

#### Lobbying local authorities

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## for better road safety results

R2R Management Camp

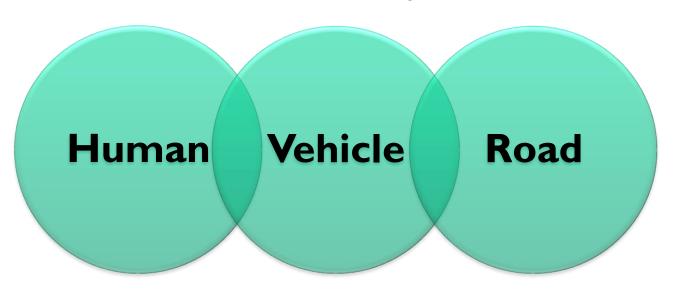
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#### Road safety factors

Human factor is influencing the other factors not the other way around



Our change in road safety today will start from humans and how to change their ... mentality



#### Towards safe behavior

#### Instruments to change human behavior



In combination have multiplier as well as cumulative effects



#### Communication tools

# Lobbying as an advocacy tool



#### What is advocacy?

Advocacy means any action geared towards changing the policies, positions or programs of any type of institution.

**Advocacy** is about identifying a problem in a community, coming up with a solution to that problem, establishing strong support for that solution and providing an effective implementation plan.

Lobbying influential people for support is part of the advocacy process



#### What is lobby about?

Lobbying is one of the most common methods used by citizens to influence public policy. It is used to put pressure on politicians.

Local officials are more committed in considering community's concerns when they realize that community cares about issues important to them.

Lobbying is an advocacy tool



#### Be aware of...

Understanding the real meaning of Lobby or Advocacy

In some countries these terms are very new and often used to cover illegal activities and the legal term of that is Traffic of Influence

But in fact... the advocacy it is and should be understood as a legitimate voice of the community.



#### What is traffic of influence?

Influence peddling or traffic of influence is the illegal practice of using one's influence in government or connections with persons in authority to obtain favors or preferential treatment for another, <u>usually</u> in return for payment.





#### Advocacy: a strategy itself

However, advocacy is not about just knowing everything about an issue; advocacy is about how using that knowledge to cause changes in the way things are.

#### **NEEDS**

- Passion & will to see the change
- Understanding of the issue



#### Why a need to advocate?

Lack of institutional mechanisms and resources that will allow the implementation of planned activities in coordinated manner, including adoption and enforcement of legal measures

The legislation on risk factors is not comprehensive in many countries

**Enforcement is often lacking** 



#### Why a need to advocate?

Often, the people that can make the changes are the administrators or the elected officials

Conversations with them, exchanging information with them, and impressing upon them your particular point of view

Preparation and persistence



#### How to advocate

- Make your background research:
  - >on the local council and officials
  - local development strategies
  - **≻local plans**
- Use your knowledge to make your arguments stronger



#### How to advocate?

- Make a strategy approach
- Involve professionals: road safety is a complex issue and you can't cover all the fields
  More voices who speak the same language are hard to be ignored
- Collaboration in advocacy is essential
- Use informational materials
- Avoid overdoses



#### Why must we Communicate?

Those in power make the rules

Officials can only make decisions based on the information they have

We can open a space for underrepresented citizens to speak



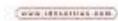
#### When advocating is effective?

When you see reactions disproportionate to the input that you provide

- Outright rejection of the idea
- Ridiculing the idea, and even personal targeting
- Opposition to any moves by you









#### When advocating is effective?

### When you see others wanting to join you – your Allies

Be aware of "friends" for money – they will last as long you have finance for your goal

When you begin to see the changes you desired for





#### When advocating is effective?

Sometimes not even recognized for the role that he or she has played.



An advocate can never take complete credit for the change



#### Tips for a successful advocacy

Tip 1: Try to put yourself in the position of your target

Tip 2: Try finding the appropriate approach

Tip 3: Opt for a strategic approach

Tip 4: Aim for cooperation and alignment



#### Tips for a successful campaign

Tip 5: Try using a positive message

Tip 6: Avoid overdose

**Tip 7: Use professionals** 

"...everybody believes he is an expert"



## Example of success advocacy project



#### Lobbying against French "amnesty"

Context

- "French Tradition"
  - Increase of unsafe behaviours

Coalition

- Involvement of road safety organisations
- Traffic victims associations

Awareness

- Letters to officials
- Contacting press and media



#### Seat belt use backside

Context

- Seat belt one of biggest road safety issue
  - Big problem for children

Strategy

- Coalition between local associations, hospitals
- Proposal for a trial "special child seat"

Awareness

- Spill over effect
- Contacting press and media



# Thanks for your attention! For more information on European Transport Safety Council www.etsc.eu

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