

Road Safety Data, Knowledge and Decision Support Systems Global Challenges in the Digital Era

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Initial Considerations

- Road Safety is a typical field with high risk of important investments not bringing results.
- Absence of **monitoring** and accountability limits seriously road safety performance.
- Decision making in road safety management is highly dependent on appropriate and **quality data**.
- Very often we look where the data are and **not where the problems and solutions are**.



Data needed for Road Safety Decision Support

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Data to identify **the problems**

- Crash data
- Risk exposure and performance indicators

Data to identify **the solutions**

- Data on measures implementation
- Data on measures effectiveness

Macroscopic data

- For the whole population
- For a city, region, country, globally

Microscopic data

- driver, passenger pedestrian behaviour and performance
- junction, road segment, small area performance
- specific accident analysis data



Critical Data Properties

- Crash data are meaningful only if they are combined with **exposure data** (crash per km driven, per traffic characteristics, per time, etc.)
- Crash causalities are revealed when crashes are correlated with **safety performance indicators** (behaviour, infrastructure, traffic, vehicles)
- The **evaluation of safety measures** effectiveness provides valuable information, necessary for matching problems with solutions
- Analysis of **high resolution data** reveals hidden and critical crash properties



Road Safety Observatories and Decision Support Systems

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Road Safety Observatories

- ERSO, European Road Safety Observatory
- OISEVI, Ibero-American Observatory
- African Road Safety Observatory
- IRTAD, ITF Road Traffic and Accident Group
- Dacota, EC Project – Knowledge Centre
- NRSO – NTUA Road Safety Observatory
- National Observatories



Road Safety Decision Support Systems

- SafetyCube, EU Road Safety DSS
- SafeFITS, UNECE-Global Road Safety Model
- iRAP, Road Safety ToolKit
- PRACT, CEDR
- PIARC, WRA Road Safety Manual
- US NHTSA/FHWA CMF Clearinghouse
- AustRoads Road Safety Engineering Toolkit



Road Safety Observatories



European Road Safety Observatory, EC (1/2)

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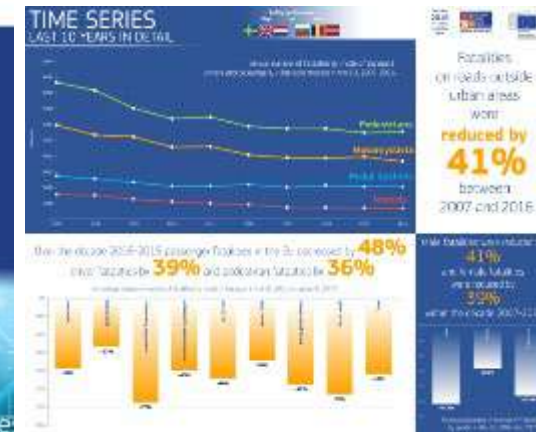
The ERSO is the information system of the European Commission with harmonised specialist information on **road safety practices and policy** in European countries.

ERSO and CARE are Managed by the European Commission – DG Move – Road Safety Unit (EC DG Move),

- Cooperation with **Eurostat** (EC Statistical Office)
- Assisted by the Road Accident Statistics National Experts Group (**CARE Experts Group**)

Methodology

- Definition of **common protocols** for data collection
- Availability, systematic collection and analyses of **data and information**
- **Presentation of the results** responding to users' needs
- **Continuity** in making all results publicly available



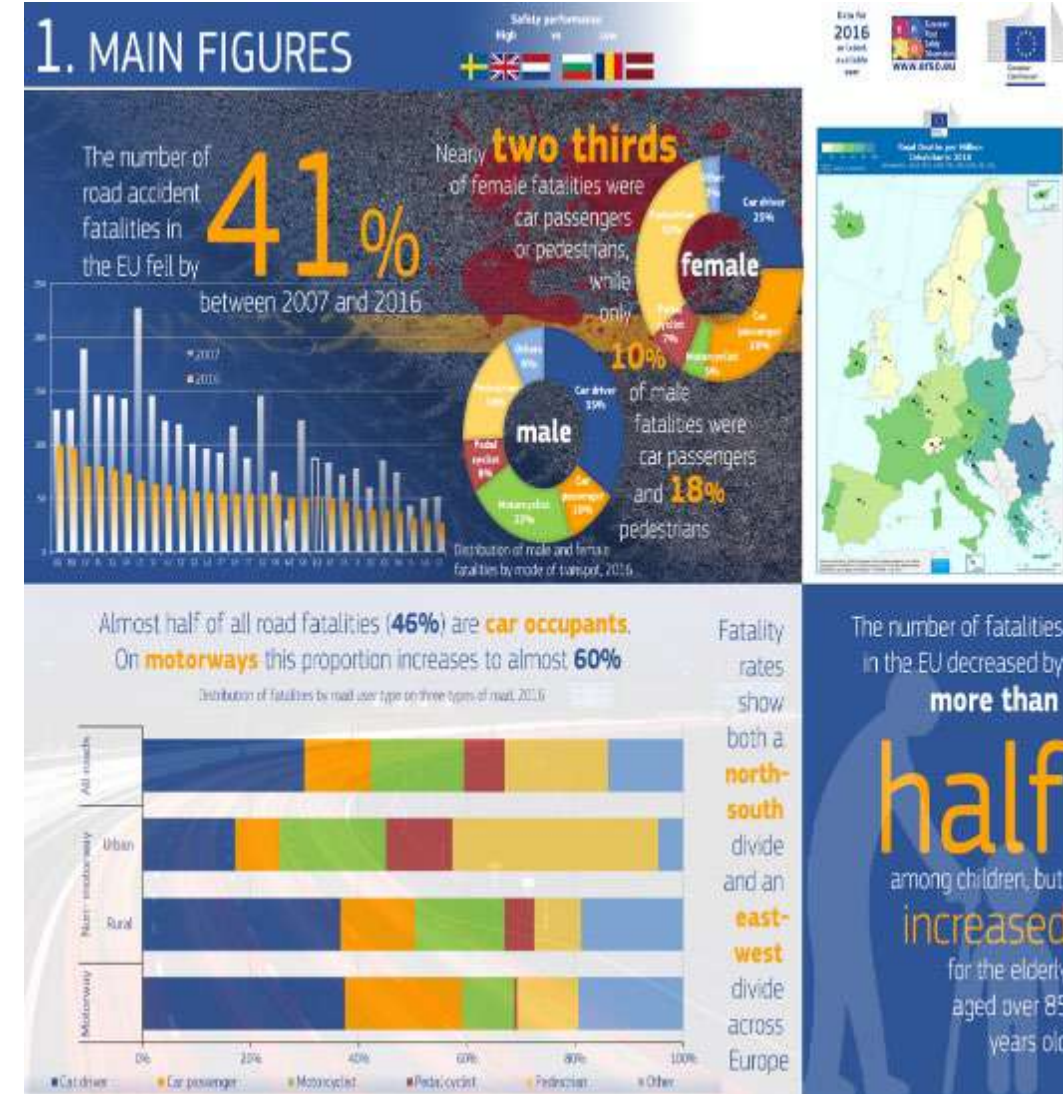
European Road Safety Observatory, EC (2/2)

