

## THE EIGHT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “ROAD SAFETY IN LOCAL COMMUNITY”

18-20 April 2013, Divčibare, Serbia

The Eighth International CONFERENCE ROAD SAFETY IN LOCAL COMMUNITY, took place in Divčibare, Serbia from 18 to 20 April 2013. The Conference was attended by 350 experts from Serbia and from abroad, and 100 students from higher education institutions involved in traffic safety, and with active participation of the representatives from the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences, University of Zagreb.

The objective of the Conference was to give incentive to the scientific and professional public from multidisciplinary scientific fields, to contribute to the improvement of traffic safety and to stimulate activities regarding raising of the safety level in local and regional communities through transfers of the latest knowledge on the European region. The most significant studies and projects performed in the local communities in Serbia have also been presented.

The main groups of topics at the Conference included: traffic safety management, safer roads, safer vehicles, safety of traffic participants and provision of assistance to the injured.

The Conference was opened by the representative of the Programming Committee, Prof. Krsto Lipovac, Ph.D. from the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering, Belgrade. The introductory presentations were given by:

- Juergen Gerlach, on the topic: Road Infrastructure Safety Management as Part of the Decade of Action for Road Safety - Preconditions, Instruments and Examples from Europe
- Davor Brčić, on the topic: Estimation of Externalities of Road Accidents in Local Community
- Milan Vujanić, on the topic: Comparative Analysis of Objective Methods for Identifying Black Spots

The Conference was attended by numerous scientists and experts of multidisciplinary knowledge, i.e. representatives from the Faculty of Traffic and Transport Engineering, Academy of Criminalistic and Police Studies, University of Belgrade, the Faculty of Technical Sciences from Novi Sad, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, representatives from the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences, University of Zagreb, and the RAMTEH Ltd. Company, from Croatia, Estonia, Sweden, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Russia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, and Montenegro.

Over a period of three days 80 papers were presented according to the groups of topics presenting among other things also the examples of best practices in the area of road safety, followed by discussions. Apart from the regular programme round tables were organized under the titles: Role of Car Driving Schools in Education of Children; Safety Regulations Enhancement, and a round table and workshop Traffic Safety Assessment in the Local Community. Also, a polygon for children's training has been presented.

The Conference participants from the Republic of Serbia analyzed the topics related to road traffic safety with the concluding considerations about the unsatisfactory condition of road traffic safety, non-transparent disposal of funds, absence of a national traffic safety strategy, insufficient implementation of the law on traffic safety, and insufficient coordination among the relevant bodies.

The Conference highlighted the importance of giving incentive to more intensive cooperation and exchange of experiences as well as the need to form bodies for the coordination of tasks at a local level. Also, the Conference attendees require more intense work of the relevant bodies, adoption of the traffic safety strategy based on the best experiences, starting of a campaign to reduce the number of fatalities on the roads, restructuring of the means from insur-



Conference participants

ance and fines, improvement of the legal regulations, control of the implementation of the law and disposal of funds, introduction of more efficient methods of collecting data, certification of drivers and other experts in the field of traffic safety, and activation of the non-governmental organizations and citizens toward joint contribution to traffic safety in the local communities.

After the Conference, in cooperation with the Academy of Criminalistic and Police Studies, University of Belgrade, the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Scienc-

es, University of Zagreb from the Republic of Croatia and the Bergische Universität Wuppertal from Germany, the Conference Proceedings in English has been published and it will be available at the pages of the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences.

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