Data–informed road safety policy
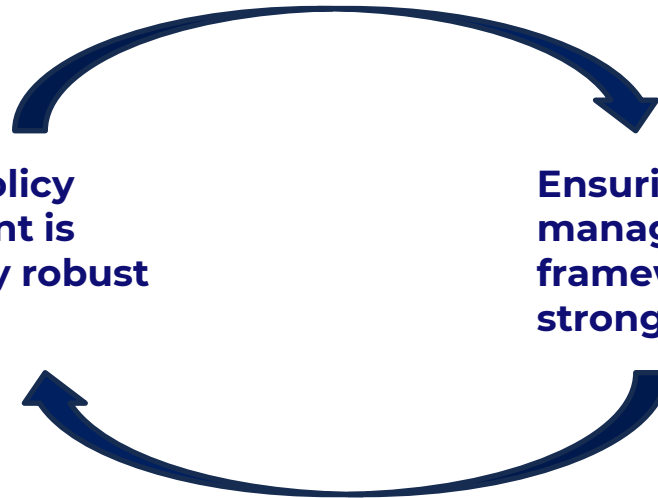
Sara Whitehead, MD MPH FRCPC
Vital Strategies

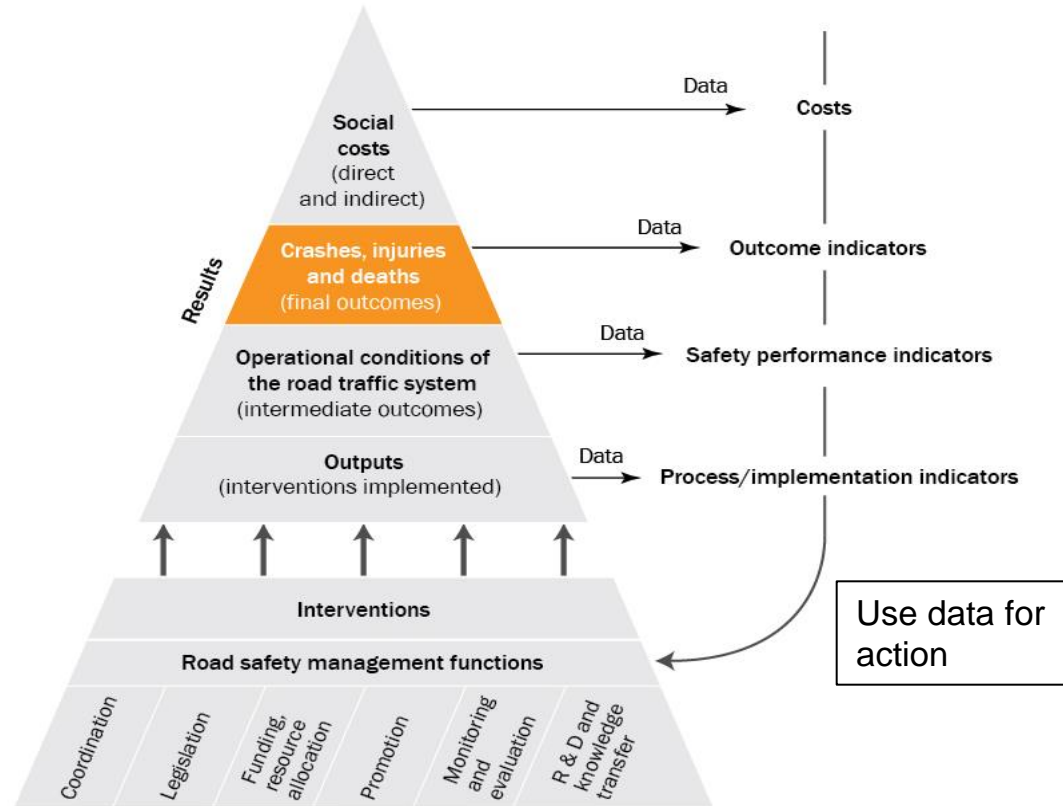# Evidence-informed policy

Data for policy

Policy/management for data

Ensuring policy development is informed by robust evidence

Ensuring road safety management framework supports strong data systems

Vital Strategies

Outcomes of road safety policy

WHO 2010

Evidence-informed policy

Global literature ·····················
Intervention efficacy

// Fatalities and injuries
(by person, place, time)

// Safety performance Indicators
(e.g. speed, helmets, infrastructure indicators)

// Transport demand/exposure
(e.g. mode share, vehicle fleet, person-km by mode, traffic counts)

// Context
(Sociodemographics
Legislative/regulatory framework
Strategies, plans, design guidelines)

Local data

Evidence-based policy, Monitoring

Public

Vital Strategies

Common challenges: data system performance

- **Data sources**
  - Coverage/completeness
  - Necessary details (e.g. geolocation)
- **Data linkage**
  - Access, authority
- **Data analysis and use**
  - Capacity
  - Routine practice, data use culture

Public

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Response:

Data platform design

Technical capacity

Procedures

Data sharing agreements

Leadership for data use practice

Common challenges: data policy/process

- **Inter-institutional arrangements**
    - Data creators (e.g. police) vs. data users (e.g. Ministries of Transport)
    - Mandate to implement, monitor, and feedback loop to adapt
    - Credentialling and appropriate data access for subnational stakeholders
- **Failure to sustain data systems**
    - Beyond pilot or project phase

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Response:

Full and ongoing stakeholder engagement

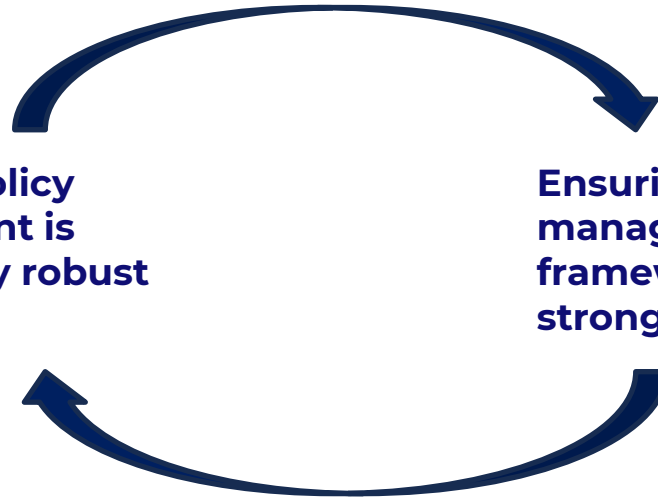Mandate and empowerment for implementing agencies

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Some learnings:

- **Data platform solutions: necessary but not sufficient**
- **Governance issues are critical**
- **Data collaboration can be a catalyst for broader road safety strategy collaboration**

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