

PRESS RELEASE

National officials gather to improve helmet use throughout Cambodia

31 May, 2016 – Phnom Penh, Cambodia

As part of the *Head Safe. Helmet On.* project (*HSHO*), AIP Foundation, in partnership with The UPS Foundation, has convened its third nationwide stakeholder workshop to discuss the state of road safety in the country. The event primarily reflected on the achievements and lessons learned from *HSHO*, a project aimed at increasing motorcycle passenger helmet use in Cambodia, which ends implementation June 1st. It also served as a forum to address the continued challenges facing road users and traffic police following the start in January of the enforcement of the new Road Traffic Law.

Many key government stakeholders were on hand to engage in these topics, including Lokchom Tev Min Meanvy, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Transport and Secretary of the National Road Safety Committee, H.E. Long Thou, Deputy Director of the Department of Traffic Police and Public Order, and senior officials from the General Commissariat of the National Police, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Posts and Communications, the Ministry of Information, and the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport. Additionally, the governors of Phnom Penh, Kandal, and Kampong Speu provinces were in attendance at the event, along with provincial police and other official representation from the provincial and district levels. This broad collection of government stakeholders was also joined by development partners and representatives from the private sector and media.

The *HSHO* project is a two-year project supported in part by the United States Agency for International Development, Development Innovation Ventures ([USAID-DIV](#)), as well as The UPS Foundation and FIA Foundation. This is the third in a series of nationwide workshops meant to increase the capacity of all stakeholder groups in employing sustainable mechanisms to promote increased rates of helmet use. This final workshop under *HSHO* served as an opportunity to renew participant commitment to strengthening road safety well into the future, across various strata of Cambodian life.

“As guardians of the safety of our citizens on the roads, it is up to us to make sure we are always thinking about ways to improve our strategies and build our shared capacities, which is why events like this are so very important,” said Lokchom Tev Min Meanvy, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Transport and Secretary of the National Road Safety Committee.

“As we have seen in neighboring countries, new road safety habits will only develop if there is strict enforcement of the laws put in place to improve the safety of Cambodian motorists. Through platforms such as this workshop, officials across many different departments of the Cambodian government are able to communicate to the media and, in turn, to the wider public, that this is a topic we are paying close attention to,” said H.E. Long Thou, Deputy Director of the Department of Traffic Police and Public Order.

“Passing the new Road Traffic Law in 2015 was a ground-breaking step towards improving road safety in our communities. But, as we know full well from where we are now in 2016, this was just the first step. AIP Foundation is always looking to create dialogue among those who can effect change, which is why workshops like this are so crucial to our efforts,” said Pagna Kim, Cambodia Country Director for AIP Foundation.

Though *HSHO* comes to a close, AIP Foundation, in cooperation with Cambodia’s Network of Road Safety NGOs, continues to work closely with relevant government bodies to ensure that concerted results translate into countless lives saved, especially as more and more citizens each year take to the nation’s roads.

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About AIP Foundation

AIP Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing road injuries and fatalities in low- and middle-income countries. Since 1999, AIP Foundation has been delivering effective road safety programs in locations across Asia and Africa. To find out more, visit [www.aip-foundation.org](#) or connect with us on Twitter @AIPFoundation.

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