World report on road traffic injury prevention

Main Messages and Recommendations

2004
Development of the Report

• WHO — World Bank collaboration
• 18 months in the making
• Over 100 experts from 40 countries
• Health, transport, education, police, social science etc
• Governmental and nongovernmental
• 2 documents
  – Full report for practitioners, researchers, etc
  – 40 page summary for policy-makers
Road traffic injuries are a huge public health and development problem

- 1.2 million die a year
- 20-50 million more are injured or disabled
- 11th leading cause of death
- account for 2.1% of all deaths globally
The majority of road traffic injuries occur in low- and middle-income countries
Most of those injured are vulnerable road users

- Netherlands
- Japan
- Norway
- Australia
- U.S.A.
- Malaysia
- Thailand
- Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Bandung, Indonesia
- Delhi, India

Red: Pedestrians
Yellow: Bicyclists
Black: Motorized 2-wheelers
Green: Motorized 4-wheelers
Gray: Other

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%
Without appropriate action the problem will worsen
Road traffic fatalities are predicted to increase by 67% by the year 2020.
The cost of road traffic injuries is enormous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Regional GNP 1997</th>
<th>Estimated annual crash costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GNP (%)</td>
<td>Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>2 454</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Caribbean</td>
<td>1 890</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central and eastern Europe</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>5 615</td>
<td>64.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highly motorized countries</td>
<td>22 665</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Major risk factors are identifiable (1)

• Factors influencing exposure to risk
  – economic, demographic factors
  – land use, travel modes, road design

• Risk factors influencing crash involvement
  – speed, alcohol & other drugs, fatigue
  – vulnerable road users
  – vehicle factors
  – defects in road design
Major risk factors are identifiable (2)

• Risk factors influencing crash severity
  – human tolerance factors
  – speed, alcohol & other drugs
  – not using seat-belts, child restraints, helmets
  – insufficient vehicle crash protection
  – unforgiving roadside objects

• Risk factors influencing severity of post-crash injuries
  – chain of medical care from prehospital to rehabilitation
Road safety should be addressed using a "systems approach"
Road safety is a shared responsibility

GOVERNMENT & LEGISLATIVE BODIES

MEDIA

PROFESSIONALS

NGOs, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

POLICE

INDUSTRY

USERS / CITIZENS

ROAD INJURY PREVENTION POLICY
Road traffic injuries are a public health problem
Road traffic crashes can be prevented
The time to act is now!

- Managing exposure to risk through transport and land-use policies
- Shaping the road network for road injury prevention
- Providing visible, crash-protective, “smart” vehicles
- Setting and securing compliance with key road safety rules
- Delivering post-crash care
Solutions can be adapted in low- and middle-income countries

- Speed
- Alcohol
- Seat-belts and child restraints
- Helmets
- Visibility
Recommendations

- Identify a lead agency in government to guide the national road traffic safety effort.

- Assess the problem, policies and institutional settings.

- Prepare a national road safety strategy and plan of action.
Recommendations

• Allocate financial and human resources to address the problem.

• Implement specific actions to prevention road traffic crashes, minimize injuries and their consequences and evaluate the impact of these actions.

• Support the development of national capacity and international cooperation.
The way forward

• World Health Day - 7 April 2004
  – launch World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention
  – launch of a global road safety campaign
    • implementation of recommendations of report
    • focus on 5 major risk factors
• UNECE Road Safety week - 5 to 9 April 2004
• United Nations
  – General Assembly resolution - 14 April 2004
  – Stakeholder Forum - 15 April 2004
• World Health Assembly resolution - May 2004
• Various international conferences