



**Newsletter
July, 2022
Volume 1, Issue 3**

Inside this issue

Awareness on Blackspots.....1
 Defensive driving for boda bodas ..2
 Hackathon Winners3
 In the News.....3
 Our Team. Partner. Donate.....4

Nicole Foundation and Partners Step up Efforts to Create Awareness on Black Spots

World over, accident prone areas are referred to as black spots. Typically, black spots are characterised with at least three accidents occurring in the same area.

Black spots may be blind corners, very long and narrow stretches, steep hills along which it is hard, if not impossible to see vehicles from the oncoming traffic when overtaking. Black spots may be at junctions or a sharp drop or corner in a straight road, so oncoming traffic is concealed, a hidden junction on a fast road, poor or concealed warning signs at a cross-roads.

The Nicole Foundation (NF) together with Uganda Insurers Association (UIA), the Uganda Police Force (UPF) and the Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) are implementing a project to identify, describe and alert drivers about black spots on roads in Uganda.

“We have identified two road stretches, Mukono to Busitema and Kyengera to Masaka, as some of the roads with the most notorious black spots which need to be publicized. ”, said Mr. Cuthbert Kagabo, Project Manager at the Foundation.

The Foundation contracted Integrated Transport Systems to undertake a road risk (blackspot) assessment study along these two highways in September 2021. The study documented a list of key black spots and a communication plan for key stakeholders. In implementing the recommendations of the study, the Foundation and Uganda Insurers Association (UIA) visited the Kawolo to assess two of the most dangerous black spots on the Mukono – Busitema highway and needs of the trauma center at Kawolo hospital in handling post-crash victims.

“As part of the activities to create more awareness for road users, the Foundation plans to set up road signals on the high-



UNRA, NF, UPF and UIA inspect the proposed location of the billboards on the Kampala—Jinja Highway

way to warn the public to exercise caution while approaching these areas”, he added.

The visit involved meeting with Dr. Kiberu Joshua, the Medical Superintendent of Kawolo Hospital located along the highway in Buikwe District and involved the inspection of the Accident and Emergency Unit of the Hospital. Kawolo Hospital is in the center of one of the busiest highways in the country, hence the risk of fatal and other road accidents. The hospital currently faces a challenge of transport, with no operational Ambulance, and limited medical personnel like nurses and surgeons together with critical medical equipment to handle accident victims.

The Foundation and UIA committed to establishing the needs of the accident and emergency units of the hospital and understand how road accident victims are cared for at the hospital, in order to lobby for more support, including undertaking a Road Safety Training in the area. The key interventions for the hospital trauma centre focus on upgrading the equipment or supplies, including improving the oxygen supply connection to the A&E unit. The team was shown other blackspots between Mukono which include; Lugazi Municipal area, Kiteega, Kayanja, Namataba, Namawojjolo, Mbalala, and Antoni Place.

As a follow up on the plan to set up road signs on this high way the Foundation, together with and the Uganda Police Force revisited a blackspot at Bulyatete (near Lugazi) on 05th July 2022 to assess the proposed locations for setting up another blackspot billboard. UNRA advised that road signages are considered instead of billboards due to the condition of the road. Four spots were selected for setting up the blackspot road signages and NF was given a go-ahead to apply to UNRA for road reserve usage.



Mr. Representatives from the UIA and the Nicole Foundation at Kawolo Hospital in Lugazi

Motorcycle Drivers Urged to Embrace Defensive Driving

Mr. Valery Okecho, the Corporate Affairs Manager of Vivo Energy Uganda (VEU) has urged motor cycle drivers to embrace defensive riding as part of the road safety solutions. He made this call during a behaviour change and road safety promotion training for motorcyclists at Lugazi Municipal Council that was held on 26th July 2022.

nership between the UIA, NF, UPF, and VEU to promote road safety in Uganda. “You have a responsibility to use the knowledge shared to make the roads safer. Be attentive on the road, and emulate corporate safety standards in terms of crash avoidance as much as possible”. He also advised the participants to take up insurance policies for them to be compensated in case they are involved in crashes.



Participants during the training

The training was conducted by Integrated Transport Systems Limited, on behalf of the Nicole Foundations and its partners including the Uganda Insurers Association (UIA), the Uganda Police Force, and VEU.

The Foundation’s vision and mission emphasise the need to improve and sustain the road safety performance, for the attainment of the set target of zero accidents amongst the commercial motorcycle riders.

Mr. Oketcho also advised on the need for the riders’ leadership to follow up on the implementation of the safety processes that were shared during the training. “I urge you to continuously monitor the performance of riders and pick out riders that need further mentorship, and can share the skills and information with others to prevent the occurrence of accidents or unsafe situation occurs”.

