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PRESS RELEASE

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MOZAMBIQUE ROAD SAFETY PROJECT ENHANCES SKILLS OF HGV DRIVERS

A Transaid-supported project has helped to successfully train more than 450 HGV drivers in Mozambique over two years, with 100 per cent* of those surveyed following the training saying the initiative has helped them to be better at their job.

Transaid's significant involvement was part of the initiative Employment and Skills for Development in Africa (E4D), implemented by GIZ and funded by the German and Norwegian governments, with further support from Appload and EnergyWorks.

The project focused on several key areas, to ensure it met the immediate priorities and was sustainable in the long term. This saw 31 driver trainers trained – more than three times the initial target – including two women. Collectively, this group went on to deliver training to 452 HGV drivers over the initial two-year period.

Three specially tailored training courses were offered to drivers, including one focused around transporting cargo safely, and two specifically on defensive driving – with a mix of classroom and practical on-road instruction. The National Authority for Professional Education is currently working to combine the three courses as one registered course; plus, the training institutions and driving schools are actively marketing the new training to drivers and businesses.

The courses were very well reviewed by employers, with a spokesman for one of the companies to benefit, saying: "The material was well cultivated to match feedback from local technical committee members to ensure that the instruction matched what was most needed."

137 Euston Road, London, NW1 2AA
United Kingdom

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

A representative for Usalama, a local driving school, said: “We have been able to better establish ourselves in the market with our clients, especially large suppliers for whom road safety is paramount.”

The drivers also had positive responses about the course, with one saying: “I am now more cautious on the public road. I fully comply with the traffic rules, and I really feel like a professional, capable of seeing and analysing what is happening around me better than before.”

Caroline Barber, Chief Executive of Transaid, says: “Prior to this project, professional HGV driver training was limited in Mozambique, with no set standard, and largely focused on rapid acquisition of driving permits. Drivers tended to be reliant on peer-to-peer or self-learning methods, with little formal driver training available.

“To launch this project, and surpass our training goal, is a fantastic achievement for everyone involved – and we’re confident that the programme will continue to help Mozambique’s drivers to be safer on the road.”

For more information and to find out how you can support the organisation visit www.transaid.org.

*A total of 77 drivers completed the online feedback, following training.

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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.



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For further press information:

Maddy Matheson at Transaid: +44 (0)20 7387 8136 / maddy@transaid.org

Natalie Ganshert or James Keeler at Garnett Keeler PR: +44 (0)20 8647 4467, or by email to natalie.ganshert@garnettkeeler.com / james.keeler@garnettkeeler.com

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