



## **Road Safety Management in Developing Countries: the case of Africa**

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According to the *Global Status Report on Road Safety 2015* of WHO (WHO, 2015), “road traffic injuries claim more than 1.2 million lives each year and have a huge impact on health and development”. Using WHO classification of regions, there has been a further deterioration in road fatality rates in the WHO Africa region from 24.1 fatalities per 100,000 populations in 2010 to 26.6 fatalities per 100,000 in 2013. Over the same period, there was a further improvement in road fatality rates in the WHO Europe region. Road trauma in Africa is expected to get worse, with fatalities per capita projected to double over the period 2015-2030 (Small and Runji, 2014).

Road traffic accidents resulting in deaths and injuries have an enormous impact on public health and the economy in Africa. The road safety target in the 2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) and African Road Safety Action Plan to reduce by 2020 the number of global deaths and injuries by 50%, is a major challenge, which implies some innovations and new initiatives in terms of public policy for making this ideal a reality. For Africa, this would translate into a saving of more than 130.000 deaths per year and a reduction of millions of injuries per year.

SaferAfrica is a European project that aims at establishing a Dialogue Platform between Africa and Europe focused on road safety and traffic management issues. It will represent a high-level body with the main 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.

Many results have been made available by SaferAfrica project and are of potential interest for the Africa countries especially but for the low and middle-income countries at large. The aim of this session is to make a focus on the scientific methods and results concerning road safety management in low and middle-income countries.

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