


ROAD SAFETY: AN ISSUE, A CALL TO ACTION



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Lecture Given
at the
1st Ekiti-7 NMA
Memorial
Lecture/Service

 **NIGERIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**
EKITI STATE CHAPTER

Presents:
THE UNFORGETTABLES

**1ST EKITI-7 NMA
MEMORIAL
LECTURE/
SERVICE**



THEME: ROAD SAFETY:
A VOCATION, A HABIT, A SLOGAN,
AN ISSUE AND A CALL TO ACTION


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OCCASION CHAIRMAN
Dr. Kayode Obembe
Immediate Past President, NMA

GUEST OF HONOUR
Prof. Mike Ogirima
President, NMA

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR
Mr. Ayodele Fayose
Governor, Ekiti State

 Saturday, 22nd April, 2017
9.00 a.m.

 Doctors' House
Ado-Iyin Road

Chief Host:
Dr. Sunday OMOYA
NMA Chairman, Ekiti State, 0803 0637978

Monday, 24th April, 2017; Road Walk From Fajuyi Park - EKSUTH
Time: 8.00 a.m. | Dress Code: Ward Coat

Enquiries: 0703 809 6064, 0803 359 9074

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am going to start this lecture by asking a simple question

**IS THERE ANYONE SITTING
HERE WHO HAS NOT LOST A
FAMILY MEMBER, FRIEND,
COLLEAGUE OR NEIGHBOR
IN A ROAD CRASH?**

I HAVE.....

A Respected Senior Colleague

Dr Esimai.....

I HAVE.....

A Beloved Contemporary

Dr Olalekan Badru.....

We all HAVE.....

Then the most shattering tragedy of them all



The Unforgettables!

Ladies and gentlemen....

That is the Issue

**Road Traffic Crashes are a world wide
epidemics**

It has touched almost everyone

And it is an almost perfect epidemics

WHY?

**BECAUSE ITS
IMPORTANCE REMAINS
ALMOST COMPLETELY
UNACKNOWLEDGED...**

...

**....WHILE IT CONTINUES
TO WANT ONLY DESTROY
OUR LIMBS AND LIVES**

JUST IMAGINE IF....



ONE PLANE CRASH

**OR
ONE HORRENDOUS
TERRORIST ATTACK**



**..HAPPENS EVERY SINGLE
DAY OF THE YEAR
FOR THE
PAST
50 YEARS**

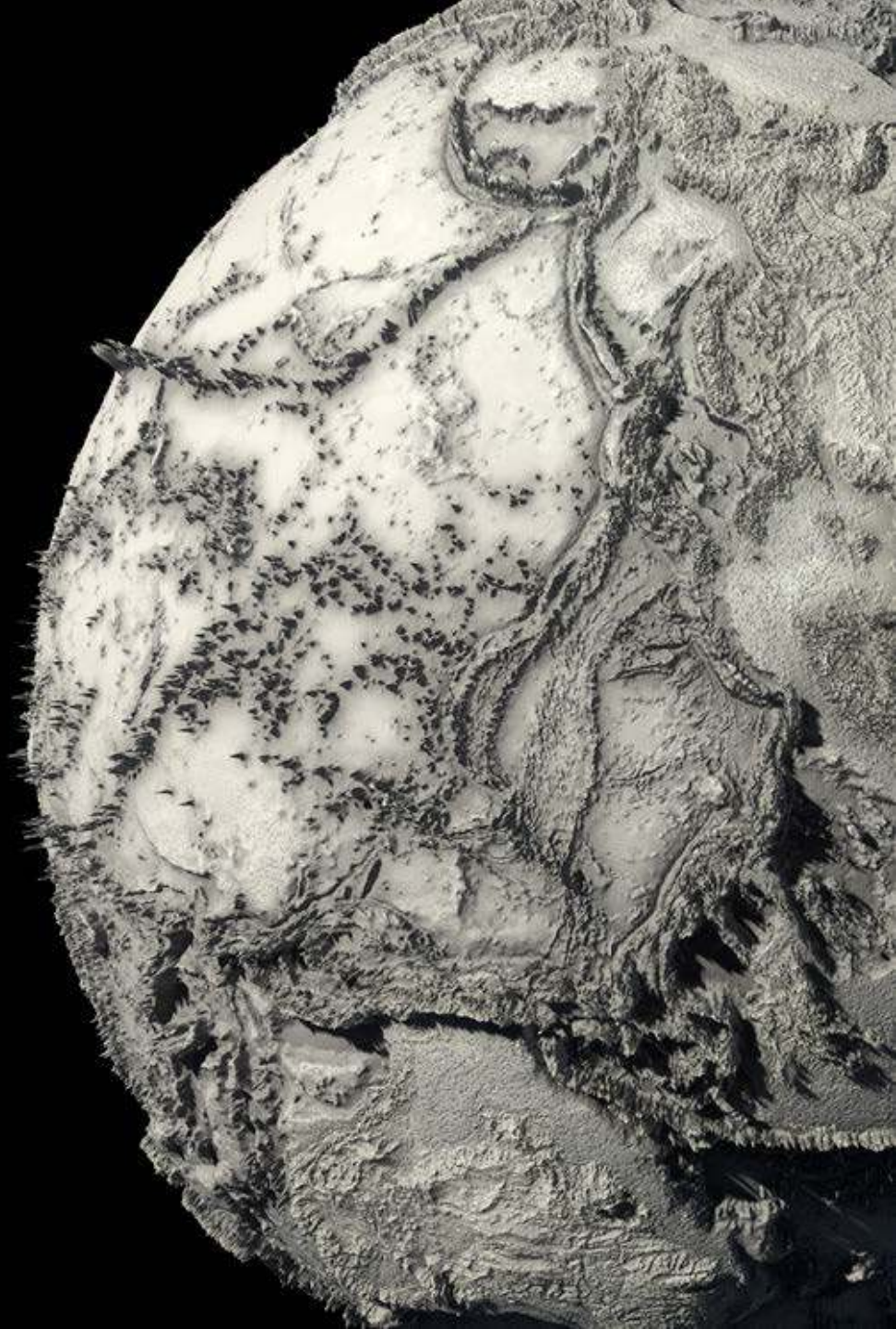


YET
THIS IS WHAT
ROAD TRAFFIC CRASHES
HAVE BEEN DOING FOR DECADES

WHILE
THE
WORLD
SLUMBERS....



**SOMEWHERE
IN
THE
WORLD**



EVERY 25 SECONDS





**A
HUMAN
LIFE
IS LOST**





TO A ROAD CRASH

**THAT
TRANSLATES TO
APPROXIMATELY**

...

