Colleagues from across WHO’s programmes to prevent violence and injuries and improve the lives of people with disabilities are pleased to share highlights from their work in 2013. We warmly thank the many partners who have made these collective achievements possible. In 2013, WHO:

**Road traffic injury prevention**

*Increased the safety of roads in select countries through the Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Road Safety Programme:*

WHO has worked with a consortium of international partners and government agencies to make roads safer in Brazil, Cambodia, China, India, Kenya, Mexico, Russian Federation, Turkey and Viet Nam. Since 2010 strengthened legislation and enforcement, reinforced by strong social marketing campaigns informing the public about the tragic consequences of failing to abide by the law, have led to changes in behavior in project sites such as:

- increased seat-belt wearing in the Russian Federation and Turkey;
- greater use of standard quality motorcycle helmets in Viet Nam;
- increased used of child restraints in the Russian Federation;
- decreased average speeds in China, Kenya and the Russian Federation;
- reductions in drinking and driving in China and Viet Nam.

*Released new tool to enhance road safety laws and action through the Global status report on road safety 2013:*

In March WHO released the *Global status report on road safety 2013* and a series of related regional fact sheets, which received attention in most corners of the world. Among the report’s highlights: only 28 countries, covering 7% of the world’s population, have comprehensive road safety laws on five key risk factors: drinking and driving, speeding, and failing to use motorcycle helmets, seat-belts, and child restraints. With its one-page profiles from 182 countries, the report has been the centrepiece of dozens of national policy discussions, and has prompted countries such as Thailand and the United Arab Emirates to begin to redress existing gaps in legislation and enforcement. Made possible through funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies, this report serves as a baseline for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020. In August WHO released a related manual entitled *Strengthening road safety legislation: a practice resource manual for countries*, which is already being used by several countries to align their road safety laws with best practice.

*Documented solutions to better protect pedestrians through the Second UN Global Road Safety Week:*
In May the Second UN Global Road Safety Week drew attention to the vulnerability of pedestrians on the world's roads. More than 270,000 pedestrians lose their lives each year, in large part because most transport systems still favour motorized transport. The Week was celebrated through hundreds of events in more than 100 countries. The "Long Short Walk" campaign was a cornerstone of many of these. Events included high-level policy discussions, interventions such as painting pedestrians crossings and building safe routes to school, photo exhibits on pedestrian safety linked to public debates, and television and radio talk shows.WHO also released a detailed technical manual, *Pedestrian safety: a road safety manual for decision-makers and practitioners*, which promotes engineering, enforcement and educations measures to save pedestrian lives.

**Violence prevention**

*Convened the world's leading experts in violence prevention for the 6th Meeting on Milestones in the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention:*

In November, WHO and the Government of Mexico hosted the 6th Meeting on Milestones in the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention. This unique series of meetings allows for state-of-the-science reviews of the evidence for preventing violence and updates by countries on their progress in implementing the recommendations of the landmark WHO *World report on violence and health*. One of the important issues addressed by participants during this edition was preparation for the forthcoming discussion in WHO's Executive Board on a possible resolution on violence prevention, the first since 2003. One of the key next steps identified by participants is establishment of a technical working group to inform the measurement of violence-related indicators in the post-2015 development agenda.

*Initiated preparation of the Global status report on violence prevention:*

The *Global status report on violence prevention*, to be published in 2014, will for the first time evaluate in detail the extent to which countries have been implementing the recommendations of the *World report on violence and health*. In 2013 data were compiled by National Data Coordinators in 85 countries using a standard questionnaire which asks about data on the magnitude of violence; prevention policies, programmes, and laws; services for victims; and national action plans and coordination mechanisms. It is anticipated that the final report will reflect the status of violence and its prevention in around 125 countries and will serve as an important instrument for stimulating policy change.

**Drowning prevention**

*Made progress on development of the first ever Global report on drowning prevention:*
Globally an estimated 360,000 people drown worldwide each year. Drowning is one of the ten leading causes of death for children in every region of the world. During 2013 WHO undertook the development of its first ever global report devoted to drowning and drowning prevention. An Advisory Committee and an Editorial Committee were constituted, drawing upon a wide range of global experts in the field. After an extensive consultation process, a first draft of the report was developed and is currently under peer review. The report, which is expected to be released in late 2014, will set out strategies to prevent drowning and recommendations to increase engagement by the public health community around this topic. It will also serve as the basis for a series of workshops for journalists, with the aim of enhancing reporting on drowning and its prevention.

