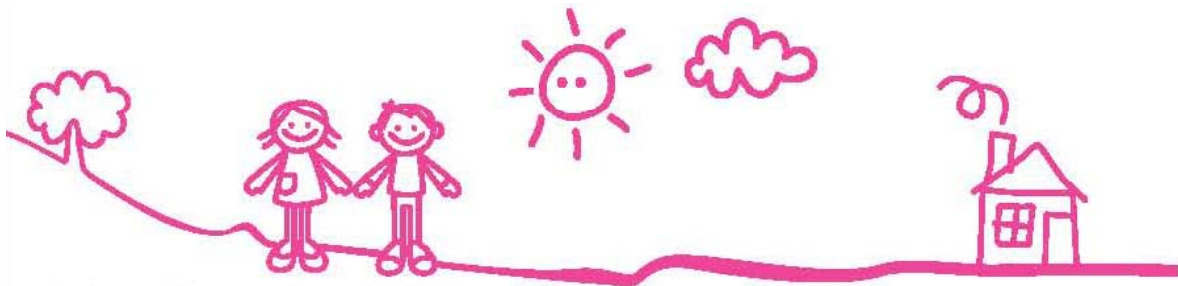


Associação para a *P*romoção
da *S*egurança *I*nfantil

Portugal:

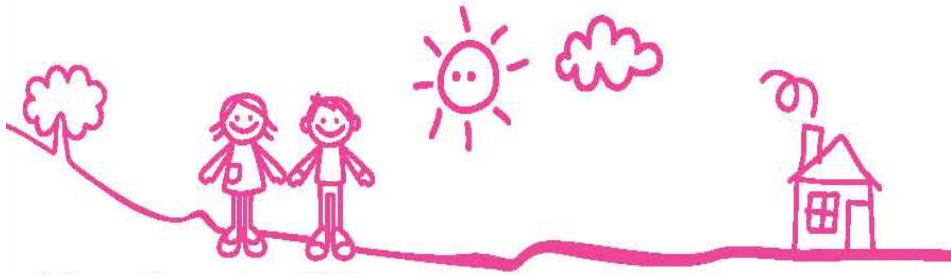
**How did we achieve the best reduction
in child road mortality over the past decade?**



Sandra Nascimento

February 9 2009

www.apsi.org.pt



Associação para a Promoção da Segurança Infantil
Portuguese Association for Child Safety Promotion

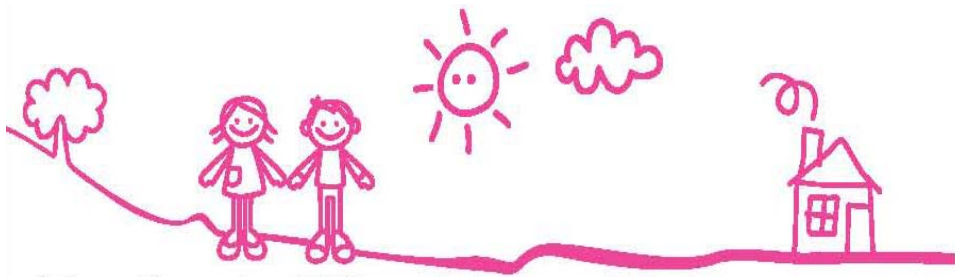
is a private non-profit organisation, launched in 1992, with the objective of promoting joint efforts for the reduction of the number and severity of injuries to children and adolescents

INTERVENTION AREAS

- Road Safety
- Home Safety
- Drowning Prevention
- School, Sports, Playground Safety

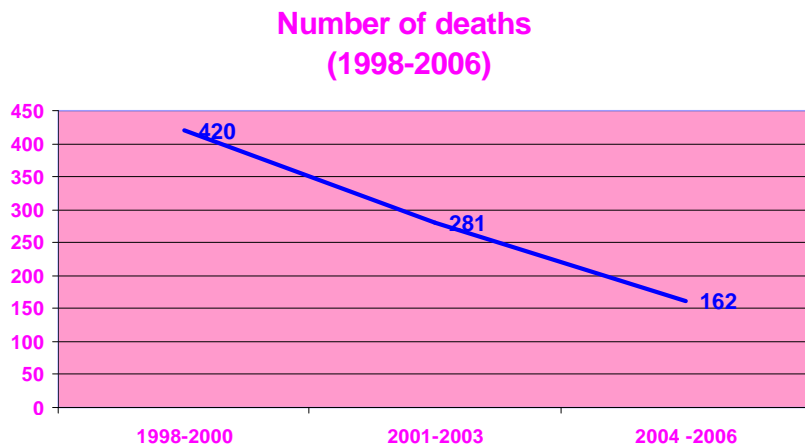
Tools:

- Information & Communication
- Training & Education
- Research
- Standardisation
- Legislation

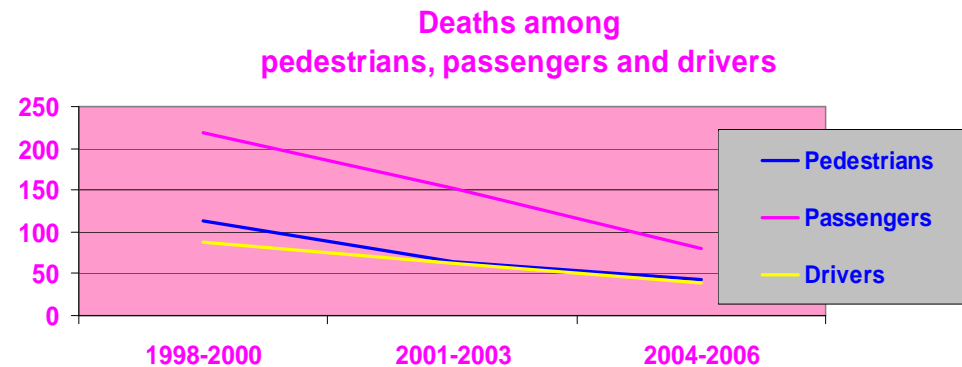


Child Road Mortality

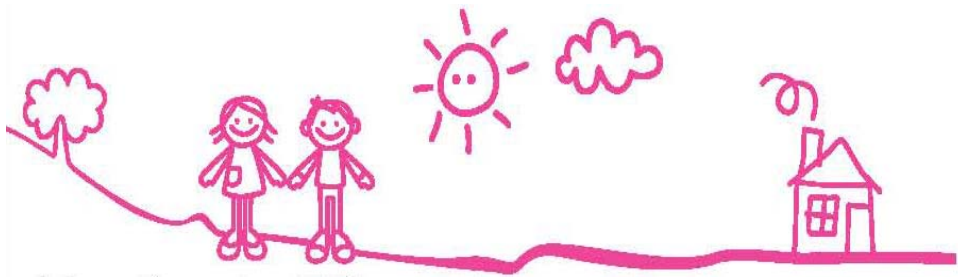
Sharp decrease between 1998/2006 (children up to 17 years old)



In 8 years, mortality decreased for almost 1/3

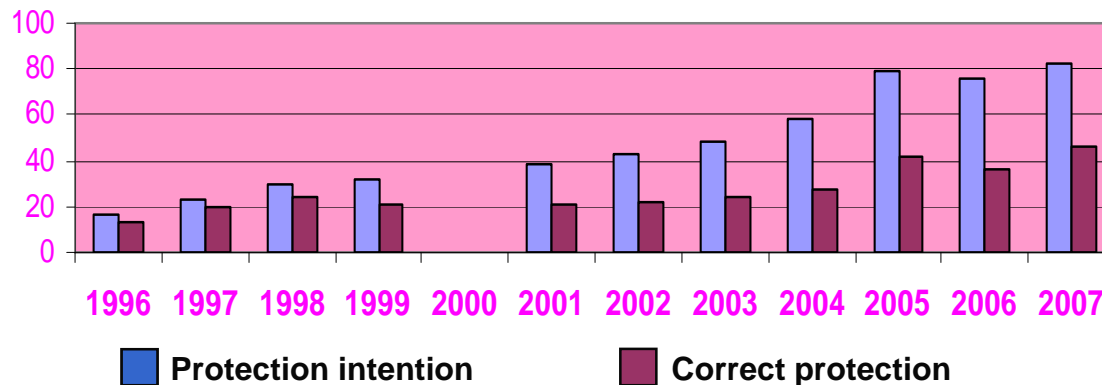


- Decrease of mortality in all road users
- Half of dead children are car passengers