1.25 MILLION
DEATHS ANNUALLY



10

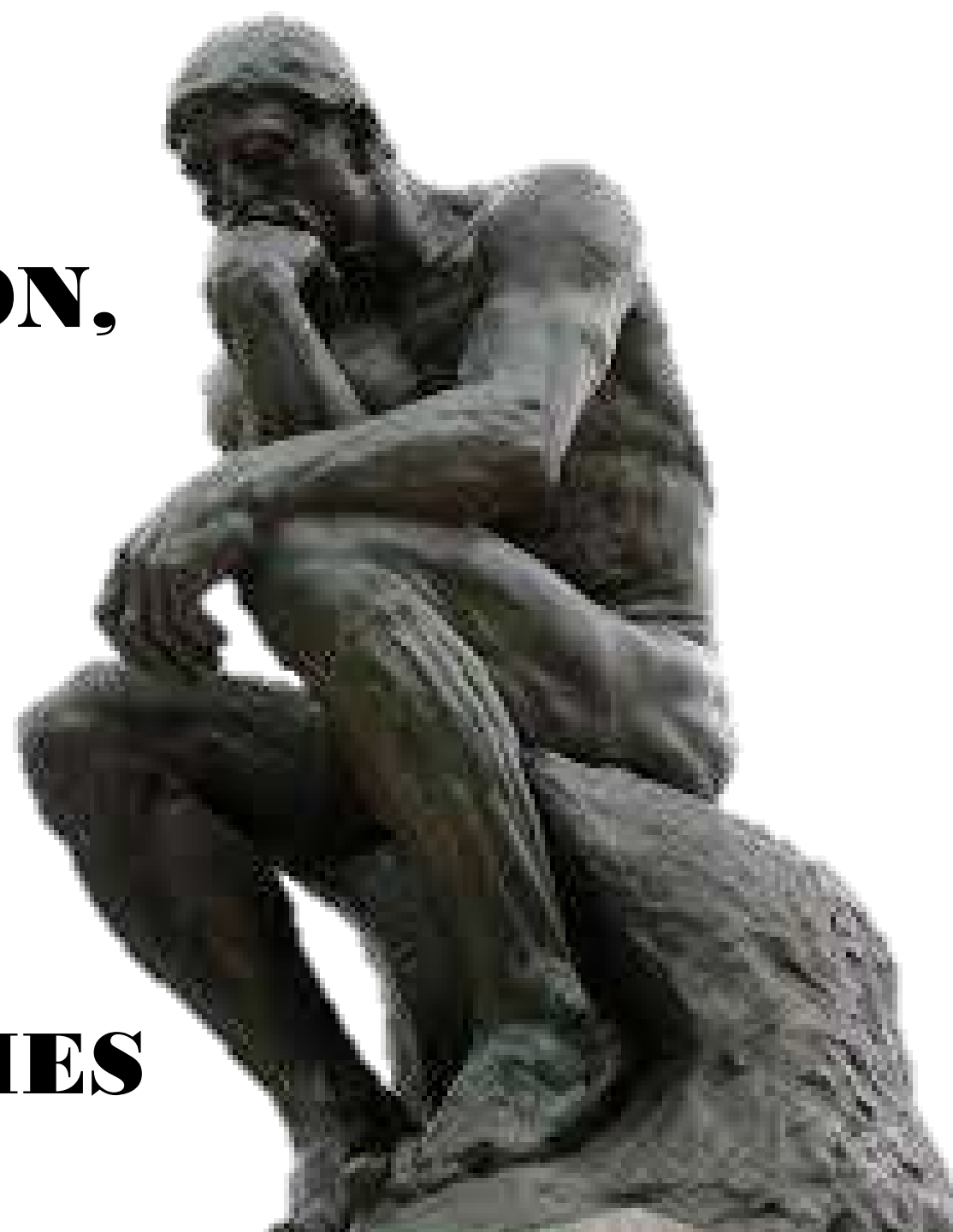
**JUMBO
JET CRASHES
PER DAY!**



**FOR EVERY
DEAD PERSON,
ABOUT**

40

**OR MORE
ARE
INJURED IN
ROAD CRASHES**



WHAT TRANSLATES TO

50 MILLION

**INJURED
PERSONS
PER YEAR**



**OVER A DECADE,
THIS TRANSLATES
TO.....**

**...THE ENTIRE POPULATION
OF NIGERIA**



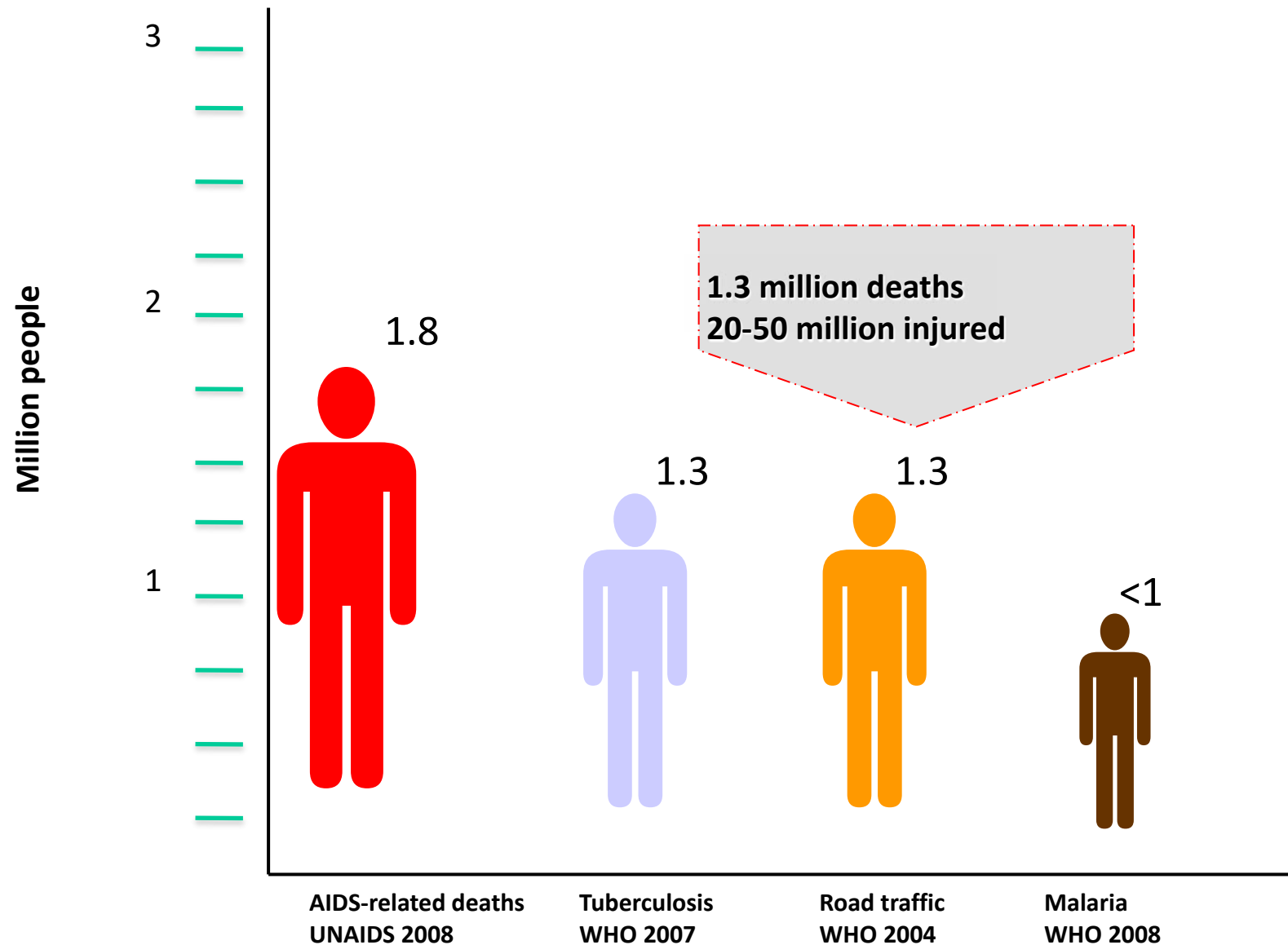
injured on the world's roads

**THE ECONOMIC COST
TO DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES
IS AT LEAST
\$100 BILLION
A YEAR**



...AND IT IS GETTING WORSE

Road traffic deaths: the facts



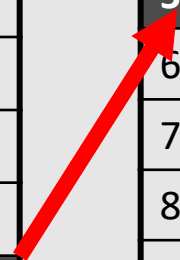
Leading causes of death worldwide

2004

Rank	Disease or Injury
1	Ischaemic heart disease
2	Cerebrovascular disease
3	Lower respiratory infections
4	COPD
5	Diarrhoeal diseases
6	HIV/AIDS
7	Tuberculosis
8	Trachea, bronchus, lung cancer
9	Road traffic injuries
10	Prematurity & low-birth weight

2030

Rank	Disease or Injury
1	Ischaemic heart disease
2	Cerebrovascular disease
3	COPD
4	Lower respiratory infections
5	Road traffic injuries
6	Trachea, bronchus, lung cancer
7	Diabetes mellitus
8	Hypertensive heart disease
9	Stomach cancer
10	HIV/AIDS



