



transaid

## PRESS RELEASE

Release date: 24 August 2023

### **TRANSAID ROAD SAFETY PROJECT IN GHANA WELCOMES BRITISH DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER**

The British Deputy High Commissioner to Ghana, Keith McMahon MBE, has visited Transaid's professional driver training programme in Tema, Greater Accra, to see how the international development organisation is working to improve road safety in the country, which has seen an increase in road crash fatalities in recent years.

During the visit he observed practical refresher training with a group of 11 heavy goods vehicle (HGV) driver trainers, who have collectively trained almost 1,000 professional drivers to new or improved standards within the last 12 months.

Transaid's work in Ghana forms part of a three-and-a-half-year project which began in 2021, funded by Puma Energy Foundation, to raise training standards and expand training capacity for HGV drivers – in a country where almost 95 per cent of freight is transported by road.

Commenting on the reason for his visit, McMahon says: "The High Commission provides technical and financial assistance to the African Continental Free Trade Area, and part of increasing trade and investment is improving road transport corridors – which in turn requires highly skilled drivers.

"With HGV traffic on Ghana's roads set to increase, ensuring access to improved standards of driver training is paramount. Transaid's 'train the trainer' model is helping the country to develop and retain these skills locally, and it was fantastic to meet the team behind it."

Thelma Ayisi, a Project Manager at Transaid, says: "It was an honour to introduce the British Deputy High Commissioner to our project, and highlight how we are working to ensure consistency of training standards, with the aim of saving lives.

137 Euston Road, London, NW1 2AA  
United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7387 8136  
F: +44 (0)20 7387 2669  
E: [info@transaid.org](mailto:info@transaid.org)  
W: [www.transaid.org](http://www.transaid.org)

“Our next priority is to focus on securing buy-in from more private sector fleets, by highlighting the advantages of employing drivers who have followed a specific HGV driver training curriculum. These are important steps to improve access to future jobs and help to drive economic growth in Ghana.”

Transaid’s approach is to build local skills to ensure sustainable and lasting change, which it has been able to demonstrate in this project by advancing several Ghanaian driver trainers, with additional training, to achieve the level of master trainer. This enables them to train other driver trainers, as demand dictates.

The initial three-and-a-half-year project in Ghana is set to run until July 2024, by which time Transaid expects to have helped deliver professional driver training to more than 1,500 HGV drivers.

The World Health Organisation estimates that around 7,000 people lost their lives on the road in Ghana in 2016.

For more information and to find out how you can support the organisation visit [www.transaid.org](http://www.transaid.org).

ends

**Note to Editor:**

**About Transaid**

Transaid transforms lives through safe, available, and sustainable transport. Founded by Save the Children, The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT), and its Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, the international development organisation works with communities, partners, and governments to solve transport challenges throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

Transaid works in two core areas, road safety and access to health, to solve two of the biggest transport challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. Transaid’s road safety work focuses on influencing safe driver behaviour with long term programmes in Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, responding to local needs for improved training for drivers and riders of trucks, buses, motorcycles and forklift trucks. On the access to health side, Transaid is working with local partners and communities to strengthen access to health services, primarily in rural areas. They are also working to strengthen health supply chains in collaboration with local partners and governments.

Transaid enjoys strong backing from the transport and logistics industry and the active involvement of its patron, HRH The Princess Royal.



<http://www.facebook.com/Transaid>



<http://www.twitter.com/TransaidOrg>



<http://www.youtube.com/user/Transaid1>



<https://www.instagram.com/Transaidorg/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/transaid/>

**For further press information:**

Florence Bearman at Transaid +44 (0)20 7387 8136

James Keeler at Garnett Keeler +44 (0)20 8647 4467, or by email to [james.keeler@garnettkeeler.com](mailto:james.keeler@garnettkeeler.com)

TRAN/417/23