“Road safety in Greece”
Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks

Dr Evi Blana
Secretariat of Bi-ministerial Committee of Road Safety

UNECE-BSEC Conference on Improving Road Safety in the BSEC Region
Ioannina, 18-19 November 2010
Road safety organisation

- Bi-ministerial Committee of Road Safety
  - Secretariat of Bi-ministerial Committee of Road Safety
- National Board of Road Safety
- General Directorate of Road Safety, Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks
- Road Traffic Police, Ministry of Citizen Protection; National Emergency Centre (EKAB)
- Road safety experts: Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers (SES), Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE – Road Safety Observatory), Hellenic Institute of Transport, Universities, Center for Research and Prevention of Injuries among the Young (KEPPA) etc.
Road safety – strategic targets (base year: 2000)

- A’ Strategic Plan: Fatalities reduction by 20% up to year 2005.

- B’ Strategic Plan: Fatalities reduction by 50% up to year 2010.
Road accidents in Greece the last decade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS</th>
<th>ACCIDENTS</th>
<th>INJURIES</th>
<th>FATAL ACCIDENTS</th>
<th>FATALITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>22952</td>
<td>32482</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td><strong>2103</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>19670</td>
<td>27920</td>
<td>1712</td>
<td>1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>16756</td>
<td>23861</td>
<td>1458</td>
<td>1655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>15747</td>
<td>22176</td>
<td>1409</td>
<td>1613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>15399</td>
<td>21322</td>
<td>1374</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>16660</td>
<td>22930</td>
<td>1311</td>
<td><strong>1470</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>15652</td>
<td>21391</td>
<td>1351</td>
<td>1493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>15499</td>
<td>21378</td>
<td>1442</td>
<td>1612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>14991</td>
<td>20121</td>
<td>1414</td>
<td>1550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>14775</td>
<td>19815</td>
<td>1314</td>
<td>1463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>168101</strong></td>
<td><strong>233396</strong></td>
<td><strong>14652</strong></td>
<td><strong>16417</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Road accidents in Greece the last decade
### Road accidents’ reduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time period</th>
<th>Road accidents</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Fatalities accidents</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-2004</td>
<td>-32,91%</td>
<td>-34,36%</td>
<td>-26,41%</td>
<td>-26,44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2009</td>
<td>-11,31%</td>
<td>-13,58%</td>
<td>+0,23%</td>
<td>-0,48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 pentads: 2000 -2004 &amp; 2005-2009</td>
<td>-14,30%</td>
<td>-17,32%</td>
<td>-12,63%</td>
<td>-14,06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decade 2000-2009</td>
<td>-35,63%</td>
<td>-39,00%</td>
<td>-29,62%</td>
<td>-30,43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Target of A’ Strategic Plan: succeeded
- Target of B’ Strategic Plan: failed

However, it is estimated that 2010 will be the year with the less accidents compared to the base year (2000)
Road accidents’ trends

- Contributory factors
  - Human error: 90.2%
  - Road environment: 8.2%
  - Vehicle defects: 1.6%
- Human error - Driver: 80.6%
  - Driver distraction: 17.9%
  - Priority violation: 16%
  - Excessive speed: 8.8%
- Human error - Pedestrian: 8.3%
  - Reckless crossing: 34.4%
  - No use of cross-walk: 18.1%
  - Walk on the road: 13.2%
Major road safety projects [1]

- Development of the 3rd Road Safety Strategic Plan 2011 – 2020
- Action plan for immediate road safety remedial measures in Greece:
  ⇒ 22 measures proposed by the Minister of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks
- Feasibility study for site selection of pedestrian bridges on Attica roads
- Dismantlement of illegal road signs from main arterial roads (http://www.illegalsigns.gov.gr/)
Major road safety projects [2]

- Short-term road safety remedial measures for blackspots’ improvement in Attica and Salonica
- Road Safety Expert service provision for road safety standards on the arterial roads Athinon Avenue and Pireaus Road and pilot implementation
- General Secretariat of Co-funded Projects: a 3-year road safety program has been authorised (EU approval is expected), with a budget of €500,000,000
Under the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Road Safety Strategic Plan (2005-2010), the Ministry has initiated a number of actions concerning the following:

- Highway Code
- Point System
- Driver Certificate of Professional Competence
- Drivers’ education/ test
- Driving License
- Road Safety Education at schools
- Vehicles’ technical control
- Campaigns – public awareness
Highway Code

Restructuring of rules concerning:

- Horizontal and vertical road signs (for tunnels, work-zones, bus-lanes)
- Vulnerable road users (pedestrians and bicyclists)
- Use of mobile phones
- Use of safety belt
Point System (ΣΕΣΟ)

- Since July 2007 the Point System became more strict: for two “serious” offences within a year, the driver is disqualified. The new driving license is issued after a new driving test.

- From July 2007 until today, 3826 drivers have been disqualified for various offences, 73% for two “serious” offences within a year.
Driver education – Driving Test

- The new software (ΜΣΘΕΥΟ) for the theoretical testing of learner drivers has been completed and installed to all Prefectures’ testing centres.
- Study for the development of test tracks for testing learner drivers.
- All driver handbooks of learner drivers under modification.
- Driving Theory Test in Albanian, English and Russian languages.
Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC)

- PD 74/2008 harmonised the EU Directive 2003/59/EU for the initial and periodic training of professional drivers.

- Professional drivers need to complete 35 hours of periodic training every five years to retain their Driver CPC (starting 10/9/2013).
Driving license

- Since 19/1/2009 the new EU driving license, credit-card type is available. The new driving licenses issued are mutually recognised by all Member States.
- The same issuing procedure (from the local Prefectures) but printing from the National Passport Center, Hellenic Police.
- The citizens are able to monitor the printing procedure of their new license via internet (Ministry website)
The new EU-type driving license
Traffic safety education for children

- Schools
  - Traffic safety education lessons at the 3rd grade of 800 elementary schools
  - Traffic safety education lectures from NGO and private companies
  - The Pedagogical Institute is preparing the curriculum of road safety lessons for compulsory education
Traffic safety education for children

- Traffic Education Theme Parks (TETP)
  - 101 Traffic Education Theme Parks have been constructed; operation by the municipalities
  - Training of 100 new instructors to teach at the parks
  - Handbook «Guidelines for traffic education at TETP» has been distributed to the instructors.
Vehicle Technical Control Centers (KTEO-IKTEO)

- Public and Private VTCC equipped with motor vehicle test lanes, computer data systems linked with administration and test machines
- For new passenger vehicles: first checking after 4 years; rechecking: every 2 years.
- For HGV (>3.5tn), buses, coaches: every year.
- The licensing for the first Motorcycles Technical Control Centres has started.
Campaigns – Public awareness

- Public awareness for Highway Code modifications (3 millions copies distributed in houses).
- TV spots and radio messages in prime time.
- Press registrations
The way forward...

- Harmonisation with the EU Strategic Plan for road safety: “Towards a European road safety area: policy orientations on road safety 2011-2020”
- 3rd Strategic Plan for road safety (2011-2020)
- Implementation of the 22 immediate road safety remedial measures
- Focus on the vulnerable road users (pedestrians and cyclists)
- Upgrade of the greek motorway infrastructure
- Better cooperation between governmental and non-governmental organisations and private companies