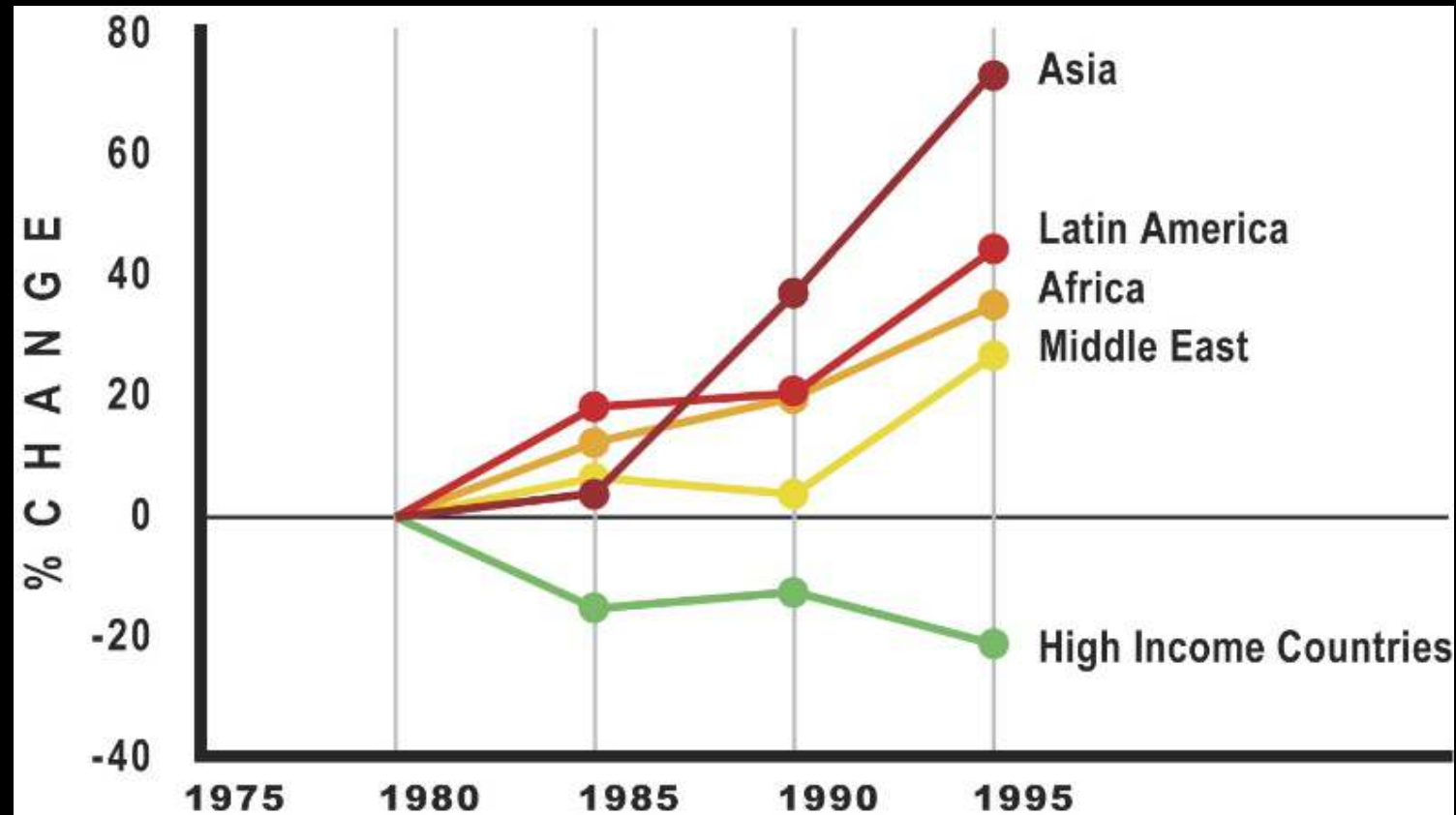


The Unwelcome Statistics

- By 2020, RTD will become the fifth leading cause of death in developing Countries, leapfrogging past HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other familiar killers. (WHO's Global Burden of Disease study)
- Road crash deaths and injuries in low and middle-income countries are now projected to be the 4th largest cause of healthy life years lost by the total population in 2030, compared with malaria (15th) and tuberculosis (26th).
- Globally road deaths are projected to be the leading cause of health losses for children (age 5–14) by 2015, and the second cause for men by 2030

By 2030, Road Crash Death (RTD) is expected to have tripled

The Inequity of RTC

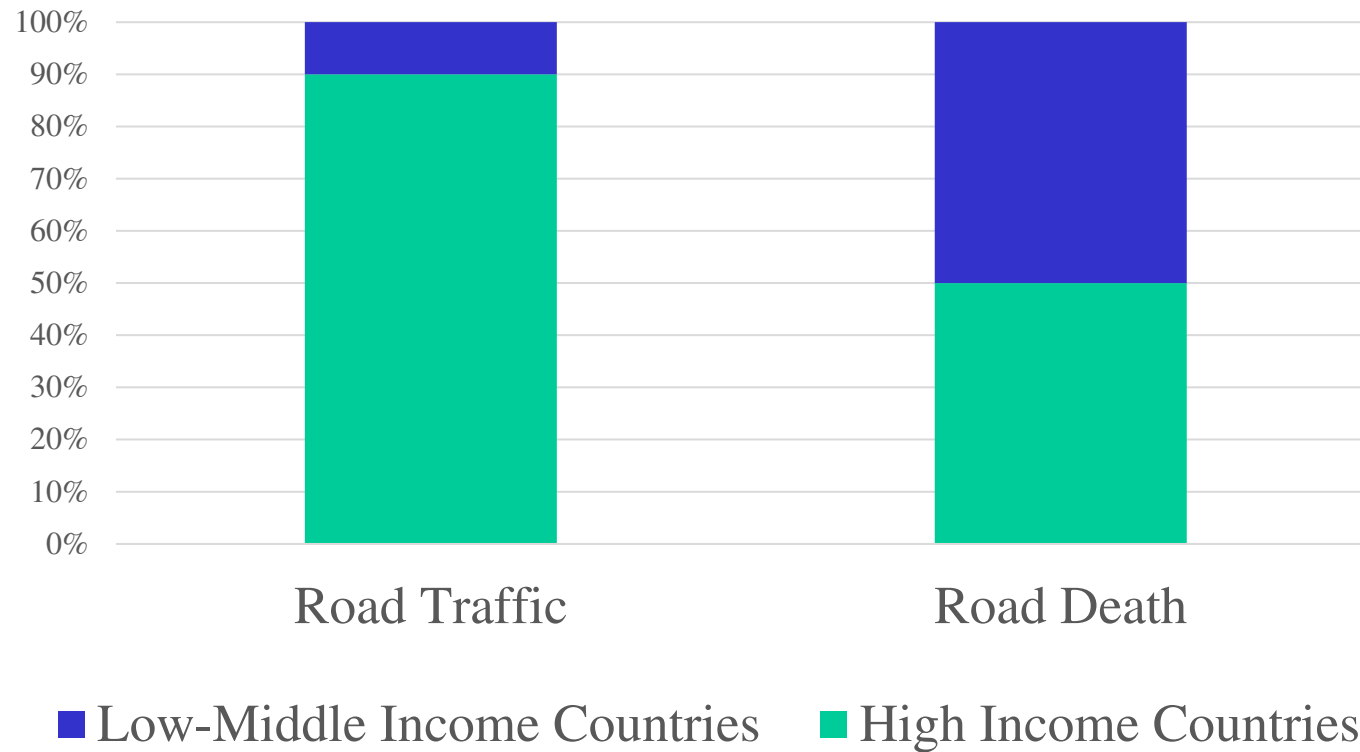


**Change in Fatality per 100,000
Population 1980-1995**



The Inequity of RTC

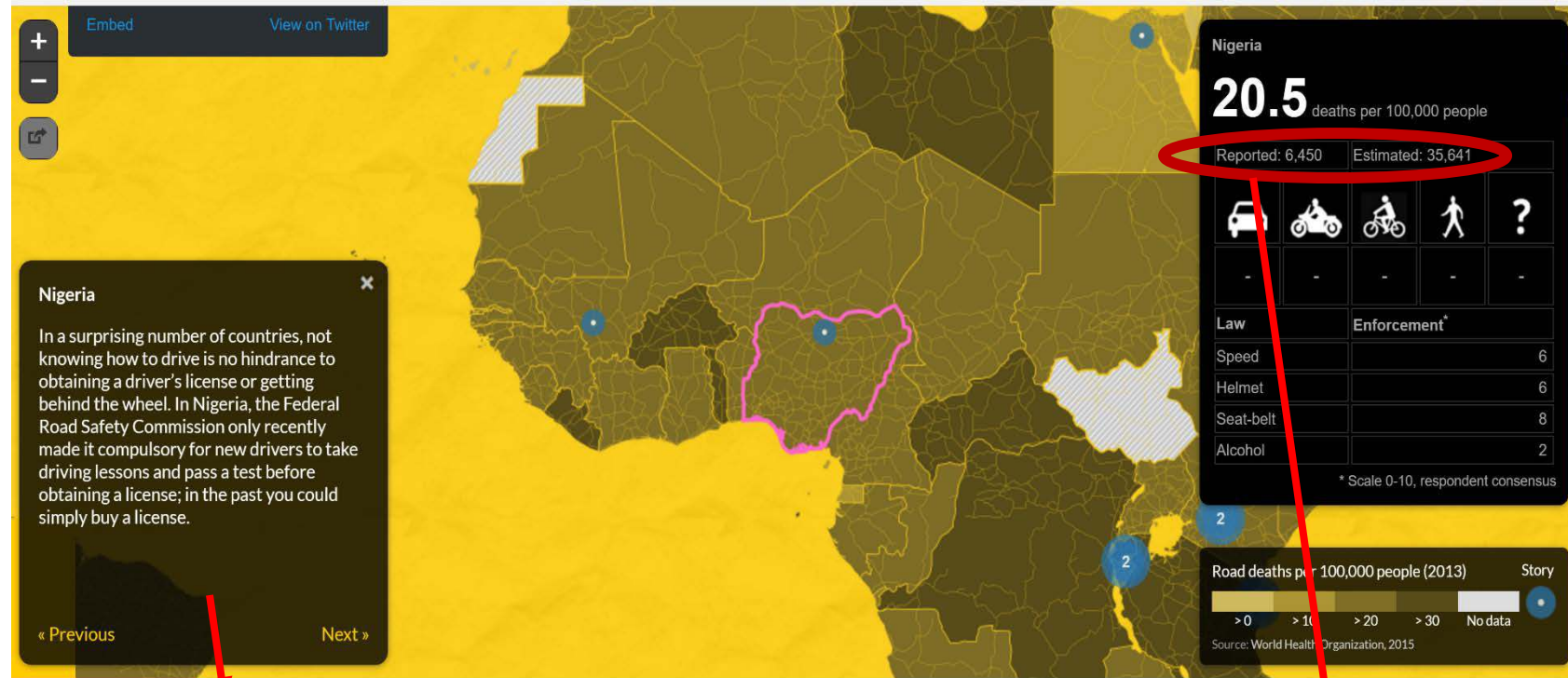
Share of Road Traffic Versus Road Traffic Deaths in HIC and I-MIC



HIC enjoys 90% of the rides and suffers only 50% of the crashes

What is the burden of Road Traffic Injury in Nigeria?