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- 22 Traffic Safety Syntheses

- Pedestrians and Cyclists
- Work-related Road Safety
- Speed & Speed Management
- Cell Phone Use while Driving
- Fatigue
- Power Two Wheelers
- Novice Drivers
- Quantitative Targets
- Road Safety Management
- Driver Distraction
- Integration of road safety in other policy areas
- e-Safety
- Post Impact Care
- Roads
- Speed Enforcement
- Vehicle Safety
- Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Older Drivers
- Children
- Serious injuries
- Safety Ratings
- Alcohol

- 64 Infographics based on the above reports are available online at https://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/specialist/erso_en



OISEVI, Ibero-American member countries

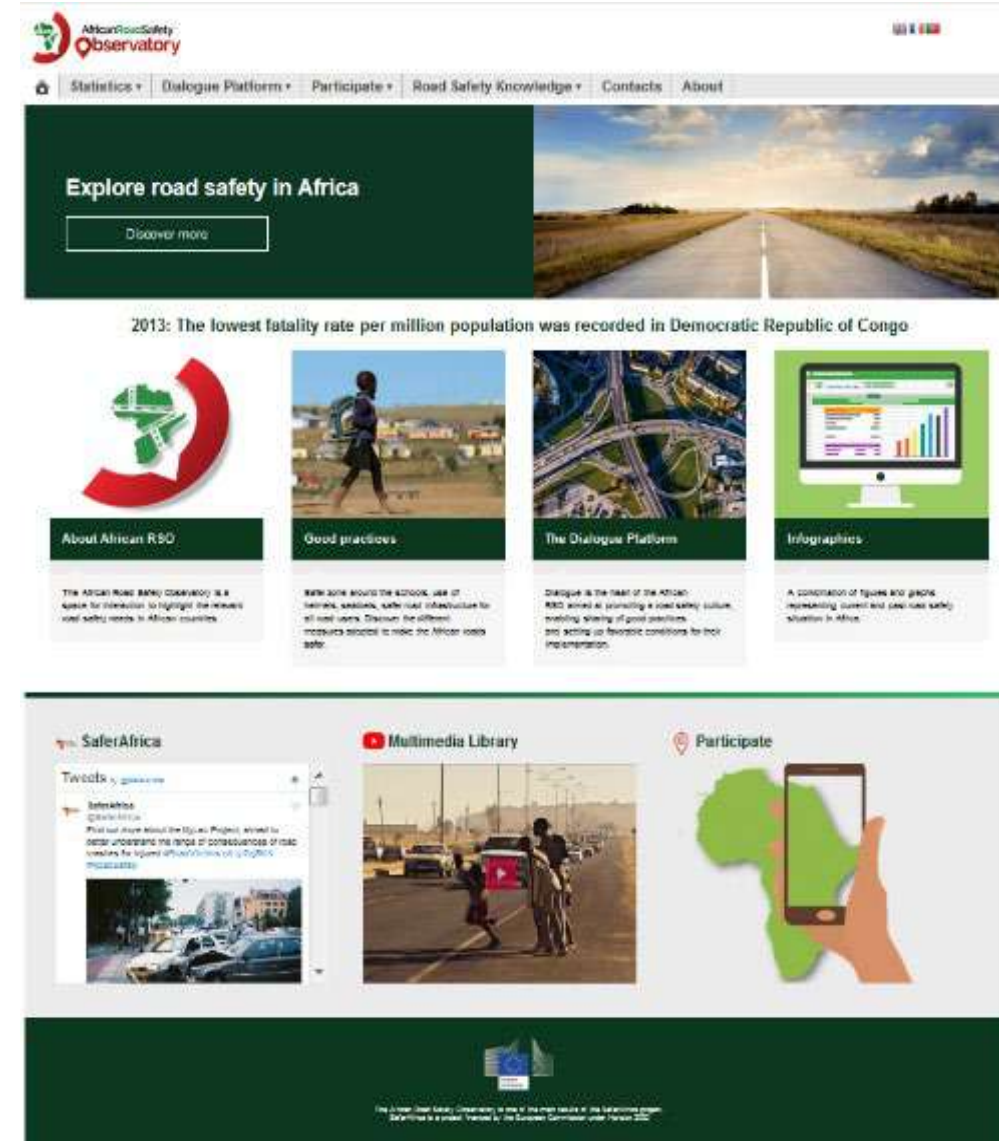
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- The Ibero-American Road Safety Observatory (OISEVI): an international cooperation instrument comprising the highest road safety authorities of Ibero-American member countries.
- OISEVI conducts **critical surveillance** over national road safety policies and fosters their dissemination.
- A forum for **analyzing public policies** on road safety at the highest level of stakeholders
- Promotes **public policy formulation** for road safety, creation of National Lead Agencies or governing organizations and National Observatories.
- **Standardizes traffic data** collection, processing, analysis and dissemination.
- An **Ibero-American database** to reflect the evolution of road safety statistics and their comparability, for assessing actions.
- Promotes the participation of **different technical or financial** cooperation agencies



African Road Safety Observatory, a Horizons 2020 Project

- The African RSO aims to create **favorable conditions** and opportunities for the effective implementation of actions for road safety and traffic management in African countries
- Is being created alongside a **Dialogue Platform** between Africa and Europe (SaferAfrica project – until Sep 2019)
- **Objectives:**
 - Assess the implementation of the African Action Plan, alongside needs of stakeholders
 - Activate Twinning Programs between Africa and Europe
 - Conduct sharing of good practices, capacity-building activities and capacity reviews
- **Structure:**
 - Statistics
 - Road Safety Management
 - Good Practices
 - Capacity Building
 - Dialogue Platform
 - News



IRTAD, ITF/OECD (1/2)

- IRTAD Objectives:
 - Exchange of information and methodologies on safety trends and road safety policies
 - Suggest possible improvements to road accident and related traffic data collection and analyses.
 - Collect accident data, complementary to other sources
 - Conduct data analysis to provide advice on specific road safety issues.
 - Contribute to international co-operation on road accident data and its analysis.
- The IRTAD Group publishes regularly special reports on its analyses of topical data collection and methodology issues.
- IRTAD organises open Conferences



