



Association for Safe International Road Travel

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SAFE TRAVEL and TOURISM: Paving the Way, a Road Safety Travel Summit, May 13, 2019 NEEDED ACTIONS TO IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL ROAD SAFETY FOR U.S. TRAVELERS ABROAD

Road crashes are the single greatest cause of death and injury for healthy Americans travelling abroad, including tourists, students participating in study abroad programs and global business travelers. Reducing road death and injury requires immediate actions from all stakeholders. This Summit calls upon all travel and tourism stakeholders – as well as individual travelers – to act now to reduce risk.

The Role of U.S. Government

- The Department of State should improve data collection and monitoring of road fatalities and injuries of citizens traveling abroad by including the specific cause, location and age of victims.
- State should also provide accessible, timely and comprehensive consumer information for tourists on road safety risks and safeguards (e.g., on its website and at Embassies, hotels, airports, etc.)

The Role of Universities and Colleges

- Study abroad programs, including those offered by colleges and universities, should monitor, collect and make available information on road and other risks and incidents affecting the safety of students and faculty abroad.
- International academic programs offered by private and public educational institutions should inform students and parents of risks and safety guidelines in advance and during travel abroad.

The Role of Stakeholders in the Tourism and Business Travel Industries, NGOs and Development Banks

- Tourist agencies should have specific road safety policies, use only safe and vetted transportation providers (taxis, buses, etc.) and provide clear on-line road safety information.
- Travel journalists should inform readers about road safety advisories and guidelines.
- Businesses should ensure that all motor vehicles used meet applicable minimum regulations for road worthiness and provide occupant and other road users protection, including seat belts, airbags, child restraints and standard active safety systems.
- Businesses should select hotels, transportation providers and vehicle leasing and rental companies with demonstrated good road safety practices and records and provide staff with road safety training.
- Organizational Safety and Logistics Managers should monitor and report incidents affecting staff and their families, identify problem drivers, road conditions and vehicles and recommend appropriate actions to minimize future risks.
- NGOs and other stakeholders should work together to share data and develop evidence-based road safety strategies for Americans traveling, working or studying abroad.
- Insurance companies should travel data and inform travelers of risks and best safety practices.
- All road users should take responsibility for their own safety, obey local traffic laws and become informed of risks and challenges and how to make safe choices on the roads.