



National Technical University of Athens  
Road Safety Observatory [www.nrso.ntua.gr](http://www.nrso.ntua.gr)

Friday  
19 May  
2023  
13:00-17:00

Workshop  
in the framework of  
7th UN Global Road Safety Week

StreetsforLife  
#RethinkMobility

WE DEMAND  
SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE  
MOBILITY

Road Safety Research Challenges

DECADE OF ACTION FOR  
ROAD SAFETY  
2021-2030

[unroadsafetyweek.org](http://unroadsafetyweek.org)

# PHOEBE: Predictive Approaches for Safer Urban Environments

**Thodoris Garefalakis**

Transportation Engineer

Together with:

Apostolos Ziakopoulos, Maria Oikonomou,  
Stella Roussou, George Yannis



# The Phoebe project

## ➤ 11 Project partners:

National Technical University of Athens

International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP), European Institute of Road Assessment (EIRA), AIMSUN simulation software, The Floop, Technische Universität München, Delft University of Technology, Universitat Politècnica de València, OSeven Telematics, Factual consulting, POLIS Network

## ➤ Duration of the project:

45 months (November 2022 – July 2026)

## ➤ Framework Program:

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 101076963



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# Objectives

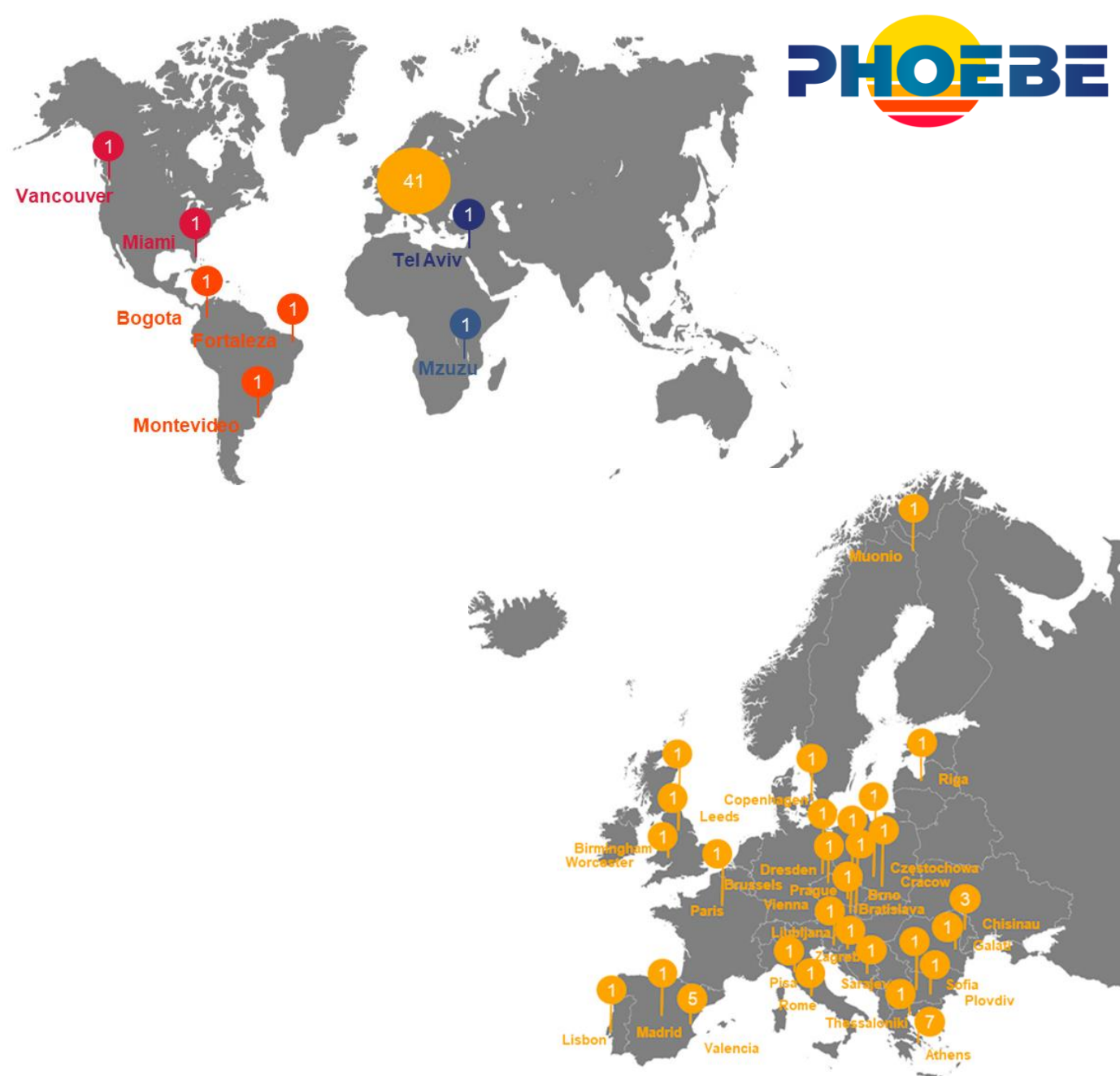
PHOEBE aims to increase the **road safety of vulnerable road users**, especially those who use active mobility and e-scooters, by:

