and mobilised all the 5 project districts with key leaders to ensure that they actively participate in project activities and contribute to the mobilisation and coordination of road safety initiatives in their constituencies - as such some of the districts have directly dedicated airtime and personal time to addressing road safety issues on radio stations in their districts.

Marking zebra crossing points.

05 critical pedestrian crossing points were identified and gazetted (by painting zebra crossings) in areas with the highest incidence of pedestrian road crashes in Hoima City. These were at Coronation Primary School, Duhaga primary school, Mandela Junction, Hoima Regional referral hospital, and Hoima central police station.



Road safety inspection.

In partnership with TotalEnergies EP Uganda, SWRW conducted road safety inspection of 260 kms of the most critical road corridor on the Tilenga project from July to October. The Road Safety Inspection aimed to identify any existing safety deficiencies in design, layout, and road signage, which are inconsistent with the national and internationally recommended standards.

The inspection team also engaged traffic police officials along the project corridor to obtain crash data, identify causes of crashes and existing black spots in addition to conducting traffic and vehicular flow analysis, conducted engagements with communities and local leaders along the Hoima – Buliisa and Buliisa – Wanseko corridors. SWRW will use the results and key recommendations from the inspection to advocated for implementation of corrective safety measures in 2024.





Awareness sessions in schools.

120 sessions have been conducted in 50 schools under the CRS Project. 15 in Buliisa, 10 in Hoima, 6 in Nwoya, 22 in Kikuube and Hoima city and 5 in Pakwach.

A total of 6,924 (boys – 3,483, girls – 3,441) students have been trained on road safety awareness in the different schools. A school sensitization on road safety measures with over 600 pupils conducted at Butoole primary school in Kikuube. Additionally, 25 road safety clubs have been established in 25 schools (15 in Buliisa, 5 in Hoima, 3 in Kikuube, and 2 in Pakwach).

A school sensitization campaign was conducted in Kikuube district at Butoole primary school with over 600 pupils sensitized on road safety measures. The pupils were equipped with knowledge about different road safety measures including walking on the right, crossing from zebra crossings, crossing safely where there are no zebra crossings. They were taught to avoid playing in the road, and use of headsets while walking on the road among other issues.

Road safety Marshalls Training

In Buliisa district, SWRW working with a traffic marshal expert trained 16 teachers (11 male and 5 female) from the 12 most at-risk schools) as road safety marshals in a bid to address issues related to challenges faced by pupils and teachers about safe crossing of the road. The 12 schools have been exposed to higher traffic volumes due to the oil and gas activities in the district.



SUCCESS STORY



Ntegeka Patrick

My name is Ntegeka Patrick, I am the chairperson of Boda Boda riders at Butema Kayembe stage in Hoima district. I would like to thank SWRW for the training on road safety. I have trained most of the riders at my stage about how to use the road safely and the number of crashes on my stage has reduced. Before the training, I never used to check my motorcycle before going on the road but now, it is the first thing I do in the morning. I check whether the motorcycle is in good mechanical condition, and everything is safe for me to be on the road. I have trained the other riders on my stage and many of them have adopted this behavior. I really appreciate SWRW and Total Energies for the road safety knowledge they equipped us with.

A LIFE SAVED

Bagonza Jackson

A LIFE SAVED.

"My name is Bagonza Jackson. I am the chairperson of Boda Boda riders at Kibaati stage in Hoima city. I would like to thank SWRW for the training on road safety. Before the training, I used not to put on a helmet while riding, but during the training they emphasized the importance of putting on helmet while riding and I started wearing my helmet since then. Recently I was involved in an accident, and I hit my head on the tarmac, and the helmet cracked but my head was not hurt at all. If I was not putting on the helmet, I would be dead by now. The helmet is the reason I am alive today and I call upon all riders to put on helmets while riding for their own safety".

Kyolekya Patrick

Boda Boda Rider.

I am happy to share with you my road safety story. Before being trained by SWRW, I never used to wear a helmet, reflective jacket or closed shoes while riding and never did daily checks on my motorcycle. Moreso, I never knew majority of road signs.

Luckily, I was selected to be among the Boda Boda riders to be trained by SWRW in road safety, an -

opportunity which I welcomed because I knew I was going to become a better rider. During the training, we were taught a lot of things, and I learnt a lot regarding road safety as a motorcycle rider. Before the training I thought I knew things concerning motorcycle riding but after the training I realized I did not know anything.

During the training I learnt how to observe traffic rules and regulations, interpret

road signs and most importantly defensive riding which helps to ride safely. Now, I know what majorly causes crashes and how to prevent it. I no longer drink and ride, overload my motorcycle, and I put on a helmet very well whenever I am riding. In addition, because of the training, I am now a road safety champion training my fellow stage members on road safety and acting as an example to them.

