

COMMUNITY MAPPING, ZAMBIA



Date started: Nov 2009 **Date finished:** Ongoing

Partners: GRSP Zambia and its partners

Cost/time/resources: 3000 USD

Main result so far: Data collected and crash sites mapped in Lusaka by the community



Lusaka is the capital and largest city of Zambia. It has a population of 1,200,000 (2007 estimate) and is considered one of the fastest growing (in terms of population) cities in Africa. Approximately 11,000 crashes happen in Lusaka every year – accounting for more than half of the country's total number of road crashes and a third of the country's road traffic fatalities. In order for GRSP Zambia to target key risk factors and key risk areas it wanted to know more details about the road crash incidents, where they happen, why, who is involved etc. In close collaboration with the national road safety agency (RTSA) and the Lusaka City Council a workshop was organised to clarify the picture using local knowledge and expertise.

Summary project sheet.

Objectives and scope

GRSP Zambia wants to put a programme together targeting key road safety issues and involving key stakeholders. In order to get a good understanding, a workshop was prepared in Lusaka. To understand the true problem you have to use local knowledge and collect data from different source like police, transport, road safety agency, multilateral, health services and insurance.

Activities

The workshop aimed to achieve the following:

- Get an understanding of the road safety issues in Lusaka using available data and community input.
- Put together a programme targeting different elements to reduce the number of road fatalities and injuries in Lusaka
- To encourage a concerted and multi-disciplinary approach in solving road safety related critical issues.
- Get buy-in from relevant role players and stakeholders within the local authority and community groups to resolve road safety issues
- To empower community members.

Presentations were made from Lusaka City Council, Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA), Lusaka University Teaching Hospital, Community response to Emergency (ERT) – a voluntary ambulance service, Madison Insurance, World Bank, Zambian Red Cross Society and a number of road safety advocacy organisations. From the presentations it was learnt who (primarily men up to 41 years), and when (late nights and early mornings), and where road crashes happen (high-speed roads, and areas with many pedestrians).

In a following 'mapping exercise' all 40 participants noted down on maps where road safety hazards do occur, and in particular the voluntary ambulance service could share exactly where the most dangerous spots were. Following the mapping exercise, group discussions were held to list activities to improve the situation for the targeted and acknowledged key risk factors.

Conclusion and main lessons learnt

The 2 days workshop fully accomplished the goals of mapping the road safety situation, involve and empower community members and stakeholders as well as giving input to the development of the GRSP Zambia programme with targeted activities to the needs.