- **Exploiting telematics** through data analysis techniques that are innovative and efficient.
- Harmonizing safety definitions in **traffic simulation models** with those used in road safety assessment.
- Developing integrated **urban risk assessment models and tools** for application of the methodological framework.



# Stakeholder survey

- As initial data collection, a dedicated **online survey** was designed in order to review the needs and gaps of local-level stakeholders globally.
- From the stakeholder survey a total number of **50 responses** was received.
- In terms of city coverage, the distribution of respondents covers **36 cities worldwide**
- The majority of them (41 in total) work in Europe covering **29 European cities**.

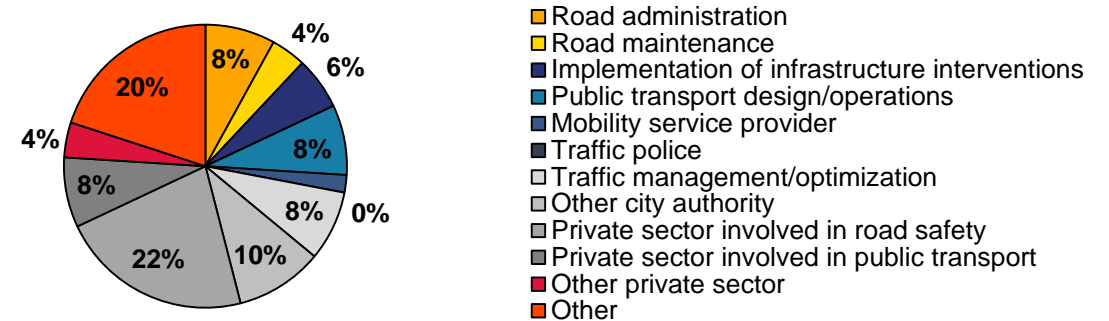




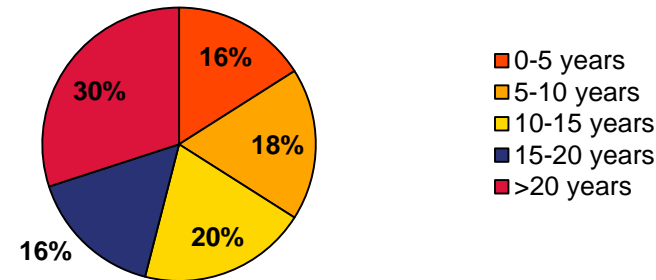
# Respondent specifications

- Most respondents (22%) are **private sector employees** involved in road safety.
- Most respondents (30%) have more than **20 years of experience** in their position.
- Most respondents (17%) use a **safety assessment methodology**, while 10% of respondents use macroscopic traffic simulation.

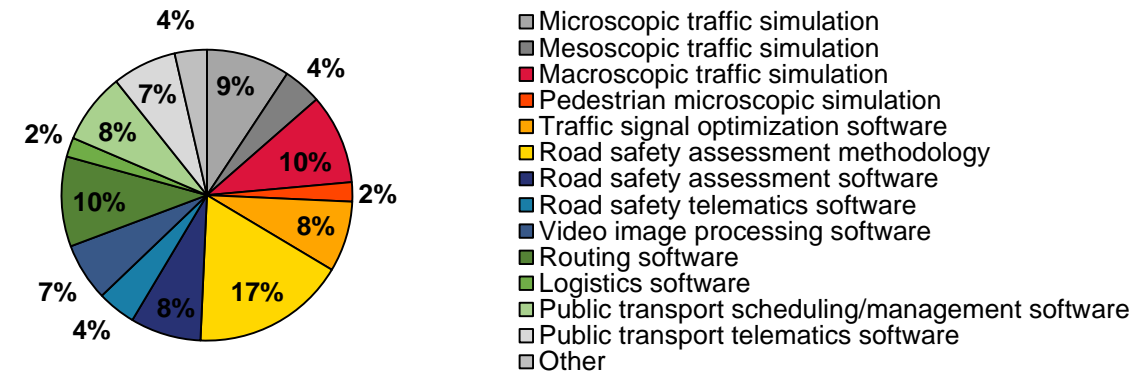
Stakeholders main role in cities



Stakeholders years of experience



Software/tool types that stakeholders use in daily activities



# Scenario determination

➤ It was reported that **several scenarios** need prioritization:

- implementation of regulatory measures to limit speeds
- introducing extensive network of bicycle lanes
- promotion of public transport modes
- introduction of new transport modes
- implementing hierarchical schemes
- encouraging modal shift
- speed calming measures
- expansion of cycling and walking infrastructure

➤ **Lower priority** could be given to other scenarios, namely:

- implementation of newer standards for bike lane design
- modernizing sustainable travel aligning with existing demand in advance of major events

Implementation of regulatory measures to limit speeds to 30 km/h (or 20mph) limit across the city network (from nominal enforcement to police presence to radars and speed cameras). Compliance with new and established speed limits

The implications of introducing an extensive network of bicycle routes as a part of the existing road network (either as mixed traffic, or with separate bike/bus lanes, or with separate bike lanes on the road shoulders)

Promotion of public transport modes through campaigns and/or more attractive pricing.

Management of conflict due to the introduction of new transport initiative (such as a new bike hire scheme), new modes (e.g. e-scooters), and new vehicle types (e.g. e-unicycles)

Implementing hierarchical, safe and connected road schemes

Encouraging modal shift towards more sustainable modes and active travel

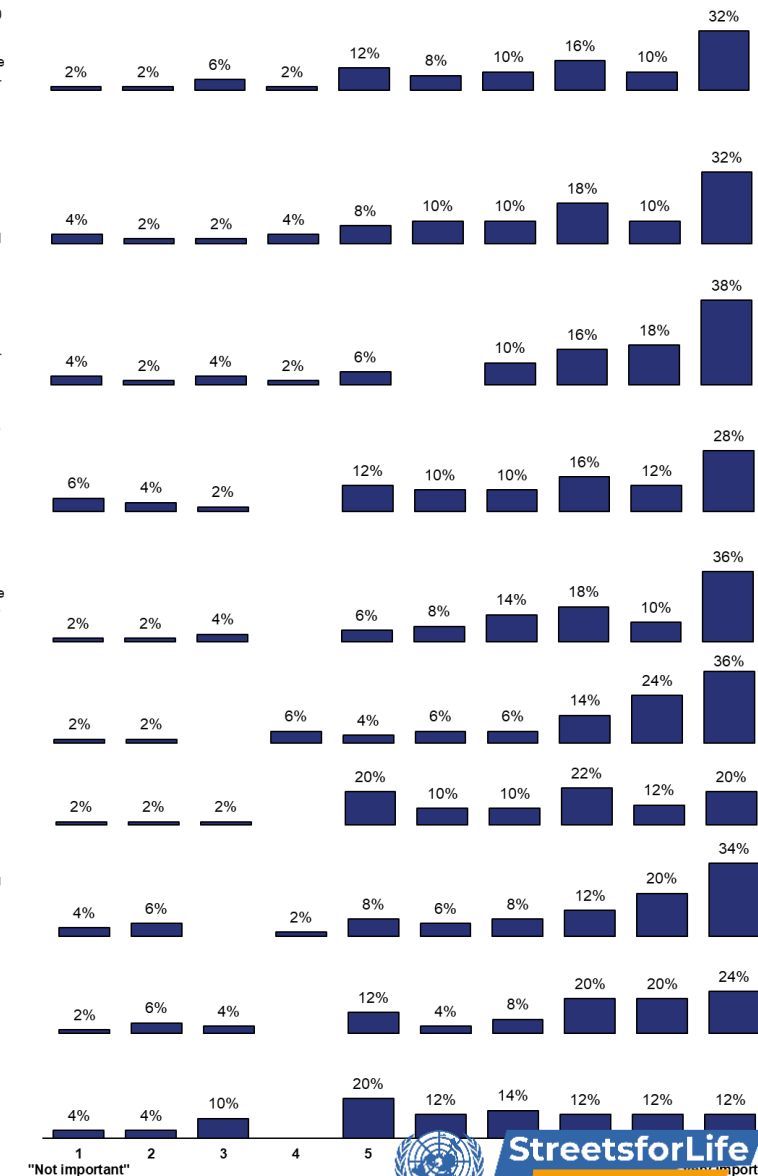
Implementation of newer/modernized standards for bike lanes design

