



Support for implementing measures for the South East Europe Core  
Regional Transport Network Multi Annual Plan 2008-2012  
EuropeAid/125783/C/SER/MULTI



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# REGIONAL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT AGREEMENT

## Final

## Specific Project Result 14

## OCTOBER, 2009

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# **REGIONAL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT AGREEMENT**

## **Specific Project Result 14**

### **Final**

#### **Introduction**

This Specific Project Result No.14 "Regional Road Safety Audit Agreement" is produced upon tasks described in Project ToR for Component B – Road Safety Auditing.

Result No 14 requires the preparation of draft model of a Regional Road Safety Audit Agreement for the regular implementation of a road safety audits on the Core Network by each of SEETO Participants, identifying the necessary steps and resources.

The Road Safety Audit Agreement should cover all SEETO Participants and the Core Network and should cater for the provision of the necessary institutional, organisational, technical and financial background for the successful implementation of Road Safety Audits (RSA) and Road Safety Inspections (RSI) in the SEE Region.

The focus of this Agreement is building and establishing of institutional, legal and human capacity for implementation of Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety Inspection (RSI), while enabling and improving of the cooperation and assistance in the field of road safety in all SEETO Participants.

The Agreement, takes into account the urgent need for improvements of road design standards and the mandatory usage RSA and RSI at least on the Core Network, according to the provisions of EC Directive 2008/96 and the recommendations of the Regional Road Safety Strategy (RRSS) that was developed for SEETO Participants.

The Agreement is based of the following Project Results:

- Regional Road Safety Strategy (Specific Project Result 10)
- Proposal for law and regulations amendments to implement mandatory road safety audits (Specific Project Result 11) and
- Road Safety Audit Manual and Road Safety Inspection Manual (Specific Project Result 12A and 12B).

The aforementioned Project Results have been delivered by the Project in previous steps of its execution and have been all approved. In particular, the RSA and RSI Manuals have been used during the relevant pilots that were executed by the project and are now being exploited by several SEETO Participants as essential documents to enhance road safety.

The detailed implementation of the Agreement is done through the relevant Action Plan which is delivered as Specific Project Result 15.

## **DRAFT REGIONAL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT AGREEMENT**

### **(CONCLUSIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ROAD SAFETY IN SEETO REGION AND THE MANDATORY IMPLEMENTATION OF ROAD SAFETY AUDITS AND ROAD SAFETY INSPECTIONS)**

**The Parties of this Agreement,**

**having regard to:**

- the Memorandum of Understanding on the development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, Luxembourg, 2004, which in Article 5. brings forward the issue of safety in road transport.
- the Resolution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, Brussels, 2006, refers specifically to road safety in Articles 10, 11 and 12,
- the Resolution of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, Tirana, 2007, referes in a similar to above way to road safety in Article 10 and in Article 12,
- the Conclusions on implementation of MoU until the end of 2008 of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, Becici, 2008, refer to road safety in Article 11,
- the South-East Europe Core Regional Transport Network Development Plan, Five Year Multi Annual Plan (MAP) 2009 - 2013, saying: *"The road safety situation in the SEE Region is worrying with the continuous increase of casualties..."*,
- EU Project "Support for Implementing Measures for South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network Multi Annual Plan (MAP) 2008-2012" EuropeAid/125783/C/SER/MULTI results (such as: Regional Road Safety Strategy, law and regulations to implement mandatory road safety audits and RSA/RSI Manuals),

**and**

- acting in accordance with the Directive 2008/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on Road Infrastructure Safety Management,
- welcoming all European Union initiatives for safer roads (White Paper, "European Transport Policy for 2010, Time to Decide", European Commission, 2001; European road safety action programme – Halving the number of road accident victims in the European Union by 2010: a shared responsibility", 2003; "Keep Europe moving - Sustainable mobility for our continent, Mid-term review of the European Commission's 2001 Transport" - White Paper, 2006),
- acknowledging the need for strong Regional cooperation in the field of infrastructure road safety,
- acknowledging the role of the Regional Road Safety Strategy and of national Road Safety Strategies in improving road safety and the well being of society in the Region,
- recognizing that the present document is an expression of firm political intent to improve the Safety of road infrastructure,

**agree hereby,**

on the following **REGIONAL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT AGREEMENT** as a further step toward a Safer Road Infrastructure in South Eastern Europe.

