

Good practice examples: Road safety strategies and action plans

Discussion paper for workshop, 25 November 2013

Most Member States have adopted national road safety strategies and/or action plans. Much work is done in each Member State to prepare and develop these strategies, yet there seems to be little exchange between Member States on each other's experiences. Opportunities for shared lessons learned and know-how on road safety planning are therefore lost.

One reason for the lack of exchange could be that the process of analysing all existing national road safety plans is cumbersome and time-consuming for the individual Member State. The Commission therefore considers ways to facilitate a wider spread of Member States' good practice examples for road safety planning, in order to inspire and support Member States.

The over-all objective would be to contribute to improved road safety and a reduced total number of accidents resulting in deaths and injuries on EU roads.

This workshop is organised to gather inputs and proposals from road safety actors and experts on ways to further improve road safety planning in the EU Member States.

You are invited to share your inputs and comments on the following topics:

- good principles of road safety planning;
- content of national road safety plans: good practice examples.

You can send in your response in advance or share your views during the workshop. Feel free to spread this discussion paper to other stakeholders you think may be interested in contributing ideas.

1. Road safety planning practices and principles

Good principles for road safety planning have been published by several expert organisations such as the World Health Organisation, the International Standardisation Organisation and the European Transport Safety Council. Most Member States also seem to adopt the principles of these international recommendations to a more or less full extent. The approach proposed by these manuals includes applying *targets*, basing priorities and action proposals on a *risk- and problem analysis*, assigning clear *responsibility, resources and timelines* for implementation, setting *performance indicators*, and designing a system for *monitoring, reporting and evaluation* of results.

Question for discussion:

Would there be an added value in the Commission promoting and encouraging the wider implementation of a specific road safety planning methodology?

Do you find the "results-based" approach with targets, problem-analysis, performance indicators, etc. useful to promote/encourage?

Are there alternative ways to encourage an increased quality of road safety planning that ensures results and implementation of efficient actions?

2. Road safety action examples

A sample of good practice examples could be gathered from the existing national road safety plans and shared in order to provide inspiration to the Member States. Interesting good practice examples collected from these national plans could range from the newest top-notch technical innovations to hands-on measures of low costs. Member States are in different situations and meet different road safety challenges; there is likely no "one-size-fits-all" road safety action plan that would be suitable for all Member States at the same time.

Question for discussion:

What should be the ambition of an initiative to collect good practice examples: good practices aimed specifically at the most challenged Member States or a mix of actions that all Member States may pick something useful from?

What kind of good practice examples would you find most interesting to be collected and disseminated among Member States - new ideas and latest innovations, thoroughly tested "safe bet" actions or a mix of new trends and traditional road safety actions?

Are there any good practice examples you would like to propose to be included in an initiative?

If possible, please provide us with information about when/where the good practice has been implemented, whether it has been evaluated and where results or proofs of its efficiency (if any) can be accessed.

Thank you for your contributions!

For more information or to send your replies in advance of the workshop, contact Ms Susanne Lindahl at susanne.lindahl@ec.europa.eu.

You can access all information about the Commission's road safety work via the website www.ec.europa.eu/roadsafety.