Effectiveness of speed-calming measures/Low traffic Neighbourhoods/Superblocks

Connection & expansion of the urban cycling and walking infrastructure that lies separately to the rest of the road network

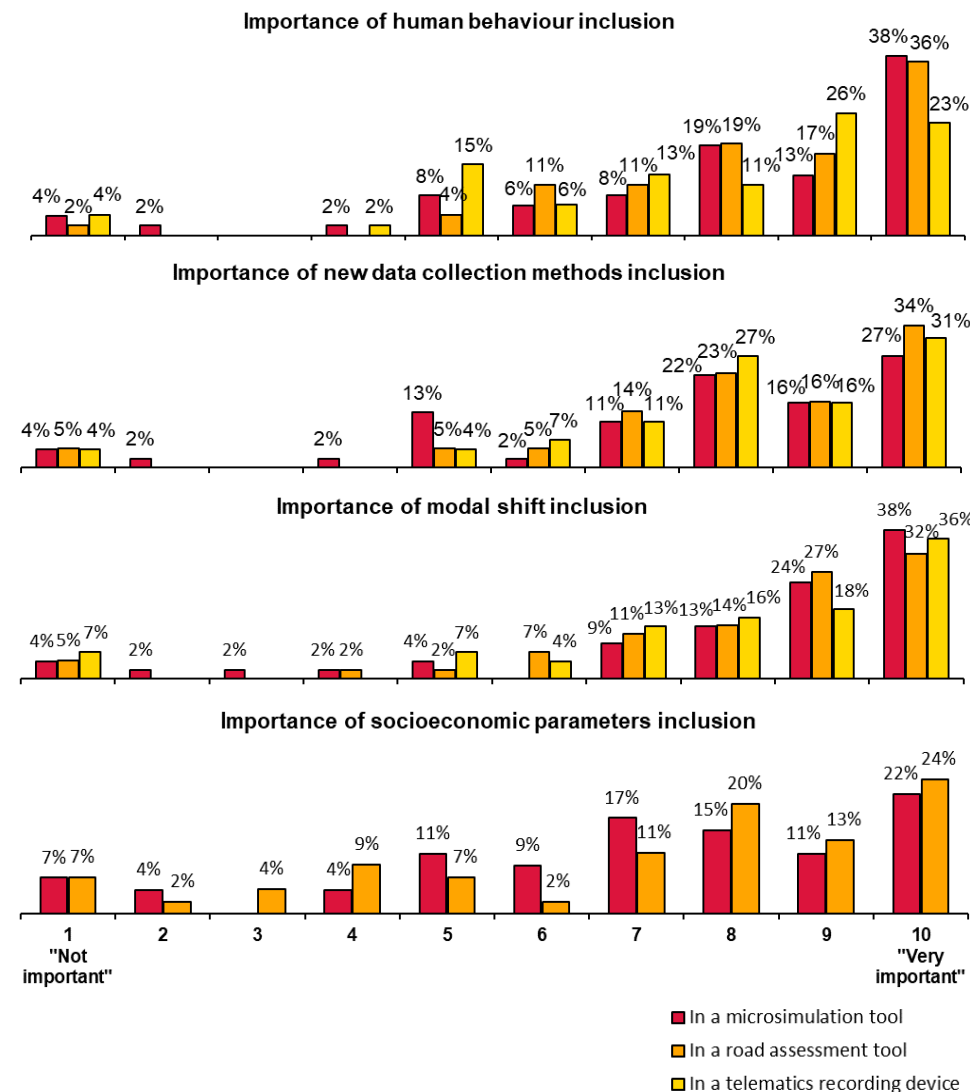
Modernising sustainable travel aligning with existing and predicted demand in advance of major events (e.g. Olympics/Commonwealth games)

Importance of an investigation of each of the following scenarios in stakeholders daily work