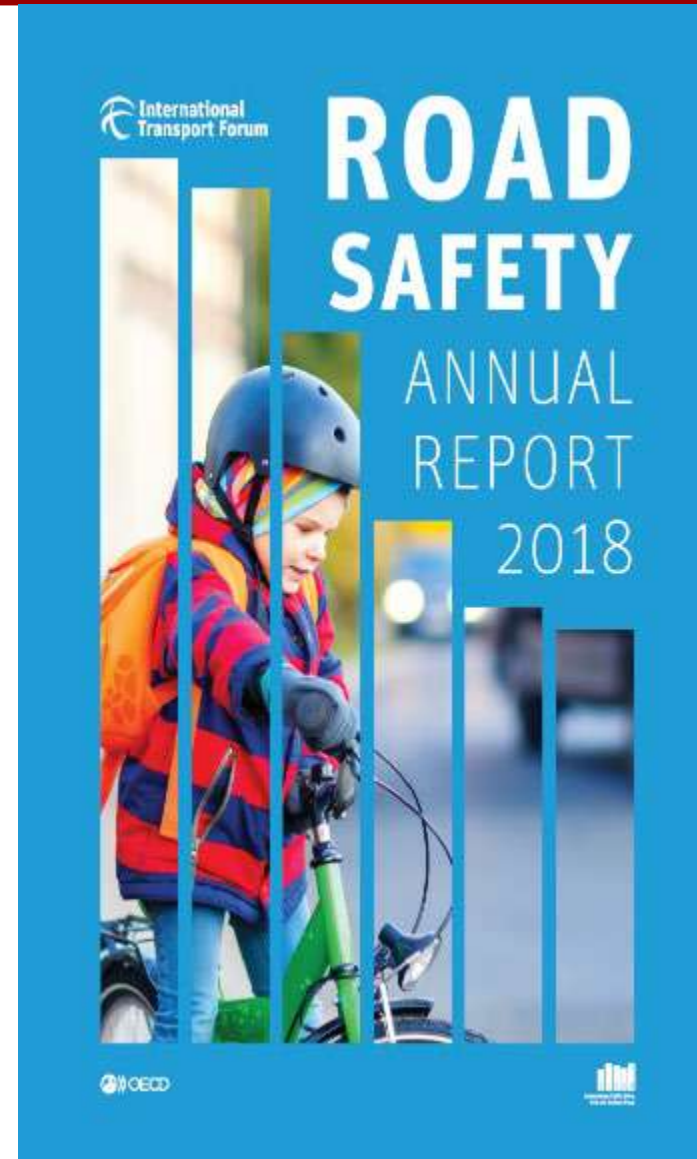
**International Traffic Safety
Data and Analysis Group**



IRTAD, ITF/OECD (2/2)

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- Information comes directly from relevant **national data providers**.
- Data provided in a common format and common definitions, covering:
 - Injury **Accidents** by Road Network
 - Road **Fatalities** by Road Usage, Age, Gender and Age or by Road Network
 - **Hospitalised Road Users** by Road Usage, Age or Road Network
 - **Accident Involvement** by Road User Type and Associated Victim Data
 - **Risk Indicators**: Fatalities, Hospitalised or Injury Accidents Related to Population or Mileage figures
 - **Population** Figures by Age Bands
 - **Vehicle Population** by Vehicle Types
 - **Network Length** Classified by Road Network
 - **Mileage** Classified by Road Network or Vehicles
 - **Passenger Mileage** by Transport Mode
 - **Seat Belt Wearing Rates** of Car Drivers by Road Network
- Data concern **55 countries**



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- 
- DaCoTA**
Data, Collection, Transfer and Analysis

Time Series Road Safety Data (1975-2010)																						Belgium
Number of persons killed		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2010
1	total figures	1,871	1,671	1,662	1,602	1,448	1,366	1,364	1,500	1,397	1,472	1,488	1,306	1,213	1,162	1,009	1,008	1,071	964	963	843	843
2	drivers killed	1,226	1,107	1,164	1,107	1,028	898	909	1,039	1,000	1,076	1,054	862	785	760	639	639	682	602	501	501	501
3	passengers killed	331	327	308	277	243	242	231	297	277	272	278	170	159	159	173	141	141	152	153	136	136
4	doctors killed	280	233	199	197	140	104	142	162	144	142	158	127	113	113	101	108	122	130	88	101	101
5	age group 0-5 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	age group 5-17 years	11	7	5	4	7	7	7	5	3	5	4	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3
7	age group 18-24 years	17	13	10	16	6	6	6	6	7	7	9	6	4	5	5	6	6	6	6	12	12
8	age group 25-34 years	43	38	44	37	26	27	26	43	47	36	36	25	20	18	22	23	23	23	23	19	19
9	age group 35-44 years	48	39	27	36	22	24	26	29	29	28	21	32	29	23	17	14	17	22	21	21	21
10	age group 45-54 years	86	86	96	80	38	31	30	61	60	40	36	34	52	49	68	54	52	43	34	47	47
11	age group 55+ years	33	38	44	31	16	11	11	18	18	17	15	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	1208 vehicle occupants killed	1,690	1,438	1,481	1,409	1,269	1,201	1,221	1,336	1,243	1,327	1,326	1,176	1,100	1,061	991	948	966	863	847	732	732
13	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	passenger car occupants	1,100	959	999	1,019	880	813	793	897	789	874	823	714	617	589	571	521	485	450	464	443	443
20	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	unknown	1,100	959	999	1,019	880	813	793	897	789	874	823	714	617	589	571	521	485	450	464	443	443
27	motorcyclists killed	114	52	147	141	116	107	120	125	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137
28	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	unknown	114	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
35	motorcyclists killed	101	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
36	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	unknown	114	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
43	motorcyclists killed	101	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
44	age group 0-5 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
45	age group 5-17 years	11	7	5	4	7	7	7	5	3	5	4	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3
46	age group 18-24 years	17	13	10	16	6	6	6	6	7	7	9	6	4	5	5	6	6	6	6	12	12
47	age group 25-34 years	43	38	44	37	26	27	26	43	47	36	36	25	20	18	22	23	23	23	23	19	19
48	age group 35-44 years	48	39	27	36	22	24	26	29	29	28	21	32	29	23	17	14	17	22	21	21	21
49	age group 45-54 years	86	86	96	80	38	31	30	61	60	40	36	34	52	49	68	54	52	43	34	47	47
50	age group 55+ years	33	38	44	31	16	11	11	18	18	17	15	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
51	1208 vehicle occupants killed	1,690	1,438	1,481	1,409	1,269	1,201	1,221	1,336	1,243	1,327	1,326	1,176	1,100	1,061	991	948	966	863	847	732	732
52	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
53	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
54	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
57	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
58	unknown	1,100	959	999	1,019	880	813	793	897	789	874	823	714	617	589	571	521	485	450	464	443	443
59	motorcyclists killed	114	52	147	141	116	107	120	125	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137
60	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
61	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
62	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
63	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
64	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66	unknown	114	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
67	motorcyclists killed	101	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
68	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
69	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
71	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
72	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
73	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
74	unknown	114	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
75	motorcyclists killed	101	50	147	141	116	107	120	121	142	116	141	159	130	120	120	130	139	150	137	137	137
76	vehicle age < 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
77	vehicle age 1-2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
78	vehicle age 3-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
79	vehicle age 6-10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80	vehicle age 11-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
81	vehicle age >15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
82																						



