Vehicles are responsible for 25% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions globally.
The European Union, Japan and the United States of America are the world’s largest exporters of used vehicles. Together, they exported 14 million used light duty vehicles between 2015 and 2018. Africa imported 40% of these vehicles in the period studied.
The oldest light duty vehicles – with an average age of **18.8 years** - are exported to The Gambia.

A quarter of vehicles exported to Nigeria are **19.6 years and older**.
Africa has the highest road traffic fatality rates with 246,000 deaths each year. This number is projected to more than double to 514,000 in 2030.
Of the 146 countries studied in UNEP’s new report on the trade in used vehicles, only 28 have adopted vehicles emissions standards.
Road crashes kill about 1.25 million people each year and injure between 20-50 million more. Road traffic injuries cost the global economy $1.85 trillion each year.
Only 66 countries limit the age on imported vehicles. These age restrictions vary from three to 15 years. Catalytic converters, which filter exhaust pollution from petrol vehicles, are valuable because they are made with platinum. Many cars are stripped of them before being exported.