# Phoebe Tool requirements (1/2)

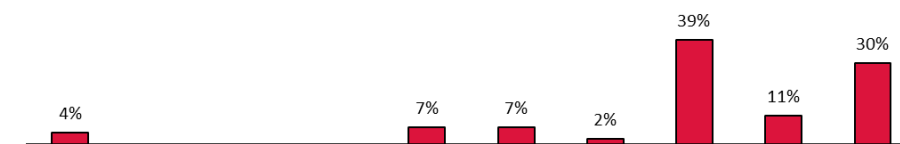
- Most respondents stated that the inclusion of human behavior models (38%), data collection methods (27%), modal shift (38%) and socioeconomic parameters (22%) **in microsimulation tool** is highly important.
- Similarly, most respondents identified that is very important to include **in road assessment tool** human behavior models (36%), data collection methods (34%), modal shift (32%) and socioeconomic parameters (24%).
- Most respondents stated a high importance of deriving human behaviour patterns from telematics data (23%) and monitoring modal shift effects (36%) using a **telematics recording device**.



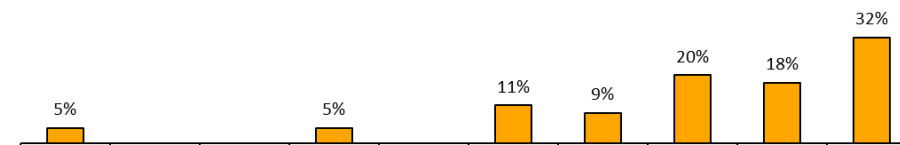
# Phoebe Tool requirements (2/2)

- Most respondents (39%) tend to agree that **infrastructure safety risk assessment methodologies** inclusion in a microsimulation tool is slightly important.
- Similarly, a simultaneous inclusion of **telematics and microsimulation data** in road safety assessment methodologies is very important (32% and 33% respectively).
- Finally, it seems that most respondents (27%) agreed that is highly important to include **telematics data** in a microsimulation tool.

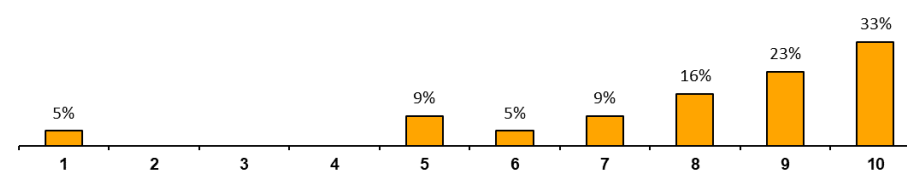
Importance of infrastructure safety risk assessment methodologies inclusion in a microsimulation tool



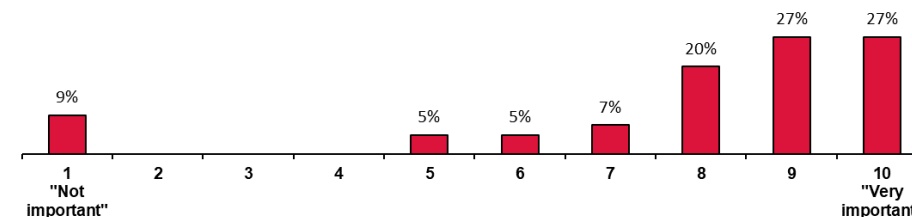
Importance of telematics data inclusion in infrastructure safety risk assessment methodologies



Importance of microsimulation tools inclusion in a road assessment tool



Importance of telematics data inclusion in a microsimulation tool





# Stakeholder needs

➤ A **high priority** was requested to **enrich simulation** with:

