

Project structure

The project will run from June 1st 2011 till November 30th 2012 and is structured as depicted in figure 2.

Project Management

State-of-the-art
Selection of ICT applications

SWOT analysis
Selection of most-promising applications

Impact assessment
Evaluation of most promising ICT applications

Research agenda
Standardisation and deployment of ICT

SAFECYCLE in brief

Partners

Mobycon (The Netherlands)
University of Hasselt, IMOB (Belgium)
CTL - Centre for Transport and Logistics at "Sapienza"
University of Rome (Italy)
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Facebook (SAFECYCLE)

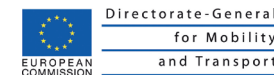
ICT applications for safe cycling in Europe

Coordination & Dissemination



www.safecycle.eu

SAFECYCLE is funded by EC DG MOVE



SAFECYCLE: e-safety for cyclists!

Increase safety of cyclists with ICT

Of all fatalities in EU traffic, in 2009, approximately 7% is cyclist. This percentage is slightly increasing since 2000. Apart from general factors (e.g. speed and weight of motorised vehicles, lack of protection of cyclists), the main factors for accidents of cyclists are lack of visibility, lack of vehicle control and alcohol consumption. Data from Europe suggests that countries that have invested the most in cycling tend to have the highest rates of cycling and also the lowest rates of cycling mortality, expressed as 'risk in fatalities per billion cycling kilometres'. Due to higher number of bicycle trips and kilometres cycled, cyclists are perceived and expected in traffic, which makes their coexistence with other road users mutually smoother and accidents are reduced.



There are many traditional ways to reduce the risk of cycling accidents, such as building separate cycling infrastructure, increasing the visibility of cyclists and reducing the speed of cars where cyclists and cars share the same road.

The SAFECYCLE project, which is co-funded by the European Commission – DG MOVE, is taking a different and much more innovative approach. The SAFECYCLE project will investigate how ICT can be used to increase the safety of cyclists.

The main SAFECYCLE objectives are:

- To identify e-safety applications that will enhance the safety of cyclists in Europe.
- To create knowledge and awareness concerning the e-safety applications in the domain of cycling (policy, industry, users).
- To speed up the adoption of (new) e-safety applications in cycling.

Why e-safety for cycling?



Photo credit: Volvo Trucks

ITS solutions can improve the safety rates of cycling, especially in cultures where traffic behaviour and infrastructure are not yet cycling-friendly. In contrast to the automotive sector, the bicycle industry has incorporated Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) only to a very modest extent. Some examples of existing ITS applications for cyclists: bicycle navigation systems, GPS devices, automated bicycle parkings. However, most of them are aimed at increasing the comfort of cycling. If it comes to e-safety applications for cyclists, it is clear that this is a greenfield domain. By improving the level of collaboration between Europe's ITS suppliers, its bicycle manufacturers, the public bodies and cyclist' associations, it should be possible to increase the safety of cyclists in Europe.

With 50 million bicycle trips per day in Europe, it is highly justified to carry out such an initiative in which the knowledge on e-safety applications and services for cycling are much wider disseminated in order to promote a wider uptake of intelligent vehicle concepts (in this case the bicycle in interaction with other road users) and other e-safety applications and services. This is exactly what the SAFECYCLE project aims to do: increasing knowledge and awareness on e-safety applications and services for cyclists.

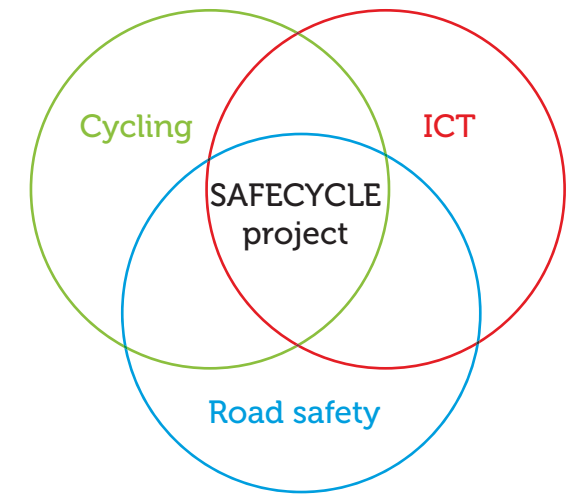
What is e-safety for cycling?

ICT in cycling can be used to provide intelligent systems that assist the cyclist to avoid, prevent, or mitigate accidents. Four dimensions are identified for ICT and safe cycling:

- on bicycles/cyclists
- in other vehicles
- in infrastructure
- on the Internet.

A few examples are: providing correct information on the safest route, avoiding red light offences, bicycle detection by vehicles or blind spot signalling for trucks.

The SAFECYCLE project focuses on ICT applications and services that improve the safety of cyclists. Therefore SAFECYCLE brings together three important fields of expertise: cycling, road safety and ICT.



Expected outcome of the SAFECYCLE project

The outcome of the SAFECYCLE project will be a comprehensive overview of the state-of-the-art in e-safety for cycling, and the identification of useful e-safety applications and services, based on a SWOT analysis and impact assessment. A research and demonstration agenda will be formulated as well as the need for standards in e-safety. Last but not least a platform will be established as a vehicle for matchmaking between relevant parties (ICT and cycling industry, the Intelligent Car Initiative, (local) authorities, service providers) and for communicating the results.

Who we aim at

- Governments and public administrations (EU, national, regional, county, municipal)
- Associations and networks (cycling, road safety, ICT/ITS, intelligent car)
- Industries (cycling, ICT/ITS, service providers)
- Developers or major event organisers with an interest in cycling, ICT/ITS and safety