

# Save LIVES

Every year an estimated 1.25 million people die because of road traffic crashes, and millions more are injured. The World Health Organization has synthesized evidence-based measures that can significantly reduce road traffic fatalities and injuries.

The result is **Save LIVES**: a package of 6 strategies to reduce injuries and deaths from road traffic crashes.



The components of the **Save LIVES** package are: **Speed management**, **Leadership**, **Infrastructure design**, **Vehicle safety standards**, **Enforcement of traffic laws** and **Survival after a crash**.

This flyer summarizes **VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS** – one of the six strategies of the Save LIVES road safety package.

# VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS



## IMPROVING VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS

Safe vehicles play a critical role in averting crashes and reducing the likelihood of serious injury.

The United Nations World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations sets safety standards for motor vehicles and provides a legal framework that Member States may apply voluntarily. Vehicles that meet the requirements of these standards are less likely to be involved in road traffic crashes and, in the event of a crash, are less likely to cause serious injury. However, only 40 countries currently meet all priority safety regulations.

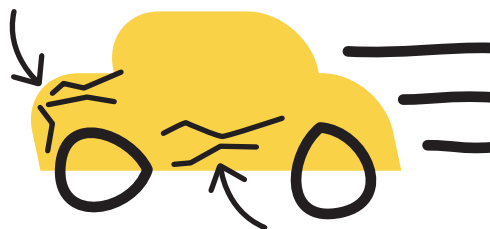
## SOLUTIONS

1

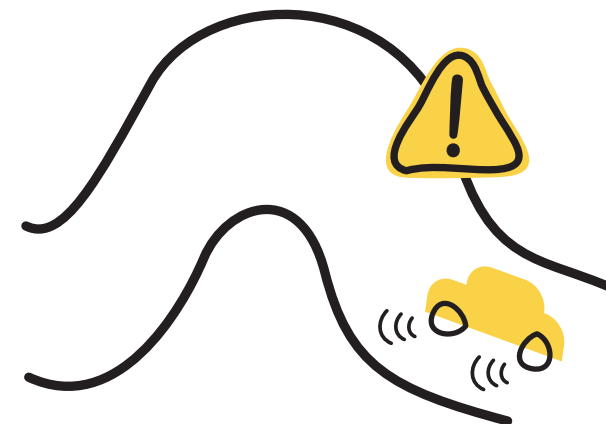
### Establish and enforce vehicle safety standard regulations

The following are basic minimum standards for vehicle manufacture and assembly:

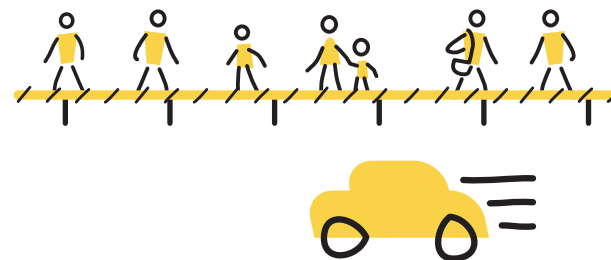
- Standards on frontal and side impact protect occupants and ensure that cars withstand a frontal or side impact crash when tested at specific speeds.



- Electronic stability control prevents skidding and loss of control when a driver over- or understeers.



- Pedestrian protection reduces the severity of impact through softer bumpers and modification to the front ends of vehicles.



## VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS

- Seat-belts and seat-belt anchorage regulations ensure that seat-belts are fitted in vehicles during manufacture and assembly, and that seat-belt anchorages can withstand the impact of a crash.



- Child restraint regulations ensure that vehicles are equipped with ISOFIX child restraint anchorage points that secure the restraint directly to the frame of the vehicle.



2

## Establish and enforce regulations on motorcycle anti-lock braking and daytime running lights

- Anti-lock braking devices prevent wheels from locking during braking. They help motorcyclists to maintain stability and steering control when braking hard.
- Running headlights during the day increase the visibility of motorcycles to other road users, reducing visibility-related crashes. Manufacturers can ensure that the headlights come on automatically as soon as the ignition is turned on.



### BENEFITS

With motor vehicle manufacture and use around the world expanding rapidly, the focus on vehicle safety opens new technology-based opportunities for reducing road crashes and their impact. There is clear evidence that establishing and enforcing vehicle safety regulations reduce road traffic fatalities, injuries and related socioeconomic costs.



### Does your country meet vehicle safety standards?

Assess your country's adherence to vehicle safety standards with the tool provided in the appendix of the **Save LIVES** technical package.



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes a target to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries by 50% by 2020. This is an ambitious goal that can be achieved only if we work collaboratively to build a culture of road safety.