



THE AFRICAN ROAD SAFETY OBSERVATORY – AFRICAN RSO



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Background

- The **African RSO** was developed within the project "SaferAfrica - Innovating Dialogue and Problems Appraisal for a Safer Africa".
- Its **aim** is to support stakeholders with evidence on key risk factors and related good practices using high quality data and knowledge.
- The African RSO follows the structure of the European Road Safety Observatory, adjusted to the **road safety status in Africa**, the availability and quality of relevant data and consequently the needs of African road safety stakeholders.



AFRICAN ROAD SAFETY OBSERVATORY

Road Safety Level in Africa

- Africa is the **worst performing continent** in road safety, representing 31% of global road fatalities.
- With **26.6 fatalities/10,000 population**, African fatality rate is almost three times that of Europe's.
- The disparity in road safety results seems to be **increasing**.
- In **Europe**, fatality rates improved from 10.3 per 100,000 population in 2010 to 9.3 per 100,000 population in 2013.
- Over the same period, road fatality rates in **Africa** increased from 24.1 per 100,000 population to 26.6 per 100,000 population.
- Road trauma in Africa is expected to worsen further, with fatalities per capita projected to **double from 2015 to 2030** (WHO, 2015).

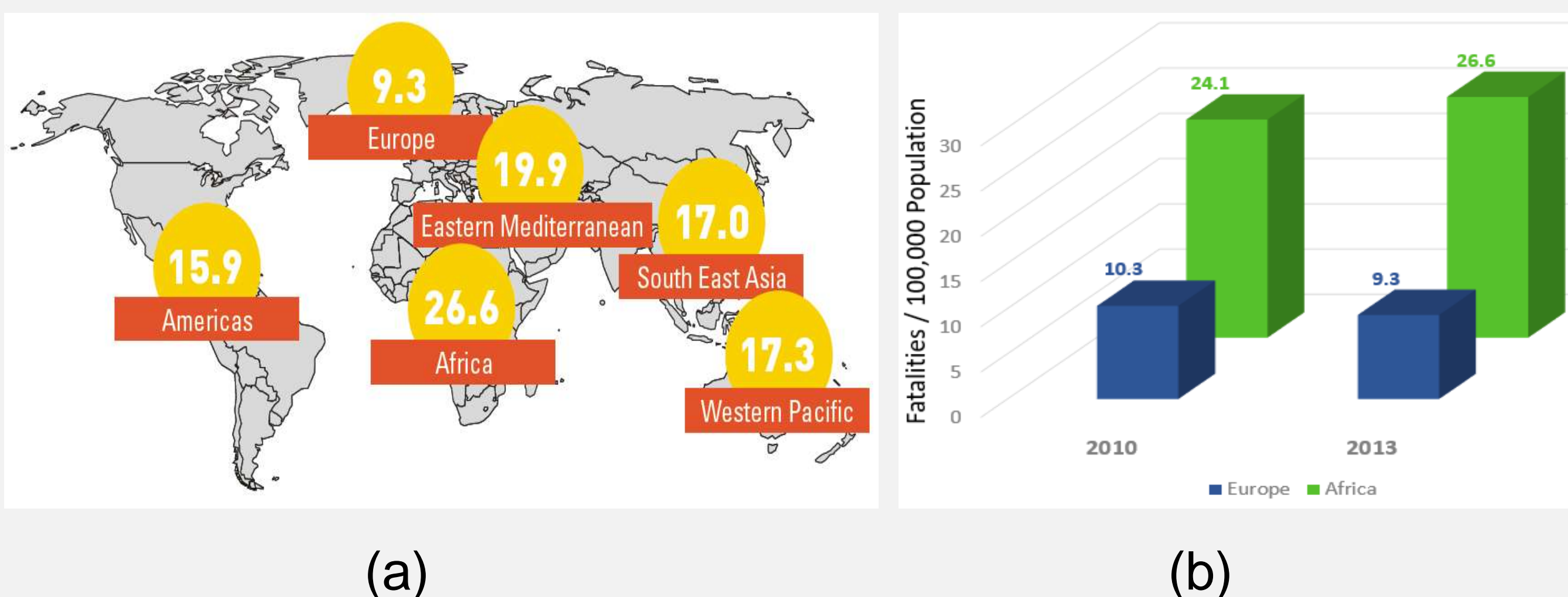


Figure 1 (a, b). Mortality rate (fatalities/10⁵ population) per region.

- In order to improve road safety performance in African countries, many **barriers need to be overcome**.
- Among them stands the **substantial lack of detailed knowledge on road casualties** in terms of their number as well as associated factors leading to road accidents or affecting their consequences.

- Within this context, **Europe could play an important role** in supporting African countries to improve their road safety and traffic management performance.

- SaferAfrica project** – an Horizons 2020 Coordination and Concerted Action.
- A joint effort between **17 partners** from both continents.
- Aims to create favorable conditions and opportunities for the effective implementation of road safety and traffic management actions in the African countries, by setting up a **Dialogue Platform between Africa and Europe**.
- The project started in October 2016 and will be completed in September 2019.