NTUA Road Safety Observatory

- An international reference website - information system of road safety data and knowledge: www.nrso.ntua.gr
- More than 1.200 items since 2007, more than 500 scientific publications
- All important road safety news in Greece, in Europe and worldwide
- Updated reports covering all modern road safety issues
- Latest available road safety data for Greece and the European Union
- Scientific road safety conferences in Greece and worldwide
- Links to dozens of road safety resources worldwide



Road Safety Decision Support Systems



SafetyCube, EC Horizons 2020 Project (1/2)

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SafetyCube DSS **aims** to provide the European and Global road safety community a **user friendly, web-based, interactive Decision Support Tool**.

SafetyCube DSS **combines** existing with novel road safety knowledge using scientific studies as basis.

The **main contents** of the SafetyCube DSS concern:

- road accident risk factors and problems
- road safety measures
- best estimate of effectiveness
- cost-benefit evaluation
- all related analytic background

Special focus on linking road safety problems with related measures.



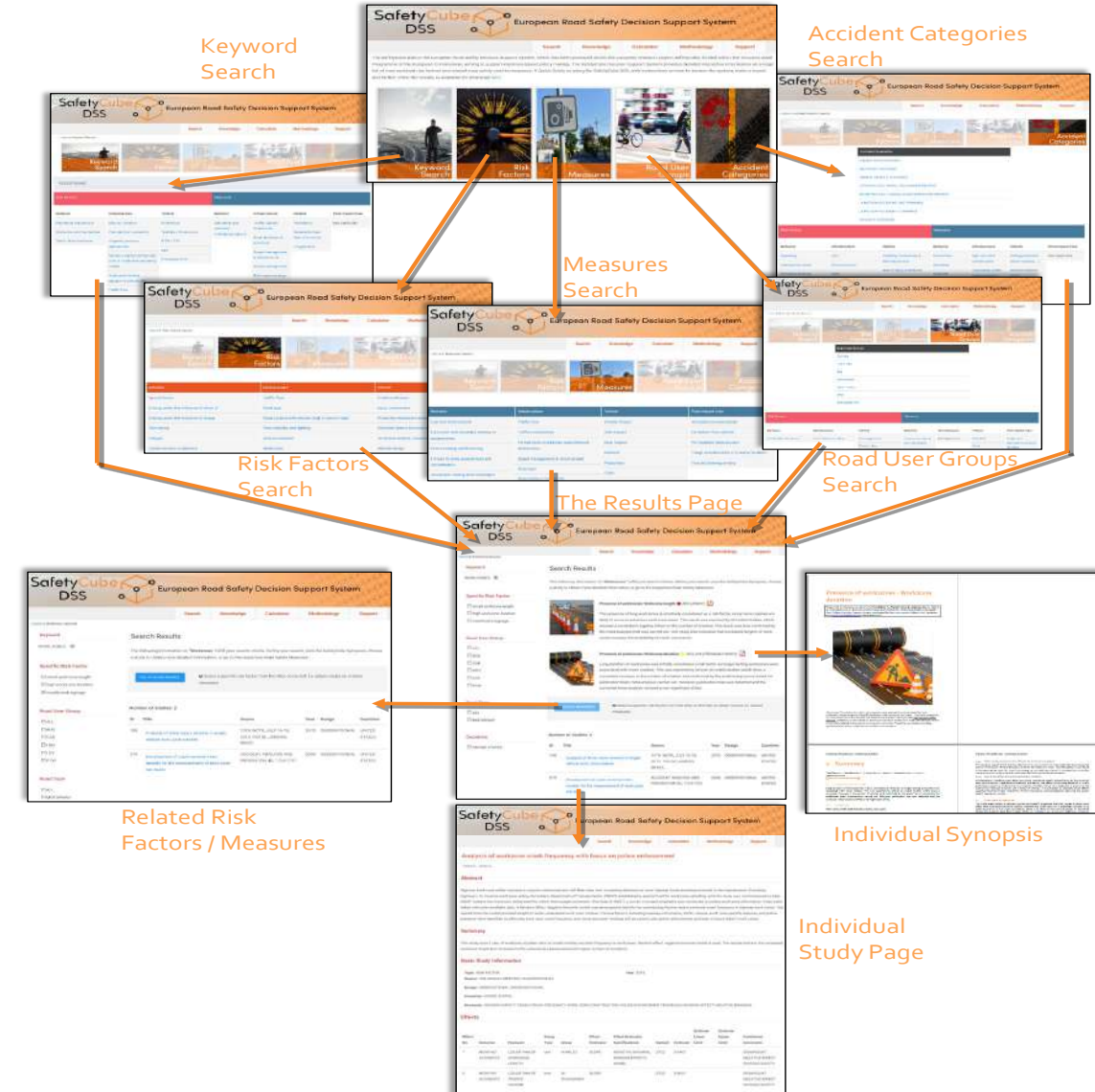
SafetyCube, EC Horizons 2020 Project (2/2)

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The SafetyCube DSS contains:

- more than 1,250 **scientific studies**,
- with more than 7,500 **estimates** of risks/measure effects on
- **4 Categories**: road user, infrastructure, vehicle, post impact care
- **38 risks, 50 measures** (88 in total) e.g. distraction, roadside factors,
- **120 specific risks, 193 specific measures** (313 in total) e.g. mobile phone use,
- **211 Synopses**
- **36 cost-benefit analyses** (adjustable)

All available at: www.roadsafety-dss.eu/



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SafeFITS pillars

1. Road Safety Management
2. Road Infrastructure
3. Vehicle
4. User
5. Post-Crash Services

SafeFITS Global Model, UNECE (2/2)