- Difficult to ascertain
- Definitely Underreported
- As such, these values are likely to be grossly underestimated



In a surprising number of countries, not knowing how to drive is no hindrance to obtaining a driver's license or getting behind the wheel. In Nigeria, the Federal Road Safety Commission only recently made it compulsory for new drivers to take driving lessons and pass a test before obtaining a license; in the past you could simply buy a license. (From www.roadskill.com)

Reported:
6,450
Estimated:
35,641

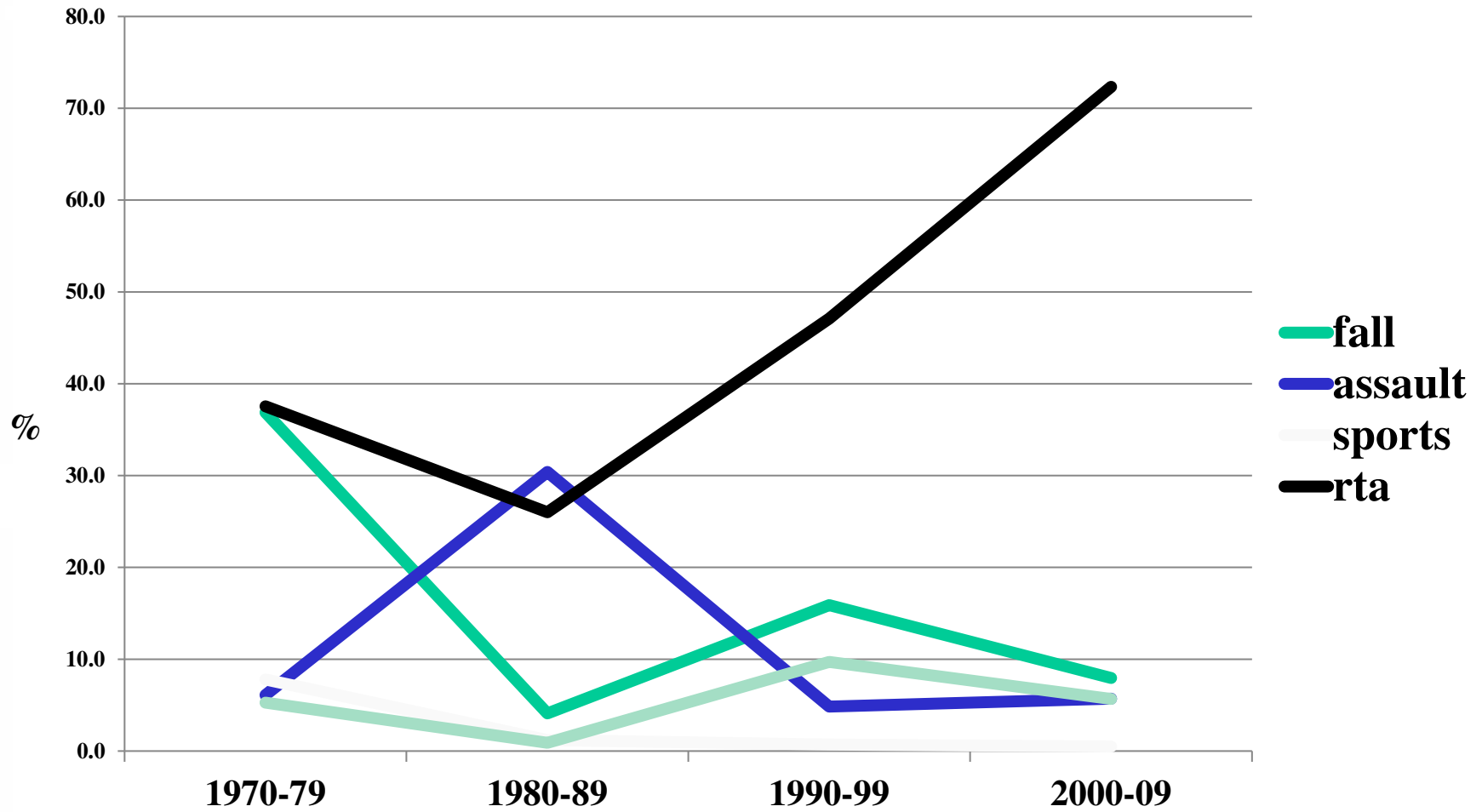


Trauma in Nigeria: A Review of Literature

- A review of literature published on trauma from Nigeria over the last four decades
- Data source: PubMed, African Journal Online (AJOL), Medical libraries in Nigeria.
- Search terms:
 - In PUBMED: MESH terms “trauma” and “Nigeria” were combined
 - In AJOL, “Nigeria Trauma” (minus the quotes) were searched for.
- 69 articles retrieved, 51 included.
- 48,462 patients were included in all the studies