Measures with direct impact: 1/ Child restraint systems (CRS)

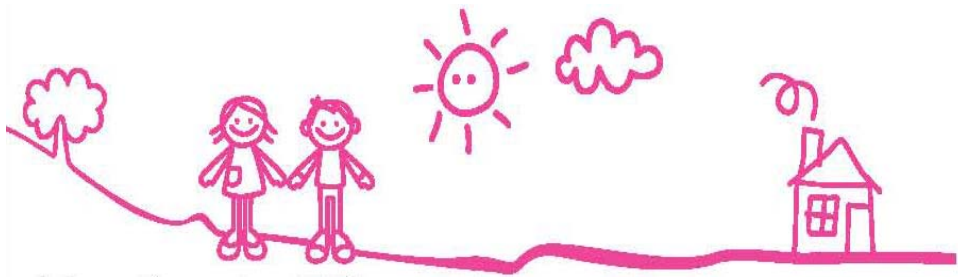
CRS use in highways (0-12 years) - evolution



- In 11 years the situation reversed: from less than 20% of CRS use in 1996 to more than 80% in 2007
- but still in 2007: only a little more than half of the children are well carried



- Protection increased more in children > 3 years old, since 2005



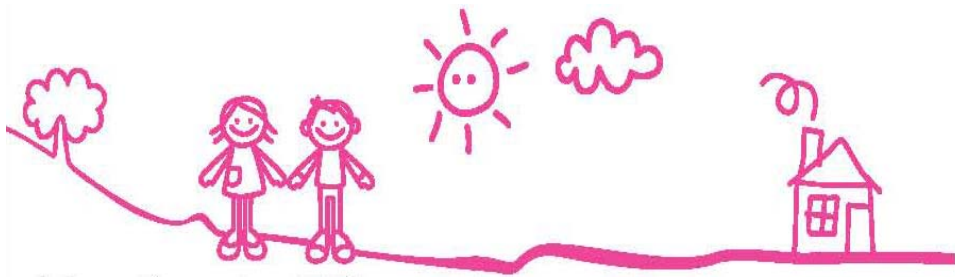
Measures with direct impact

1/ Child restraint systems (CRS)