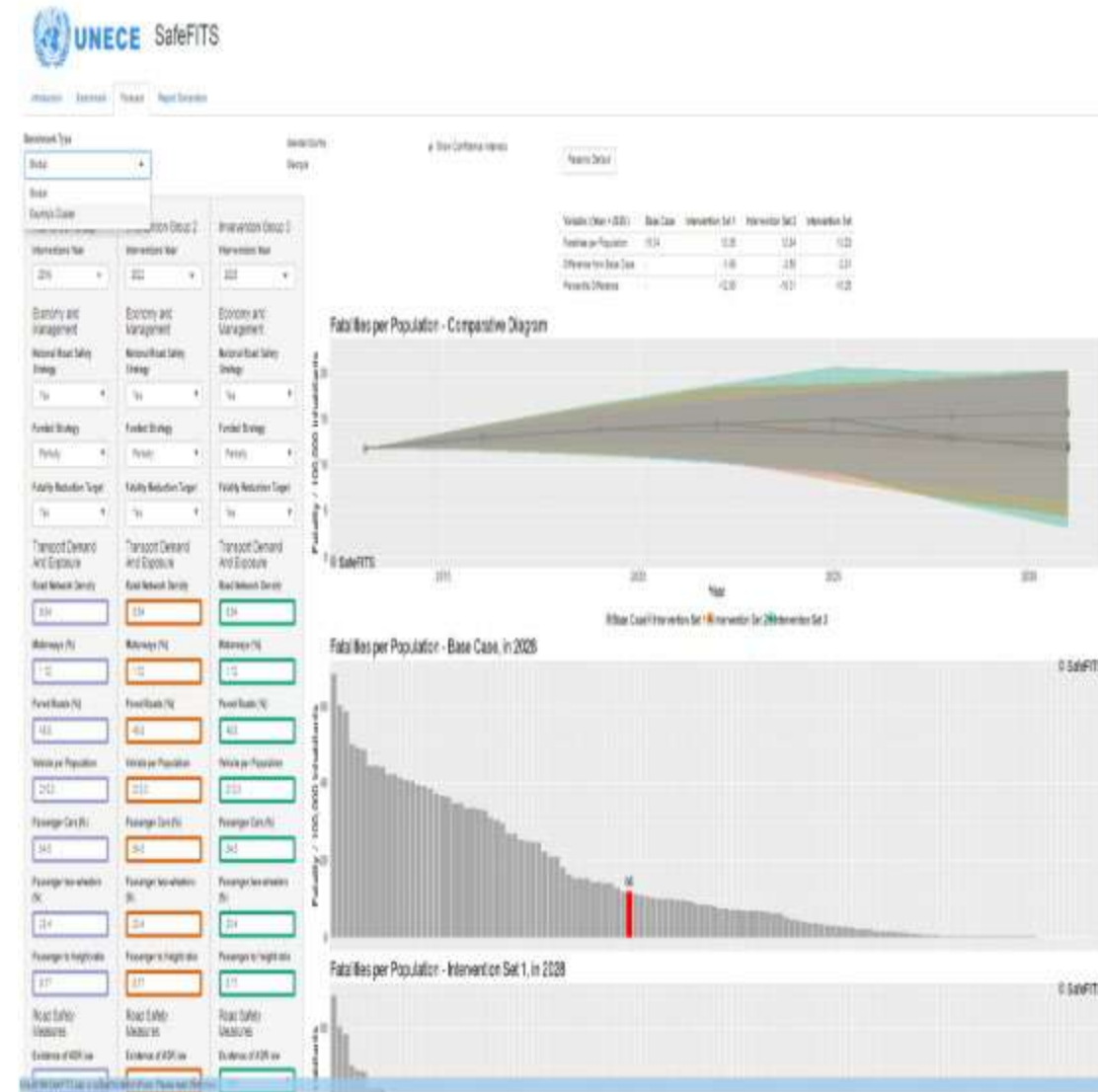
The SafeFITS Tool consists of **two background components**:

- **SafeFITS database** with data on indicators from all layers of road safety management system for 130 countries worldwide
- **SafeFITS set of statistical models** of global causalities, estimated on the basis of the database

The SafeFITS Tool is composed by **three complementary modules**:

- **Intervention analysis**: allows the user to examine the effects of single interventions at national or country cluster level
- **Forecasting analysis**: allows the user to define own scenarios of measures (or combinations of measures) in a country and obtain medium/long term forecasts of each scenario
- **Benchmarking analysis**: allows the user to benchmark a country against a group of countries (e.g. all countries, countries of similar economic or road safety performance)

Available at: <https://unecetrans.shinyapps.io/safefits/>



iRAP Road Safety Toolkit

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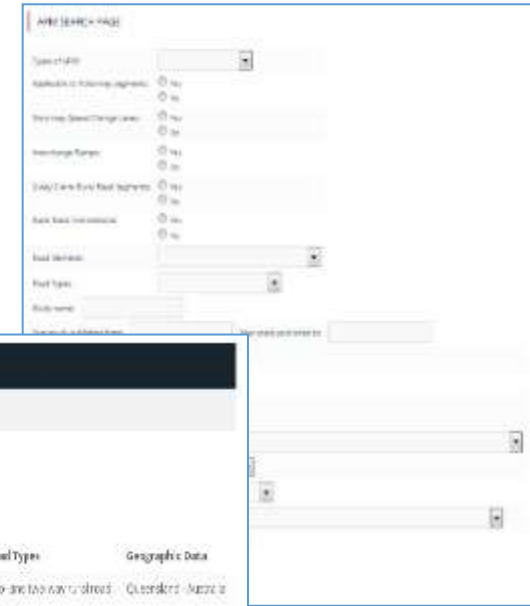
- Includes 58 treatments
(infrastructure, vehicle & user related)
- No CMFs included
- Rough assessment of each treatment's **effectiveness** using a four scale system
(0-10%, 10-25%, 25-40%, 60% or more)
- Is available online: <http://toolkit.irap.org/>



PRACT APM and CMF Repository, CEDR

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- A Trans-European Accident Prediction Model with a single structure and different parameters for different countries. The model has been fitted to data from 5 Countries (Italy, UK, Greece, Netherlands, Germany).
- A **user friendly tool** to assist in the application of APMs according to data availability and local conditions. Enables **Search for APMs and CMFs**.
- All **types of data** required in accident prediction are available (CMFs, SPFs, and Regression Equation APMs).
- The quality of included CMFs has been verified through an **evaluation process**.
- A procedure to check the **transferability of CMFs**, incorporated in the tool.
- A **CMF and APM Repository** has been developed and is freely available online: www.pract-repository.eu