## **Article 1. OBJECTIVES**

The main objective of Regional Road Safety Audit Agreement (RRSAA) is to establish and implement the institutional and legal framework for the mandatory implementation of Road Safety Audit and Road Safety Inspection on the Core Network in all SEETO Participants.

The measures of Regional Road Safety Audit Agreement are:

Measure 1: Building and establishing of institutional and human capacity for implementation of Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety Inspection (RSI) on the Core Network in all SEETO Participants,

Measure 2: Enabling and improving of the cooperation and assistance in the field of road safety in all SEETO Participants, with special attention to the Road Safety Audit and Road Safety Inspection,

Measure 3: Mandatory usage RSA and RSI in accordance with Road Safety Audit Manual and Road Safety Inspection Manual (RRW/RSA Project deliveries) in all SEETO Participants on the Core Road Network and possibly on the entire road network of the Region through the necessary legal framework and

Measure 4: Improvements of road design standards which will be in use at Core Road Network

The Regional Road Safety Audit Agreement furthermore envisages close Regional cooperation in the field of road safety in accordance with Directive 2008/96/EC of the European Parliament and of The Council of 19 November 2008 on Road Infrastructure Safety Management.

The Action Plan for implementation of RRSAA is presented as a Annex 1.

## **Article 2. DEFINITIONS**

Road Safety Audit (RSA) means an independent detailed systematic and technical safety check relating to the design characteristics of a road infrastructure project and covering all stages from planning to early operation

Road Safety Inspection (RSI) is a systematic field study, conducted by road safety expert(s), of an existing road or section of road to identify any hazards, faults and deficiencies that may lead to serious accidents

Unless otherwise stated, all technical terms in this document have the meaning ascribed to them in the road legislation.

### **Article 3. MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED**

#### **3.1. Building and establishing of institutional and human capacity for implementation of Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety Inspection (RSI) on the Core Network in all SEETO Participants**

Improvements of institutional capacities and of organisational structures shall help to fulfil the ambitious targets of RSA Agreement. These improvements are necessary at Regional level (SEETO) and National (SEETO Participant) level.

**At the Regional level**, a coordination and monitoring function for RSA and RSI implementation could be established through the Road Safety Working Group (RS WG) with the support of the SEETO Secretariat. The RS WG and the SEETO Secretariat shall monitor overall performance of road safety in all Participants. They may organise the trainings for Auditors/Inspectors and push up the exchange of road safety best practise by potentially organising Regional Conferences and events. It is advisable that the SEETO Secretariat in coordination with the RS WG prepares unified training curriculum, even if training is organised by National Organisations. They shall establish the system of Regional Certification of RSA and RSI auditors/inspectors and its register. Furthermore the SEETO Secretariat will register in the same database also all other Auditors who received their certificates by training courses of other institutions in the Region or in the EU.

**At the National level**, in all SEETO Participants a special Road Safety Audit and Inspection Units – RSAIU within Road Administration (Road Directories of Public Enterprises) or inside a Road Safety Institute or Agency and a controlling body of Ministry of Transport – CBMoT within the Ministry of Transport (or similar) shall be installed and assist in the RSA /RSI process.

Since the Road Safety Audit and Road Safety Inspection system depends on well trained and well informed experts, all SEETO Participants shall provide necessary system of education and Certification of the Road Safety Auditors and Road Safety Inspectors. To guarantee the necessary quality of the auditors and inspectors, this system shall follow common regulation for the content of training courses and the way of certification. The way of certification shall be harmonized with the EU best practice.

