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|  | **2019** |
|  | EMPOWERED DRIVERS  SAFER ROADS. |

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**Empowered Drivers, Safer Roads**

**UPDN CAPABILITY STATEMENT**

UPDN is an umbrella organisation for drivers’ associations/organisations and related industry stakeholders. UPDN was established in 2015 and registered as a legal entity with the **National NGO Board** under the **Ministry of Internal Affairs** in 2016. This was at a time when many drivers’ associations were characterized by limited organization which adversely affected coordination efforts in pursuit of common objectives of better welfare, common voice and professionalism. UPDN was hence established to build skills for professional development, coordination for unified voice drivers on road safety agenda and to strengthen driver organisations for better welfare of their members.

We work to stop the tragedy of road deaths and injuries make roads safer for every one and make driving a respected profession. Our work includes; coordination of capacity building of drivers to become road safety champions, raising awareness about road safety in communities across Uganda, coordinating drivers’ participation during the national road safety week, World Day or Remembrance and campaigning for essential road safety policies and safe driving. We are currently running a membership for 17 drivers associations and in the process of producing educational resources and organizing drivers’ conferences on road safety, Health and Driver Livelihood including development of a National Database for professional drivers in Uganda.

**Our Vision**

A society free from road accidents and associated effects

**Our Mission**

Professional driving industry for improved road safety.

**Motto**

Empowered drivers, Safer Roads.

**Our Programs**

* Health
* Road Safety
* Driver Welfare

**Our Approaches**

* Capacity Building
* Advocacy

Knowledge Management

**Core Values**

* Professionalism.
* Accountability.
* Team work.
* Non-Discrimination

**Current Projects**

**Health**

Coordinate community based approaches to improved health and wellness of drivers in Uganda through;

1. Coordinating HIV services demand among truck drivers in Uganda with support from Global Fund for TB/HIV through MARPI-ending December 2020
2. Coordinating health camps at various points of collection for drivers to dialogue, distribute IEBC materials, promote safer sex practices including diagnosis and treatment of common communicable and non-communicable diseases within driver communities
3. Coordinating utilisation of health services in drop in centre programing (safe spaces for health education, referrals and recreation) under different partners as North Star Alliance (Namanve and Malaba), Mildmay (Migera), IDI(Natete),Mbuya (Reach out Mbuya) and in 24 MARPI DIC districts

**Road Safety**

1. We have started implementation of World Bank support to Skills Development Facility (PSFU) under a consortium of UPDN, UDSA, Safe Way Right Way aiming at training and certifying 4 Heavy Goods Vehicle Driver trainers and 150 HGV drivers for anticipated oil and gas sector. Under this project we have support for development of a database to market professionally trained and certified drivers in Uganda
2. As a sustainability strategy, UPDN coordinates professional driver assessment and continuous professional development programs for companies employing drivers.We are currently offering this service across Uganda
3. We organize road safety community engagement to dialogue and educate drivers’ and community on road safety
4. We coordinate efforts of existing training schools to support increased enrollment.We are currently working closely with driving schools such as UDSA, SWRW, Prestige Driving School, Sunmaker Oil and Gas Institute and Graben Logistics Academy
5. This year we have managed to convene two community consultation meetings; on HGV regulations amendment and another on the Amendment of the Traffic and Road Safety Act 1998.Most recently we coordinated the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Accident Victims in Uganda and is in the process of organizing the first National Drivers’ Conference for July 2020

**Driver Welfare**

1. We coordinate training programs for drivers to share skills on IGA and alternative livelihood
2. We have passed due diligence under SDF (PSFU Window 2) to train 180 beneficiaries from 60 driver/boda boda associations currently involved in savings in Alternetive livelihood, financial literacy, entrepreneurial skills and Group dynamics and Leadership. Sunmaker will identify a member from the 50 associations above, to attain hard skills and oil and gas certification in machine operations (earth moving equipment) under the same grant
3. UPDN has mobilized 30 existing driver savings groups and is in process of supporting formation of new ones in every locality of drivers community to promote harmonization of their different saving groups locally, regionally and nationally; with the aim of supporting formation of a National microfinance/Bank for drivers

**2020-2024 PLAN**

Strategic Goals/Objectives

1. Skills Building for professional driving
2. Advocacy for road safety
3. Institutional strengthening for drivers organisations
4. UPDN organisation strengthening

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Actions

1. **Promote continuing skills building among drivers**

***Overall strategy: (International collaboration)***

***Strategic Actions***

* Seek accreditation status with Directorate of Industrial Training (MoES) for certification of informal drivers.
* Strategically position to offer professional driver testing and accreditation
* Collaborate establishment of a National Qualification framework for drivers roll out programme for specialized and continuous driver professional development

1. **Increase advocacy on road safety**

***Overall strategy (networking and coalition building)***

***Strategic Actions***

*Reform on driver training, assessment and grading of permits*

* Standard and Accreditation system for driver/instructor training schools
* Independent driver competence assessment agency (not police)
* Driver permit grading to be based on driver specialty training and competence

*Community awareness and education ty on roads safety*

* Inclusion of road safety in primary and secondary school curricular
* Inclusion of road safety in functional adult literacy
* Inclusion of driver training programs in High schools and institutions of higher learning

*Visibility of road safety in public discourse/policy agenda*

* Government implementation framework for the national road safety policy
* Representation of CSOs on the national road safety council

1. **Strengthen UPDN member driver organisations**

***Overall strategy***

*Governance and management of drivers’ organisations*

* Review and strengthen leadership and management systems for UPDN member drivers organisations
* Design needs based capacity building programme to strengthen governance and management systems

*Driver organisations voice in the road safety public discourse*

* Provide technical assistance in advocacy capacity development
* Link drivers’ organisations to local, national and international road safety advocacy platforms

*Driver organisations as catalysts for drivers’ welfare*

* Review drivers organisations welfare and economic safety nets
* Strengthen leadership capacity to address workplace health and safety
* Strengthen capacity of drivers organisations to reclaim their space in the trade union movement
* Offer technical assistance in strengthening drivers savings and credit cooperatives

1. **Increase UPDN institutional capacity for sustainability**

***Overall strategy:***

*Governance and management*

* Review governance and management policies, structures and systems to align organizational structure and resources with strategy
* Strengthen financial and staff management systems
* Establish a one stop data/resource centre on driving industry and road safety
* Expand organisations footprint through regional offices

*Business development*

* Establish a company to serve as business vehicle of UPDN
* Develop a business plan
* Establish business linkages with corporate organisations and companies in line with UPDN core business

**NB**

***We highly priorotise inclusion of women and other vulnerable persons in professional driver employment***

**Address and Contacts:**

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***UPDN is registered as an NGO under NGO Board Permit Number: 1985824 and as a company limited by Guarantee with the Uganda Registration Bureau Services, certificate no: 80020001105773.***