Disability

Increased action to address the needs of one billion people with disabilities through the WHO global disability action plan 2014-2021: Better health for all people with disabilities:

In May the 66th World Health Assembly adopted a resolution calling for better health care for people with disabilities, while in September participants in the UN General Assembly's High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development committed to ensuring that people with disabilities are able to contribute to the sustainable development of their communities. WHO is scaling up efforts in line with these two initiatives, and in this regard finalized in December a draft WHO global disability action plan 2014-2021: Better health for all people with disabilities for consideration during its 134th Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board provided guidance on this draft and agreed to submit it to the 67th World Health Assembly in May 2014.

Offered ground-breaking information on caring for people with spinal cord injury through International perspectives on spinal cord injury:

International perspectives on spinal cord injury was released by WHO and the International Spinal Cord Society on 3 December, the annual International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This first ever global report on the topic summarizes the best available evidence on the causes, prevention, care and lived experience of people with spinal cord injury. Up to 500,000 people are newly spinal cord injured each year. Up to 90% of spinal cord injury cases are due to traumatic causes such as road traffic crashes, falls and violence. Developed in association with Swiss Paraplegic Research, the report highlights the essential health, social and economic measures for improving the survival, health and participation of people with spinal cord injury in education and employment. WHO is working on a number of tools to help implement the recommendations of the new report. These include Guidelines on health-related rehabilitation and the Model Disability Survey. In addition, workshops will take place in a number of countries to plan follow-up activities.
Enhanced the skills of wheelchair service providers through the *Wheelchair service training package*:

It is estimated that there are more than 70 million people worldwide who require wheelchairs, yet only 5–15% of people have access. After extensive consultations and field trials, WHO, in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development, released both basic and intermediate level versions of the *Wheelchair service training package*. The training packages, with their respective forms, checklists, posters and presentations, help develop the skills and knowledge required by personnel involved in wheelchair service delivery so that they can better respond to the needs of people with disabilities. A series of regional training workshops aim to familiarize participants with the various components of the *Wheelchair service training package* and, most importantly, build their skills to deliver a related training to others within their own and neighbouring countries. WHO has supported the training of 81 experts from 40 countries.

**Trauma care**

Set foundation for improved care for victims of trauma through the *Global Alliance for Care of the Injured*:

During the 66th World Health Assembly in May, WHO and the Governments of Brazil, Mozambique, Romania and Thailand launched the WHO Global Alliance for Care of the Injured, a network of governmental and nongovernmental organizations working across the spectrum of pre-hospital and hospital care and rehabilitation to help victims of trauma. The Alliance is developing a road map of the necessary elements of a trauma system; collecting case studies of good practice in establishing trauma registries; and developing institutional twinning and individual mentorship programmes around trauma care. The WHO Departments of Patient Safety and Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability are also pilot testing a simple, easy to use Trauma Care Checklist comprising basic and vital tasks to be completed during the intake of a trauma patient in the emergency room. Pilot testing was conducted in Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Columbia, India, Pakistan, Rwanda, Thailand and Viet Nam and data resulting from the pilot testing were analysed in 2013.

**Capacity building**

*Developed the capacities of public health researchers and practitioners worldwide through TEACH-VIP 2:*
TEACH-VIP 2, the second iteration of WHO's comprehensive violence and injury prevention and control curriculum, continued to serve as the basis for trainings in many countries and areas. WHO reached hundreds of ministry of health officials and public health professionals with the TEACH-VIP 2 materials in Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, and West Bank and Gaza Strip. In addition WHO's Department of Violence and Injury Prevention offered three webinars, one on strategies to prevent violence against women, one on evaluating parenting programmes, and one on the Global Burn Registry Form which is currently being piloted in hospitals in several countries. WHO colleagues from across the organization also delivered regional trainings on specific topics, for example, on the prevention of violence in Africa and the Americas; the prevention of child injury in Africa; injury surveillance in the Americas, Europe and South-East Asia; road safety in the Eastern Mediterranean; and violence and injury prevention in the Western Pacific.

Communication

*Captured data in simple, easy-to-use infographics:* In an attempt to present complex information quickly and clearly, WHO's Department of Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability produced its first series of infographics on several topics, including road safety, violence against women and disability. These new infographics, which are available in multiple languages, have been highly appreciated by partners as useful advocacy tools. Several WHO regional offices have produced regional versions of the infographics using the global template.

**Other publications new in 2013**

European report on preventing child maltreatment

Guidance note on disability and emergency risk management for health

Make walking safe: a brief overview of pedestrian safety around the world

Preventing violence: evaluating outcomes of parenting programmes

Violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean: a comparative analysis of population-based data from 12 countries

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