Developing The African Road Safety Observatory

- Within the SaferAfrica project, a **pan-African road safety data and knowledge centre** is developed.
- In this framework, **road safety data and safety performance indicators** of African countries are collected, analysed and main risk factors are identified.
- This work serves as the basis for the development of the African RSO (www.africanroadsafetyobservatory.org) (Figure 2).
- The "Dialogue" section is the heart of African RSO, aimed at promoting a road safety culture through the so called "**Dialogue Platform**" (DP).
- The DP represents a high-level body, with the objective of **providing recommendations** to update the African Road Safety Action Plan and the African Road Safety Charter, as well as fostering the adoption of specific initiatives, properly funded.
- The African RSO strongly encourages public participation.
- In the "**Participate**" section, certain crowdsourcing functions serve as a networking platform through which end users could contact experts and other stakeholders, submit questions or data and exchange knowledge and experiences.
- A crucial in terms of importance and information variety content of African RSO is the "**Knowledge**" section, where outcomes directly related to certain work packages from the SaferAfrica project are provided through the following sub-sections:
 - Road Safety Management**
Assessment of the traffic and road safety management status, with a view towards developing African guidelines–recommendations for establishing and improving national road safety agencies.
 - Capacity Building**
Identification of training, research and innovation needs for staff involved in road safety related activities.
 - Good Practices**
Collection of effective road safety measures and policies from African and global experiences.
- The "**Statistics**" section provides a variety of information related to road safety; namely, road accident, fatalities and injuries data, survey collected data, statistics tables and statistics resources (Figure 3).

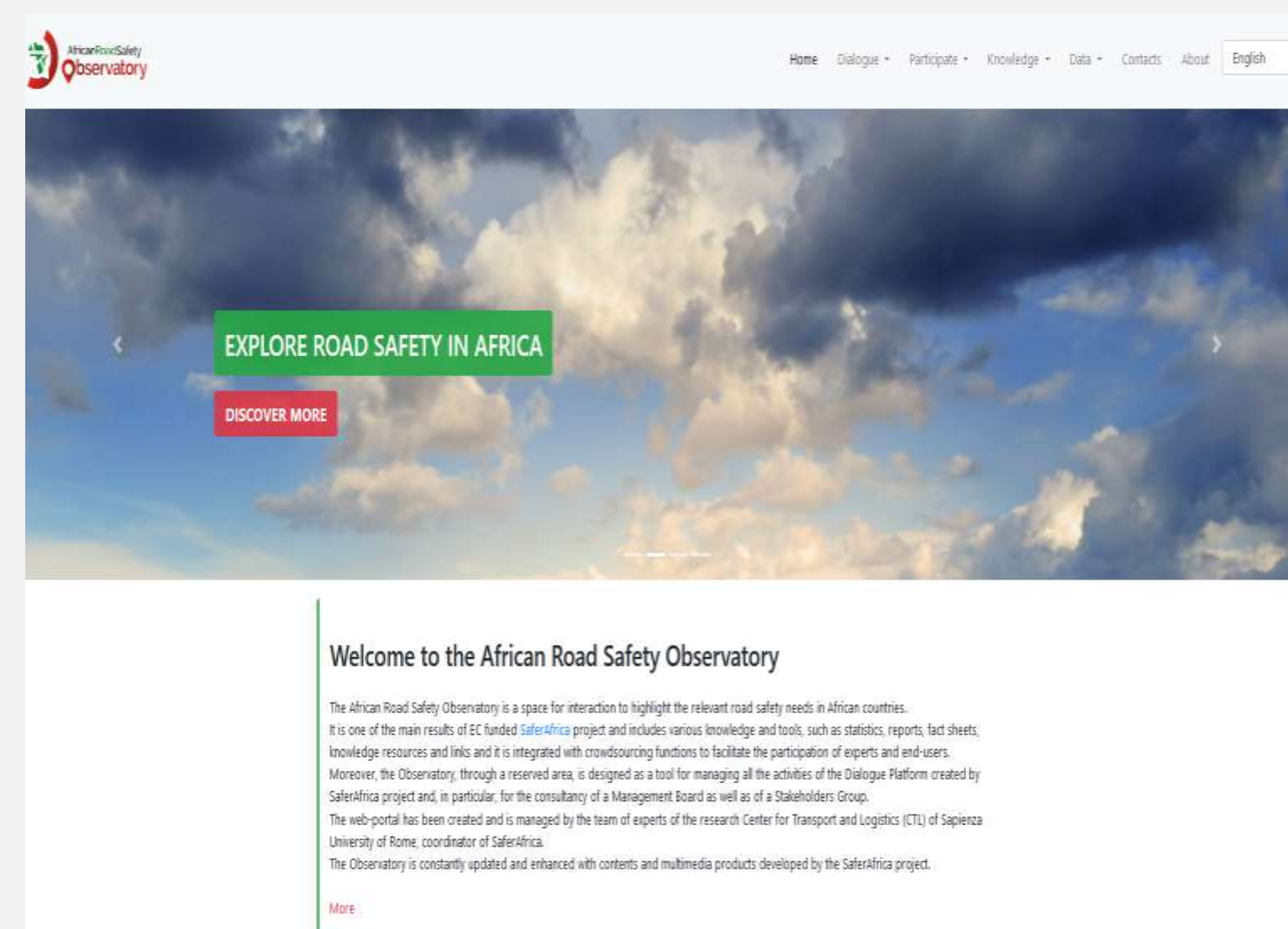


Figure 2. Profile of African RSO.

