Road Safety on Rural Roads

International Road Federation

Amsterdam InterTraffic 2024

Traffic Management and Safety: Reducing Accidents and Congestion

Intertraffic Summit Theatre 2, Hall 7, RAI Amsterdam
16 April 2024





Background

- Basis: Recent press release from ETSC with title:
 10,000 killed on rural roads in the EU in 2022
 This equals roughly 50% of total EU road deaths (20,400).
 Safest countries have lower speed limits for rural roads.
- Excessive and inappropriate speed accounts for about 1/3 of fatal collisions and is an aggravating factor in most collisions.
- 2,100 lives could be saved annually if the average speed dropped by just 1 km/h on EU roads (ESTC).





Rural roads = Risky roads

Issues

- High speeds
- High speed differentials road users
- High weight differentials vehicles
- Long straight stretches
- Many obstacles (e.g. trees, posts, poles)
- Many single vehicle crashes (fatigue, distraction, misjudgement)
- Lacking guard rails and side barriers
- No median or central divider
- Risky cross-intersections
- Shared infrastructure with VRUs
- Dangerous when overtaking
- Many head-on collisions





Rural roads = Risky roads

Risky roads, strategic vision, complex solutions

Largest, longest part of the road network
 E.g. France 1.1M total, only 30,000 km motorways and national roads
 US 4.1 M total: 70% rural, 25% urban (pop. >5,000), 5% primary roads
 India 86% rural, 9% urban (pop. >5,000), 5% primary roads

Due to network length expensive to adapt and equip with safety features

- Infrastructure and road side adaptation
- Enforcement
- Vehicle technology
- Communication and education





Infrastructure & roadside adaptation

Interventions

- Gateway treatments
- Road narrowing
- Chicane
- Roundabouts
- Speed humps
- Speed tables
- Rumble strips
- Road and optical markings
- Center island and raised median
- Guard rails
- Roadside clearance and obstacle policy
- Snap poles





Enforcement

Options

- Introduce automated enforcement based on owner liability
- Strategically mix manual and automated methods
- Optimise the subjective chance of apprehension
- Regularly change enforcement locations (mobile, in-vehicle)
- Use average speed enforcement
- Link collected fine revenue with road safety investments
- Progressive fines increasing with the number of violations
- Focus manual enforcement on non-automatable violations
- Centralise fine revenue collection
- Shorten violation notification (e.g. SMS)







Semi-fixed enforcement















nr	Date	Time	OffenceType	OwnSpeed	DifferentialSpeed	VehicleSpeed	VehicleDirection	Elapsed
# 382	2012-09-12	13:49:35.998	speed	71.2 km/h	147.3 km/h	76.1 km/h	approaching	1.604
# 381	2012-09-12	13:49:34.864	speed	72.4 km/h	135.6 km/h	63.2 km/h	approaching	2.738
# 380	2012-09-12	13:49:33.958	speed	71.6 km/h	152.3 km/h	80.7 km/h	approaching	3.644
# 379	2012-09-12	13:49:32.698	speed	72.2 km/h	152.2 km/h	80.0 km/h	approaching	4.903

















Sensys GatsoGroup



Communication and Education

Issues

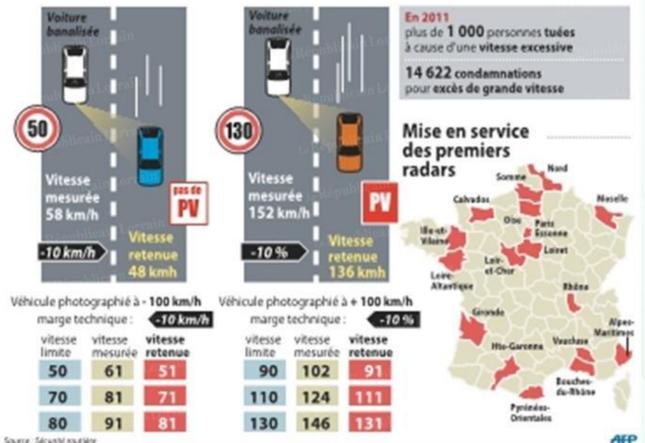
- Often underestimated
- Multi-media
- Multi-target audience
- Integrate with infrastructure and enforcement measures
- Requires regular repeat efforts and continuity
- Use to communicate results of other road safety measures





Multi-media campaigns

Nouveaux radars mobiles contre les excès de vitesse 20 nouveaux modèles entreront en service le 15 mars 2013 Voiture banalisée Voiture banalisée Danalisée Danalisée Danalisée Danalisée Danalisée



Les radars embarqués 3 La photographie apparaît sur la tablette. Voiture banalisée Envoi automatique du PV: conduite Vitesse retenue / heure par un policier Coordonnées GPS ou gendarme - Axe / Sens / Commune en uniforme Flash infrarouge invisible (sur 3 voies) Caméra Radar Un automobiliste en excès de vitesse la double À partir de quelle vitesse ? 20 radars En km/h embarqués à partir du 15 mars 90 (50) (130) Limité à ▶ 300 d'ici à 2015 Flashé dès ▶ 102 Source : Sécurité routière

Summary

Huge multi-intervention project

Requires long term integrated and strategic vision

• Enforcement: Subjective chance of apprehension

Gateway and roadside treatments

Potentially great pay-off in results

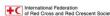












Thank you for your kind attention

Questions, comments, discussion?



