



## **VIA in SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Road Safety in South Africa**

South Africa faces a severe road safety challenge, with approximately 34,000 pedestrian casualties annually, costing R2.55 billion. Children, especially school-aged, are at high risk, with notable pedestrian fatalities in 2022. The country's fatality rate is 27.21 per 100,000 population, and road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death among young people. On a positive note, there is a 52% increase in schools participating in road safety programs, emphasising the importance of structured initiatives and awareness activities.

### **TotalEnergies South Africa**

TotalEnergies Marketing South Africa is a prominent player in the country's petrochemical market, focusing on manufacturing, sales, and marketing of petroleum products. With 547 service stations nationwide, TotalEnergies is a key contributor to both commercial and industrial sectors. Notably, the company pioneers service stations in previously disadvantaged areas, demonstrating a commitment to local development. Recognised for progressive transformation in the communities they operate in, TotalEnergies has partnered with Road Safety Partnership South Africa to sponsor road safety education in schools, prioritising disadvantaged communities and addressing the heightened risk young people face in road accidents.

### **The partnering NGO**

Road Safety Partnership South Africa (RSP SA), formerly GRSP SA since 2007, is a registered Section 21 company brokering partnerships between government, business, and civil entities to reduce road deaths. Affiliated with the Global Road Safety Partnership in Geneva, RSP SA unites organizations dedicated to addressing South Africa's road safety challenges. Through collaborative efforts, including government agencies, road safety experts, engineering firms, NGOs, and corporates, RSP SA implements sustainable interventions to decrease road fatalities and injuries.

## **VIA deployment**

The VIA Program commenced its journey in Gauteng, South Africa, spanning regions including Tshwane, Johannesburg, and Sedibeng. This launch involved a remarkable 60 schools, reaching a population of 23,800 learners and over 1000 teachers trained through the support and sponsorship of TotalEnergies Foundation Paris and Michelin Foundation Paris.

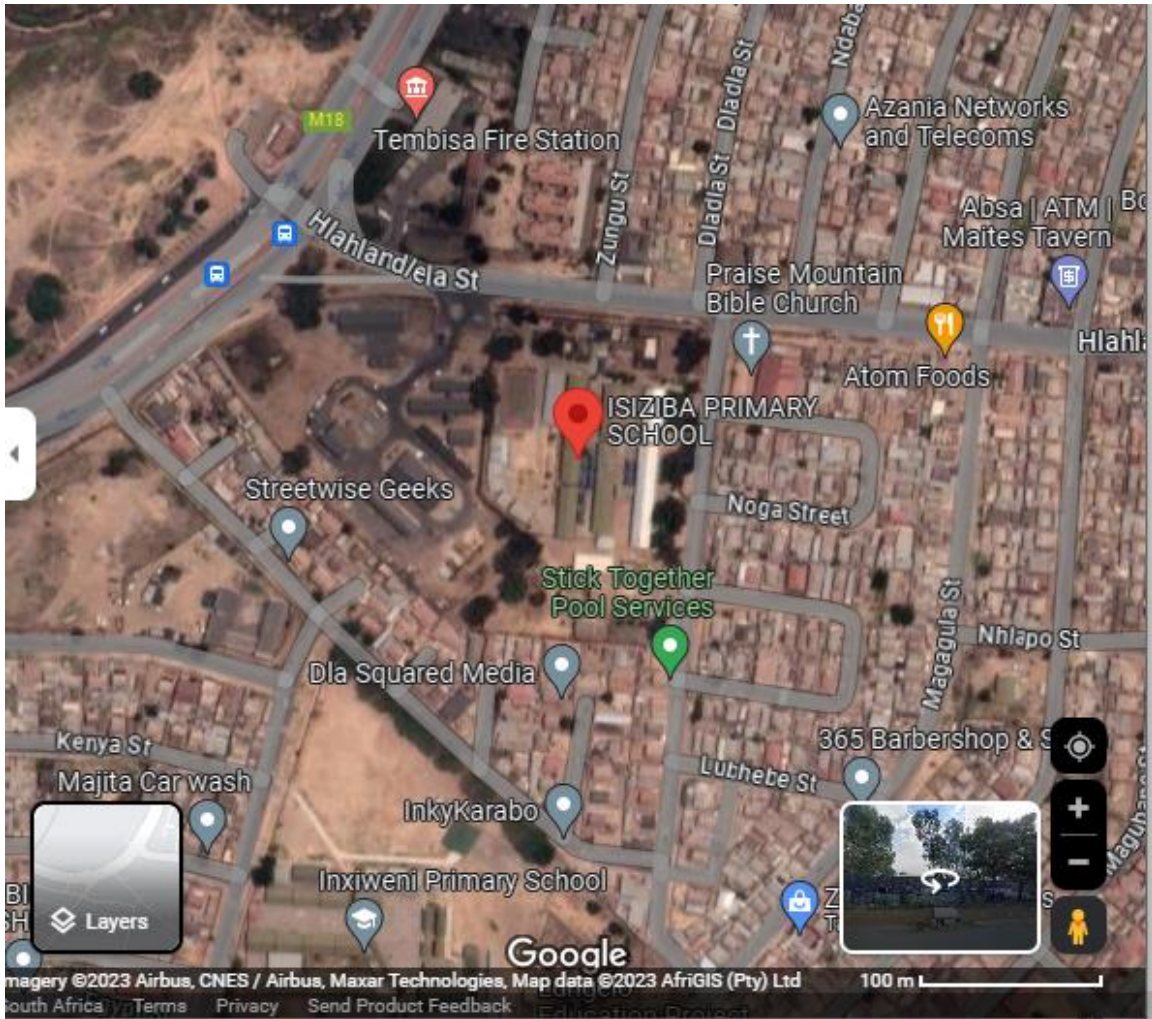
The VIA program continued expanding with the support of TotalEnergies South Africa and Unitrans together with RSPSA, they have implemented the VIA program in four schools based in the Ekurhuleni region, where 1200 learners have benefitted from the program. The success of the program encouraged TotalEnergies South Africa to continue working with RSPSA to expand the program in the Limpopo region in 2023 around 5 schools in Musina and Blouberg benefitting another 1200 learners.