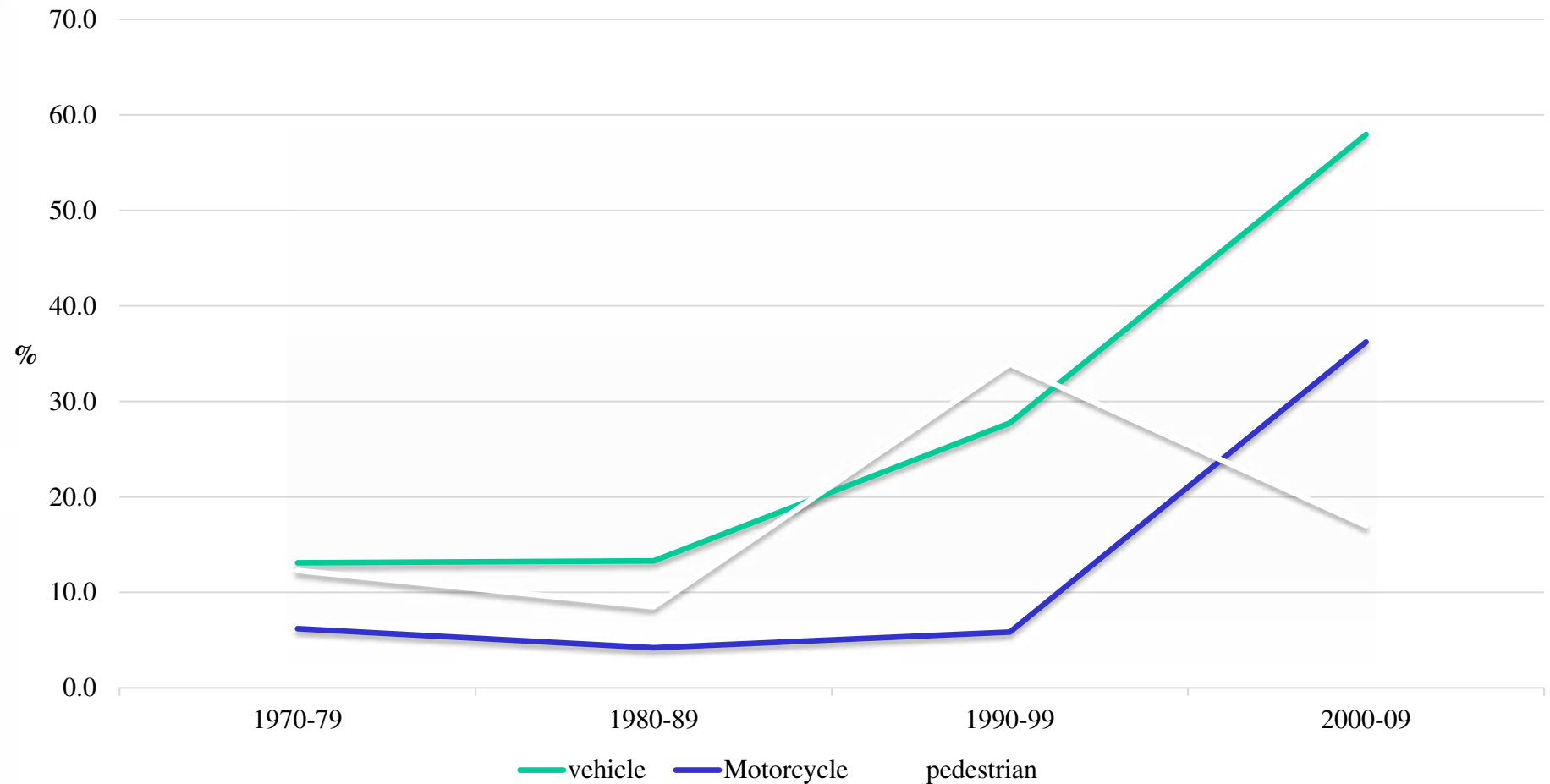


Causes of traumatic injuries in Nigeria: The trend over the last four decades



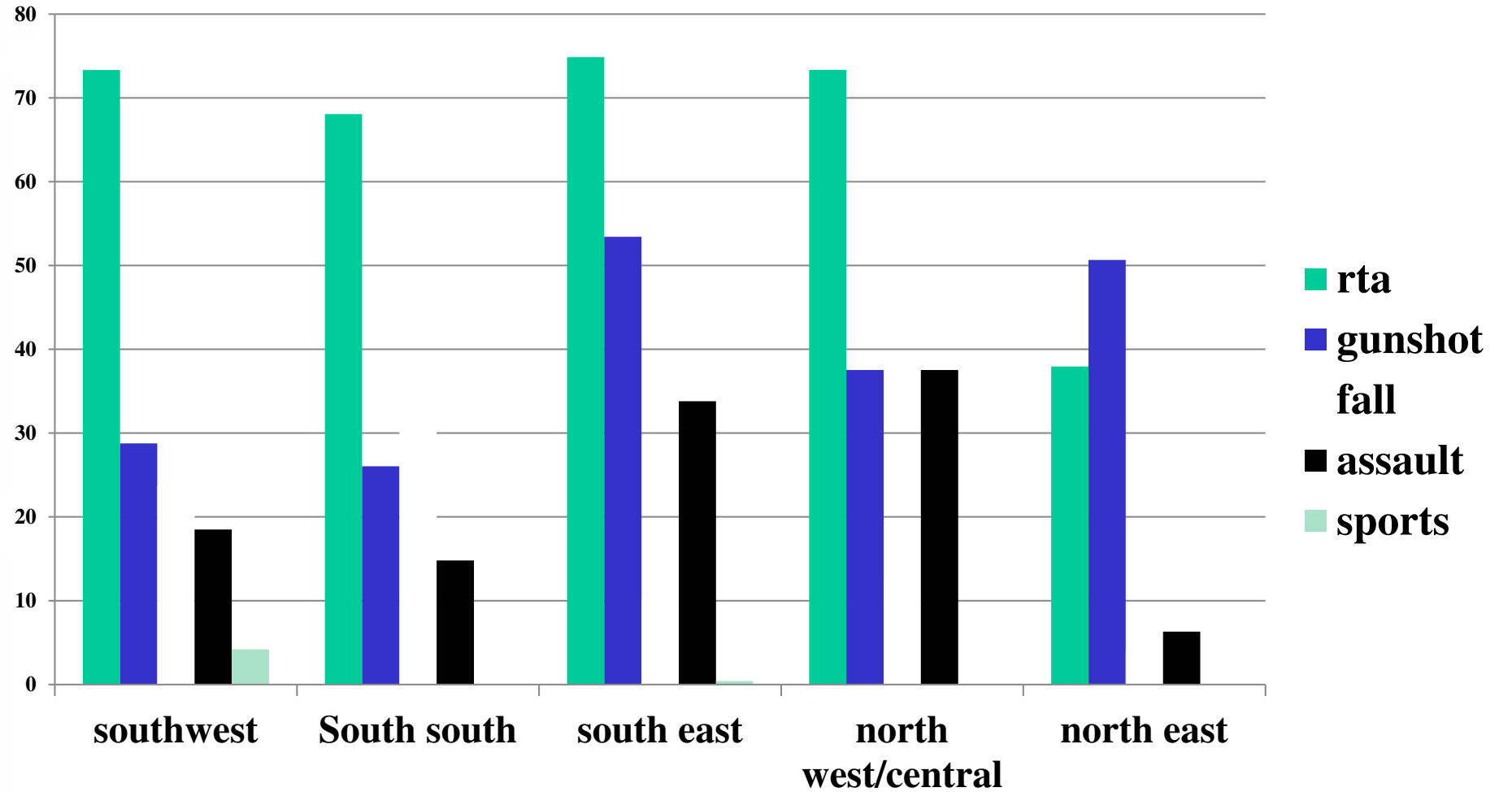
Results

Types of Road Traffic injuries in Nigeria: The trend over the last four decades





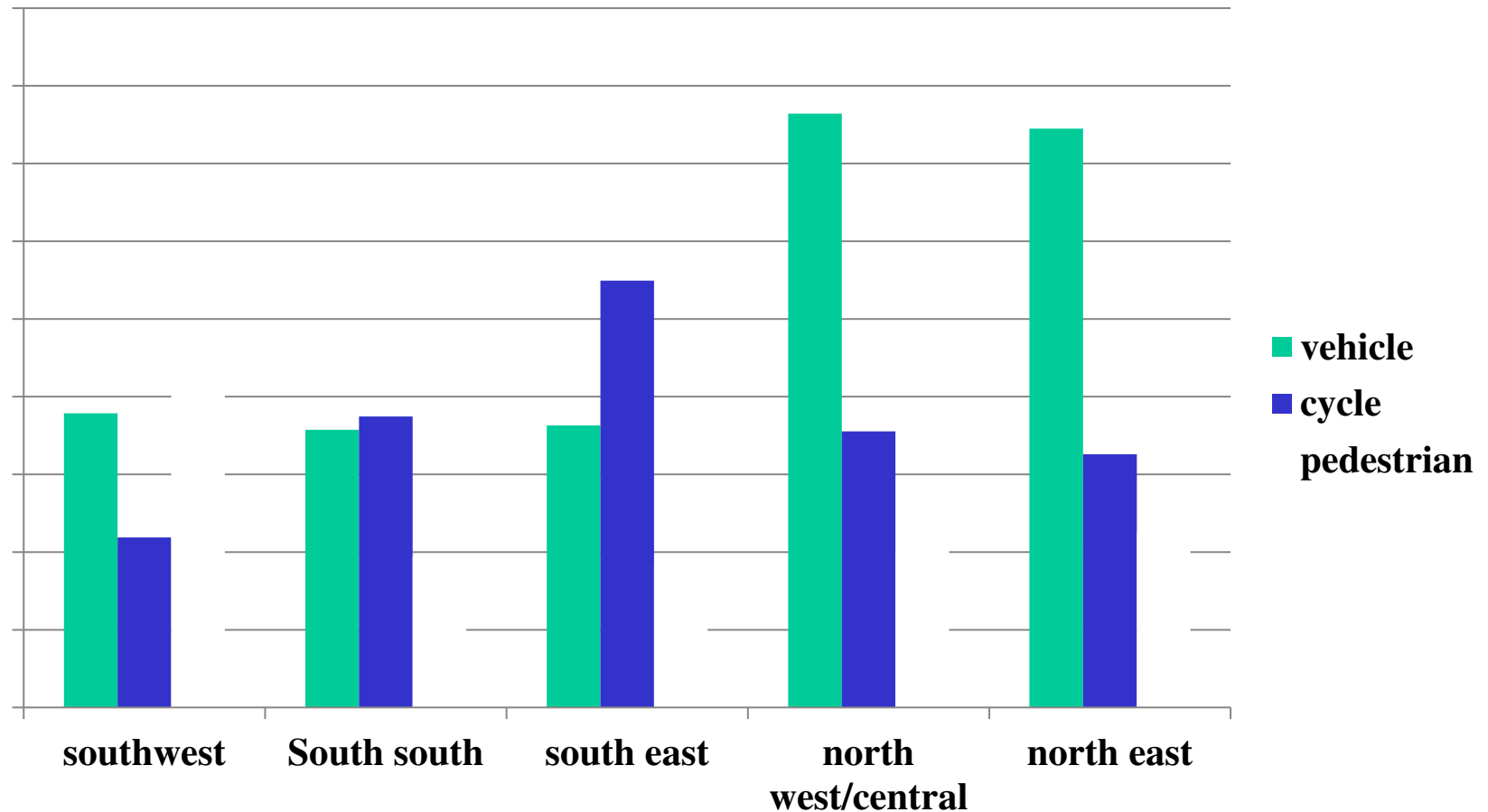
Results





Results

Causes of road transport injuries in the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria



SOME EXAMPLES



No Road Shoulders



Potholes, Potholes everywhere..