3. VIA GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION.



In July 2023, SWRW in partnership with TotalEnergies EP Uganda officially launched the VIA road safety program in Schools in a successful event in Buliisa district. Key among those present was the Woman Member of Parliament of Buliisa district who delivered the keynote address, the CEO of SWRW, officials from TEEPU, an officer from Michelin, VIA teachers and students, and the representatives from the CAO, LCV and RDC offices.

The teachers trained as road safety educators continued with awareness sessions in schools in Buliisa, Hoima, Kikuube, Nwoya, Pakwach, and Kampala.

A total of 13,570 (6,974 boys, 6,596 girls) new students were reached in the in-class sessions and the rest reached through the general sessions. SWRW assessed the status of road crashes, and it was discovered that incidences of crashes involving pupils had significantly reduced and the teachers attributed this to the road safety awareness campaigns in schools.

Additionally, as part of the VIA – road safety project, SWRW working with VIA educators conducted road safety awareness sessions at the Uganda Society of the Deaf in Namirembe. SWRW cognizant of the unique challenges the pupils who have hearing impairments face, partnered with the VIA educators to implement the interventions on road safety.

The pupils expressed concerns about the heightened risks they face as pedestrians and cyclists with hearing impairment and appreciated SWRW for providing reflector vests that will make them more visible and easily identifiable by other road users.

'A total of 13,570:

- **6,974 boys**
- **6,596 girls**

New students were reached '

School fencing

Following key recommendations from the *iRAP* STAR Rating of schools in Buliisa district in 2022; twelve most at-risk schools on the main highway in the district were selected to implement one of the key recommendations, i.e. fencing of the schools.

The 12 schools selected had previously recorded at least 2 crashes involving students annually before the VIA road safety program commenced. Since the implementation of the program and commencement of the fencing exercise, none of the schools has recorded a road crash involving any of the students.

In addition, SWRW also distributed road traffic sign posters to 52 schools in Buliisa district to be used by teachers to sensitize students.

VIA Creative Competition

As part of the VIA global creative competition, 10 schools implementing the VIA program in Uganda participated in the competition.

The 10 schools using art and creativity developed posters advocating for safer mobility and policy change for school going children. Pakwach Modern Primary School emerged as the national winner and represented the Uganda VIA program in the Regional competition.



4. SAFE HELMETS PROJECT (SHUP) UGANDA.

Working with the Road Safety Coalition Uganda (ROSACU) and the Boda Boda Leadership in Kampala district; and with support from the Global Road Safety Partnerships and the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety, Safe Way Right Way (SWRW) organized the Launch of the Safe Helmet Campaign in Kampala. The campaign was planned as one of the events to commemorate the UN Global Road Safety Week in May 2023. 847 (9 Females, 838 Males) riders were sensitized on how to use the road safely. The launch was attended by the Minister of Kampala, the Resident City Commissioner, The Commissioner of Transport, Regulation and Safety, the Commissioner of Emergency Services at the Ministry of Health, Police, CSO partners, and Boda Boda leadership and riders. SWRW distributed 500 reflector jackets, 7 standard helmets, and leaflets with key road safety messages to the riders.



Additionally, SWRW conducted a helmet awareness campaign in the major 5 divisions of Kampala including Kawempe, Rubaga, Makindye and Nakawa divisions. The objectives of the campaign were to increase the uptake and utilization of helmets among riders by raising awareness of the risks of not wearing a helmet, addressing the reasons behind riders' lack of motivation to wear helmets and to raise awareness of updated regulations on helmet usage and standards. Over 1000 riders attended the engagements organized at division level. SWRW distributed about 1,060 reflector jackets and 25 standard helmets.



SAFE HELMETS PROJECT (SHUP) UGANDA.



Motorcycle & tricycle regulations, and Helmet standard updated

Following the successful implementation of the Safe Helmet Uganda project in 2022, and with the support of partner civil society organisations under the ROSACU coalition, the revised Motorcycle and Tricycle regulations were successfully passed into law by the Ministry of Works and Transport in March 2023. On the other hand, the project also successfully collaborated with partners and the Uganda national Bureau of Standards on the review, update and passing into law the Uganda Helmet standard US 774.

The project prioritised advocacy for an update of the Motorcycle and Tricycle regulations and the Uganda Helmet standard in a bid to address one of the five key risk factors in Uganda, which is:- the use of safe helmets. The updated standard has been aligned to internationally recommended safe helmet guidelines and features, whereas the regulation introduces mandatory requirements for riders and passengers to wear and fasten a safe helmet at all times among other provisions.

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