In addition to the mentioned cooperation with SEETO for training and certification of RSA/RSI auditors and inspectors the MoT in the SEETO Participant could identify an additional appropriate certification and training body at the National level. This could be organized in the University level. Another possibility could be training course organized by the Ministry of Transport or Road Administration. But all courses should have to follow the mentioned standardized SEETO training curriculum.

### **3.2. Enabling and improving of the cooperation and assistance in the field of road safety in all SEETO Participants, with special attention to the Road Safety Audit and Road Safety Inspection**

One of the easiest way for improving the cooperation and assistance in the field of road safety at **Regional level**, is through the exchange of knowledge and best practices in road safety under the umbrella of the SEETO Secretariat and RS WG.

The RS WG supported by the SEETO Secretariat shall monitor the overall situation of Road Safety in all SEETO Participants, with special attention to RSA and RSI implementation and if it is necessary it shall stimulate the exchange of best practice among SEETO Participants. In collaboration SEETO Secretariat and RS WG can initiate Regional Conferences and other road safety events.

At the same time, at the **National level** all Ministry of Transport (or similar), shall promote the usage of RSA in all phase of design of roads, and RSI on existing roads in accordance with Directive 2008/96/EC. MoT's shall support all activities in road safety (e.g. Conferences, round tables, and other events) to the highest possible degree.

### **3.3. Mandatory usage RSA and RSI in accordance with Road Safety Audit Manual and Road Safety Inspection Manual (RRW/RSA Project deliveries) in all SEETO Participants on the Core Road Network and possibly on the entire road network of the Region through the necessary legal framework**

Serious road accidents on the road network can be reduced and road safety can be improved by the mandatory usage of road safety tools, such as Road Safety Audit and Road Safety Inspection.

The Parties agree that they shall modify and amend existing Law on Roads or Law on Road Safety using appropriate Articles, or Regulations or Ministry Decrees (By-Laws) in order to make the mentioned Road Safety Audit and Road Safety Inspection mandatory.

In the first two years of the implementation of this Agreement, all SEETO Participants are encouraged to use RSA and RSI Manuals provided by RRW/RSA Project, or until they prepare their own guidelines similar to those used in provided Manuals.

### **3.4. Improvements of road design standards which will be in use at Core Network**

To ensure an acceptable progress regarding the reduction of serious accidents on roads the SEETO Participants agree that it is necessary to analyse the existing condition of roads (risk mapping) and improve it through improved design, construction and maintenance.

Therefore the existing National guidelines and norms regarding road design standards shall be further developed and improved on the basis of the best practise and according to the recommendations and Directives of the European Union.

#### **Article 4. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Regional Road Safety Audit Agreement shall be implemented in all SEETO Participants.

Inside SEETO Participants the major involved stakeholders are Ministry of Transport (or similar) and Road Administration (or similar) for the part which is related to the establishing the special responsible Units and Bodies for the implementation, organization and controlling of a proper RSA/RSI procedure like it is explained above (Section 3.1). Actions have to be taken to enable the creation of an adequate licensing system for certified auditors similar to existing other engineering or similar licensing procedures.

All suggested activities should be in accordance with the Action Plan for implementing Road Safety Audit Agreement (Annex 1).

#### **Article 5. FLEXIBILITY CLAUSE**

The Parties understand that the targets and measures laid down in this Agreement are ambitious; they therefore acknowledge that flexibility in implementation may be necessary to achieve the overall objective of this Agreement.

#### **Article 6. CLOSING REMARKS**

Implementation of the context of the Regional Road Safety Audit Conclusions/Agreement is based on a voluntary commitment and will continue until the objectives of the Conclusions/Agreement have been achieved.

If any of the Parties requests, this Regional Road Safety Audit Conclusions/Agreement shall be reviewed and may be amended.

Done at ..., on ... of ... 2009

Signed by ...