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## SUNflower

### A comparative study of the development of road safety in Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands

Project details	
Domain	Policy Assessment and Tools
Duration	from            until
Website	<a href="http://sunflower.swov.nl/">http://sunflower.swov.nl/</a>
Other sources	 <a href="#">SUNflower paper</a> (100 kB)  <a href="#">The SUNflower report</a> (949 kB)  <a href="#">SUNflower+6 project file</a>

Although the traffic safety records of Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands are the best among the countries of the European Union, their accident toll is still unacceptably high. New ways for further improvement have to be, and are being sought, to further reduce casualties in these countries. Interestingly, the strategies, which have produced the relatively good results, are quite different in these three countries. So, the question arose as to what exactly made them work in coping with the traffic safety problem. And further, if specific beneficial patterns or underlying concepts can be determined, is it then possible to interchange them.

A better insight into the development of policies and programmes in these countries might conceivably identify key factors, which could further improve current safety practice in each of them. Moreover, it might offer guidance for remedial action in other countries of the European Union, applicant states, and other countries as well. Learning from each other and putting that learning into practice, is an indispensable part of gaining maximum improvement in safety. Such improvement should be given high priority, considering that each year more than 40,000 citizens of the European Union continue to meet premature deaths on our roads. Moreover, ideas are in progress to come up with a quantitative target to reduce the number of fatalities by 50% in the European Union in ten years time.

In this context, a study was carried out to assess the background to the safety strategies of **S**weden, the **U**nited Kingdom and the **N**etherlands: the SUN countries. The results of this study are of special value in the progress of development of the safety programmes of the three countries. The methodology of the study has been designed in such a way that it can be used as a basis for comparative studies among other Member States.

#### Coordinator

- [SWOV - Institute for Road Safety Research](#) (NL)

## Partners

- [TRL - Transport Research Laboratory](#) (UK)
- [VTI - Swedish Road and Transport Research Institute](#) (SE)