The impact of a safe routes to school project in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

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Africa has the world’s most dangerous roads. Most vulnerable include children and motorcyclists. Over 85% of children in Africa walk to school.
Global Drive for Safer Roads
SARSAI: School Area Road Safety Assessments and Improvements

The Process

1. Step 1 - Identify Schools at Risk
2. Step 2 - Undertake School Assessments
3. Step 3 - Implement Improvement Measures
   a. Minor infrastructure improvements
   b. Road Safety Education
4. Step 4 - Monitor & Evaluate Programme
   a. Speed measurements
   b. Population based control study
5. Step 5 - Contribute to the Long Term Road Safety Agenda through Advocacy

Collaborate with Relevant Authorities & Stakeholders
Collaborating with Relevant Authorities and Stakeholders
(Example of Dar es Salaam)

President’s Office – Regional Administration & Local Government

Municipal Councils
[5 in Dar es Salaam]

Municipal Education Officer
(for road safety education)

TARURA Manager & Municipal Engineer
(for minor infrastructure improvements)

Municipal Community Development Officer
(for community based evaluation surveys)

Teachers
Students

Ward Leaders
Community Leaders

Community
Identifying Schools at Risk

• Criterion 1: Road Traffic Injury Rate
  (Schools with anecdotally high rates)

• Criterion 2: Location
  (Municipal Road or Trunk Road)

• Criterion 3: Infrastructure Plans
  (Plans in the pipe line which may affect SARSAI)

• Criterion 4: School Level of Interest & Support

SARSAI: School Area Road Safety Assessments and Improvements
School Assessments & Surveys

- Interviews & Focus Group
- Pupil Mode of Transport Survey
- Pedestrian Counts
- Pupils Catchment Area Mapping
- Speed Survey
- Traffic Counts
SARSAI: School Area Road Safety Assessments and Improvements

Pupils catchment area mapping
Pupil Mode of Transport Survey  (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Walk (87.61%)
Bus (9.21%)
Car (1.32%)
Motorcycle (0.88%)
3-Wheeler (0.24%)
Train (0.14%)
Bicycle (0.10%)
Ferry (0.07%)
Combined mode (0.44%)
SARSAI: Infrastructure Improvements

• Safe footpaths
• Safe crossings
• Speed humps
• Speed limits
• Road signs
SARSAI:
Infrastructure Improvements
• Population-based randomised control study
• Door to door surveys within school catchment areas
• 18 schools: 9 intervention, 9 control
• Data collected on 12,000 children (5 - 16 years old)
• Supported by the FIA Foundation and Centers for Disease Control
• For every 286 children whose school receives SARSAI, one injury per year is prevented
  • 26% reduction in injuries
  • 58% reduction in head injuries
  • 26% reduction in injuries related to motorcycles
Thank you!

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