**Importance of law changes:
mandatory use of CRS until 3 years (1995)
and until 12 years (2005)**

Informative campaigns

Enforcement

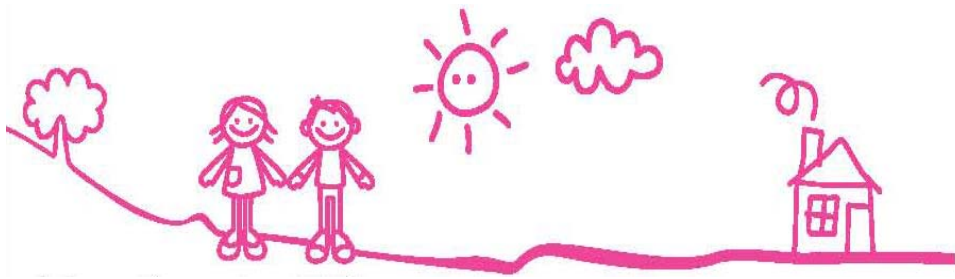


Child Road Safety in Portugal Measures with direct impact

Reduction of VAT for CRS

New law adopted in Jan 2009



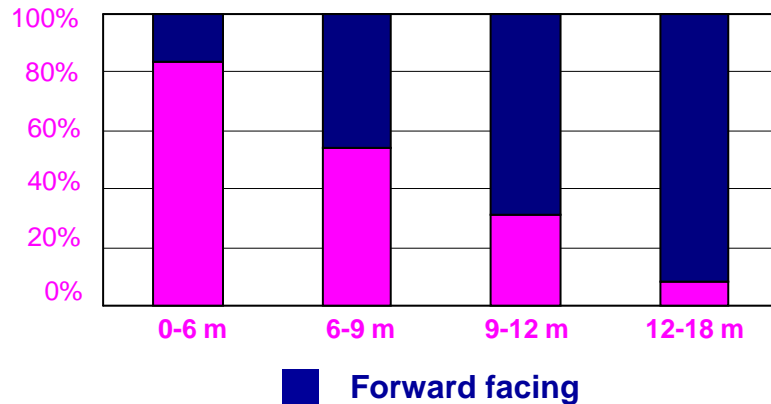


Measures with direct impact

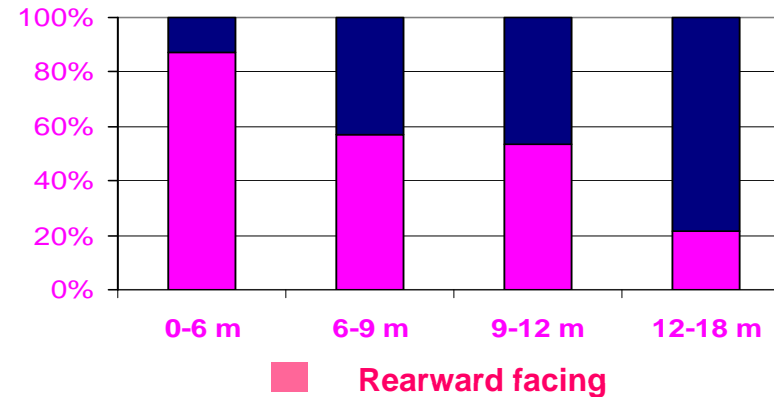
2/ Promoting rearward facing seat

CRS ORIENTATION ACCORDING TO CHILD AGE

APSI, 2001



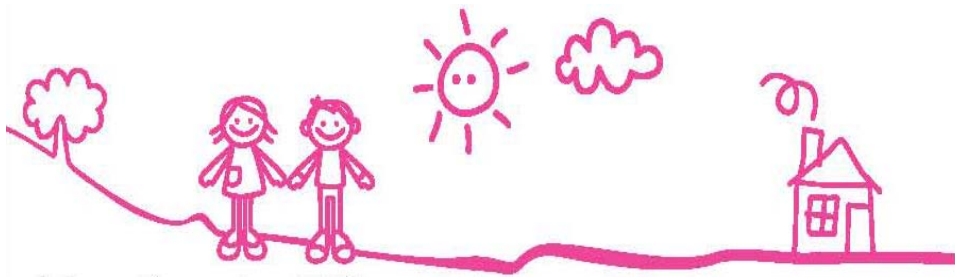
APSI, 2007



**Rwf increased in age group 9-12 M and even in group 12-18 M
 (most difficult age groups)**

9-12 M Rwf - less than 30% to more than 50%

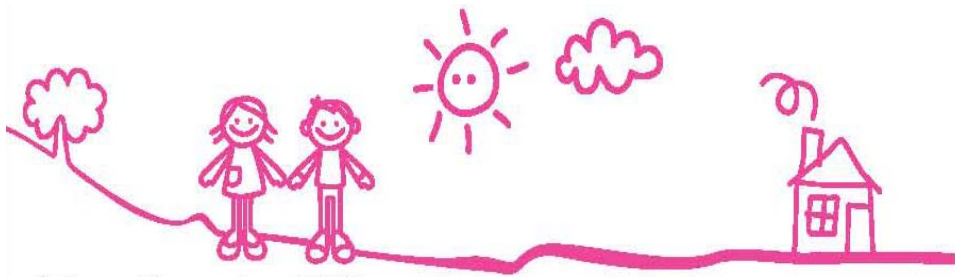
12-18 M Rwf - less than 10% to more than 20%