This training, which covered both elementary and defensive road safety skills, was organized in fulfillment of the Nicole Foundation’s awareness and communication drive, covering key areas such as causes of crashes and crash avoidance, helmets and their proper use, helmet quality, motor bike maintenance, defensive riding, traffic law and the highway code.

Mr. Ibrahim Kalule from UIA thanked the participants for their enthusiasm during the training. He hailed the part-

nership between the UIA, NF, UPF, and VEU to promote road safety in Uganda. He called on fellow participants to ensure that they use the knowledge shared to make the roads safer for the well-being of the residents of Lugazi.

VEU donated reflector jackets to the participants to help improve their visibility on the road.

Mr. Baguma Hussein, one of the trainees, while expressing his gratitude for the training, said “This training is better than the previous ones where the riders are just blamed ,rather than appreciated and helped to improve on their performance”.



Vivo and Nicole Foundation handover the reflector jackets to the trainees

Road Safety Hackathon Winners Propose Tech-Based Solutions to Accident Reporting

The Nicole Foundation is working with the Innovation Village (TIV) to promote the use of technology to curb road accidents through a Road Safety Hackathon. The partnership was formalized with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and the launch of a hackathon on 9th March 2022.

The two-day Hackathon which ran from 12th – 13th April, 2022 brought together diverse teams of Technical Developers, Business-ees, Generalists and Subject Matter experts to dissect and find possible and practical tech-enabled solutions to road safety. The Hackathon was organized and executed through the Future Lab Studio at the Innovation Village in Kampala.

Builders worked in teams of up to five (5) people, working across the two (2) days to make progress on proposed road safety solutions. The hackathon was supplemented by presentations from subject matter experts, coaching sessions, and opportunities to individually engage with the subject matter expert team.

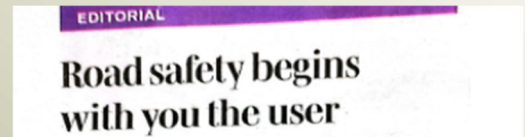
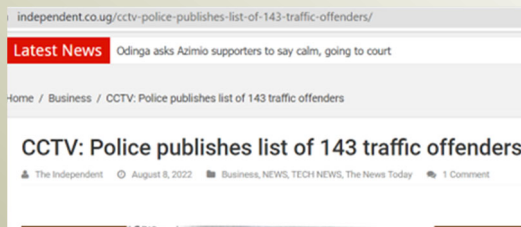
The teams attended workshops on a range of enabling topics such as design thinking, product development, and product pitching aimed at equipping the teams with the skills and insights to develop relevant solutions. The event then culminated in a pitch session where the judges selected the winning concepts.

The winning team, called “Taasa”, proposed an application to facilitate accident reporting and speedy response after accidents. “Tassa” then joined a thirteen week flagship Incubation program, run by Future Lab Studio, which is currently in the sixth week. The program is to help further refine the concept in preparation for the opportunity to pitch to Angel and Venture Capital investors to secure funding to scale up the project. This also requires that the team finds a technical person to help them fine tune their idea to attract funding.



Mabel Tomusange (subject matter expert) training participants in the Hackathon

ROAD SAFETY IN THE NEWS



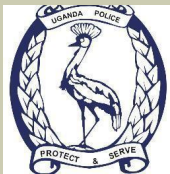


**Newsletter
July, 2022
Volume 1, Issue 3**

Inside this issue

Awareness on Blackspots.....1
 Defensive driving for boda bodas ..2
 Hackathon Winners3
 In the News.....3
 Our Team. Partner. Donate.....4

OUR PARTNERS



Partner With Us



How to Donate

ONLINE

- ◆ Go to the website www.nicolefoundation.org
- ◆ Click on the donate button
- ◆ Specify payment method (either visa or mobile money)
- ◆ Follow the prompts to fill required info

DIRECT BANK TRANSFER

- ◆ Account Name: Nicole Foundation
- ◆ Bank and Branch: Stanbic Bank, Garden City Branch
- ◆ UGX Account number: 9030018967374
- ◆ USD Account number: 9030019117706
- ◆ Mobile Money contributions to: 0776902307

“IT’S NOT ABOUT HOW GOOD OF A DRIVER YOU ARE. IT’S ABOUT THE 5 SECONDS YOU TAKE YOUR EYES OFF THE ROAD. DON’T RISK IT.”

VIA **50 REASONS NOT TO TEXT & DRIVE** **STOP THE TEXTS. STOP THE WRECKS.**

For more information:

+256 776902307 +256701480076



www.nicolefoundation.org



info@nicolefoundation.org



@NicoleFoundati1



Nicole Foundation



Nicole_Foundation