HOME

SEARCH FOR APMs

SEARCH FOR CMFs

GLOSSARY

CONTACT

VOU-REACT

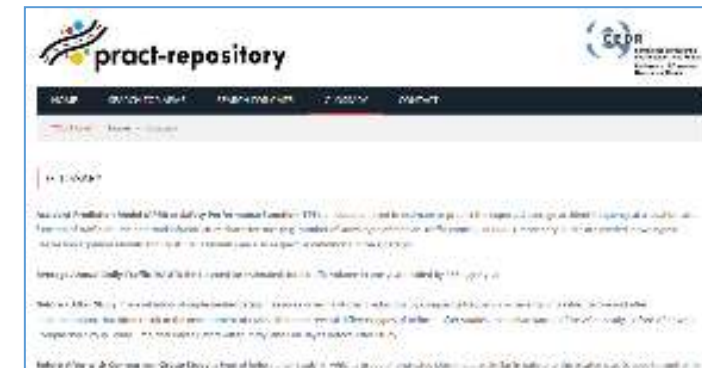
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PRACT results

APM RESULTS

ID	Road Elements	Type of APM	Equation	Road Types	Geographic Data
102	Intersect on	Regression Equation	$AF = 0.02 \times 10^5 \times (1.15 \times 10^5 + 0.001 \times 10^5 \times 10^5)$	Two and two way to street	Quadrant - Austria
101	Intersect on	Regression Equation	$AF = 0.03 \times 10^5 \times (1.15 \times 10^5 + 0.001 \times 10^5 \times 10^5)$	Two and two way to street	Quadrant - Austria

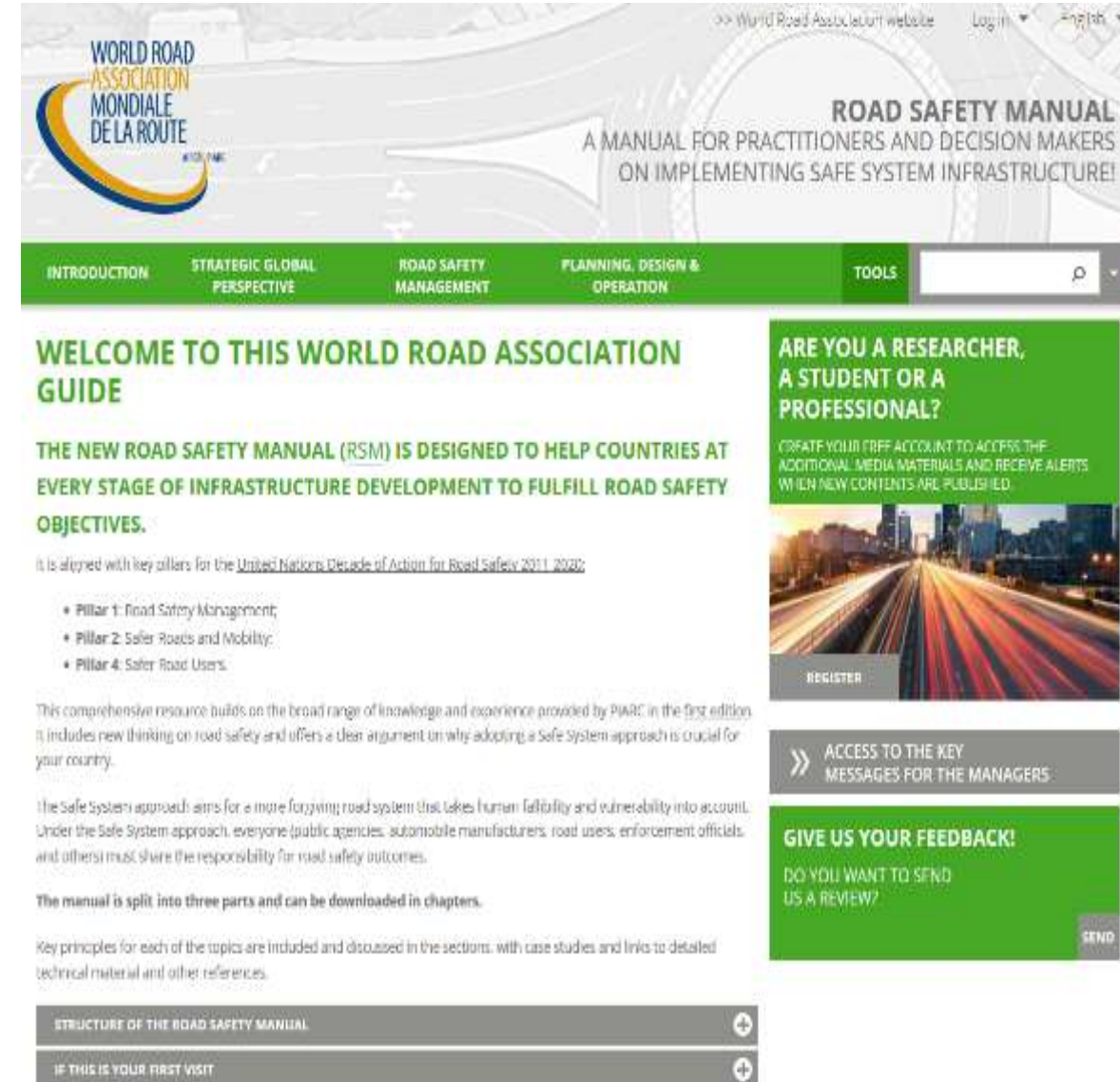
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PIARC – WRA Road Safety Manual

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Washington D.C.

