Developing Efficient Traffic Safety Law Enforcement Programmes in Rapidly Developing Countries

George Yannis, Professor
Stergios Mavromatis, Assistant Professor
Alexandra Laiou, Research Associate

Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering
National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece
Objectives

- Identify key elements of the traffic enforcement system to improve road safety.
- Develop a framework of principles and proposals for selected enforcement programs, with focus on rapidly developing countries.

Methodology

- Exploit international experience.
- Map current enforcement practices.
- Evaluate and prioritize enforcement activities.

NTUA, Stergios Mavromatis, Assistant Professor, stemavro@central.ntua.gr
Enforcement of Seat Belt Use Worldwide

• Enforcement in combination with efficient informational and public awareness campaigns.

• Mild and continuous enforcement following in time the messages of the awareness campaign.

• Impose seatbelt use through relevant incentives.

• Utilization of warning devices inside the vehicle.

NTUA, Stergios Mavromatis, Assistant Professor, stemavro@central.ntua.gr
Enforcement of Drink Driving Worldwide

• Systematic enforcement of the legal blood-alcohol concentration limits.
• Inform drivers on relevant Traffic Police actions.
• Implementation of informational campaigns.
• Promotion of alcohol consumption avoidance before driving.
• Increase of the perceived probability for detecting offenders through the implementation of programmes including:
  ✓ large number of controls
  ✓ unpredictable controls in terms of time and location
  ✓ visible enforcement
Enforcement of Speeding Worldwide

• Increase the perceived probability for detecting offenders
• Use of fixed means at evident locations and to enforce a significant number of drivers.
• Most common methods for monitoring:
  ✓ parked patrol car
  ✓ moving patrol car
• Use of real and virtual camera devices.

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Control vs Infringement Efficiency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greece</th>
<th>1998</th>
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<th>2003</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Road Fatalities</td>
<td>2.182</td>
<td>2.116</td>
<td>2.088</td>
<td>1.895</td>
<td>1.654</td>
<td>1.605</td>
<td>1.670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drink &amp; Drive Controls</td>
<td>202.161</td>
<td>246.611</td>
<td>365.611</td>
<td>710.998</td>
<td>1.034.502</td>
<td>1.271.273</td>
<td>1.281.102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drink &amp; Drive Infringements</td>
<td>13.996</td>
<td>17.665</td>
<td>30.507</td>
<td>49.464</td>
<td>48.947</td>
<td>45.546</td>
<td>40.986</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Graph showing:
Principles of Selected Enforcement Programmes

• Intensify enforcement and presence of Traffic Police
• Select appropriate control sites
• Select appropriate control time periods
• More frequent controls and lower fines
• Collect fines effectively
Principles of Selected Enforcement Programmes

• Operate Traffic Police with the appropriate personnel
• Traffic Police training in new technologies
• Supply Traffic Police with appropriate devices
• Use smart enforcement systems (e.g. cameras, section control)
• Develop drivers’ rehabilitation programmes

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Principles of Selected Enforcement Programmes

• Monitor implementation of enforcement activities
  - Number of traffic controls (speed, alcohol, belt, helmet, etc.)
  - Number of Traffic Police staff performing controls per day, region etc
  - Number of detected offences
  - Number of offences estimated based on surveys, studies etc

• Monitor road safety level
  - Number of road accidents, fatalities, injuries
  - Seat belt-helmet use, number of drunk drivers, speeding drivers
  - Number of offences estimated based on surveys, studies, etc
  - Results of random sampling controls

• Monitor enforcement effectiveness
  - Measure effectiveness using good-practice methods
  - Effectiveness concerning specific offences, road users, areas etc
  - Identification of effective and non-effective enforcement activities
Road Safety Enforcement Programme Objectives

- Decrease accidents number and severity
- Change of driving attitude
- Decrease of offences
- Increase of perceived enforcement
- Controls at proper predefined locations and time periods

NTUA, Stergios Mavromatis, Assistant Professor, stemavro@central.ntua.gr
Seat Belt Enforcement Actions

Objective
100% front and rear seat belt use

- Systematic recording of controlled drivers’ and vehicle passengers’ data
- Upgrade control sheet
- Frequent and short campaigns
- Random vehicles’ control
- Rear seat belt enforcement
- Monitor offences
- Publish enforcement results
Drink Driving Enforcement Actions

Objective
20% of drivers controlled each year

Random vehicles’ control
Emphasis on controls in times and locations with increased probability of drink driving

Record controlled drivers’ data, day, time and location of control
Upgrade control sheet

Monitor offences
Publish enforcement results
Objective
25% of drivers controlled each year

Supporting mechanism for monitoring actions
Define realistic speed limits

Upgrade controls’ and offences’ recording system
Record overall number of vehicles passing through control points

Publish number of controls and offences
Publish individual data of offenders (gender, age, driving experience, etc.)
Conclusions

• A decrease in road accidents number and severity is achieved through the substantial change in driving behaviour and offence reduction.

• Increase of the perceived enforcement is achieved by frequent controls at many sites of the road network focusing on risk locations and hours.
Conclusions

• Effective enforcement programmes are reached through:
  ✓ increasing intensity of programs
  ✓ systematic monitoring
    (enforcement intensity, offences, driving behaviour)
  ✓ integrated communication policy
    (coordination with other actions, publishing actions and results)
  ✓ developing conscious safety culture for drivers
    (implement remedial programmes for recidivists, adopt point system)

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Further Recommendations

• Enforcement should always be combined with the respective campaigns at national and local level.

• Collaboration on a regular basis between Traffic Police and relevant Experts (transportation engineers, communication specialists, psychologists, etc.)

• Publishing on a regular basis of control figures and their results in order to ensure the active commitment and involvement of road safety stakeholders.

• Study the specific features of each enforcement action (residential - non residential areas, time, day, vehicle type, etc.)
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