

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

School principals and students of Kai County come together to promote road safety

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Today, principals from 15 Kai County schools, along with around 400 students, teachers, and parents attended a road safety ceremony at Hanfeng No.6 Primary School in Chongqing to celebrate the Third UN Global Road Safety Week. The event aimed to educate students and the local community on safe road behaviors and increase road safety awareness.

The event was organized under the *Walk Wise* project by AIP Foundation, in partnership with the Kai County Education Committee and Traffic & Patrol Brigade, and sponsored by Chevron. The ceremony was supported by Kai County committees, including the Working Committee for the Next Generation, the Education Committee, the Communist Youth League Committee, the Women’s Federation, the Transportation Department, and Coordinator Office.

The event included educational road safety games, student performances, a photo exhibition, and speeches from stakeholders. Additionally, in support of Global Road Safety Week, 26,000 signed road safety Child Declarations were presented to officials by children from the 37 project schools. The Declarations call for leaders to take action to address road safety.

Since April 23, AIP Foundation has held a series of activities in cooperation with each of the 37 *Walk Wise* project schools. Activities include a photo exhibition on road safety issues at Gaoqiao Middle school, signing of the Child Declaration for Road Safety, road safety knowledge tests, Walking School Bus and other extra curriculum road safety activities. A video was played at the beginning of today’s ceremony to highlight these activities.

"In our country, 18,500 children under the age of 15 are killed in road crashes every year, and hundreds of thousands of children are severely injured. Road collisions are one of the main causes of death for young people," said Mr. Li from Kai County Education Committee. "As government officers, educators, and community members, the safety and protection of our children is a key task. The UN Global Road Safety Week is a great opportunity to educate our schools, communities I hope everyone here can take this chance to learn and be road safety role models within our neighborhoods."

Mr. Martin, Service Manager from Chevron said, "With 548 teachers delivering Road Safety Lessons to over 53,000 students across the 37 project schools in the first semester alone is truly a remarkable achievement, with which CDB is proud to be involved and associated too. CDB looks forward to continuing to support the *Walk Wise* project in 2015 in order to ensure that young children and families arrive home safely every-day."

"Globally, road injury ranks among the top four causes of death for children over five, and pedestrians account for more than one third of all child road traffic fatalities. This is



unacceptable and completely preventable with the support from communities like Kai County, which has taken initiative to provide children with road safety skills and awareness,” said Ms. Linh Nguyen, International Partnership Director from AIP Foundation. “As this project has shown, when local communities, governments, NGOs, and the private sector come together we can achieve remarkable results.”

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.

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