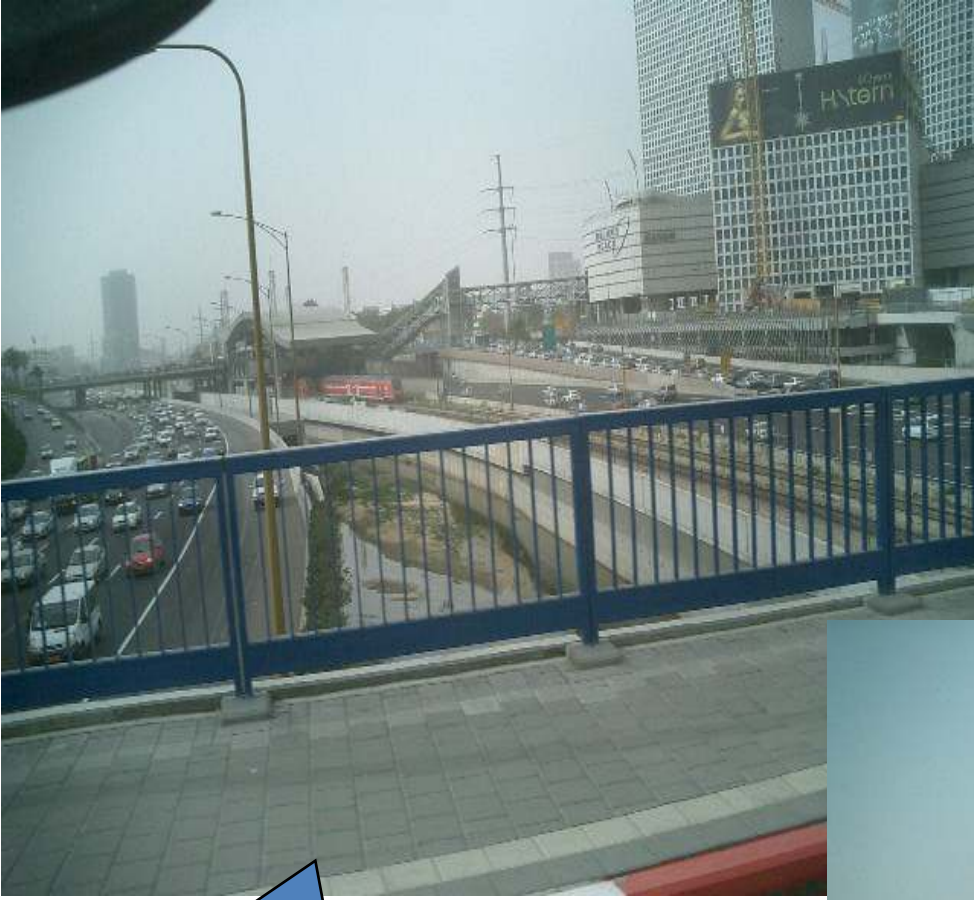
Is every body taken care of? Bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, etc

USA

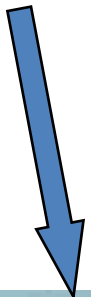


Nigeria

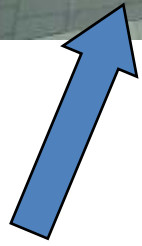




Nigeria



UK



Young Road Users

- Young bicyclist sharing road with vehicles.



Vehicles





Stolen Barriers



UK

Barrier



Nigeria

No barrier



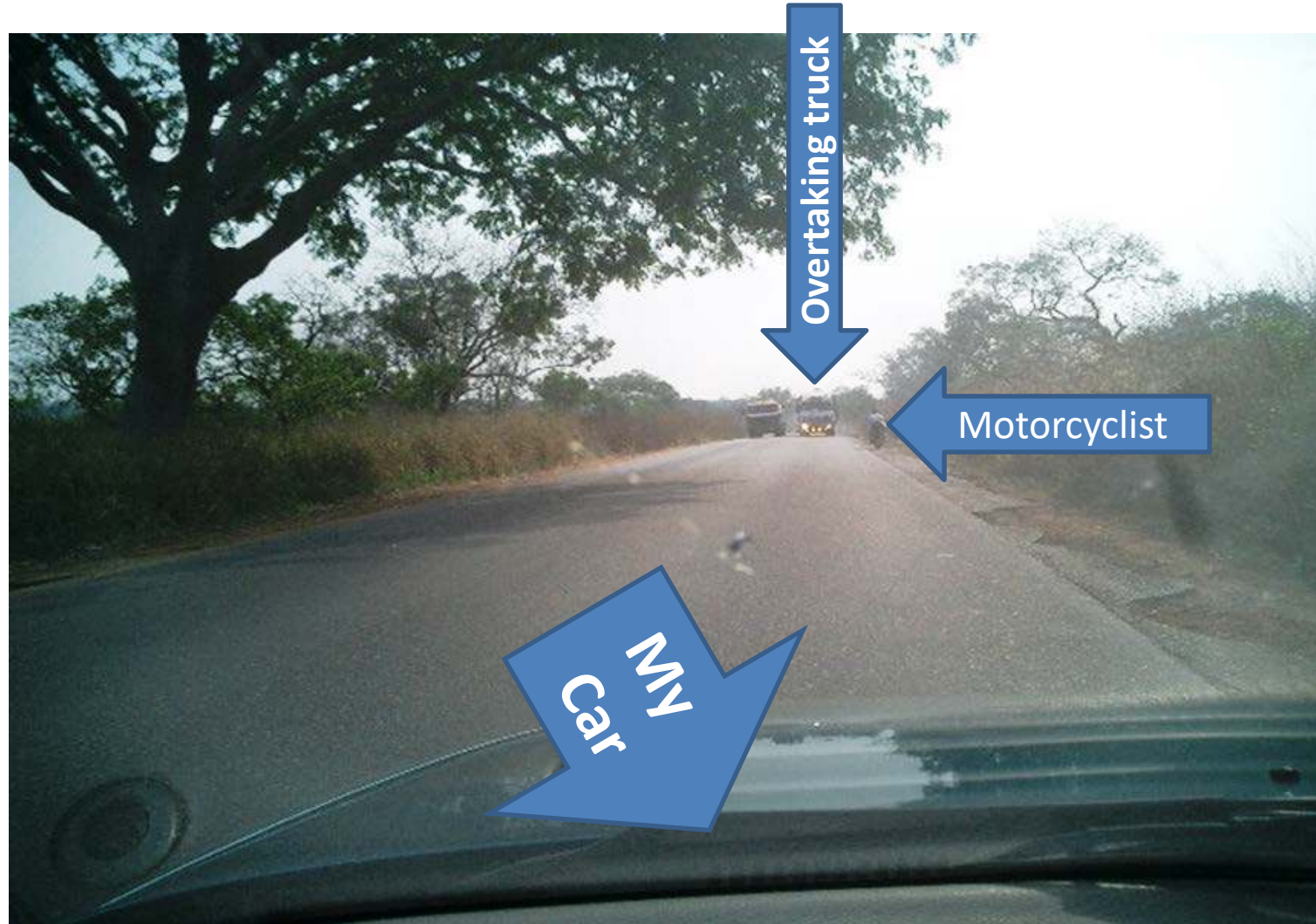
Repairing a rickety vehicle right in the middle of the road



Observe skid marks from the centre of the intersection



Dangerous overtaking, headlights on to warn me to keep off the roads, motorcyclist ahead, no shoulders



Crashed truck on a rural road, what happens at night?



