



Press Release

Cambodian traffic police visit Vietnam to share helmet enforcement experiences

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In order to more effectively enforce the recently approved Road Traffic Law, in mid-March, 14 Cambodian traffic police from provincial, district, and national levels will visit Vietnam to discuss best practices in road safety. Coordinated by AIP Foundation with financial support from FIA Foundation, the tour is part of the USAID-Development Innovation Ventures-funded “Head Safe. Helmet On.” project in Cambodia. Traffic police representatives will meet Vietnam’s Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) and Traffic Police to hear their experiences and lessons learned on helmet legislation and traffic law enforcement, focusing specifically on passenger helmet use enforcement at a district-level.

On January 9, 2015, the new Road Traffic Law, which requires motorcycle passengers—including children—to wear helmets, was officially promulgated. “It’s encouraging to see Vietnamese and Cambodian traffic police collaborating and sharing experiences in order to improve the safety of those on our roads,” said Major General Ty Long, Deputy Director of Order Department, Ministry of Interior. “With enforcement, the new Road Traffic Law, will greatly improve the safety of our adult and child passengers who ride on motorcycles. This study tour will have long-lasting benefits.”

“We plan to continue the enforcement discussion beyond the visit and bring the dialogue on best practices back to Cambodia,” said Mr. Ouch Sokhon, Deputy Police Commissioner of Phnom Penh Capital City. Upon their return from the tour, traffic police will share their experiences and lessons learned at a District-level Passenger Helmet Enforcement Action Plan Workshop on 6 and 8 of April. At the workshop, representatives will begin to develop a district-wide action plan to better enforce passenger helmet use. AIP Foundation aims to increase passenger helmet rates in targeted communes of Phnom Penh, Kandal, and Kampong Speu to 80% by 2016.

In December, Cambodian government officials visited Vietnam and Singapore to learn about training methodologies for traffic law enforcement, observe law enforcement at checkpoints, and discuss the role traffic police have in promoting enforcement including through educational activities at schools.

Mr. Pagna Kim, AIP Foundation Cambodia Country Director, is encouraged by these study tours. “I believe these tours provide officials with a valuable opportunity to discuss real best practices with others in their field. They allow for Cambodian officials to further improve their enforcement methodology in preparation for the new Law, which will be enforced later this year. I foresee positive outcomes from these visits, in which more motorcycle passengers including children will wear helmets and ultimately be safer.” ###

About the Asia Injury Prevention Foundation

AIP Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing road injuries and fatalities in low- and middle-income countries. For more than 15 years AIP Foundation has been delivering effective road safety programs in locations across Asia and Africa. To find out more, visit www.asiainjury.org or connect with us on Twitter @AIPFoundation.

About the “Head Safe. Helmet On.” Project

“Head Safe. Helmet On.” is a two-year project, sponsored by [USAID-DIV](#) with additional financial and in-kind support from the FIA Foundation/Road Safety Fund, The UPS Foundation, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to increase passenger helmet use in Cambodia. AIP Foundation aims to improve nationwide helmet wearing awareness through the project by providing school children and teachers with quality helmets and road safety education, developing public awareness campaigns, and advocating for the enforcement of the passenger helmet law.

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