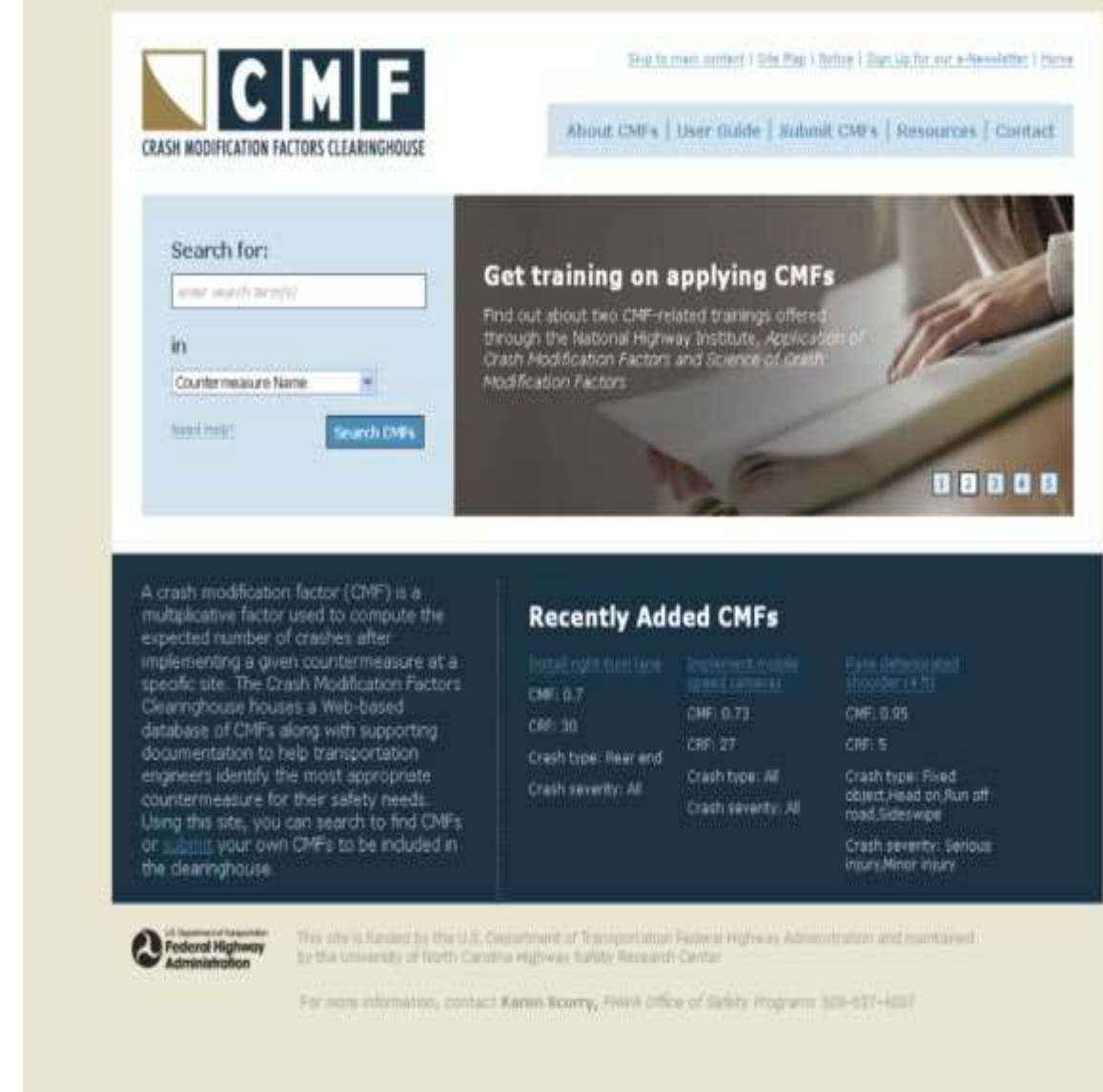
- The PIARC Road Safety Manual is intended to provide clear and accessible information on the effective management of road safety infrastructure.
- Includes **15 case studies**, with the possibility of additions and updates.
- Estimates of **high/medium/low cost** for up to **35 Treatments**
- Categorized for **3 effectiveness categories** and for up to **6 accident types**.
- Organization of the Manual is in **three Parts**:
 - Part I "Strategic Global Perspective"
 - Part II "Road Safety Management"
 - Part III "Planning, Design & Operation"
- Available online: <https://roadsafety.piarc.org/en>



US NHTSA/FHWA CMF Clearinghouse

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- Directly related to the Highway Safety Manual (AASHTO, 2010)
- Includes 5,378 CMFs on road infrastructure
- Detailed background information on presented CMFs is available
- Is available online:
<http://www.cmfclearinghouse.org>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the CMF Clearinghouse. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: "Skip to main content", "Site Map", "Help", "Sign Up for our e-Newsletter", and "Home". Below this is a header section with the CMF logo and the text "CRASH MODIFICATION FACTORS CLEARINGHOUSE". A secondary navigation bar contains links: "About CMFs", "User Guide", "Submit CMFs", "Resources", and "Contact". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a search form with a "Search for:" label, a text input field containing "enter search term(s)", a dropdown menu labeled "in:" with "Countermeasure Name" selected, a "Reset help?" link, and a "Search CMFs" button. The right column has a banner titled "Get training on applying CMFs" with a background image of hands on a laptop. Below the banner, text describes two CMF-related trainings offered through the National Highway Institute. The bottom section of the page is titled "Recently Added CMFs" and lists three entries in a table-like format. The footer includes the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration logo, a statement of funding by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center, and contact information for Karen Womack.

CMF
CRASH MODIFICATION FACTORS CLEARINGHOUSE

Search for:

in:

[Reset help?](#)

Get training on applying CMFs
Find out about two CMF-related trainings offered through the National Highway Institute, Application of Crash Modification Factors and Science of Crash Modification Factors

Recently Added CMFs

Install right turn lane CMF: 0.7 CRF: 30 Crash type: Rear end Crash severity: All	Implement middle island crossover CMF: 0.73 CRF: 27 Crash type: All Crash severity: All	Rear detection and shoulder exit CMF: 0.95 CRF: 5 Crash type: Fixed object, Head on, Run off road, Sideswipe Crash severity: Serious injury, Minor injury
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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

This site is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and maintained by the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center

For more information, contact Karen Womack, Press Office of Safety Programs 301-637-4007



AustRoads Road Safety Engineering Toolkit

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- 67 treatments are included
- Searchable database according to:
 - Treatment type/name,
 - Crash type,
 - Safety issue,
 - Road user group
- Detailed background information on included CMFs generally not available
- Is available online:
<http://www.engtoolkit.com.au>

Austroads Road Safety Engineering Toolkit

Treatment type: Warning signs

Description

Warning signs may be used to alert motorists where visibility is obscured due to reduced sight distance (for example by adverse horizontal alignment), or there is a higher chance of encountering an unexpected hazard (such as children on the road), or where a significant decision point lies in advance. This has the effect of raising driver awareness of a potential conflict or a decision. Standard sized signs will typically be used, but in some instances where warranted (for instance in high speed environments, and/or where there are high volumes of vehicles), larger signs could be considered. In some exceptional cases, highly visible backing boards may be used.

Warning signs can be used in a variety of situations including providing warning for:

- hazardous curves (often used in association with a speed advisory sign)
- intersections or railway crossings
- traffic control (e.g. signals or 'Stop' signs)
- vulnerable road user warning (for instance children or elderly road users)
- lane narrowing or merges
- roadworks or warning of adverse road surface conditions
- animals on the roadway

Benefits

Warning signs provide the following benefits:

- provides advance warning of a hazard to a motorist
- raises driver vigilance at hazardous locations
- low installation cost
- can reduce vehicle speed
- conveys a simple clear meaning to the motorist

Implementation issues

Warning signs should be placed so as to be visible to motorists. They should be positioned at sufficient distance from the hazard to ensure drivers have adequate time to take necessary action (e.g. to slow down).

Consistency is required in the application of these signs, and a route based approach should be used.

