

**PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ROADS AND STORMWATER DIVISION**

PRESS RELEASE, 07 MAY 2008

**THE CITY OF TSHWANE (SOUTH AFRICA) WINS ACCLAIMED ROAD SAFETY
AWARD**

The City of Tshwane was awarded the 1st prize in the International Road Federation's (IRF's) 2007 Road Safety Awards for a project called "Development and Implementation of Road Safety Master Plans – an Inclusive Approach". The award was announced by the IRF on 23 April 2008 at a ceremony in Ljubljana, Slovenia.



From left: Sibylle Rupprecht, Director General of the IRF, Geneva; Jean Lalo, Chairperson of the IRF Working Group on Safer Roads; Hilton Vorster, Acting Executive Director: Roads and Stormwater, City of Tshwane; and Dr Ndivho Lukhwareni, Strategic Executive Director: Public Works and Infrastructure Development, City of Tshwane



From left: Andrew Graham, Roads and Traffic Authority in New South Wales, Australia; Hilton Vorster, Acting Executive Director: Roads and Stormwater, City of Tshwane; Dr Ndivho Lukhwareni, Strategic Executive Director: Public Works and Infrastructure Development, City of Tshwane; and Herman Moning, Rijkswaterstaat, Department of Public Works in the Netherlands



From left: Hilton Vorster, Acting Executive Director: Roads and Stormwater, City of Tshwane; and Dr Ndivho Lukhwareni, Strategic Executive Director: Public Works and Infrastructure Development, City of Tshwane

The IRF is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organisation with the mission to encourage and promote the development and maintenance of better, safer and more sustainable roads and road

networks. Working together with its members and associates, the IRF advances social and economic benefits that flow from well-planned and environmentally sound road transport networks. With a wide network across over eighty countries on six continents, the IRF believes that it can make a difference by promoting best practices and providing expert advice to today's multi-faceted world of transport.

The City of Tshwane's project focused on the importance of an inclusive approach in the development of road safety master plans, incorporating engineering measures, law enforcement actions, and education and awareness programmes. The project is unique in the following aspects:

- Information on road crashes and hazardous locations was obtained from the community when it was unavailable from accident data. The process which was developed to identify accident spots, verify them and prepare implementation plans was seen as innovative and transferable to many other countries.
- The road safety master plans enabled the City of Tshwane to identify and focus on vulnerable road users, such as the youth, the poorer communities and the elderly. Youth and road safety campaigns were run at schools in collaboration with the Tshwane Metropolitan Police to create awareness that road accidents are the biggest cause of death internationally among people between the ages of 10 and 25 years. This is according to a study by the World Health Organisation.
- Law enforcement and education programmes of the Tshwane Metropolitan Police supplemented the road safety master plans and helped to reduce fatalities and serious accidents in the city.

Fatalities and serious injuries from road traffic crashes in the City of Tshwane showed a marked reduction: a 40% reduction in fatalities between 2002 and 2007, and more than 20% between 2006 and 2007 (from 271 in 2006 to 214 in 2007). The reduction in fatalities among the youth (6 to 20 years) from 28 fatalities in 2006 to 6 in 2007 was especially significant. Also, serious injuries involving the youth decreased from 238 in 2006 to 206 in 2007.

The second prize was awarded to the Rijkswaterstaat, Department of Public Works in the Netherlands, while the third prize was awarded to the Roads and Traffic Authority in New South Wales, Australia.

Prepared by: Dr N Lukhwareni and H D Vorster



The award ceremony coincided with the 2nd Transport Research Arena (TRA) organised by the European Commission.



ESASTAP (European-South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme) would like to congratulate the City of Tshwane on winning the award. The area of Road Safety is one of the priorities in the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). For more information on ESASTAP please visit www.esastap.org.za. Further information on Transport in FP7 is obtainable from the National Contact Point: Mathetha Mokonyama at transport.ncp@esastap.org.za