Measures with direct impact
2/ Promoting rearward facing seat

APSI Information Campaigns

APSI CRS Checkpoints

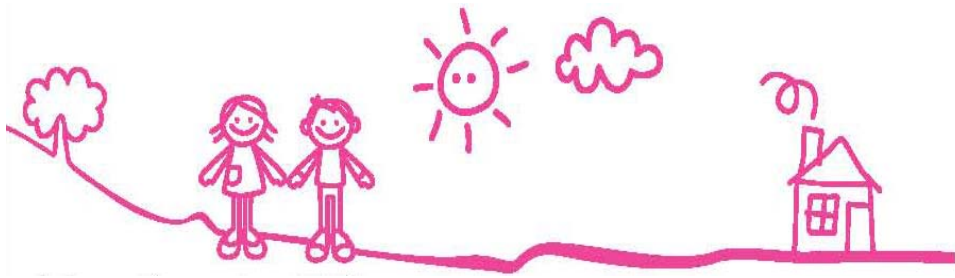


Child Road Safety in Portugal

3/ Best Practices – Transport of Children in Organized Groups

- **Training courses** for drivers (since 2000) and accompanying adult (since 2005) - APSI
- **Law** for transport of children in organised/institutional groups in minivans, coaches and buses (2006) - due to APSI influence
- Law requires:
 - vehicles with **seatbelts and CRS**
 - professional training** for drivers
 - criteria for the choice of **safe vehicle stops**
 - presence of an **accompanying adult** (with reflective vest) responsible to check/fixing CRS/seatbelt and help children cross streets



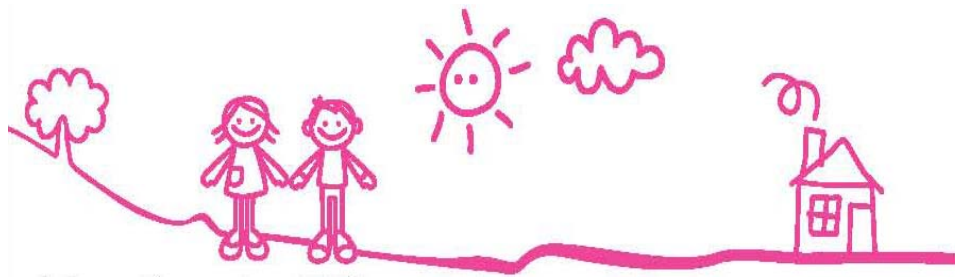


Child Road Safety in Portugal

4/ Best Practices – Health Professionals

- **Training courses** for paediatricians, family doctors and nurses to promote adequate counselling to families
- **Safe First Trip** - initiative from some hospitals that obliges that all newborn leave the Hospital in a CRS
- **Distribution of information** on safe transport, in Maternities, to all parents of newborns
- Adoption of **harmonised messages** on child safety in cars – APSI recommendations were integrated in National Child Health Program and by Portuguese Society of Paediatrician





Child Road Safety in Portugal 5/ Successful Approaches – Community Intervention

- **CRS Checkpoints** (since 2001)

trained inspectors check CRS in cars of families

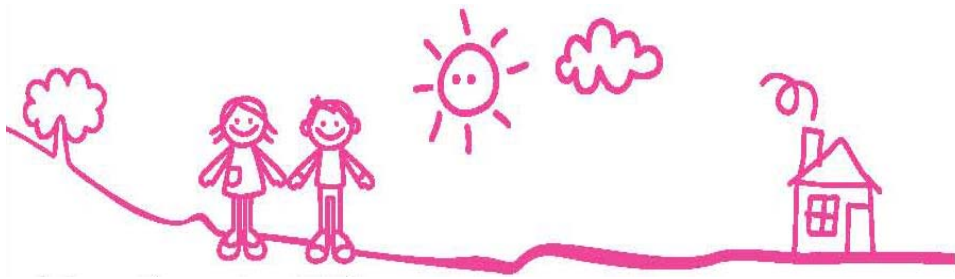
- **Safe Road to School** - Faro (2003 to 2005)

police training, educational/informative sessions for children and parents, enforcement, road safety week

- **Safety of Children in Cars** - Around country (2008)
evaluation studies, schools sessions, local seminar for professionals and families, CRS checkpoints

police authorities, firemen, health professionals, health students, municipalities, schools, media, families www.apsi.org.pt





Child Road Mortality Positive Evolution – But not enough!

