



THREE
STAR
COALITION

World Bank Transport Practice Sets Major Road Safety Requirement

The World Bank's Transport Global Practice has set a new road safety requirement which will be applied to billions of dollars of World Bank loans and grants. The requirement is expected to prevent thousands of traffic deaths each year and tens of thousands of serious road injuries.

Upgraded roads financed by the World Bank are designed to carry more traffic at faster speeds, with corresponding economic benefits. When roads are upgraded without rigorous safety measures, deaths and serious injuries rise as a result of the faster speeds and increased traffic volume.

The significance of the World Bank Transport Practice's new requirement is that roads to be financed must now include safety measures such that the new road will have no more forecast fatalities than the original road, and will often have fewer fatalities as additional road safety opportunities are identified, even though there is more traffic and faster speeds.

In cases where it is claimed that this standard cannot be reached, there must be a review by the World Bank's Global Road Safety Lead. If they agree that the standard cannot be reached, they would normally work with the project team to ensure that at least 7% of the project budget is devoted to safety measures which attain the best possible road safety result.

The World Bank Global Director for the Transport Practice encouraged staff help deliver the best possible road safety outcomes to developing countries: "As we continue to follow the safe system approach in our dialogue with clients and in our investment projects, this new requirement will be a powerful opportunity to improve the safety of road infrastructure by incorporating the theme in the project appraisal process. We expect the new requirement to save thousands of lives each year."

The Three Star Coalition, which worked with the World Bank in developing this new policy, welcomed the emphasis on road safety results. Three Star Coalition spokesperson Keith Johnson said "This new requirement is a key step forward that focuses on road safety outcomes. Compared to the previous situation, it will not only avert deaths, it will also avert tens of thousands of serious road crash injuries, which often leave people crippled for life. We applaud the World Bank for this important road safety advance."

For further information contact Keith Johnson at +1 206 214 8870 or email him at k.johnson@fundforglobalhealth.org

For a full list of Three Star Coalition member organizations see <https://www.fundforglobalhealth.org/the-3-star-coalition>