

# Policy Implementation Toolkit

# ROLES FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN ROAD SAFETY POLICY IMPLEMENTATION



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save millions  
of lives.*

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# Acknowledgement

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# Effective Implementation of Road Safety Laws

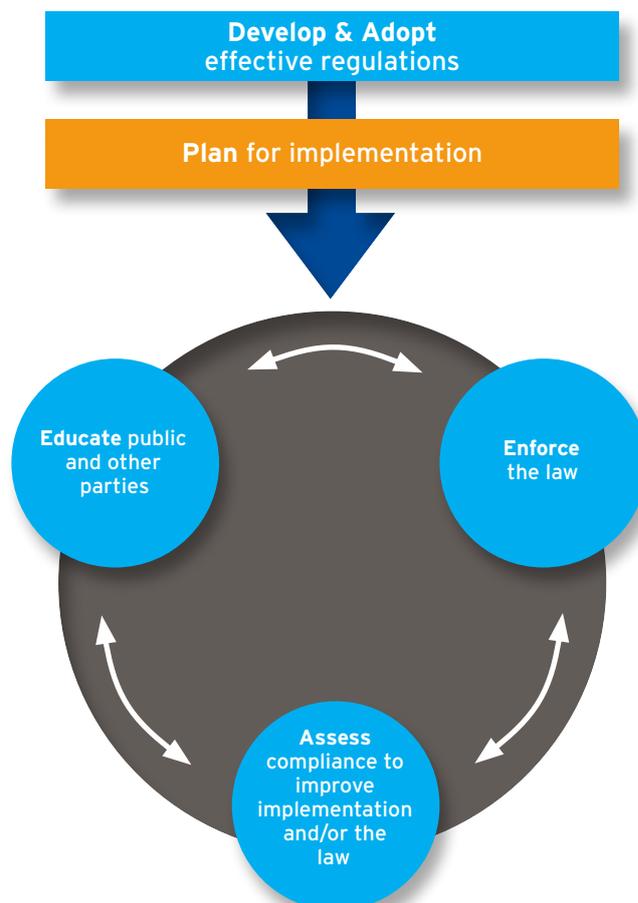
The enactment of a strong, effective road safety policy is an important victory. However, passage of a law doesn't signal the end of a policy campaign. The law must be effectively implemented to achieve its intended goals. A separate implementation campaign to build and maintain political and public support, employing many of the same advocacy strategies and tactics needed to pass a policy, is often required to ensure the law can, and will be, followed.

While policy implementation varies by local context and issue, the process is fairly consistent across jurisdictions and cultures. This brief guide is intended to provide civil society organizations (CSOs), including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), with an overview of strategies and tactics that can be used to help to achieve high compliance with road safety laws following the framework below. Civil society organizations must carefully think through and determine their role in the implementation process. For each component of the framework a list of possible civil society actions and questions to consider are

provided. No one group would be expected to do all the activities listed. Each civil society organization should select activities that will address the unique circumstances and needs of the country, and match their agency's ability to provide.

The Figure below portrays a framework for implementation. Once a law is passed, in most countries regulations must be developed. A plan for implementation is essential and will usually outline three core components of implementation - education regarding the law; enforcement of the law; and ongoing assessment of the law's implementation in order to monitor and improve implementation.

Implementation efforts should be tailored to specific policy(ies). It is important to note that the implementation of some road safety laws may require the involvement of national, state, and local governments and depends on multiple audiences, including public and private businesses to comply, (e.g. mandatory child restraints).



## Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Implementation	The process of putting into effect the provisions of a law.
Compliance	Obedience to a law. This action results from efforts to foster conformity with the law, including enforcement and education.
Education	Methods to inform the public and affected parties about the provisions of a law to stimulate compliance.
Enforcement	Action taken by a designated authority to compel compliance with the law; specifically, conducting compliance inspections and imposing penalties on violators.
Monitoring	Assessing compliance with the law.

Note that the terms “implementation” and “enforcement” are often used interchangeably.

Although these concepts are related, they are distinct. Compliance is the degree to which a law is being obeyed, with high compliance resulting from effective implementation.

Implementation a broad term that includes three types of action: education, enforcement, and monitoring. Enforcement is only one strategy to achieve compliance.

The government and civil society play important and complementary roles in achieving the goals of a road safety law. The government has the primary responsibility to put in place effective strategies and programs that are adequately funded to ensure full implementation of the law.

Civil society also plays a critical role in implementation. This role may vary depending on the capacity and political will of the government. Civil society may be a full partner in the process or may play a more adversarial role to ensure the government fully implements the law. Often, advocates need to engage in all phases of implementation to ensure that the government adopts strong regulations and that all government agencies responsible for implementation develop and carry out effective plans and allocate sufficient resources to achieve full compliance with the law.



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