(annual average) 2001/2003

2004/2006 (annual average)

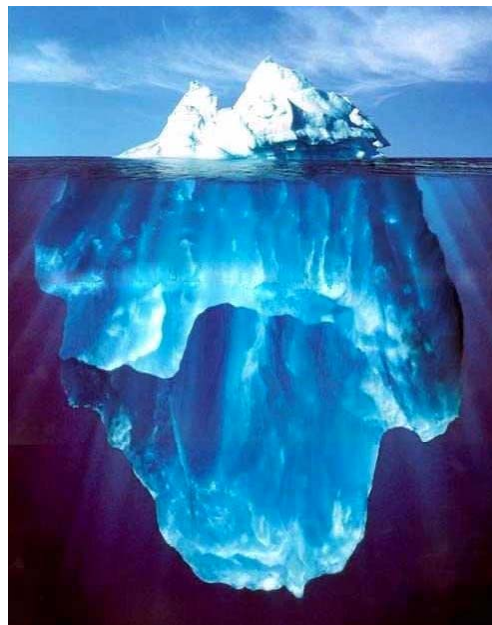
Deaths - 94

Serious injuries - 560

Slight injuries - 6390

Permanent disabilities - ?

Temporary disabilities - ?



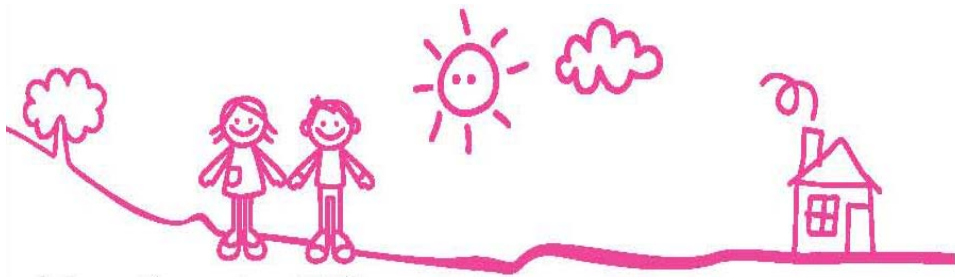
Deaths **54**

Serious injuries - 402

Slight injuries - 5373

Permanent disabilities - ?

Temporary disabilities - ?



Child Road Mortality

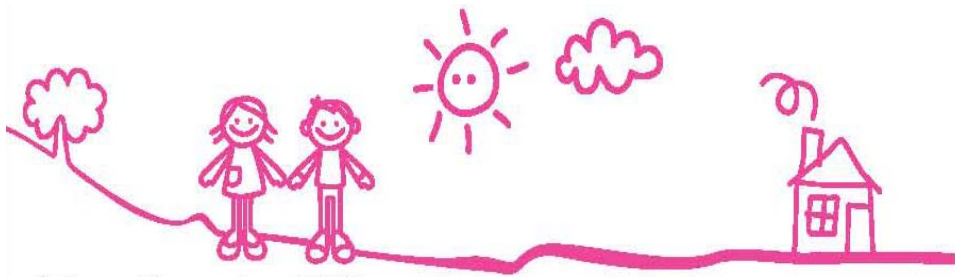
Positive Evolution – But not enough!

In the last 3 years, every day, 16 children are victims of a road accident

9 cars passengers, 4 pedestrians, 3 drivers

Road accidents the major cause of death in children

Portugal is among the group of European countries with higher road mortality



Child Road Mortality Positive Evolution – But not enough!

(annual average) 2001/2003

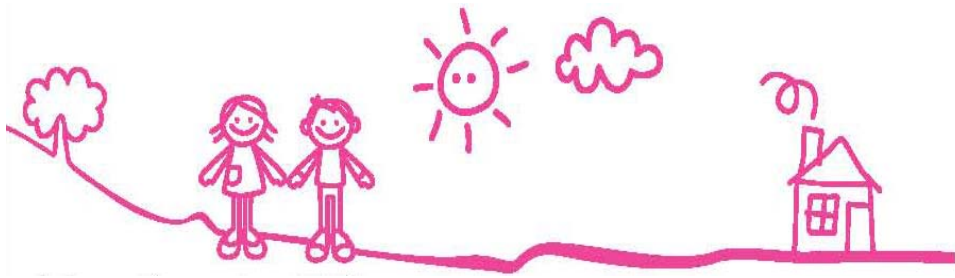
2004/2006 (annual average)