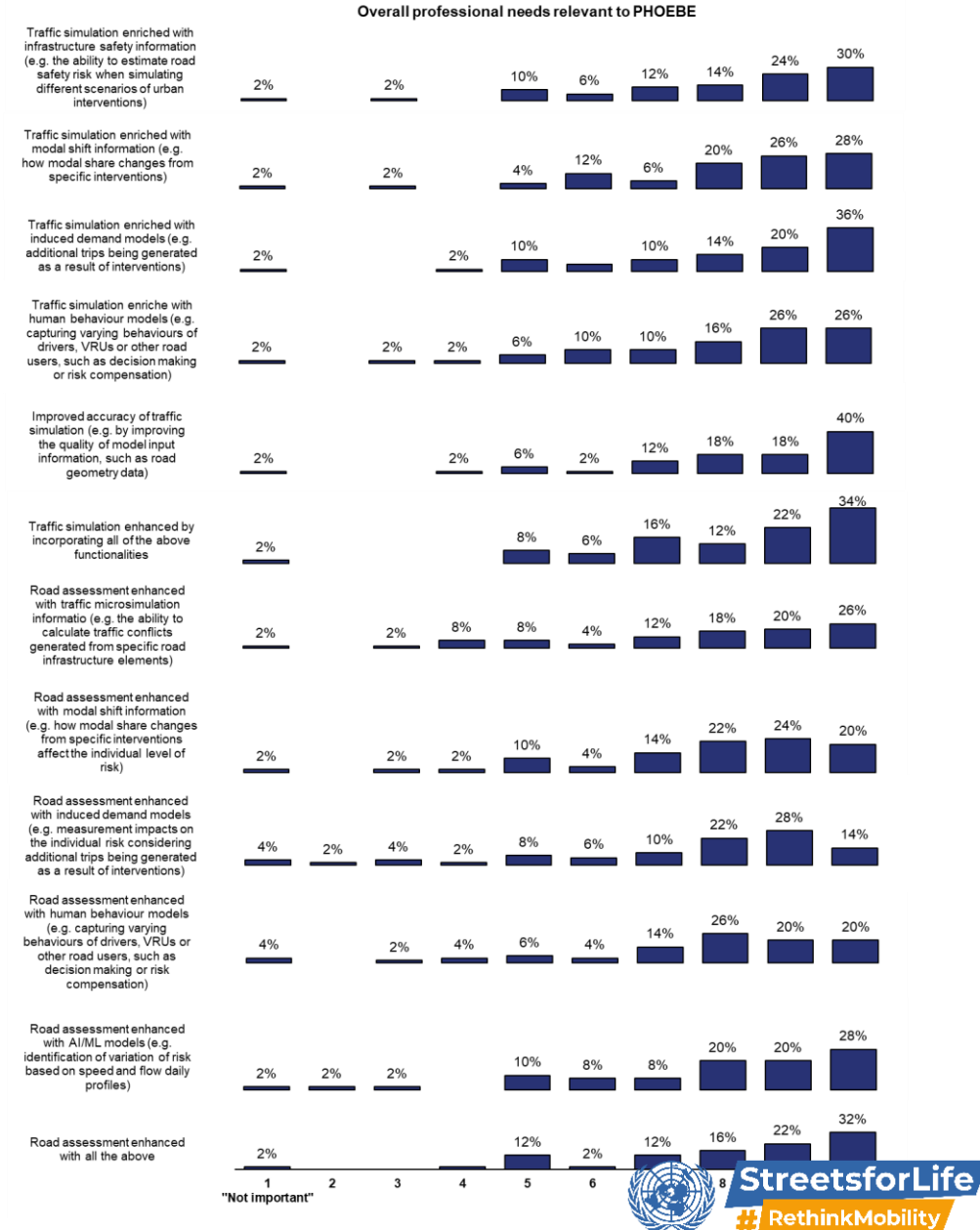
- safety information
- modal shift
- induced demand models and
- human behaviour models

as well as to **enrich safety assessment** with:

- microsimulation information
- AI/ML models.

➤ A **lower priority** was requested to enhance road assessment with:

- modal shift information
- induced demand models
- human behaviour models.



# Streets for Life



- Overall, PHOEBE will **simultaneously improve three main pillars** of modern road safety tools (telematics, simulation and risk assessment models) with emphasis on **vulnerable road users**.
- Survey results and constant stakeholder engagement will ensure that the project outcomes are **applicable and relevant to real-world scenarios**, making the interventions and framework more effective and impactful.
- PHOEBE will assess safety impacts at the transport system level without the need for detailed simulation of the entire network by applying a simple **Select - Simulate - Evaluate - Extrapolate** approach





# Scientific and social impact



- Results provided valuable evidence in order to **determine the scenarios** that are worth investigating and therefore the interventions that will be developed.
- A high importance of integrating human behaviors, modal shift, socioeconomic parameters, simulation, safety assessment and data collection methods **into the utilized tools** was determined.
- The three project use cases (Athens, Valencia, West Midlands) will serve as testbeds to demonstrate the **framework applicability and integration** with urban transport systems under real conditions





# Future challenges

- Creation of **self-feeding loops** calibrating modal shift based on the evaluations and interventions of the project and beyond Phoebe
- Articulating the **integration of the components** of the risk assessment framework in a more **generic and transferable** manner
- Seamless transitioning **from microscopic to macroscopic** simulation scales
- Investigation of the framework applicability in **rural/interurban locations**
- Envelopment, integration and utilization of **more data sources (e.g. weather, PT, vehicle ridership etc.)**







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