

BULLETIN

We are progressing for Road Safety

Of the 5 other projects designed with the Traffic and Road Safety Education and Campaigning project, under the scope of the Traffic Safety Improvement Programme financed by the EU, some have been finalised and some are nearing the end.

Here's a short update on what ground has been won on the strategic issues that are under the scope of road safety programme:

Organisational Structure:

A project designed to create the organisational structure necessary decrease traffic accidents and incidents of death, injury and economic loss related to accidents by aligning regulative and executive structures with the EU. Different alternatives to proper organisational structures aimed to increase traffic and road safety have been evaluated within the scope of this project. The weaknesses and strengths of the alternatives have been evaluated. Studies have been conducted to enhance the organisational structure of the Traffic and Transport Services Commission established by law in 2001, to set up work groups and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness with which traffic safety matters are addressed.

Within the scope of the project, the structure, working principles, personnel needs and performance criteria of this Commission have also been defined. Reporting to this commission, sub-committees have been established with expert teams working on research, proposals, awareness raising, training, monitoring and evaluation related to traffic.

The legal drafts for harmonisation of regulations have also been finalised under the scope of this project and the legalisation processes are currently progressing.

Accident Information System:

It is apparent that the right measures for reducing traffic accidents and deaths related to accidents cannot be taken without the necessary data. This project has been developed to ensure traffic accident data is collected, saved, shared and analysed based on latest techniques by establishing a modern accident information system with real and up-to-date data. This will enable proper statistical evaluations and reporting in required formats including mapping on GIS.

One of the two main advantages of such a system is the support it will give to the developing implementation and campaigning strategies on adhering to traffic rules by the Police General Directorate; the other advantage is it will allow other institutions related to road safety access to certain data about traffic accidents.

Vehicle Inspection and Licensing:

In the project developed for the establishment of a modern vehicle inspection system similar to those in Europe, and the harmonisation of drivers licensing procedures with EU procedures, the Consultant company has evaluated current systems and reported to the relevant authorities on how to establish the new system and provided technical assistance in creating the necessary procedures.

After the necessary personnel trainings have been finalised, the legalisation processes are still under way.

Web of Main Roads:

Improving road infrastructure is a very key factor in improving road safety. Within the scope of this project, required planning, designing, construction and rehabilitation for road improvement has been analysed and proposals have been submitted. All these proposals have united under the Road Safety Management Plan, designed to improve traffic safety on the main roads.

The project specific objectives are:

- Providing an inventory about standards related to web of main roads and profiles of road intersections and classifications according to standards
- Collecting data about traffic
- Evaluating the safety situation of the main roads and defining needs to improve safety
- Preparing necessary legal regulations and guidelines road safety inspections
- Preparing a Road Safety Management Plan
- Training personnel for the implementation of this plan

Also, the identifying blind spots on the main road and roads connected to municipalities and supervising the improvement work on 5 pilot blind spots are under the scope of this ongoing project.

Traffic Operation Management:

This project has been developed to collect data, analyse, providing solutions that can be developed, for the improvement of traffic management of roads related to municipalities, with a main objective of preparing the Traffic Safety Management Plan. The Plan is envisioned to be a tool for municipalities in planning and future operations on traffic safety management. Within the scope of this project, a number of personnel trainings have also been provided to embed new principles on traffic safety management.

Main headings of work finished:

- Baseline research on improvement of traffic planning and safety conditions,
- Data collection and implementing new techniques of analysis, including traffic volume and future predictions, Defining road sections where accidents are more likely to happen,
- Developing and implementing a Traffic Safety Management Plan for Nicosia, Kyrenia and Famagusta for 2010-2020,
- Developing and delivering training packs for the technical staff of these three municipalities on planning, designing, traffic management and improvement of safety conditions and defining and implementing measures.

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