Goods vehicles ferrying passengers



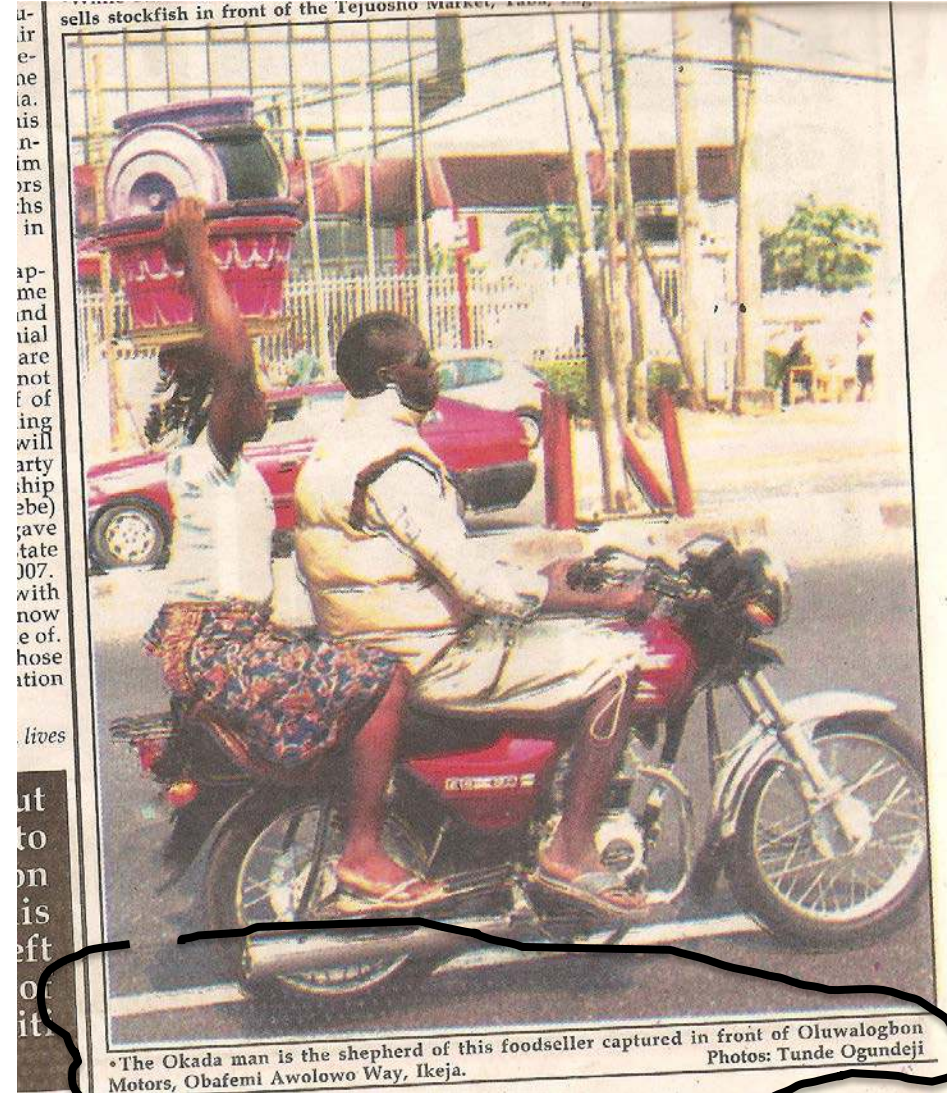


DANGEROUS RIDES





From a Newspaper



Policemen without helmets!





**More than two
occupants!**





Risky behaviors of motorcyclists

Multiple underage passengers. No helmets



Riding against traffic





**SO, THE ROADS ARE BAD, BUT CAN WE
ADEQUATELY TREAT THE INJURED?**

Transportation



A&E Reception



THE CROWD

Crashed vehicle used to bring victims to the hospital.



**Again, The
Crowd!**

Officers of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) transporting a patient without support to the spine. Note that the same vehicle has been used for carrying apparently dead persons in the trunk of the car.



In the Hospital: No effective triage

1. A patient with lacerations
2. Scalp lacerations, # tibial +fibula rt
3. Calm patient with # lt femur
4. Mangled extremity (lt) with significant bleeding PCV 17 %
5. A series of patients sitting on the bench with minor injuries





Section II

ROAD SAFETY: ACTIONS

What to do about challenges?

Fight?

or

Flight?



"Life's challenges are not supposed to paralyze you....." –
---Bernice Johnson Reagon



Together
we can save
millions
of lives.

**...THE
WORLD
HAS
DECIDED
TO
FIGHT!**

GLOBAL ACTION



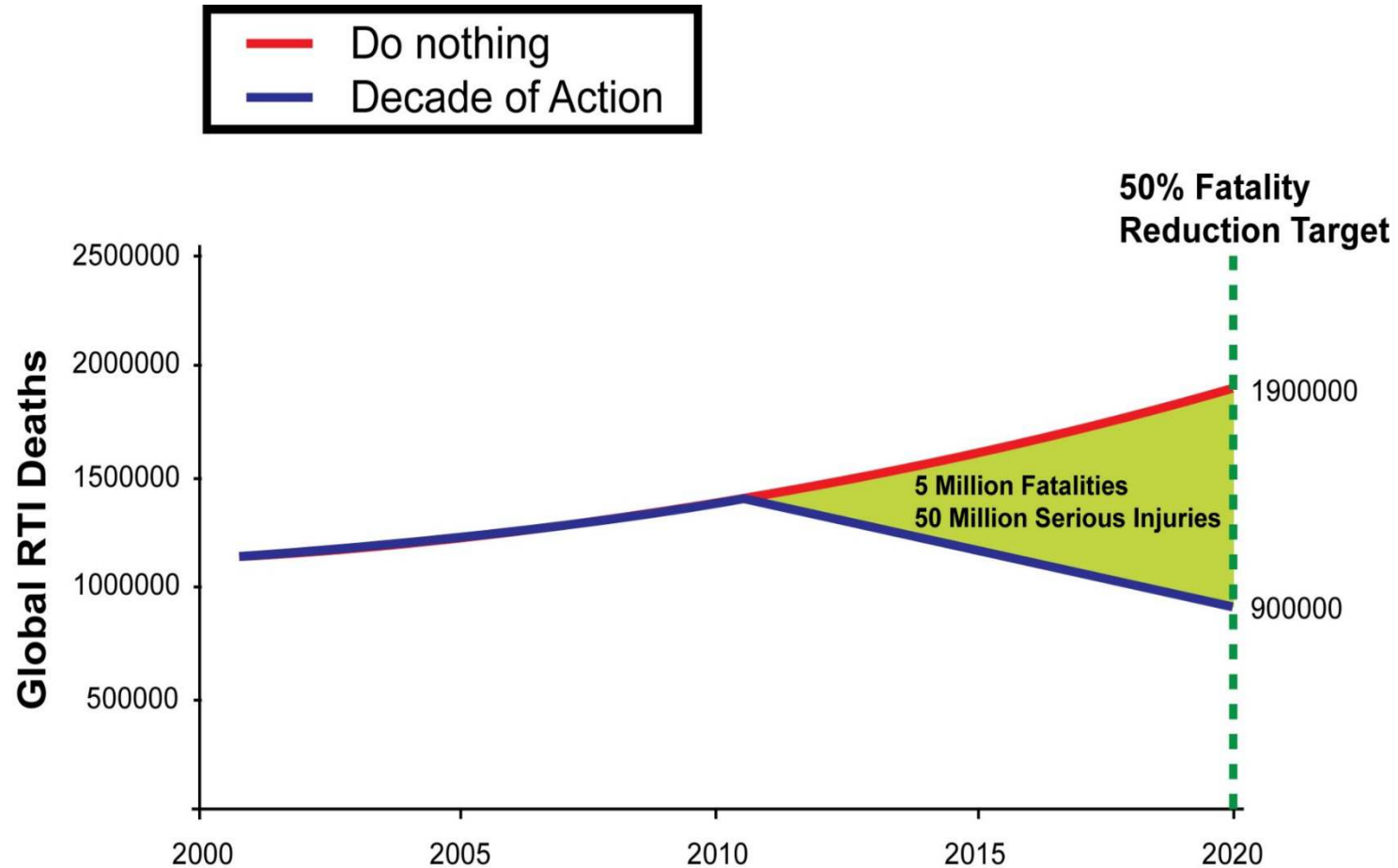
Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020

Launching: the Decade of Action for Road Safety across the globe

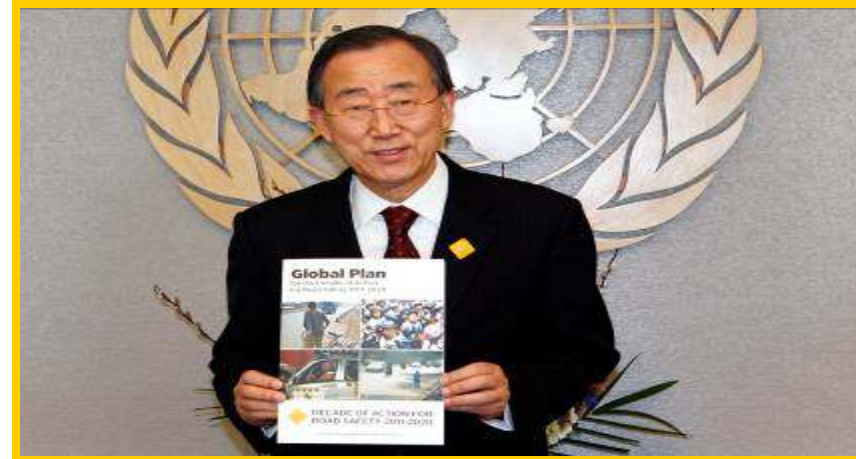
- On 11 May 2011, the first ever Decade of Action for Road Safety – with the official goal **to stabilize & then reduce crashes**
 - Mandated by the UN General Assembly Resolution (64/255);
 - It is a collective roadmap indicating critical areas for engagement : **improving the safety of roads and vehicles; enhancing emergency services; and building up road safety management in general.**
 - Creates the political platform needed to scale up some well-defined measures;
 - Taking inspiration from the Global Plan, many countries have developed national plans for the Decade; and,
 - A number of countries used the occasion of the Decade launch to revise existing or adopt new road safety legislation.

