

Norwegian Safety Forum

A Model for Co-operation on Safety Promotion and Injury Prevention

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Introduction

The Norwegian Safety Forum is designed to provide information on all aspects of injuries and safety, and to promote co-operation between public and private sector and non-governmental organizations.

It is a well established meeting place, bringing together stakeholders in the prevention of unintentional injuries to debate, discuss and exchange information and experiences, form policies and put pressure on decision makers. The Norwegian Safety Forum is a small organization that seeks possibilities and gain influence through networking.

The forum, established in 1985, is supported by The Ministry of Health and Finance Norway (where the major insurance companies are stakeholders).

Organization

The Norwegian Safety Forum is a non-profit organization with three main bodies: the annual meeting, board of directors and administration.

The Forum assembles 80 membership organizations, within a wide range of experience in the field of injury prevention and safety promotion. The board is elected by the members on the annual meeting. The board has nine members – representing the different membership organizations and the three different sectors; private and public sector and non-governmental organizations.

Core values

Interdisciplinary, co-operative and useful for society
Lifetime Perspective.

Four councils – four lines of action

The Forum has established four council groups that focus on different themes and target groups: prevention of drowning, children's safety, senior safety and Safe Communities. All groups have International networks and contacts. The groups give access to resourceful representatives from many different organizations, and gives the Forum exceptional networks in all part of the Norwegian society.

Interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral collaboration

The forum encourages increased interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral collaboration between public sector, non-governmental organizations and business.

The committed accomplishment from non-governmental organizations and volunteers is of vital importance. It makes it possible to reach new groups and to integrate safety promotion and injury prevention in everyday activities.

The Forum strongly supports the idea of forming cross sector Safety Promotion-programs on all levels of society.

An active Forum with a wide range of activities

Meetings, conferences, projects, studies and publications are found on the agenda. Lately the Forum has launched a brochure on "Children, Water and Safety", and a project for Senior Safety including local work in 16 municipalities for three years was ended last year. The Forum also coordinate the Safe Community work in Norway, and functions as an Affiliated Center on international level and a Certifying Center in Norway. There are 18 designated communities in Norway and the network is growing. Norwegian Safety Forum is an active member of international networks such as EuroSafe and EuroSafe Child Alliance and takes part in different EU-projects.

The Forum also focuses on the need of knowledge and the importance of sound data bases on accidents and injuries and updated statistics, as well as research on methodology so that future plans of action can be based on knowledge of the present situation.

Playing a role on the political arena

As a national NGO focusing solemnly on injury prevention and safety promotion the Norwegian Safety Forum is in a unique position. The forum is invited to play a role in forming national policies and in the implementation of national plans and programs.



FOUR LINES OF ACTION:

SAFE COMMUNITIES

PREVENTION OF DROWNING

CHILDREN'S SAFETY

SENIOR SAFETY

Norwegian Safety Forum has a lifetime perspective and wants to ensure safety in all periods of life, from early childhood to retirement, and on all different areas such as education, sport, working life, senior citizen programs etc.

