



## Global Road Safety Partnership

### *Ngizoba Safe Routes to School Programme in eThekweni, South Africa*



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save millions  
of lives.

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## About the programme

- The eThekweni Municipality has been improving engineering infrastructure around schools since 2006 in an effort to reduce these school related crashes involving children.
- The Safe Routes to School programme is considered to be the most comprehensive child safety initiative of its kind anywhere in the world.
- The aim of the programme was to reduce the involvement of children in road crashes when travelling to and from school, and the City therefore embraced this opportunity.





## About the programme

- Children aged between 5 and 9 years old, are the age group most involved in pedestrian crashes in eThekweni, and many of these crashes occur when children are walking to and from school each day.
- Over 7,000 children in Durban, eThekweni are benefitting from the Safe Routes to School Programme which has been implemented by the eThekweni Municipality.
- The research project which has been piloted at 8 schools by the Road Safety Branch of the Transport Authority since January 2016, is funded by the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson and co-ordinated by the Global Road Safety Partnership.



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## About the programme

### Primary Schools chosen:

1. Cato Manor,
2. Kwa Mashu,
3. Umlazi and
4. Welbedacht/Dem

### Risk Factors identified in the area:

- High vehicle speeds around schools where children were crossing and walking along roads,
- Insufficient pedestrian facilities,
- Unsafe parking activities of vehicles around school zones, and
- Children not wearing seatbelts when being driven to and from school.





## ***Steps taken during the project:***

- Teachers trained by facilitators using innovative Road Safety Programmes
- eThekweni's Ngizoba road safety education programme presented by eThekweni road safety staff
- Children pledged to become safer road users as part of this campaign
- Seatbelts installed in all foundation phase classrooms for practise purpose
- Reflective high visibility school bags provided to all learners for higher visibility
- Roads around the schools assessed by iRAP methodology, given safety rating
- A list of infrastructure improvements compiled, with an implementation programme
- Crash data has been analysed on all roads with a 500m radius of these schools and this will be used as the baseline data for monitoring and evaluation



## ***Programme`s positive outcomes:***

- Educators are motivated to teach road safety education following the dynamic and inspiring training
- The seatbelts installed in classrooms are regularly used, and learners are all proud of their high visibility bags which they use each day when coming to school
- Additional road safety activities are being conducted at all the schools both in the classrooms and at assembly time. A road safety fun day was also held at one the schools.
- Road Safety in eThekweni has benefited from the introduction of new approaches and technologies both with regard to the improvement of skills and capacity but also attaining synergy through collaboration with our partners.

# ***Working for a world free of road crash death and injury.***

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