

Celebrating success

UN Decade of Action for Road Safety
Case Study 2

Global Policy



“At least 3-star safety on the highest risk roads by 2020 – no excuse”

Zoleka Mandela, Brazil 2015

Star Ratings provide an evidence-based objective measure of crash risk to ensure that safety is built-in to designs for upgrades and new roads prior to construction. For governments and development banks, the process opens the opportunity to set performance-based targets for vehicle occupants, motorcyclists, pedestrians and cyclists that not only improve safety but create a high level of transparency and accountability. The impact of raising high-risk road networks to a 3-star or better standard will deliver long term savings in death and serious injuries, and hospital and insurance costs whilst also providing a positive way for Governments to track performance. Optimising investment to maximize travel on 3-star or better roads provides agencies with both the business case and metric to manage the safety of road infrastructure in their jurisdiction. The investment and actions needed to meet the UN SDG target to halve road deaths and injuries can be calculated, the return on investment determined, the roads upgraded and the lives saved.

Who is leading the way?



New Zealand: 4-star roads of national significance; Wellington Gateway toll roads to be a minimum 4-star standard



Netherlands: No 1 or 2-star roads by 2020



United Kingdom: 90% of travel on 3-star or better strategic road network by 2020, and 4 and 5-star motorways



Australia: Queensland target 85% of travel on 3-star or better roads by 2020; Tasmanian Midlands Highway 3-star minimum standard



Malaysia: 75% of travel on 3-star or better high volume roads by 2020 (Malaysia MoT)



Chile: Autopista Centrale toll road upgrade to meet minimum 3-star standard



Sweden: 75% of network at 3-star or better by 2020 and near 100% by 2025

International financial institution leadership



Asian Development Bank: Recommendation for 4-star roads for pedestrians and cyclists in linear settlements and those carrying 50,000 vehicles and more, 3-star or better for all other road projects



World Bank: Minimum 3-star roads for projects in India



Millennium Challenge Corporation: Eliminating 1 and 2-star roads in Moldova, Philippines and El Salvador

For more information on the business case and policy opportunity for maximising travel on 3-star or better roads, see iRAP's [How 3-Star or Better Roads Can Cut Road Trauma](#) brochure.