While they are intended to act as a warning, it should also be remembered that the posts, placed along the roadside, represent an object with which an errant vehicle can collide. Positioning of posts to minimise damage and injury is an important consideration when implementing this treatment. Frangible posts should always be used.

Enhanced warning signs (for instance over sized or with a high visibility backing board) may be necessary in some situations, particularly where the hazard is unexpected (for instance in situations where curves are sharper than anticipated or after a long straight section of roadway). The misuse or overuse of these signs could potentially reduce their effectiveness in critical locations.

Care should be taken to ensure advisory speed signs or advance warning signs are appropriate for the site. Speed limit signs and advisory speed signs showing different speed values from one another should not be placed where drivers can read both at the one time. Installers are advised to follow the guidelines set out by the relevant state road authority for determining the appropriate advisory.

Pictures

Image 1 of 10

Crash reduction effectiveness

- 40% - Speed advisory signs
- 25% - Curve warning signs
- 30% - Bridge warning signs
- 15% - Guidance signs
- 20% - Variable message signs
- 35% - Vehicle activated signs

Cost Rating

Green star

Treatment life

Four stars

Other treatments to consider

- All red time extension
- Traffic signals operation review
- Turn bans
- Signal display visibility improvements
- Road resistance improvements
- Traffic signals coordination
- Convert single parking to parallel



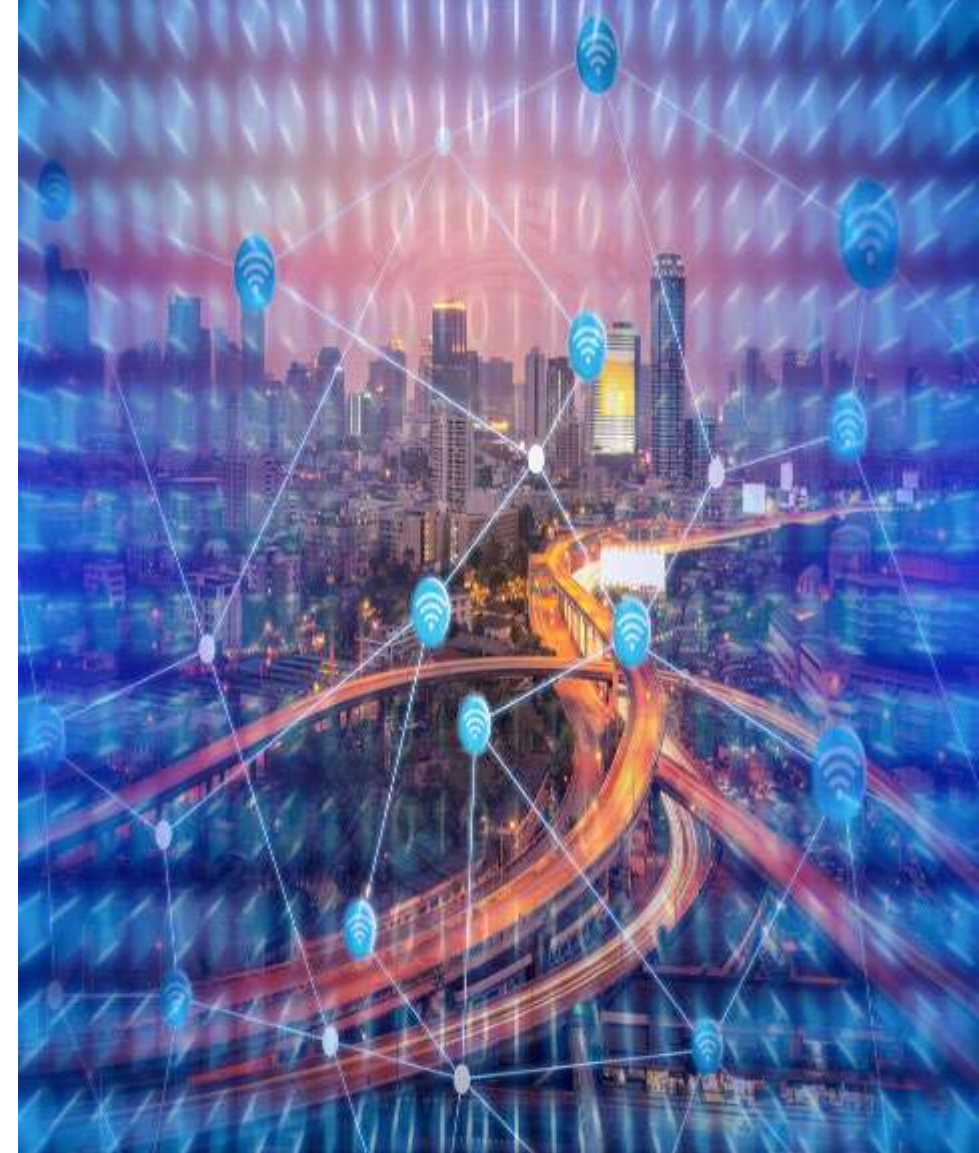
In Synopsis

- During the last 15 years, several Road Safety Observatories and Decision Support Systems have been developed, **adding significant value** to the quest for safer roads worldwide.
- The more developed Information Systems are associated with Countries and Regions with higher road safety performance and are a direct sign of **advanced road safety culture**.
- Road Safety Information Systems are key management tools for **developing road safety capacity** and engaging stakeholders (not only for providing scientific evidence but also for monitoring efforts)



Future Challenges

- The current **great potential** of current Road Safety Systems should be multiplied with:
 - more data and knowledge
 - broader geographical coverage
- **Upgraded usefulness** of the Systems entail:
 - more accurate road accident data (LMIC Countries)
 - exposure data and performance indicators
 - measures and policies effectiveness evaluation
- **Global impact will be optimized** through:
 - a network of Regional Observatories (Global coverage)
 - standardisation of data, processes and systems
 - evidence-based & customized best practice guidelines



The Digitalisation Challenges

- Digitalization opens great new data possibilities for evidence based road safety decision making at all levels
- New great potential for **seamless data driven procedures** from safety problems identification to selection and implementation of optimal solutions
- New increased **net present value of road safety data**, available for early problem detection and prompt and customised decision support



In Conclusion

- Data, knowledge and systems require **serious effort with equivalent budget**, which however are highly profitable in terms of return of investment:
 - with thousands of lives and injuries saved and
 - road safety investments properly exploited
- The **deployment** of national, regional and international road safety observatories and decision support systems, should be:
 - progressive
 - inter connected
 - properly funded
- **Regional and Global coordination** and funding are current key challenges for the serious upgrade of the current systems





Road Safety Data, Knowledge and Decision Support Systems Global Challenges in the Digital Era

George Yannis
Professor



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