Goal of the Decade

To halt or reverse the predicted increase in road traffic fatalities around the world



UN- Decade of Action



Road safety management

Safer roads and mobility

Safer vehicles

Safer road users

Post-crash response

THE FIVE PILLARS OF ACTION

NATIONAL ACTION



FRSC IS THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE MENACE OF RTC

FRSC

- Established by Decree 35 of 1988, as amended by Decree 35 of 1992, and passed by the National Assembly as the Federal Road Safety Corps (establishment) Act of 2007.
- **Precursors of FRSC include**
 - 1960-1965: Public Road Safety enlightenment program by Shell Petroleum
 - 1970s: Road Safety awareness program by the Army
 - 1974: National Road Safety Commission (NRSC) was established by the Federal Government
 - Early 80's: Oyo State Road Safety Commission.






FRSC: Statutory Role

- Making the highway safe for motorists and other road users.
- Recommending works and devices designed to eliminate or minimize accidents on the highways and advising the Federal and State Governments including the Federal Capital Territory Administration and relevant governmental agencies on the localities where such works and devices are required, and
- Educating motorists and members of the public on the importance of discipline on the highway.

FRSC and the Decade of Action

Pillar 1 Management	Pillar 2 Safer roads	Pillar 3 Safer vehicles	Pillar 4 Safer roads users	Pillar 5 Emergency response
<p>Research and development Cooperation</p> <p>Overall direction, coordination and management</p>	<p>Recommend works and devices</p> <p>Keep the road clear and safe</p>	<p>Production of number plates</p>	<p>Production of driver licenses</p> <p>Highway codes and regulations</p> <p>General road safety education</p> <p>Targeted enforcement (income generating)</p>	<p>Emergency services and towing</p>

FRSC: The Score Card

 Doing Very Well	 Not Doing so Well	 Needs Major Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotion of Road Safety• Biometric measurements• Driver licensing• Issuance of Number Plates• Involvement of Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data gathering• Seat belt enforcement• Clearing obstructions on the highways• Emergency rescue services• Driver education• Standardized traffic calming measures• Driver aggressiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speed management• Pre-licensing driver training and evaluation• Road signage



FRSC: The Verdict

- **The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in Nigeria is one out of a few outstanding road safety lead agencies in Sub-Saharan Africa. It has considerable human (18 098 staff in 2012), logistical and financial resources (\$178,500,371 of budgetary allocation in 2012), is well organized, has a professional management, use modern technology in its operations, and is able to show results. Its history goes more than 25 years back and it has a vast amount of experience and corporate memory to draw on. (Africa Transport Policy website)**



What Government Needs to Do: A tale

A man entered the hospital for hip surgery:

- ASA V: He was an excellent candidate for surgery.
- Shortly after surgery, he develops deep vein thrombosis.
- The nurses did not respond to his extreme pain and the new house officer failed to recognize his problem, and the patient had pulmonary embolism from which he died



We must do more than tell doctors and nurses to be more caring and more careful

- The new intern and unresponsive nurses certainly contributed to his death.
- We could say they need to be more caring, more informed, and quicker to respond.
- But, we also need to realize that medical errors will still be made.
- How do we provide protection for those times when human errors will be made? We change the system to build in back-up protection.



Likewise in Road Safety, The System Must Protect Us from the Errors that Will Inevitably Happen

- The historical view was that road users were responsible for the crashes and injuries that occurred and that through training, supervision, and punishment they could be made to prevent these crashes and injuries.
- However, just as in the example of the doctors, it takes much more than focusing on the driver to protect us on the roads.
- We realize now that the operator of a motor vehicle is just one part of the system with specific limitations on his or her performance brought about by the effects of inexperience, fatigue, alcohol, and predictable error rates.

Thus Governments
must provide a safe
driving environment
that protects the road
users (even) from
themselves

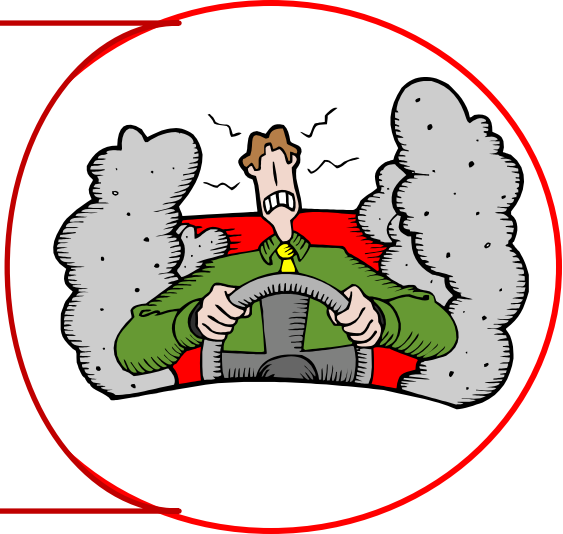


INDIVIDUAL ACTION



Knowing is not Enough, You must take Action
Tony Robbins

60-80% of all RTC are attributable to Driver Factors, hence, if all drivers drive safely, most crashes will be eliminated



Driver



Vehicle



Environment



**OUTCOME:
Safe Trip
Or
Mishap**



A Large Proportion of Vehicle Crashes are Attributable to Behavioral Issues

- Distraction
- Aggression
- Vision & Perceptual errors
- Perception of risk
- Fatigue/sleep deprivation
- Drug & alcohol consumption
- Inadequate training
- And the list goes on...and on...

PERCEPTION

MATTERS

**Which is the
preferred
term?**

**Road Traffic
Accident?**

OR

**Road Traffic
Crash?**



What is an “accident”?

1. An unforeseen an unplanned event or circumstance.
2. An unfortunate event resulting especially from carelessness or ignorance.

Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary



Conceptualizing “Accidents”

- Fatalism is the belief that mishaps are predestined by fate or supernatural forces.
- Accidents are an “act of God”
- Accidents are beyond rational explanation: they happen, whatever you do
- That’s why the word is being jettisoned in favour of “Crash”



Conceptualizing “Crash”

- Determinism is the scientific belief that events have a cause.
- Crash injuries are now regarded as public health problems with specific etiologies which can be controlled by epidemiological principles of prevention.
- This has led to the development of preventive measures which has, to a large extent, led to a reduction in mortality in some countries.

PERCEPTION

MATTERS

IT IS

 **Road Traffic
Crash**

**AND
NOT**

Road Traffic 
Accident



Road Safety Tips for the Individual

- **Everyone** should obey traffic lights.
 - 🛑 **RED** light means stop,
 - 🏃 **YELLOW** means ready
 - 🚦 **GREEN** means go
- **Everyone** should know and obey all traffic signs.
- **Everyone** drunk should not be on the road



Road Safety Tips for the Individual: **PEDESTRIAN**

- i. **Pedestrians** should stick to pedestrian lanes, where available.
- ii. They should walk against coming vehicles. This means they should not walk with their backs to coming vehicles.
- iii. They should use overhead bridges where available.
- iv. They should also ensure to look left, right and left again before crossing the road.
- v. They should cross at zebra crossing lines where available.



Road Safety Tips for the Individual **DRIVERS and MOTORCYCLISTS**

- i. Motorists and motorcyclists should always make sure to check their vehicle properly before setting out.
- ii. They should not overtake turning vehicles.
- iii. They should not drive against traffic
- iv. Vehicles should not be overloaded
- v. Eating, drinking, use of cell phone and driving while tired or drunk is dangerous.



Road Safety Tips for the Individual **DRIVERS** and **MOTORCYCLISTS**

- i. Always be visible. Drive with your lights on especially at night.
- ii. Learning motorists should put the "L" sign. This would help other motorists drive with caution around them.
- iii. Speed kills. Do not over speed, no matter how clear the road is.
- iv. Do not drive vehicles without proper training on major roads.
- v. Do not block your ears with loud music while on the roads.



Road Safety Tips for the Individual **DRIVERS**

- i.** **Drivers** and passengers should always use the seat belt when driving.
- ii.** **Drivers** should have respect for other road users



Road Safety Tips for the Individual **MOTORCYCLISTS**

- i. Motorcyclists** should wear helmets
- ii. Motorcyclists** should maintain the service lane while on the road.
- iii. Motorcyclists** should not overtake vehicles on the passenger side



Remember.....

**Every individual matters.
Every individual has a role to
play. Every individual makes
a difference.**

....Jane Goodall



SAFER

DRIVERS

The Buck Stops With You!



Thank You for your attention

To ask questions, please join the
forum at www.oluwadiya.com