

THE GLOBAL HELMET VACCINE INITIATIVE IN CAMBODIA AND UGANDA

Deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes are a major and growing public health problem in the developing world. Worldwide, 1.27 million people are killed and 20-50 million injured in road crashes every year-almost half of them are pedestrians, motorcycles and bicyclists, and more than 90% of them are in low and middle income countries.

The <u>Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI)</u> is a coalition that was established in 2009 by the <u>Asian Injury Prevention (AIP) Foundation</u>, with support from the <u>FIA Foundation</u>, the <u>World Bank</u>, and others. The GHVI is built from the successful experience of helmet distribution, public education programs and progressive legislation in Vietnam which resulted in a 90% increase in helmet use on motorcycles in Vietnam.

This project is part of a larger effort to expand the GHVI in pilot countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America to encourage the policy changes and investment decisions that lead to increased and sustainable motorcycle helmet wearing.

The IUHPE, with active involvement of its <u>Global working Group on Surveillance - World Alliance for Risk Factor Surveillance WARFS</u> actively supports the evaluation and surveillance of the expansion of the Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI) in Cambodia (with <u>Handicap International Belgium (HIB)</u> and the <u>John Hopkins School of Public Health</u>) and Uganda (with the <u>Injury Control Center Uganda</u>).

Specifically, the project aims to foster a strong collaboration between GHVI, CDC, and IUHPE in evaluating GHVI activities. To date, the IUHPE, as part of the cooperative agreement it has with CDC, have provided support to GHVI in gathering evidence on the epidemiology, knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours of helmet use in target populations. Based on this baseline data, GHVI developed its program activities.

IUHPE and CDC also support GHVI in developing evaluation plans and frameworks for GHVI activities, including:

- an overall GHVI monitoring and evaluation framework which is in development,
- frameworks and measurement tools for evaluating school-based programs in Cambodia
- an evaluation plan and framework developed with the CDC and IUHPE.

In Cambodia, much of campaign activities have been run by media agency Brandsolutions as well as Handicap International – Belgium.

In Uganda, Injury Control Center – Uganda has been the local entity in charge of conducting data collection for evaluation purposes.

Surveillance systems have been developed and used to track helmet use in Cambodia and Uganda. Helmet observations are currently ongoing and results will be one indicator of the impact of each campaign.

In addition to these short term goals, the CDC, IUHPE, GHVI partnership aims to build injury surveillance and evaluation capacity in Cambodia and Uganda. It aims to collect and disseminate evidence of the effectiveness of GHVI activities in preventing injuries and deaths. It also works to develop and disseminate resources to assist other countries in implementing successful components of GHVI activities locally.

As programs are implemented, the CDC and IUHPE conduct monitoring, and evaluation to determine their reach and efficacy and guide sustainable program planning and implementation, guide GHVI in the dissemination of results and best practices (at key events, web presence and dissemination of experiences through articles). IUHPE provides mentorship and contributes to building capacity of local GHVI staff members in order to utilise newly developed frameworks and ensure efficient and sustainable progress in all project areas.