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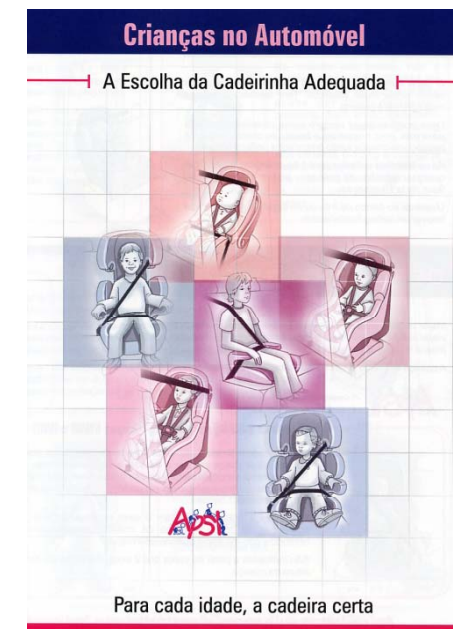
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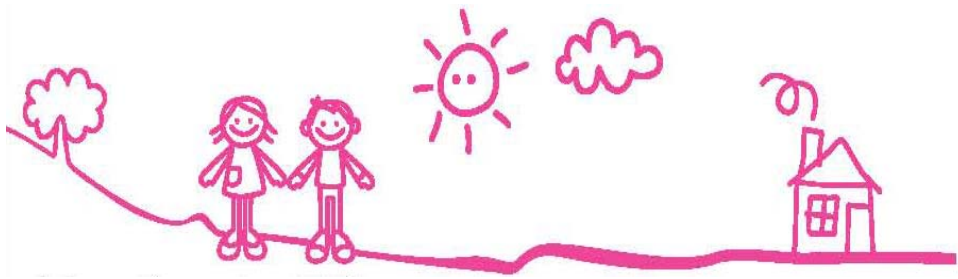
**Portugal are the group of European countries
with higher road mortality**



Priorities for the future

- Increase **CRS use**
- Promote the **use of rearward facing CRS until 3 or 4 years old**
- **Reduce CRS misuse**
- **Extend Safe First Trip Programme to all hospitals and increase the number of health professionals with specific training**
- **Training police officers and CRS sellers (for better enforcement and counselling)**





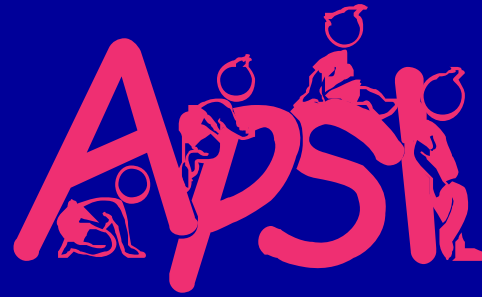
Priorities for the Future (continued)

- **Reduce urban speeds** (down to 30 km/h) in specific locations (ex: near schools, playgrounds and residential areas)
- **Create better road infrastructures for pedestrian**
- **Enforce the use of bicycle helmets** and strategies to **increase their visibility** in traffic (ex: lights, reflective materials)
- **Development of informative campaigns with harmonised messages**

Direct contact with families

Involvement of local authorities/institutions and local professionals

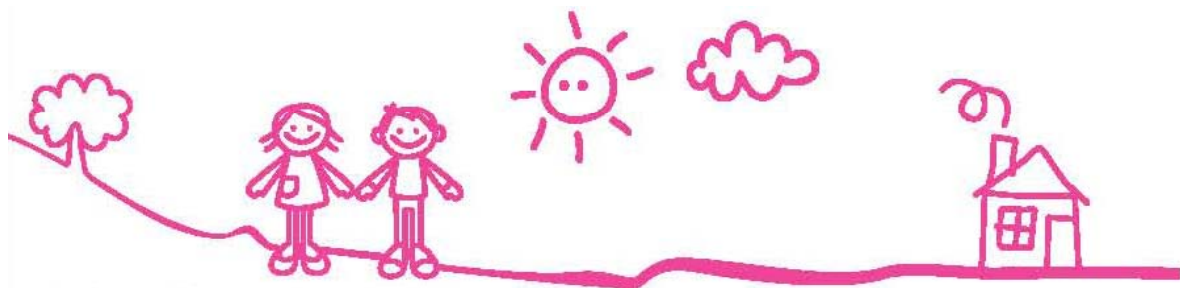
Information + education/training + enforcement + evaluation



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February 9 2009

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