## **The winning school**

IsiZiba Primary School is a Public Primary school located in a large township situated in the north of Tembisa, Kempton Park, East Rand. Tembisa consists of a population of 463,109 of which 48.1 consists of youth aged 3 – 34 years old.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/LzPjBGwkwqF7iVnG8>





## **THE GROUP OF VIA AMBASSADORS**

### **VIA Ambassadors**

In the group, we have five female Grade 6 learners aged 10, 11 and 12.

Samkelisiwe Vilakazi  
Keletso Matsane  
Amukelani Motha  
Buhle Shabangu  
Tshepang Msimango

### **Teacher:**

Ms. Zinhle Radebe





## **THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SAFE MOBILITY AROUND THEIR SCHOOL**

To enhance safe mobility around their school, the learners have identified various challenges and have proposed the below recommendations:

- There needs to be stricter adherence to traffic signals, even in the absence of vehicles, by having functional robots that allow road users to wait and see the green signal.
- Our pedestrian pavements need to be improved so that pedestrians walk only on the pavements, avoiding jumping or running on the road to stay vigilant of potential vehicles.
- We need to enhance our zebra crossings which will encourage road users to only cross at the zebra lines, ensuring a thorough check in all directions before crossing the road.
- We need educate parents and our community members on why there should always be adult supervision for every child on the road, this will help ensure their safety on the road.
- We must encourage road users to avoid texting on their phones when driving or crossing the road to eliminate distractions which can cause accidents.
- We believe that drinking alcohol whilst driving or walking is not safe for both driver and pedestrians, we want to inspire road users to minimise or avoid completely.
- The young and elderly need to share the responsibility of taking care of everyone on the road. One might be alert, but that does not mean the others are, so recognising the unpredictability of other road users can prevent road accidents and injuries.
- We want to use our creative poster in our community halls, police stations, schools, Churches and in taxi ranks in order to enhance our key messaging that together we can arrive alive if we all travel with care.

# THEIR PREVENTION POSTER

