

# A GLOBAL SOLUTION FOR A HIDDEN EPIDEMIC: SAFER HELMETS FOR CHILDREN

*Every day, more than 500 children lose their lives in road crashes worldwide, making road traffic injuries one of the leading causes of death for children aged 5-29 years (WHO, 2023).*

**Marrakech, February 2025** – AIP Foundation, in collaboration with the Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI), FIA Foundation, and Galeatus, proudly announces the official launch of the **Global Child Helmet Standard for Two-Wheel Motorized Vehicles (GCHS1:2025)**. This groundbreaking initiative was unveiled during the **4th Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety** in Marrakech, where global leaders and organizations convened to advance road safety measures and promote helmet usage to protect vulnerable road users, particularly children.



## The Invisible Hero

PROTECT THEIR FUTURE, ONE HELMET AT A TIME.

The launch of **GCHS1:2025** marks a historic step in ensuring a universal, scientifically-backed standard for child helmets used on motorcycles, e-bikes, and e-scooters. While motorcycle helmet standards exist for adults, no previous globally recognized standard has been specifically designed to protect children, despite their unique physiological vulnerabilities. This new standard addresses critical safety gaps by providing stringent performance criteria specifically designed for young riders, ensuring helmets offer maximum protection against traumatic brain injuries.

“Children are among the most vulnerable road users, especially in low and middle-income countries where motorcycles are the primary mode of family transportation,” said **Greig Craft, President of AIP Foundation**. “The introduction of the Global Child Helmet Standard is a long-overdue milestone that will help reduce preventable injuries and fatalities among young passengers worldwide.”

Motorcycle-related head injuries are a leading cause of disability and death among children in many regions. Studies show that helmet usage reduces the likelihood of severe head injury by 69% and the probability of fatality by 42%. However, lack of affordability, awareness, and quality assurance have been key barriers preventing children from accessing effective protection.

**GCHS1:2025** provides a technical framework that governments, manufacturers, and regulatory bodies can adopt to ensure that children’s helmets meet minimum global safety requirements, promoting both accessibility and affordability.

# A Call to Action: Implementing Global Standards to Save Lives

AIP Foundation urges governments, policymakers, and industry leaders to adopt and enforce **GCHS1:2025** as part of their national road safety strategies. By implementing this standard, nations can contribute to the United Nations' Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030, which aims to halve global road traffic fatalities by 2030.

The success of helmet safety initiatives requires multi-stakeholder collaboration. During the conference, AIP Foundation, FIA Foundation, Galeatus, and other key stakeholders emphasized the urgent need for policy reforms, public education, and affordable helmet production to ensure widespread adoption of **GCHS1:2025**.

## Partner Organizations: Driving Change in Global Road Safety

**AIP Foundation** is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing road traffic injuries and fatalities in low- and middle-income countries. Through public awareness campaigns, policy advocacy, and helmet distribution initiatives, AIP Foundation has led groundbreaking road safety efforts in Asia and beyond.

**FIA Foundation** is a UK-based charity that promotes safe and sustainable mobility worldwide. The organization plays a pivotal role in advocating for road safety legislation, funding research, and supporting helmet-use campaigns to protect vulnerable road users.

**Galeatus**, a global leader in helmet safety research and development, has contributed technical expertise to the formulation of **GCHS1:2025**. Led by Dr. Terry Smith, Galeatus has conducted extensive biomechanical studies to ensure that child helmets meet the highest safety standards.

**The Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI)** is a coalition dedicated to increasing helmet use and improving helmet quality worldwide. By working with governments, non-profits, and private sector partners, GHVI aims to ensure that every child on a motorcycle has access to a high-quality, affordable helmet.

For more information about the **Global Child Helmet Standard for Two-Wheel Motorized Vehicles** and how to support its implementation, please contact:

### **AIP Foundation**

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