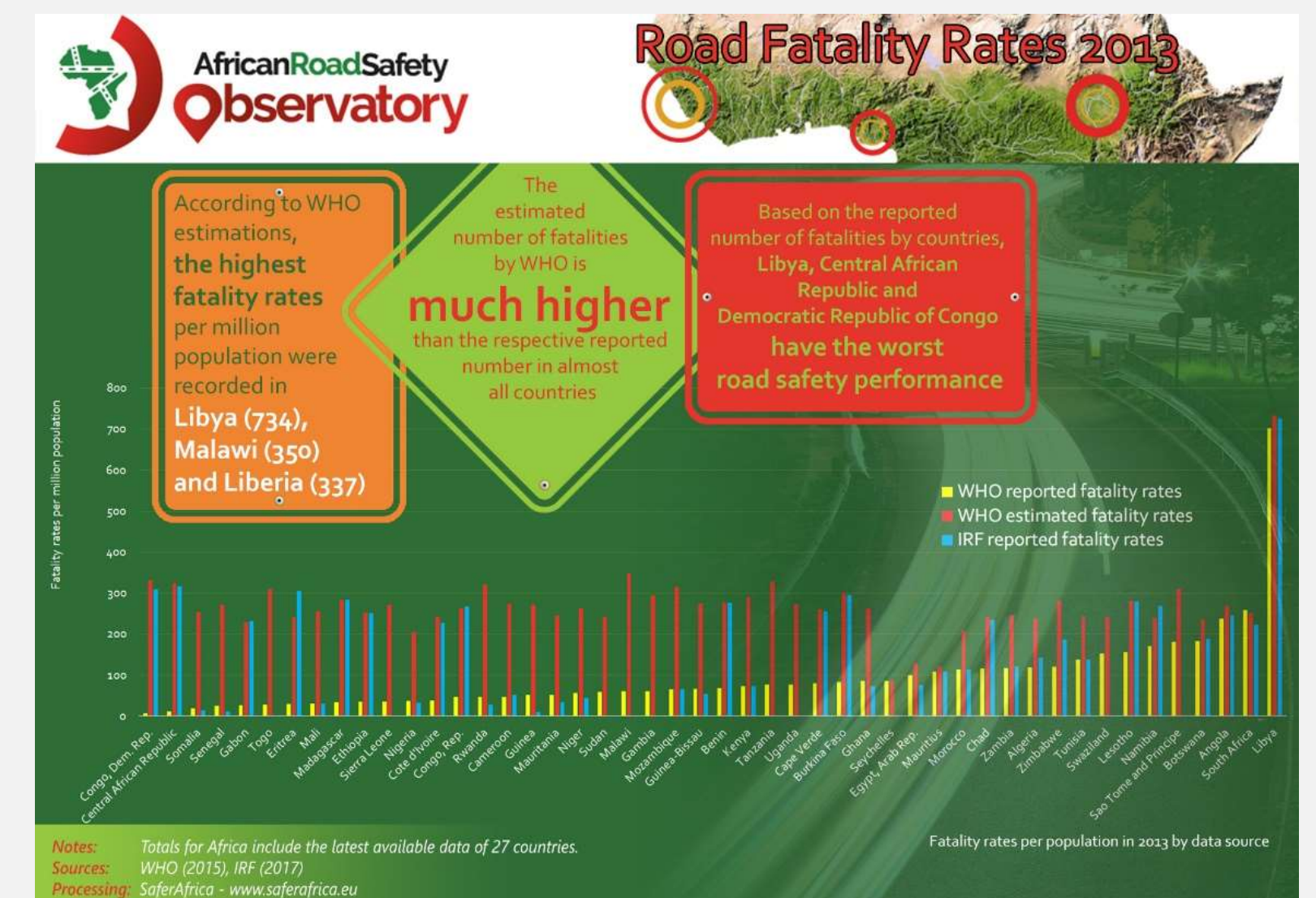


Figure 3. Statistics section.

- The African RSO includes **links** to the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, the SaferAfrica project website (<http://www.saferfrica.eu/>), to a list of key African road safety stakeholders and key road safety web-resources.
- Finally, the latest **news** (events, conferences, etc.) are published in a dedicated area of the portal.
- A further **challenge for the future** is to maintain the operation of both African RSO and the Dialogue Platform and further enhance their significant contribution in improving road safety performance in Africa.

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